

Prospectus

2024/25



Hello From the Principal

I warmly welcome you to Prior Pursglove, a college whose modern facilities are blended into a beautiful setting that has been an institution for learning for over 500 years. Nowhere else provides such a unique experience.

The stimulating and rewarding culture of our college is based on care, respect and hard work and these are the key values at the heart of how we operate as a college community.

Our students are the life and soul of our community and our dedicated staff are the fabric, together we strive for the very best for all. Our academic outcomes are amongst the best nationally complemented by a wide ranging enrichment programme. We believe that education can transform the lives of individuals and we understand that learning can offer new and exciting life opportunities for us all. Indeed, it is our absolute belief in the positive power of education that motivates our fantastic members of staff in all that they do.

We want you to enjoy being here and benefit from our college community which can offer you new friendships, new interests and the opportunity to succeed. Equally, there are high expectations from us around performance and work ethic to achieve or exceed your aspirations by taking responsibility for shaping your future.

When you join us, you will be part of a learning community that has supported thousands of other young people to move onto higher education or apprenticeships. We guarantee you consistent, friendly and individual professional support to help you do the same.

Prior recruits a range of students who are attracted to our facilities and record of achievement. Significant numbers progress to the most prestigious Oxbridge and Russell Group universities. Similarly, our programmes attract many who want to improve their occupational competence and secure apprenticeships. So, on offer is a wide range of A Levels, BTECs and a suite of Level 2 courses for students who want to strengthen their qualifications before progressing to the next stage.



I want to assure you that we keep building on our solid reputation and success for educational excellence. Delivering a curriculum that fulfils the future workforce needs, enhances personal growth and enables you to meet your career goals. You will find that the college prides itself on the intrinsic value of learning and plays a vital role in helping young people to step into adulthood. In achieving this, our partnership with students and parents is based on the desire to improve continuously by listening to each other and refining your learning experiences.

The college is well known for its support and care towards new students, so please be reassured that staff and current students will welcome you wholeheartedly and assist you in navigating the start of your learning journey at the college.

Thank you for choosing Prior Pursglove and I am looking forward to seeing you in September.

Asma Shaffi
Principal

2024/25 Course Contents

At Prior Pursglove College we are proud to be able to offer a much wider range of subjects than many other colleges and school sixth forms due to the large number of students who choose to come here for their sixth form studies.

At Prior you can be sure to find a subject that interests you. Check out the subjects listed below and see if you like the sound of them. If you require more information, come and visit us on one of our many Open Evenings, sign up for a subject Taster Session or visit the college website www.pursglove.ac.uk and take a look at the Course Information Guides for each of the subjects. If you have any questions that remain unanswered, please do not hesitate to contact us.

LEVEL 2 COURSES

Skills for Study and Skills for Work including GCSEs and Vocational Qualifications.

- 06 Business Studies
- 06 Digital Marketing
- 07 English
- 07 Health & Social Care
- 08 Higher Project
- 08 Humanities
- 09 Maths
- 09 Photography
- 09 Science

LEVEL 3 COURSES

Including A Levels, BTECs, Camb Tecs and WJECs.

ART & DESIGN

- 10 Fine Art A Level
- 10 Design A Level
- 11 Photography A Level

BUSINESS

- 12 Accounting A Level
- 13 Business A Level
- 13 Business BTEC National Extended Certificate
- 14 Economics A Level

ENGLISH & EPQ

- 15 English Language A Level
- 15 English Literature A Level
- 15 English Language & Literature A Level
- 15 Extended Project Qualification Level 3

FILM & MEDIA

- 16 Film Studies A Level
- 17 Media Studies A Level

FOREIGN LANGUAGES

- 19 French A Level
- 19 Spanish A Level

GEOGRAPHY & GEOLOGY

- 20 Geography A Level
- 20 Geology A Level

HEALTH & SOCIAL CARE

- 23 Health & Social Care Level 3 OCR Cambridge TEC

HISTORY

- 24 Classical Civilisation (Ancient History) A Level
- 24 History A Level

IT & COMPUTER SCIENCE

- 27 Computer Science A Level
- 27 IT Level 3 Cambridge Technical Certificate & Introductory Diploma

LAW, POLITICS & CRIMINOLOGY

- 28 Politics A Level
- 28 Law A Level
- 28 Law (Applied) BTEC Level 3 National Certificate and National Extended Certificate
- 29 Criminology WJEC Level 3 Diploma

MATHEMATICS

- 30 Mathematics A Level
- 30 Further Mathematics A Level
- 31 Mathematical Studies (Core Maths AQA Certificate Level 3)

PERFORMING ARTS

- 33 Performing Arts BTEC Extended Certificate
- 33 Music A Level

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

- 34 Physical Education A Level

PSYCHOLOGY & SOCIOLOGY

- 36 Psychology A Level
- 36 Sociology A Level

RELIGIOUS STUDIES

- 37 Religious Studies (Philosophy & Ethics) A Level

SCIENCE

- 38 Biology A Level
- 38 Chemistry A Level
- 38 Physics A Level
- 39 Science Applied AQA Certificate & Extended Certificate
- 39 Engineering BTEC Extended Certificate

Whatever your ability, Prior will have the right course for you!

Our courses fall into three categories at three different levels:

SUPPORTED INTERNSHIPS & SKILLS FOR LIFE PROGRAMME.

If the traditional sixth form route is not for you, we offer a range of alternative courses which provide a greater degree of flexibility. Together, these will provide you with the skills to help prepare you for work, further study or training on a programme that is very flexible and is delivered to suit your individual needs. Our Supported Internships may be the perfect option for you if you don't feel ready to study on a full-time course, as it will allow you to learn new skills at your own pace. Students will refresh all the fundamental skills necessary for the work place and will be given guidance on how to apply for jobs and create an effective, adaptable CV.

The Skills For Life Programme is individually designed to help students develop all of the skills needed for preparation for adulthood. Students will be given support and guidance to become ready for independent living and possible employment. Students will also get the chance to study Maths, English and a vocational qualification. To find out more, contact the Endeavour Faculty at the college

for a copy of their course guide or find one on the college website. Apply directly to the faculty if you are interested in either of these areas.

SKILLS FOR STUDY PROGRAMME & SKILLS FOR WORK PROGRAMME LEVEL 2: GCSES & VOCATIONAL QUALIFICATIONS.

Our Skills For Study & Skills For Work Level 2 programmes offer the chance to combine academic study for qualifications such as GCSE Maths, English, Humanities and Functional Skills with vocational qualifications such as Business Studies, Health & Social Care, Photography and Digital Media. Many combinations are available to suit individual needs and make a coherent programme of study which is delivered over three days a week.

