
KINGSTHORPE COLLEGE

GUIDANCE ON SUBJECT COMBINATIONS AND HOW SUBJECTS LINK WITH CAREER PATHWAYS



Kingsthorpe College

ASPIRATION | RESPONSIBILITY | RESPECT | CARE

The subject choices that you make for your last two years of school can have a significant impact on the course options available to you at university. This document provides advice to make sure that the decisions you make when choosing subjects will not unduly limit the opportunities to you should you decide to apply to university in the future.

When assessing applicants, universities consider not only the individual subjects taken, but also the combination of subjects. Universities generally prefer applicants to have taken certain subjects, or combinations of subjects, because they believe that they are more likely to provide an effective preparation for study at the University.

The document also provides details about possible careers and where subject choices could lead to when you leave Kingsthorpe College at the age of 18.

Art and Photography

Recommended courses to study alongside this A Level:

- English Language
- English Literature
- IT (Vocational)
- Media

What does the course lead to?

A Fine Art A Level can help forge careers as an artist, designer, work in illustration, graphics or fashion design. It can also assist with careers in the media, film and television, marketing and textile industries or becoming a teacher.

What can I progress onto?

You can progress on to further study at university-level in photography, fine art or a related subject or employment.

Careers

- Arts officers, producers and directors
- Artists

Biology A Level

Recommended courses to study alongside this A Level include:

- Chemistry
- Health and Social Care (Vocational)
- Maths
- Physics
- Psychology
- Sport (Vocational)

What does the course lead to?

This course is a highly-regarded qualification that can lead to further study for a degree in medicine, nursing, veterinary science or biochemistry at university.

Careers in medical professions such as dentistry or physiotherapy are accessible, as is work in the environmental and pharmaceutical research fields.

What can I progress onto?

A degree in medicine, nursing, veterinary science, pharmacy, zoology or biochemistry. This can lead on to careers in medical professions such as dentistry, physiotherapy or pharmaceutical research.

Careers

- Biological scientists and biochemists
- Medical practitioners
- Pharmacy and other dispensing assistants
- Health associate professionals .
- Pharmaceutical technicians
- Health professionals .
- Pharmacists
- Veterinary nurses
- Nurses
- Dental practitioners
- Medical and dental technicians
- Dental nurses
- Animal care services occupations .

Business Studies

Recommended courses to study alongside this include:

- English Language
- IT (Vocational)
- Media
- Physics
- Psychology
- Sociology

What does the course lead to?

Degree options are vast and range from economics, finance and accountancy to management and enterprise and e-business.

Business studies represents a good subject choice for many students because all professional careers benefit from some knowledge of business practice.

What can I progress onto?

Degree options range from economics, finance and accountancy to management and enterprise and e-business.

Careers

- Management consultants and business analysts
- Business and related associate professionals n.e.c.
- Business sales executives
- Sales accounts and business development managers
- Business and financial project management professionals
- Marketing associate professionals
- Business and related research professionals
- Business, research and administrative professionals n.e.c.

Chemistry A Level

Recommended courses to study alongside this A Level include:

- Biology
- Information Technology
- Maths
- Physics
- Psychology

What does the course lead to?

Further study at university-level. Chemistry is a compulsory requirement for medicine, dentistry, pharmacy, veterinary, and science degrees.

What can I progress onto?

This course can lead on to degree courses such as forensic science, veterinary science, medicine, dentistry, chemical engineering or a degree related to the study of health.

The skills and knowledge developed on this course can forge a career for you in fields such as pharmaceutical research, nursing, physiotherapy and veterinary medicine.

Careers

- Chemical scientists
- Biological scientists and biochemists
- Medical practitioners
- Pharmacy and other dispensing assistants
- Health associate professionals n.e.c.
- Medical radiographers
- Pharmaceutical technicians
- Health professionals n.e.c.
- Pharmacists
- Veterinary nurses
- Nurses
- Chemical and related process operatives
- Veterinarians
- Animal care services occupations n.e.c.
- Physiotherapists

Criminology

Recommended courses to study alongside this qualification include:

- Law
- Psychology
- Sociology
- Law
- History
- English
- Biology
- Chemistry

What does the course lead to?

The qualification allows learners to gain the required understanding and skills to be able to consider employment within some aspects of the criminal justice system, e.g. the National Probation Service, the Courts and Tribunals Service or the National Offender Management Service.

What can I progress onto?

The main purpose of the WJEC Level 3 Applied Diploma in Criminology is mainly to use the qualification to support Access to University courses, such as:

- BSc Criminology
- BA Criminology
- BA Criminology and Criminal Justice
- BSc (Hons) Criminology and Psychology
- LLB (Hons) Law with Criminology
- BA (Hons) Criminology and Sociology
- BA (Hons) Criminology
- BSc (Hons) Psychology and Sociology
- BSc Criminology with Law

Careers

- Probation officers

English Language A Level

Recommended courses to study alongside this A Level are:

- English Literature
- History
- Media
- Business Studies

What does the course lead to?

An English Language A Level provides a solid grounding for continued study at degree level.

Your career options include work in publishing, advertising, law, media and teaching (with further study or teaching abroad).

What can I progress onto?

An English A Level is highly regarded by universities, providing a solid grounding for continued study at degree level.

Degree programmes in English language or literature, linguistics, creative writing, history, politics, journalism, and media and communications, are all possible routes into Higher Education.

Careers

- Journalists, newspaper and periodical editors
- Authors, writers and translators
- Public relations professionals
- Advertising and public relations directors
- Librarians
- Legal associate professionals
- Legal professionals
- Solicitors

English Literature A Level

Recommended courses to study alongside this A Level are:

- English Language
- History
- Media
- Sociology

What does the course lead to?

