

Social Studies

In Social Studies, we offer a range of opportunities to study, debate, interpret and present the world around us, to prepare students for a myriad of careers.

Our support and enrichment options for this pathway include specialist learning spaces, such as spacious Art rooms, Mac computers and a kiln, external speakers, an in-house careers advisor, dedicated Teams channels, support with UCAS application and access to a variety of supportive texts in our library.

We recommend:

- A Level Art
- A Level English Literature
- A Level Geography
- A Level History
- A Level Psychology
- A Level Religious Studies
- A Level Dance
- A Level Theatre Studies
- BTEC Level 3 Performing Arts
- Criminology

ART	Art is the perfect course for anyone who likes drawing, designing and making; and enjoys exploring Art while being creative and individual in their approach. Not only will you be able to explore your own ideas and themes within Art, but you will prepare yourself for a variety of career opportunities due to the transferable skills that you will develop. Year 12 work initially focuses on skills and techniques before moving on to the personal investigation unit. The exam unit in Year 13 allows students to choose one of five starting points from which to develop their second project. Students studying Art & Design at A Level are allowed to explore and observe topics that interest them. The opportunity to explore different mediums is designed to enable creative freedom.
ENGLISH LITERATURE	English Literature allows freedom of textual choice and includes elements of independent study. The freedom within the non-exam assessment component allows learners to pursue more detailed work in a field of particular personal interest, offering excellent preparation for study at undergraduate level. English Literature allows learners to undertake independent and sustained studies to deepen their appreciation and understanding of literature, including its changing traditions. At Colton Hills, we offer a highly structured and challenging A-Level course that includes a range of traditional and modern texts. It can lead to careers in journalism, copywriting, broadcasting, communication, law and so much more.
GEOGRAPHY	The study of geography shapes you in to a well educated, global citizen. It is important to understand and appreciate the natural world around you, what shapes our landscapes and how to protect them. If you want to understand the social and economic processes that drive different communities and acknowledge the part you play in this world then this is the subject for you. Specific Geography careers can range from being a tourism officer or a town planner, a meteorologist (a weather presenter!) or an environmental lawyer, an architect, a nature conservationist or even a volcanologist. Global, Exciting, Original, Genuine, Real, Appreciative, Practical, Humanitarian, You.
HISTORY	A Level History is for students who are keen to develop the knowledge to understand the world and the problems it faces today. It is great for anyone who wants to develop a range of transferable skills such as evaluating evidence, developing, and presenting arguments and the ability to think independently and understand human behaviour. There will be an opportunity to visit Auschwitz as part of the Holocaust Education Trust programme. Students explore three different periods across European History ranging from the 15th to the 20th century. The Transformation of British Society 1851–1964, Italian Fascism 1900–1945, and as coursework: The Tudors 1485–1603. History can lead to careers in law, education, journalism, local and national government.
PSYCHOLOGY	If you are interested in the way people think and why they behave a certain way, then Psychology is for you. You will be employing your existing curious mind, along with a sound understanding of mathematics and science skills in order to unearth the secrets of the human mind. This will support you in a range of careers from counselling and psychiatry to social work, education and law enforcement. You will study research methods, psychological themes, areas & perspectives, applied psychology; issues in mental health, child psychology and criminal psychology.

RELIGIOUS STUDIES	Religious Studies develops critical thinking and rigour in the search for truths in uncertain fields. It encourages philosophical thought, decision making skills, collaboration and independent working skills and the search for compromise and conflict resolutions that work. It creates opportunities for young people to develop their skills of dialogue, interpretation and analysis in a coherent context. All these are vital skills in a modern workforce where communication, collaboration and cooperation are core skills. It can lead to careers in the Law, Social work, Teaching, the Police force and the NHS.
DANCE	The Dance course will broaden your understanding of what dance means, there are three core components of choreography, performance, and critical engagement with professional works. This qualification is suited to learners wanting to pursue a career in the arts or health sector. In the theatre world careers in arts administration, business, education, or youth worker are all viable industries as well as becoming a professional dancer or choreographer. Within the health sector learners often go into work with the NHS for movement therapy work, dance science, health practitioners or instructions.
THEATRE STUDIES	Studying theatre will give learners an understanding of the wider theatrical world including the studying of plays from conception to realisation and making drama themselves. Although acting is central to the course there are wider skill sets to understand the role production including set, props, costume, lighting, and sound play in production value. Career progression from this course apart from the traditional actor or director often leads to theatre management, production roles in lighting, sound or set design, education outreach drama therapist or arts administration. Learners may enter the entertainment world in theatre or Live TV. Additionally the skills needed to present yourself, lead others and speak to large audiences lend themselves to the world of business and marketing and many companies will bring in actors to teach industry leaders the skills of good presentation.
BTEC LEVEL 3 PERFORMING ARTS	BTEC Performing arts has several routes that can be chosen including a general performing arts in which all industry areas from dance, drama and singing can be explored, pure dance, pure drama, musical theatre, or circus skills. The pathway chosen will determine the modules completed. As with all BTEC courses there is an industry level expectation, and the course will be varied in approach. Successful learner of this course will enter a range of professions including arts industries, business management, marketing, arts therapy, education outreach and theatre production roles.
CRIMINOLOGY	Criminology is the study of crime and why people commit crimes. This is a qualification with elements of Psychology, Law and Sociology, focusing on a wide range of crimes. The course touches upon aspects including violent and sexual offences and crimes motivated by hatred, including sexually and racially motivated crimes. An understanding of criminology is relevant to many job roles within the criminal justice sector, social and probation work and sociology and psychology.