Level 2 courses are generally suitable for students who have some GCSE grades and who feel they can improve these grades with an extra year at college. Use the online application form or the paper-based form in the back of the prospectus if you would like a place on either of our level two courses.

ADVANCED COURSES. LEVEL 3 A LEVELS, BTECS & CAMB TECS.

What makes us stand out is the very large range of subjects and combinations which we can offer - over 40 subjects at A level and equivalent. The college has great expertise in advising on the best combination of subjects and the requirements of certain university courses and specific careers. Advanced level courses generally last for two years and, since they are relatively demanding, they are suitable for those with five GCSEs at grades 4 to 9. In addition, some of our subjects also have specific GCSE subject grade requirements. You will find this information in our Course Information Guides, which you can view on our college website, or we will talk you through these requirements when you have your college interview to secure your place here with us. If you are interested in joining us for these courses, please apply online or complete the paper-based application form in the back of the prospectus.

It is possible for some students have a mixed programme of courses at different levels to suit their individual needs.

Pick & Mix

Did you know you can combine A Levels and Vocational Subjects at Prior Pursglove College?

We offer a fantastic range of over 40 subjects which you can study in whatever combination you wish.

A Levels to choose from:

- Accounting
- Biology
- Business
- Chemistry
- Classical Civilisation
- Computer Science
- Design
- Economics
- English Combined
- English Language
- English Literature
- Film Studies
- Fine Art
- French
- Further Mathematics
- Geography
- Geology
- History
- Law
- Mathematics
- Media Studies
- Music
- PE
- Photography
- Physics
- Politics
- Psychology
- Religious Studies
- Sociology
- Spanish

Choose the combination that suits you the best.
You could choose:

Three A Levels or
Three Vocational courses
or
Two A Levels &
One Vocational Course
or
One A Level &
Two Vocational Courses



Vocational Subjects
to choose from:

- Applied Science
- Business
- Criminology
- Engineering
- Health & Social Care (This counts as 1 or 2 choices)
- IT
- Law
- Performing Arts

Business Studies

LEVEL 2

This course allows you to understand the changing and exciting world of business in the local area, the UK and worldwide. You will explore the following content:

- **Business structures**
- **Communication skills in business**
- **Office procedures**
- **Stock control**
- **Security and loss**
- **Careers in business and creative media**

This is a theory-based course, with the opportunity to participate in work experience and practical application. You will build fundamental knowledge and understanding of various business sectors.



Digital Marketing

LEVEL 2

This course gives you an insight into digital marketing and promotion. You will explore:

- **Different types of digital media, marketing and promotion**
- **Audiences and demographics**
- **Search engine optimisation, monitoring reputation**
- **Data protection and data breaches**
- **Social media planning and creating promotional campaigns**
- **Design principles and theory**

You will analyse different promotional and marketing content and develop your creative and technical skills using a range of media to create your own promotional work.

English Language

LEVEL 2

You will follow the GCSE course from the AQA exam board, which is the most common exam board for students across the country. If you have studied the subject through another exam board, it is important to know that you are assessed on the same skills; it's just a different format. You will study a range of written texts and carry out a variety of assignments assessing your skills in speaking, listening, reading and writing.

There are two exams. Paper 1 is called 'explorations in creative reading and writing' and is all about fiction. You will explore how story writers use language and how they develop their

ideas through both the structure and the whole text itself. Paper 2 is called 'writer's viewpoints and perspectives' and is all about non-fiction. You will examine two texts and, besides exploring the language, compare them in terms of the main points they raise and how the writers communicate their points of view. Both exams have a writing component which is to write creatively (Paper 1) and in response to a real-life issue (Paper 2).

If you are studying A Levels, you will be required to achieve a Grade 4 or higher, but you may also choose to boost your grade if this is required for the next step in your career.

Health & Social Care

LEVEL 2

If you are considering a career in health or are wanting to work with children, young people or adults in a non-educational setting, this is the pathway for you. It will provide you with skills and underpinning knowledge about working with children, young people and adults, principles and values, health and safety, and working with others.

You will study a broad range of health, care and helping skills. You will gain a good working knowledge of the sector and you will be able to carry out a work placement alongside your course.

On this course you will cover a range of processes and principles needed to work in the health and social care sector. This will include:

- Communication, safeguarding and duty of care
- Equality and diversity
- Person-centred approach
- Roles and responsibilities in the care sector

This is a theory-based course with the opportunity to participate in a work experience placement in a local setting. You will also complete additional short courses relating to health and social care.

Higher Project

LEVEL 2

Higher Project offers students the opportunity to get a taste of independent study. You will be asked to do the following:

- Choose a subject that you are interested in but don't know much about.
- Plan and research a project.
- Deliver the project - you can choose to write a report or create an artefact.
- Give a presentation about the process you have gone through.
- Reflect on your project.

Science (Biology)

LEVEL 2

You will follow the GCSE course from the AQA exam board.

You will study modules including cell biology, organisation, infection and response, bioenergetics, homeostasis and response, inheritance, variation and evolution, ecology, key ideas.

There are two exam papers, both 1 hour 45 minutes each and cover multiple choice, structured, closed short answer and open response style questions.

This course introduces you to a range of subjects including:

- Law
- Politics
- Sociology
- Research methods

You will learn how to study at a high level and gain an understanding of issues such as:

- Plagiarism
- Critical thinking
- Personal career planning

Humanities

LEVEL 2

You will also develop your academic skills ready for progression to Level 3 study. This is a theory-based course, with opportunities for teamwork, group discussion and participating in debates.

Maths

LEVEL 2

You will follow the GCSE course from the AQA exam board. If you have studied the subject through another exam board, it is important to know that you are assessed on the same skills; it's just a different format.

You will study modules including number structure and calculation, fractions, decimals and percentages, measures and accuracy, algebra, ratio, geometry and measures, probability and statistics.

There are three exam papers. Paper 1 is non-calculator, papers 2 and 3 are calculator papers – all are one and a half hour papers, each worth 80 marks and content from any part of the specification may be included.

If you are studying A-levels, you will be required to achieve a Grade 4 or higher, but you may also choose to boost your grade if this is required for the next step in your career.

Photography

LEVEL 2



This course allows you to develop your creative skills through photography. You will:

- Explore and use photographic equipment, materials and resources
- Develop and adapt photographic ideas
- Analyse your own photography and the work of others
- Use experimental photography techniques

You will also learn how to use industry standard photography equipment and software including:

- DSLR cameras
- Mobile phone photography technology
- Adobe Photoshop

You will build your own photographic portfolio and will contribute to the end of year exhibition.

