

Sixth Form Options (for Year 12, 2024-25)

Please read this information and complete your Options Form by 6pm on Monday 19th February



In Year 12, students do 4 or 3 core subjects from this list:

AS and A levels (Level 3)

Art & Design: Fine Art

Biology

Media Studies

Art & Design: Textiles

Chemistry

English Literature

D&T: Product Design

Physics

English Language

Drama and Theatre Mathematics Geography Music Further Mathematics
History

French

Computer Science

Psychology

German

Economics

Religious Studies

Spanish

Business Sociology

Vocational Courses – BTEC or CTEC (Level 3)

Business

(available as single and double A level equivalent)

Sport

(available as single and double and A level equivalent) Health & Social Care

(available as double A level equivalent)

NOTE: All subjects in red above are 2-year courses
(subjects in black can be taken as 1 or 2-year courses)

Year 12 core option blocks, 2024-2025

Block A	Block B	Block C	Block D
Health & Social Care (double)		Sport (single)	Sport (double; must also do single)
Business (single)	Business (double; must also do single)	Chemistry	Biology
Biology	Art & Design **	Drama	Business
Computer Science	Business	English Literature **	D&T: Product Design **
Economics	French **	Geography	Economics
Geography	History	Mathematics	English Language
German **	Mathematics	Music	English Literature **
History	Media Studies **	Psychology	Further Mathematics
Mathematics	Physics	Mathematical Studies	Sociology
Religious Studies	Psychology		Spanish **
Textiles **			
Mathematical Studies			

key: Level 3 vocational AS and A level ** A level only Level 3 (Year 12 only)

Please note: For organisational reasons, at any time, changes may be made to the subjects offered or their position in the option blocks. Students affected by any such changes will be notified as soon as possible. We will always endeavour to keep any disruption to a minimum.

- Year 12 students choose 3 or 4 core subjects.
- Only one choice can be taken from any one block.
- For course details see: www.cotswold.gloucs.sch.uk/sixth-form-curriculum-exam-boards/ (or for summary information about Mathematical Studies, see the next slide)

Level 3 Mathematical Studies

- ✓ A one-year course (Year 12 only)
- ✓ Six lessons per fortnight
- ✓ Two exams in May/June
- ✓ Particularly useful for students doing one or more of these subjects: Economics, Business, Geography, Psychology, Sociology, Biology, Physics Chemistry

Content includes:

- ▶ Data analysis: Using statistics in the real world
- ▶ Maths for personal finance: Tax, loans, saving/investments, budgeting
- ▶ Estimation: Making mathematical models to solve problems
- ▶ Critical path and route analysis: Project management
- ▶ Cost-benefit analysis: Decision making – can you make a profit?

www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/mathematics/aqa-certificate/mathematical-studies-1350

Enrichment curriculum (Year 12, 2024-25)

If you choose to do 3 core subjects, then you will choose 1, 2 or 3 enrichment subjects to do alongside your core subjects.

If you choose to do 4 core subjects, then you will choose 0, 1, 2 or 3 enrichment subjects.

Enrichment options:

- Extended Project Qualification (EPQ)
- Critical Thinking
- Explore MedVet
- Explore Oxbridge
- Duke of Edinburgh's Award – Gold
- Photography
- Entrepreneurship

Enrichment options 2024-25: summary details

Course	Time	Certification?	Staff lead
EPQ	2 hours of lessons per fortnight (+ 90 hrs of independent research)	Yes – externally certificated by AQA	AR
Critical Thinking	2 hours of lessons per fortnight	Internally certificated at gold, silver and bronze level	RC/PW
Explore MedVet	1 hour lesson per fortnight	No (but this group will help prepare students for UCAT and BMAT)	ST
Explore Oxbridge	1 hour lesson per fortnight	No (but this group will help prepare students for Oxbridge applications)	PW
Gold DofE	1 hour lesson per fortnight (+ time for the different sections)	Yes (accreditation from the Duke of Edinburgh's award scheme)	SO
Photography	2 hours of lessons per fortnight	No (but you will create your own portfolio)	SH
Entrepreneurship	2 hours of lessons per fortnight	No (but you will develop many enterprise skills)	Business dept.

1. Extended Project Qualification (EPQ)

What is the EPQ?