A Levels are a good qualification to attain for progression onto university or an academic career. These qualifications are also recognised and highly regarded by prospective employers.

The skills taught on this course will equip you with the knowledge required for working in: teaching, publishing, the media, social work, law and the public sector (defence, education or social security).

What can I progress onto?

This A Level can be used to progress to a degree in English literature, creative writing, history, politics, media and communication.

Careers

- Teaching and other educational professionals n.e.c.
- Higher education teaching professionals
- Further education teaching professionals
- Secondary education teaching professionals
- Primary and nursery education teaching professionals
- Legal associate professionals
- Legal professionals n.e.c.
- Barristers and judges
- Solicitors
- Public relations professionals
- Advertising and public relations directors
- Marketing associate professionals
- Librarians
- Journalists, newspaper and periodical editors
- Authors, writers and translators

Geography A Level

Recommended courses to study alongside this A Level include:

- Business Studies
- Criminology (Vocational)
- History
- Maths
- Sociology

What does the course lead to?

Occupations in civil engineering, environment management, surveying, teaching, social policy, ecology and conservation are all potential career paths for A Level Geography students.

What can I progress onto?

Further study at university is possible on courses such as environmental management, social policy, civil engineering, geology, conservation studies and science or terrestrial-related degrees.

Careers

- Civil engineers
- Chartered surveyors
- Teaching and other educational professionals n.e.c.
- Higher education teaching professionals
- Further education teaching professionals
- Secondary education teaching professionals
- Conservation professionals
- Conservation and environmental associate professionals

Health and Social Care (Vocational)

Recommended courses to study alongside this certificate include:

- Biology
- Psychology
- Sociology

What can I progress onto?

This certificate supports learners' access to Higher Education and progression into a wide range of job roles within the health and social care sector. These include: nursing, midwifery and social work.

The qualification also supports progression to further learning in related subject areas at Level 4 and above.

Careers

- Midwives
- Nurses
- Care workers and home carers
- Social workers
- Residential, day and domiciliary care managers and proprietors
- Paramedics
- Ambulance staff (excluding paramedics)

History A Level

Recommended courses to study along with this

- Criminology (Vocational)
- English Language
- English Literature
- Geography
- Sociology

What can I progress onto?

An A Level in history will offer a route into university to study at degree level. The options are wide ranging and include courses such as international studies, economics, media and communication, journalism and art history.

Careers

- Legal associate professionals
- Legal professionals n.e.c.
- Barristers and judges
- Solicitors
- National government administrative occupations
- Local government administrative occupations
- Elected officers and representatives
- Librarians
- Journalists, newspaper and periodical editors
- Higher education teaching professionals
- Authors, writers and translators

Information Technology (Vocational)

Recommended courses to study alongside this certificate include:

- Biology
- Business Studies
- Chemistry
- Maths
- Media
- Physics

What does the course lead to?

Careers in Information Technology and computer games programming/development.

What can I progress onto?

- Computing Bsc
- Information Technology Bsc
- Computer Games Programming/Development Bsc
- An apprenticeship in a digital subject.

In order to study computer science at Russell Group universities such as Nottingham University, a typical offer will be A ,A, Distinction*.

Careers

- IT engineers
- Programmers and software development professionals
- Information technology and telecommunications professionals n.e.c.
- IT operations technicians
- IT specialist managers
- IT business analysts, architects and systems designers
- IT user support technicians

Maths A Level

Recommended courses to study alongside this A Level include:

- Biology
- Business Studies
- Chemistry
- Physics
- Psychology
- Information Technology

What can I progress onto?

You can also pursue further study in these fields on business, accountancy, science, computing, engineering or economic degrees.

An A Level in mathematics is highly regarded by both universities and potential employers.

Careers

- Financial managers and directors
- Financial accounts managers
- Financial and accounting technicians
- Finance and investment analysts and advisers
- Financial administrative occupations n.e.c.
- Chartered and certified accountants
- Finance officers
- Financial institution managers and directors
- Bank and post office clerks
- Business and financial project management professionals

Media A Level

Recommended courses to study alongside this A Level include:

- English Literature
- English Language
- IT (Vocational)
- Psychology
- Sociology
- Music

What can I progress onto?

You can opt to study media at university or gain access to other courses that link in with the areas covered on the A Level (film studies, sociology and public relations for example).

Careers

- Advertising and public relations directors
- Photographers, audio-visual and broadcasting equipment operators
- Journalists, newspaper and periodical editors
- Arts officers, producers and directors

Physics A Level

Recommended courses to study alongside this A Level include:

- Biology
- Chemistry
- IT (Vocational)
- Maths

What can I progress onto?

If you intend to continue studying at university-level, the Physics A Level can lead to a host of degree courses such as photonics, astrophysics, engineering, information technology and medicine.

Careers

- Physical scientists
- Engineering technicians
- Engineering professionals n.e.c.

Psychology A Level

Recommended courses to study alongside this A Level include:

- Biology
- Business Studies
- Criminology (Vocational)
- Health and Social Care
- Sociology
- Sport

What can I progress onto?

At university level you can expect to gain access to courses like social science, criminology, health studies or further study in psychology.

Careers

- Psychologists
- Therapy professionals n.e.c.
- Careers advisers and vocational guidance specialists
- Occupational therapists
- Counsellors
- Social and humanities scientists

Sociology A Level

Recommended courses to study alongside this A Level include:

- Business Studies
- Criminology (Vocational)
- English Language
- English Literature
- History
- Law
- Politics
- Psychology

What can I progress onto?

Students who have completed the A Level have entered university to study social science based degrees such as applied social studies, psychology and politics.

Careers

- Youth and community workers
- Police community support officers
- Probation officers
- Police officers (sergeant and below)
- Journalists, newspaper and periodical editors
- Housing officers