Art & Design

Fine Art A Level

Fine Art offers you an exciting opportunity to develop your individual creativity through a wide range of challenging experiences. We will support your development of art skills but will challenge you to create work outside your comfort zone. Our purpose-built Applegarth Centre has enabled us to widen our provision and we will be encouraging you to express yourself through a variety of media, which will include drawing, painting, printmaking, sculpture, installation and video. The centre also houses a wonderful gallery space, which will give us a fantastic opportunity to exhibit your work in a professional setting. We dare you to think about what Fine Art is and what it can be. You must be prepared to comment on your work and draw links with other artists. It is important to emphasise that, if you spend as much time working outside of lessons as you do within them, then you will flourish as a student in Fine Art.

Like every other A Level programme, Fine Art is an academic qualification and, as such, is useful for progression into higher education. Fine Art students progress to a whole range of careers including Artist, Teacher, Architect, Art Historian and Art Critic among many, many others.

What are your progressions plans / aspirations for the future?

I would love to get an apprenticeship/job in interior design.

Why did you choose Prior Pursglove College?

I chose Prior Pursglove College because I was able to do the subjects I wanted to do which will help me get the job I want in the future.

What is your favourite subject and what do you enjoy about this?

My favourite subject is design because you can explore any topic you want and create work on things you love.

Holly Rose Weldrake

Outwood Academy Bydales

Fine Art, Design,
English Lang/Lit.

Design A Level

This is an exciting course which allows you to creatively explore a vast range of design disciplines. In the first instance, you will be introduced to the design process and you will produce work through small exercises and design briefs. You will have the opportunity to explore 2-dimensional as well as 3-dimensional design processes and, following the initial period, you will make a decision about which area of design you want to specialise in. Depending on which pathway you choose, you will work towards the 3-Dimensional A Level or the Graphic Communication A Level.

3-dimensional areas of study that are open to you include: product design, environmental and architectural design, theatre and costume, jewellery design and body ornamentation, sculpture and ceramics. 2-dimensional areas of study include advertising, packaging design, illustration, branding and communication graphics.

On the course you will study design and designers from the contemporary as well as historical period. You will have access to our modern, well-resourced Applegarth studios and traditional design workshop; you will also have access to computer-aided design programs. Overall, you will be encouraged to explore design ideas with imagination and ambition. Many of our students go on to pursue design related careers and choose to study design at university. Courses can include, (to name a few) Product Design, Architecture, Industrial Design, Theatre and Costume Design, Graphics and Illustration.

Photography A Level

Photography is an exciting and creative course designed to challenge, support and develop you as an individual through a wide range of learning experiences. You will study, create and 'grow' your art skills by completing a series of individual, challenging, and informed projects, which explore both traditional and contemporary styles, using darkroom and experimental techniques, and digital imagery.

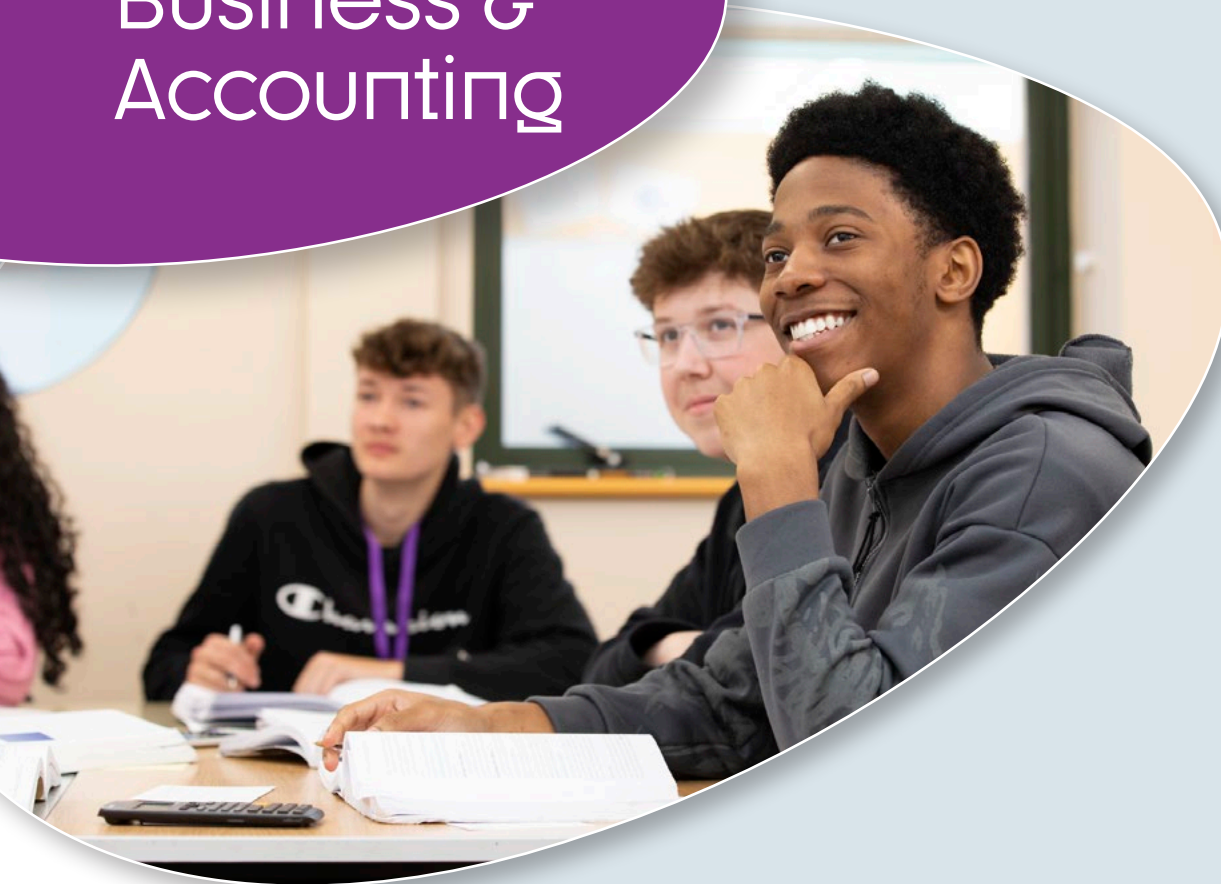
The course explores various Photography genres and styles, offering the opportunity to follow a commercial photography route, or a fine art or documentary photography approach, which could include elements of Photojournalism, Fashion and Portraiture Photography or Cinematography as well as print making, installation and montage.