Additional qualification,
externally certificated (AQA)

Equivalent in depth to A-level
study

Academic **research** essay
(+artefact?) + Log Book

5,000 words

On any topic of personal or
academic interest to you

Guided by a supervisor (tutor)

Advantages of the EPQ:

You are independent

You learn and demonstrate
advanced study, research,
presentation, and time
management skills

Helps you to stand out from
the crowd

Universities may lower their
grade offer

Worth half an A-level in
UCAS tariff points

Other important info:

Takes time: research essay
must demonstrate **90
hours** of independent
research (10 hours per
week)

Must attend all Taught
Skills lessons (1 hour per
week)

Need to be self-motivated
and have passion for your
topic

<https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/projects/project-qualifications/EPQ-7993>

2. Critical Thinking



- ▶ Helps you to become a more powerful thinker
- ▶ Develops your skills as an effective arguer /debater
- ▶ Supports all your other subjects, but is particularly useful for those interested in **Law, Politics, Humanities, Philosophy, Science**
- ▶ Critical thinking skills are highly sought after by universities
- ▶ Good preparation for admissions tests for Russell Group unis

Key Content:

- ▶ Judging the credibility of claims and evidence Exploring the language of reasoning
- ▶ Analysing the structure and content of arguments (including identifying flaws in arguments)
- ▶ Creating your own well-reasoned arguments

[What is Critical Thinking? - YouTube](#)

3. Explore MedVet

- ▶ For anyone thinking of a career in medicine, dentistry or veterinary medicine
- ▶ (To consider pursuing one of these careers, you should be doing A-level Chemistry as one or your core subjects)
- ▶ This course will include:
 - What is it really like being a doctor/dentist/vet?
 - What skills and qualities do you need for these careers?
 - Cutting-edge scientific research; Ethical issues; Economic issues
 - How to secure relevant work experience
 - The application process, from UCAS form to aptitude tests to interviews
- ▶ Excellent guest speakers



4. Explore Oxbridge

- ▶ For anyone who is interested in finding out about Oxford and Cambridge Universities
- ▶ Likely to be of interest to students with grades 7-9 at GCSE
- ▶ Explore:
 - Why Oxbridge?
 - How to make a competitive application
 - Super-curricular activities which will give you the cutting edge
 - Aptitude tests; Preparing for interview
- ▶ Excellent guest speakers
- ▶ A trip to Oxford University



5. Duke of Edinburgh's Gold Award



There's loads to choose from; most activities can count towards your DofE.

Maybe you want to try something new? Or get better at something you already do? Your DofE can be whatever you want it to be.

Activities for each section take a minimum of one hour a week over a set period of time, so they can fit in around your studies and life outside school.

Gold (age 16+)	Volunteering 12 months	Physical 12 or 6 months	Skills 12 or 6 months	Expedition 4 days 3 nights	Residential 5 days 4 nights
	Physical and Skills sections: one section for 12 months and the other section for 6 months				
If you didn't do Silver, you must do a further 6 months in either the Volunteering or the longer of the Physical or Skills sections.					

6. Photography

- ▶ Camera craft
- ▶ Digital editing
- ▶ Graphic Design & Communication
- ▶ Create your individual folio
- ▶ Open to anyone with a genuine interest in developing their skills (whether studying A level Art or not)



7. Entrepreneurship

- ▶ Develop your **practical skills** in planning a business enterprise
- ▶ Advance your **employability skills** including: teamwork, communication, organisation, problem solving, creative thinking, digital skills, and presentation skills.
- ▶ This course will include **expert guest speakers** who will provide insight into a range of business functions from finance to marketing to human resources.
- ▶ Students will work in small teams, to devise creative ideas and to **develop a business plan**, carrying out market research and creating marketing materials that will be presented “Dragons’ Den-style” to a panel of representatives from the local business community.



Links to the Sixth Form Options Form 2024-2025:

- For students currently studying in Year 11 at The Cotswold School, please use this link:

<https://forms.office.com/e/HHgBar3kFp>

- For students not currently studying in Year 11 at The Cotswold School, please use this link:

<https://forms.office.com/e/QAyqCFsqQM>

(All applicants must complete this Form, even if you have previously completed the ‘Initial Preferences Form’)

Students who complete this Form by 6pm on Monday 19th February 2024 will be given priority for places on their chosen courses. However, applications are considered at any time, so this Form will remain open until the end of August 2024. Places on your chosen courses will only be *guaranteed* once you and a member of staff have completed your Sixth Form Enrolment Form (on Thursday 22nd or Friday 23rd August 2024).