The purpose built Applegarth Centre houses a traditional darkroom, Photographic studio and computer suite, offering professional standard software including Adobe Photoshop and Lightroom, as well as animation and video editing software, such as Adobe Premiere. The Centre also includes a fantastic gallery space, where you will exhibit your work and gain valuable work experience. You will also benefit from working with teaching staff who are professional practitioners within Photography and Film, developing up to date skills and techniques that are relevant in the



current professional field. Like all A Level programmes, Photography is an academic qualification which develops skills used in a wide variety of careers and for progression routes including Higher and Further education, and Apprenticeships. Photography students can expect to progress to a whole range of careers including Commercial Photography, Art Director, Teacher and Cinematographer amongst many, many more.

Business & Accounting



Accounting A Level

In the first year of the course, you will learn the basics of bookkeeping and the techniques of effective accounting. You will gain a full understanding of the importance of the key financial documents; Income Statements and Statements of Financial Position and how to read and analyse them effectively.

You will also understand how managing the 'money side' of business correctly will help the planning and monitoring of a successful business. Subject areas covered are business ownership, control, profitability, performance and budgeting.

Throughout the second year of the course, you will develop an understanding of financial accounting techniques for businesses without a complete accounting system and you will identify the difference between Financial and Management Accounting. You will also investigate capital investment, budgeting and sources of finance as well as considering the impact of ethical issues in the accounting process. Assessment is by two external exams at the end of the second year.

Business A Level

It is difficult to escape the effects of the world of business as every aspect of our lives is touched by the work of profit and non-profit making organisations. Business provides the opportunity to gain a deeper understanding of how such organisations function and manage their resources in order to meet a range of tactical and strategic objectives.

The first year of the course includes the following topics/themes:

- What is business?
- Management, leadership and decision-making
- Decision-making to improve marketing performance
- Decision-making to improve operational performance
- Decision-making to improve financial performance
- Decision-making to improve human resource performance.

You will be suited to Business if you:

- Are interested in current national and international business issues, and actively read daily newspapers
- Want to understand about the choices facing organisations, and how decisions are made
- Enjoy analysing case studies
- Wish to pursue a career in Management, Economics, Business, Finance, etc.

Business BTEC National Extended Certificate

This qualification equips you with a broad understanding of the essential knowledge and skills needed to help you begin or progress in a wide variety of business careers.

You will have the opportunity to gain an insight into some of the most recognisable organisations in the UK: this is done through guest speakers, your own research and visits from local businesses. The course consists of four units. The three core units are Exploring Business, Developing a Marketing Campaign and Personal and Business Finance.

In the second year there will be an optional unit that covers areas of business interest including Market Research, Customer Service and Human Resource Management, to name just a few. All units delivered cover 'live' businesses and all assignments will be based on specific issues a number of well-known businesses face in our economy today.

Over the two years of the course, two units will be assessed through coursework, one through controlled assessment and one by an exam.



Economics

Economics A Level

We all contribute to the performance of the economy via spending and saving decisions; therefore, we should build up an understanding of the economy and its impact on firms and citizens. This vital and stimulating course embraces a wide range of academic skills. In the first year of the course you will investigate macro and microeconomics.

Microeconomics addresses issues such as:

- Why are fuel prices rising?
- How are prices set in the economy?
- Should governments interfere with markets?

The Macroeconomic issues covered include:

- How can the government guide the economy to grow more?
- What happens to the economy if we all decide to spend more?
- How are we affected by the problems in Europe and the rest of the world?

In the second year of the course, you will further develop your knowledge of micro and macroeconomics, considering economic concepts and theories in greater depth and recognising the values and limitations of the economic models.

You will also explore the global context, which includes the impact of globalisation on UK economic performance. Alongside this, you will look at whether income and wealth are spread evenly throughout our economy. Why is it that people are still living in poverty?



Natasha Martin

Macmillan Academy
Economics, Accounting,
Business.

Why did you choose Prior Pursglove College?

I chose Prior Pursglove College because it had the subjects I wanted to take and not many colleges offer these subjects. The teachers are also always willing to go the extra mile to help you to be the best you can be.

What is the best thing about being a Prior Pursglove College student?

The best thing about Prior Pursglove College is that you are given a lot of freedom and you are treated like an adult.

What is your favourite subject and what do you enjoy about this?

My favourite subject is Economics because it is a very interesting subject and my teacher is always willing to help and the classroom environment is lovely.

English Language A Level

This is a challenging and engaging course for anyone interested in finding out how language 'works'. It is essentially a course in applied linguistics: the 'science' of English. You will study contemporary language issues and 'live texts' rather than complete books. Over the two year linear course, you will study social, historical, geographical and individual varieties of English, including the study of child language acquisition, language change and gender. You will also undertake an independent investigation of language use, where you will negotiate your own area of research and produce some original writing of your own.

English Literature A Level

You will study an interesting and challenging range of texts across a variety of genres, developing your skills as a critical and evaluative reader. The two genres that we will be focusing on for examination study are elements of crime writing and elements of tragedy. Over the two year linear course, you will study at least eight texts which will develop your skills as an independent learner. There is a coursework component where you are able to explore your own literary interests which counts as 20% of your final grade. This is an ideal course for anyone who enjoys reading and analysing a wide range of literature and discussing their thoughts about texts.



English & Extended Project Qualification

English Language & Literature A Level

This course integrates language and literature so that the skills you learn in one enhance your understanding of the other. Over the two years, you will study different texts, some of which will be from the genres of prose fiction, poetry and/or drama. You will also study at least one non-literary text. There is a coursework component which counts for 20% of your final grade. This course allows students to combine a love of language and of literature.

Extended Project Qualification (EPQ) Level 3

This is an independent research project that you carry out with the help of a supervisor. The title, aims and objectives are yours to create. The scope, time frame and resources are for you to decide, evaluate and reflect upon. This is a brilliant opportunity for you to investigate something you have a passion for and write an extended essay, or you could design, create and produce a model, working programme, or act out a performance. The skills you acquire along the way include planning, timescale management, critical analysis, presentation skills and reflection. You will be allocated a supervisor whose role is not to tell you what to do but to help, guide and support you through your EPQ journey. In all, the project has 90 hours of independent study in addition to any other courses you follow at college. EPQ starts towards the end of your first year and is a great opportunity for you to develop independent research skills that universities highly value.

Film & Media

Film Studies A Level

Film Studies is an enjoyable and highly informative A Level that offers an in-depth analysis of cinema. The course develops your awareness of film aesthetics, narrative and genre.

You will explore the significance of spectatorship and critical approaches to cinema in order to understand the medium in greater detail.

The course covers a diverse range of film forms and styles from across the globe and through history such as Silent Cinema, Hollywood Film, British Cinema, European Film Movements, Global Cinema, Documentary, Independent and Experimental Cinema.

Inspiring films such as Memento, Bonnie & Clyde, Shaun of the Dead, The Joker and City of God will be studied. As well as taking two written exams you will also develop creative and practical skills through the production of coursework allowing you to produce a short film or a screenplay, thus providing you with a professional portfolio of work. Students find Film Studies a stimulating course which complements a wide range of other subjects.

Progression onto film, media, photography and art courses is common, as well as to cultural studies and social science courses at higher education level. The analytical, research, technical and creative skills developed on this course will help to prepare you for university or employment.

Past Media students have gone on to work at leading visual effects companies such as Double Negative who are responsible for the effects in blockbuster films such as The Force Awakens, Baby Driver and Wonder Woman.



Media Studies A Level

The media is the most dynamic, innovative and influential method of mass communication of modern times. It has been reported that adults in Great Britain are consuming media for almost 8 hours a day. That's 8 hours a day watching films and television, reading newspapers, and sifting through online media.

Within that time, we are bombarded by other people's representations of the world and how we respond to these representations can affect our perceptions of people, places and society, of politics and culture, of ourselves and of our place in the world. Media Studies is a vital tool necessary to understanding the media's significance and its power.

As an A Level Media Studies student, you will analyse how media products use language and representations to create meaning. You will learn about the media industry and how the industry affects how media products are made. You will investigate media audiences, exploring who are the people who watch, read and consume the products and considering how different people might respond to products differently, and why.

There has never been a better time to become a Media Studies student.

You will study many different media forms, such as:

- Television
- Online Media
- Advertising and Marketing
- Film Marketing
- Magazines
- Newspapers
- Social and Participatory Media
- Music Video
- Radio
- Video Games

Media Studies is a lively, varied and engaging course that develops skills in research, ICT, analysis and critical thinking, besides being practical and providing the cutting edge in a wide variety of fields of learning. Media Studies is the perfect balance between practical and academic study, the knowledge and skills learnt are applicable to many subjects and future careers. We use the industry standard software in custom-made suites.

There is a huge array of career opportunities in the media, which is an industry that is growing at an exponential rate. If you are looking for a job in this area, studying Media at A Level and at degree level is a route into careers such as TV and film production, advertising, journalism, interactive media, and digital marketing. It could help to provide you with the foundation to secure roles in technical production, special effects, web design and post-production.

Foreign Languages



Why did you choose Prior Pursglove College?

I believe it's a college which offers a wide range of academic and practical courses.

What is the best thing about being a Prior Pursglove College student?

The welcoming and open community

What is your favourite subject and what do you enjoy about this?

I would say Spanish as it allows you an insight not only in the language itself but also the history and culture of the Hispanic world.

Laura Lekgjonaj

Rye Hills Academy
English Literature, Spanish,
Fine Art

French A Level

This subject will appeal to students who enjoy learning and using French in many situations. French is a major European language and will be an asset to any chosen career. The integration of practical French themes with other subjects will be of interest to students who wish to develop foreign language skills as well as enhance their career potential.

French is a linear qualification in which all assessments are taken at the end of the course. Students taking the French programme will have the opportunity to gain valuable foreign language skills and to learn about aspects of life and culture in France and French-speaking regions of the world. They will also learn about family structures, traditional and modern values, the regional cultures and heritage of France, migration and repercussions for modern day France following World War II.

The course also includes the study of some literature and film and is taught using a wide range of resources including textbooks, interactive and authentic material.

By studying French, many academic and vocational pathways will be open to you. French can be combined with a variety of subjects at university and many students progress through this route into Higher Education. French is not just a subject which leads to jobs in translation, interpreting, journalism or education, but employees with language skills are also highly valued in the service and manufacturing sectors of industry.

Spanish A Level

Spanish is a stimulating and rewarding qualification, highly respected by all universities for a wide range of careers. Spanish is one of the most widely spoken languages in the world therefore an essential tool for business, culture and tourism.

A Level Spanish is a demanding qualification which will take you beyond GCSE to enable you to master the language at high levels of competency in communication and linguistic skills. Spanish is a two-year linear qualification that will be assessed at the end of the course in which, besides learning the language, you will study the recent past history of the Spanish Civil War, its current political situation and the main cultural icons of the Hispanic world beyond Spain. The course involves the study of films and literary pieces of work written in Spanish.

All this, and much more, in a course that combines linguistic skills with analytical thinking, reasoning and independent study skills. All of which are developed during lessons with authentic sources and materials to learn and the opportunity to participate in language immersions with residential visits to Spain.

Spanish is not just an academic subject which leads to jobs in translation, interpreting or education since employees with language skills are highly valued in all sectors of business and industry.



Geography & Geology



Geography A Level

Do you dream of working in environmental jobs? Or perhaps in business, finance, retail, planning or overseas development? Geography is a valuable first step.

The first year of Geography covers core human and physical geography. A wide range of topics, many contemporary and present-day topical issues, are considered through specific case studies. Topics include rivers, floods and management, desert environments and natural hazards. The wide range of modules may be of particular interest to prospective medicine students and future applicants aiming for top universities. You will also develop a variety of geographical skills which will broaden and deepen your existing knowledge, allow you a greater degree of independence and stimulate your analytical skills.

The topics in the second year include examining hazards like volcanoes, tsunamis and earthquakes and implications of climate change. Human topics include sustainability, world cities and Antarctica. You will be required to undertake an independent investigation into a topic of your own choice and interest (20% of the A Level grade).

Geography is a “facilitating” A Level – a respected subject for ANY degree course and goes particularly well with English, Law and Geology A Levels, so students reinforce their own learning. There is the opportunity to participate in local fieldwork in Teesside and York and also to go further afield to places such as Manchester or London. Geography is a broad qualification that equips you well for university and employment in almost any subject or field in the future.

Geology A Level

Do you have an interest in the Earth as a whole and geological history? Unlike most sciences, Geology requires outdoor study to be fully understood, and a four-day residential is offered to meet the fieldwork requirement for the course. The first year of the course introduces the key ideas of the subject including earthquakes and volcanoes, minerals and rocks and the Earth’s structure. The second year is more applied, studying fossils, evolution, climate change and environmental economic and engineering geology.

This course encourages fieldwork, lab work and a hands-on approach. Geology is the branch of science concerned with the structure, evolution and dynamics of the Earth and with the sustainable exploitation of the mineral and energy resources that it contains. Geology examines hazards, resources, plate tectonics, past life and extinctions and map and field skills. Geology applies physical, chemical and biological principles to the investigation of the Earth, but also involves a distinctive scientific methodology, invoking internal and external Earth processes to explain the evolution of the planet through geological time

Many of our A Level Geology students have progressed to top universities to study geology, climatology, civil engineering, medicine, accountancy, logistics, energy generation and renewables - the list goes on and on!



Why did you choose Prior Pursglove College?

This is a great college for my future endeavours. It encourages a strong sense of independence which is great for learning how to manage my time and resources and will prepare me better for life after college.

What is the best thing about being a Prior Pursglove College student?

Being independent and having lots of free time outside of lessons to revise and meet new people and develop strong bonds that will be with me long after college.

What is your favourite subject and what do you enjoy about this?

All of them, as they are engaging courses with great teachers who offer lots of support and have pride in their work which is beneficial for students as it creates a deeper learning environments and allows me to understand the basis for all key topics covered that aren’t necessarily on the specification.

Luis Richter
Stokesley School
Biology, Computer Science,
Geography.

Health & Social Care



Why did you choose Prior Pursglove College?

Prior had the A Level Economics course and good bus routes.

What is the best thing about being a Prior Pursglove College student?

Different schemes like the Arts Award, EPQ, Career Ready Program and the Careers Advisors.

What is your favourite subject and what do you enjoy about this?

Fine Art because I really enjoy being creative and there's lots of support from the Art teachers and students.

Libby Gordon

Nunthorpe Academy
Economics, Fine Art,
Maths.

Health & Social Care

Level 3 OCR Cambridge TEC

This course is made up of a combination of different units that will give learners an understanding of health and social care in the wider contexts of different environments and settings where care takes place.

Within the Health Care course there are two options to consider:

- The Level 3 Extended Certificate which is equivalent to 1 full A Level - over 2 years
- The Level 3 Diploma which is equivalent to 2 full A Levels - over 2 years.

Both courses contain units on:

- Building positive relationships in Health & Social Care
- Equality, diversity and rights in Health & Social Care
- Health, safety & security in Health & Social Care
- Anatomy & physiology for Health & Social Care
- Nutrition for health
- Supporting people with mental health conditions.

The Diploma also includes units on:

- Sexual health, reproduction and early years development
- Infection control
- Safeguarding
- Person centred approach
- Creativity and activities for young people
- Impact of physiological conditions.

Both options contain a combination of coursework and exam assessments and will prepare you to study in a Higher Education Institution, either on a Health and Social Care-related degree course or to support an application for a range of other degree courses.

Students are encouraged to complete work experience as it offers a valuable insight into the Health and Social Care sector and will enable you to apply this to your learning in the classroom.



History

Classical Civilisation (Ancient History)

A Level

This is a fascinating and stimulating course in which you study the ancient civilisations of the Greeks and the Romans.

It is a subject where you will explore ancient literature, culture and archaeology.

You will consider a range of themes and characters from ancient literature and history, and explore through three diverse units:

- The World of the Hero – exploring why so many myths are petty and vicious, and what ideas people have about heroism
- The Imperial Image – exploring the original 'spin doctor' Augustus and how he was able to revolutionise Roman politics
- Love and Relationships – exploring changing attitudes to love, marriage and sex in ancient societies.

On top of this, you will have the opportunity to study Beginners Latin as an optional extra.

If you want to study something unique, you have an interest in myths and history and enjoy reading, this could be the perfect course for you.

Don't miss out on our annual trips to London to visit the Houses of Parliament and the British Museum.

History

A Level

This is a fascinating course where you will explore four diverse topics:

- The Early Tudors, 1485 – 1558
- The Russian Revolution, 1894 – 1941, or, Democracy and Dictatorship in Germany 1919 - 1963
- Civil Rights in the USA, 1865 – 1992
- Coursework, 3000 – 4000 words independent study.

History students need to be passionate about reading, learning about other cultures and wanting to understand past events.

History is an intriguing subject, which provides context for the world we live in today. It also teaches us valuable skills, such as critical thinking and evidence-based reasoning.

These are skills that universities and employers alike strongly value. If you want to try something different and have a passion for history, then this is the course for you.



IT & Computer Science



Computer Science A Level

Computer Science is a discipline which requires logical thinking, a systematic approach to developing large-scale solutions in detail and an ability to understand a large number of interrelated computing concepts.

When you study Computer Science at A Level you will learn a wide range of skills such as problem solving, logical reasoning and abstract thinking, as well as being able to develop your innovative and creative side. If you enjoy creating and implementing effective solutions to a wide range of problems, then Computer Science is for you.

You will learn an industry recognised programming language and be given the opportunity to develop and progress your programming skills throughout the course. There is a strong emphasis on algorithmic and mathematical reasoning, as well as scientific and engineering-based concepts.

Content covered over the two years of study is summarised in three different components:

- Component 1 – Computer Systems (Exam) Main content for the theory behind computer science
- Component 2 – Algorithms and Programming (Exam) Theory behind writing code and producing algorithms
- Component 3 – Programming Project (Coursework)

You will analyse, design, develop, test, evaluate and document a program written in a suitable programming language.



IT Level 3 Cambridge Technical Certificate and Introductory Diploma

IT is at the heart of everyday life and has an ever increasing role to play. The topics you will study will provide you with valuable, transferable skills and knowledge essential to succeed in a wide variety of IT related careers.

Currently this course is offered as a Certificate (AS level) over one year; or the A Level (Introductory Diploma) over two years. In the first year you will be gaining a sound understanding of IT technologies and practices for IT professionals by learning the essential elements of hardware; networks, software and how businesses use IT. This understanding will underpin your study in other units, and lead into how we and organisations use information globally. How information is used and transmitted will link with your second year units. Both of these units are assessed by exams in January and May. In your second year, you will be following the technical pathway of an application developer; we will have input from a range of organisations to develop your understanding of practices in the real world.

You will be completing the application design process while designing and building an application for a client's specification. We will then be learning about how social media is used to market and promote products and services and creating a digital marketing campaign for the same client and their application. All of these units are assessed by the completion of coursework.

Law, Politics & Criminology

magistrates; Parliament and Government; or why different cases are heard in different courts?

These and many other questions will be answered during the course. You will study Law Making and the Legal System which acts as an introduction to the subject covering various topics including how laws are made and interpreted, where the ideas for new laws come from and the role of the criminal and civil courts in resolving disputes.

You will also study three areas of substantive Law: Criminal Law, Tort Law and Contract law.

Studying law helps develop many transferrable skills including problem solving, analytical thinking, evaluation skills, presenting an argument and being able to express yourself succinctly in spoken and written forms of communication.

The course is 100% examination-based assessment with 3 exams at the end of the 2nd year.

Law (Applied)

BTEC Subsidiary Diploma and Extended Certificate

Law is the practice of enforcing social control by regulating people's behaviour. It is about rules, regulations and laws passed by the British Parliament and the European Union.

We divide Law into two branches: Criminal Law, which deals with matters such as murder, offences against the person, such as assault and grievous bodily harm, in addition to property offences such as theft, robbery and burglary; and Civil Law, which deals with dispute solving such as disputes between neighbours and personal injury claims such as accidents at work or road traffic accidents.

You will study 4 subject areas of Law, covering topics as follows:

- Dispute solving in Civil Law (externally assessed)
- Investigating Aspects of Criminal Law and the Legal System (internally assessed)
- Applying the Law (externally assessed)
- Aspects of Tort Application of the Law of Negligence (internally assessed).

Politics

A Level

This is an engaging and lively subject based on contemporary political issues.

You will explore how the government works and examine modern political controversies, such as:

- Has the Prime Minister become too powerful?
- Why was Donald Trump elected US President?
- What do feminists actually believe?

Politics students need to have an interest in:

- Current affairs
- Debate
- Independent reading

In the first year, there are two topics, one focuses on the issues in UK Politics, covering topics from political parties and pressure groups to democracy and political ideologies. The other unit looks at institutions of government and their role in the UK system. In the second year, the focus is on American Politics and comparing it to the UK.

So if you would like to try a new subject that challenges you whilst also developing important skills such as analytical thinking and debate, consider taking this course.

Law

A Level

Ever wondered about the difference between murder and manslaughter? Or what society hopes to achieve by sending someone to prison? Or the difference between assault, battery and GBH? Or what the difference is between juries and

The course is assessed both externally and internally. All internal assessments are a mixture of both oral and written assessments. External assessments will require you to apply learning from across the qualification for the completion of a defined vocational task.

The external assessments are worth 58% of the qualification. All assessments will provide a more practical insight into the world of legal work and will help prepare you for a rewarding career in a legal profession or area of legal practice, the police force, local government and business.

Criminology

WJEC Level 3 Diploma

Why Study Criminology?

Study Criminology if you are:

- Thinking of studying other related humanities subjects at A Level, such as Psychology, Law and Sociology
- Interested in learning more about the Criminal Justice System in the UK, why offenders commit crimes and how we punish them
- Wanting to develop a range of transferable skills for your future career, including oral and written communication skills, the ability to solve problems, provide skills of project-based research, development and presentation.

What does the course consist of?

Criminology is a fascinating interdisciplinary subject that draws on elements of Law, Psychology and Sociology to examine how crime is defined, why people commit crimes, the perceptions of crime, why some crimes are unreported, how society responds to criminal activity and how we punish offenders. We explore crime statistics and how we can reduce crime rates and successfully rehabilitate criminal individuals as well as how physical evidence such as hairs, blood and fingerprints are collected from crime scenes and how this can prove innocence or guilt.

There will be opportunities to debate the controversial criminological theories of crime and investigate their implications in our Criminal Justice System. Studying criminology will allow you to understand the culture of crime and the workings of the criminal justice system, alongside giving you the opportunity to delve further into



biological, individualistic and sociological reasons for criminal behaviour including exploring criminal personality traits, the born criminal and subcultures. All these exciting topics are woven into our following four units:

- Unit 1 Changing Awareness of Crime (First year unit)
- Unit 2 Criminological Theories (First year unit)
- Unit 3 Crime Scene to Courtroom (Second year unit)
- Unit 4 Crime and Punishment (Second year unit)

How is this course assessed?

- Two 8 hour, controlled assessments held Dec - Jan (Units 1&3) and two external exams held in May - June (Units 2&4)

What might this course lead onto?

- Study of Criminology, Policing, Psychology, Law, Sociology or other Humanities based subjects at University
- The course will develop a wide range of skills and knowledge relevant to many job roles within the Criminal Justice sector such as Policing, Prison Service, Forensic Science, Probation and the Courts.

Mathematics

such as 'Does drug X reduce heart attacks?'. Many of the ideas encountered have applications in a wide variety of fields such as risk analysis or quality assurance on a production line.

Mathematics

A Level

A Level Mathematics builds from GCSE level Mathematics and introduces calculus and its applications. It emphasises how mathematical ideas are interconnected and how mathematics can be applied to help make sense of data, to understand the physical world and to solve problems in a variety of contexts. It prepares students for further study and employment in a wide range of disciplines involving the use of mathematics and is highly regarded by employers, universities and colleges for a wide range of courses and careers. The course consists of three elements, all assessed through examinations.

Pure Mathematics

You will be extending your knowledge and skills in topics such as algebra and trigonometry, as well as learning some brand new ideas such as calculus. Although many of the ideas are interesting, they also serve as an important foundation for the other branches of Mathematics.

Mechanics

Mechanics is essentially the mathematics of force and motion. You will learn the technique of mathematical modelling – turning a complicated physical problem into a simpler one that can be analysed and solved using mathematical methods. Many of the ideas you will meet will form an introduction to such modern fields as cybernetics, robotics, biomechanics and sports science, as well as the more traditional ideas of engineering and physics.

Statistics

Statistics involves the extension of ideas of data handling and probability involved in GCSE Mathematics with a view to being able to draw conclusions or answers to questions

Further Mathematics

A Level

If you enjoy Mathematics and are looking for a challenge and a chance to explore new and/or more sophisticated mathematical concepts, then you may benefit from taking Further Mathematics.

This is a rewarding and stimulating course which enables you to distinguish yourself as an able mathematician in the university and employment market, and it will certainly prepare you for the transition to a Mathematics-related university course. In addition to A Level Mathematics, more pure mathematics is studied, including complex numbers and matrices, plus further work on statistics and introducing decision mathematics, which involves the use of algorithms to solve a wide range of practical problems such as the scheduling of complex projects, transport planning and the routing of telecommunication messages.

There is the option to study Further Mathematics as an AS level or the full A Level; both options are available in the second year of your studies and are assessed through examinations.



Tina & Haley Banks

Laurence Jackson School

Economics, Chemistry, Maths & Economics, Physics, Maths.

Why did you choose Prior Pursglove College?

Prior has a great selection of subjects, opening up several opportunities and routes beyond sixth form.

What is the best thing about being a Prior Pursglove College student?

Having control over my independence during my studies.

What is your favourite subject and why?

Economics because of the application of theory into your daily life.

Mathematical Studies

AQA Certificate Level 3

Mathematical Studies is a one year AQA certificate that can be taken as an additional support course focusing on students resolving meaningful problems to increase their confidence in using mathematics.

Mathematical studies will enable students to develop their quantitative, problem-solving, reading and comprehension skills. This course equips students with the mathematical skills that are required in other A Level courses, particularly subjects such as Psychology, Geography, Physical Education, Business, Biology and Applied Science. Additionally, Mathematical Studies provides

students with essential mathematical skills for degree level courses in social and natural sciences that do not require A Level Mathematics as well as for various employment or training routes.

The course has compulsory content covering analysis of data, mathematics for personal finance, estimation and critical analysis of given data and models. The option we use for paper 2 covers graphical methods, rates of change and exponential functions. All content covered in this course is delivered in the context of a real world scenario.

Performing Arts



Performing Arts BTEC Extended Certificate

BTEC Performing Arts is a lively and practical course, offering students the opportunity to explore and develop their own skills as performers through workshops and performance projects, alongside a study of the skills, training and employment opportunities required and offered by the Performing Arts industry.

The course covers four key units, with a mixture of internal assessment through practical assignments, one piece of extended writing about the work of Theatre Practitioners, and a group devised performance piece based on a stimulus from the exam board.

BTEC Performing Arts gives students a wider understanding of performance and how to pursue a career in the industry.

Music A Level

A Level Music will develop your practical, creative and analytical skills. The course looks at your aural skills and musical understanding in order to develop a firm foundation for analysing music. The course also requires you to be creative and to perform on your chosen instrument as a soloist, in an ensemble, or using music technology, whilst also focusing on your composition skills. You do not need Music GCSE to take A Level Music; the ability to read music and a passion for playing your instrument or for singing are the most important things.

In the second year of the course, you will be using all the skills you have developed to achieve a more intense level of musicianship. You will study a wide range of music of different styles including pop, folk, jazz and classical, and develop a more advanced level of aural awareness and analytical skill. There is also a composition or arranging assignment and a solo performance on your instrument, or using music technology to perform.

There are many opportunities to join in with musical ensembles within college, including orchestra, choir, wind/jazz and pop/rock ensembles. The college holds regular concerts and events as well as performing within the local community and welcoming professional musicians to work with the students.



Physical Education

Physical Education A Level (OCR)

This course deals with the relationship between the theoretical and practical aspects of PE and sport, and how a better understanding of the theory can help improve practical performance. The following units will be studied over the two-year linear course: Applied Anatomy and Exercise Physiology, Biomechanical Movement, Skill Acquisition, Sport Psychology, Sport and Society and The Role of Technology.

70% of course content is examined through two written exam papers covering Factors Affecting Participation in Physical Activity and Sport (35%) and Factors Affecting Optimal Performance in Physical Activity and Sport. The remaining thirty percent of the course will be examined through practical performance and analysis which can be as either a performer or a coach and through a written analysis of performance (30%).

A Level PE is a versatile subject which opens up a wide range of career opportunities in areas such as the armed forces, coaching, physiotherapy, police, primary and secondary teaching, sports science and sports development, as well as being classed as a science subject for university courses.



What are your progressions plans / aspirations for the future?

I've been offered a golf scholarship in America summer 2024 that I am hoping to do.

Why did you choose Prior Pursglove College?

I heard it had the best results for A Levels and I am willing to work hard to achieve good A Levels for myself.

What is the best thing about being a Prior Pursglove College student?

It has taught me how to be more independent and more organised.

Amber Westwood

Freebrough Academy
Maths, PE, Biology.

Psychology & Sociology



Psychology A Level

Psychology is the study of the mind and behaviour.

If you choose to study Psychology you may find the answers to questions such as:

- Why is eye-witness testimony inaccurate?
- Why are some people more aggressive than others?
- How might phobias develop?
- Why do people do as they are told?

There are topics which are common to both the first and second year of the course and cover aspects such as:

- Should psychologists be allowed to experiment on humans?
- What sort of behaviour would you call 'abnormal'?

In the second year you would look at topics such as:

- Are criminals born or made?
- Can psychiatrists reliably tell the difference between people who are sane and those who are insane?
- Do psychopaths think differently from non-psychopaths?
- Do adverts influence children's behaviour?

Sociology A Level

This fascinating and enjoyable course leads to a greater awareness of the relationship between society and the individual. The focus in lessons will be on reaching understanding through discussion of the issues from the four units of study: family & households, education & research methods, the mass media and crime & deviance.

This is a linear course where all four units are assessed by examinations at the end of the second year.

Sociology students answer questions such as:

- Why is divorce increasing whilst marriage is becoming less popular?
- Why do girls have more success than boys in the education system?
- What skills are required to carry out sociological research?
- Does violence in the media produce violent behaviour in society at large?
- Who commits crime and why?
- What impact does social media have on our mental & physical health?

We make Sociology relevant to your own experiences and incorporate relevant topics and issues from the media and contemporary society into our teaching.

The skills which you develop in Sociology are useful for many careers. For example, the police service, journalism, the health care sector, social work, teaching and the prison service (to name but a few).

Religious Studies (Philosophy and Ethics) A Level

The linear Religious Studies course comprises of one third ethics, one third philosophy and one third developments in religious thought.

The course is about asking big questions and looking at a range of responses:

- What is real?
- Is there a God?
- Is there a right way to live?
- Are certain actions always wrong?
- Who was Jesus?
- What role does religion play in a multi-faith and often secular society?

In philosophy we look at the work of Plato and Aristotle, arguments for the existence of God and thinking about human nature – the mind/body debate. In ethics we look at different ways of taking ethical decisions and how these apply in areas such as sexuality, business and euthanasia. In developments in religious thought, we look at themes such as human nature, the purpose of life, the self and immortality, and feminism and faith.



Why did you choose Prior Pursglove College?

I was able to choose subjects which I find enjoyable and are suited to my interests and career goals.

What is the best thing about being a Prior Pursglove College student?

I know I am studying enjoyable and interesting subjects which will prepare me for university and my future career. I have also made some amazing friends along the way and there is a great college atmosphere.

What is your favourite subject and what do you enjoy about this?

My favourite subject is design as we are given the freedom to present our work in our own specific form and style.

**Fearne
Nevison**

Sacred Heart

Design, Religious Studies,
Media Studies.

Science

Biology A Level

Biology is a constantly evolving science, growing exponentially as technology advances alongside our knowledge and understanding. Biosciences is one of the biggest employment growth areas in industry, both locally and nationally.

Media coverage of issues such as the application of stem cells, uses of DNA sequencing, identifying the genome of coronavirus, studying evolution and manipulating genes to produce GM foods, has brought the subject to everyone's attention over recent years. There are a wide range of courses and careers onto which you could progress with a qualification in a Biology related subject.

Biology is a facilitating subject which will allow you to progress on to a wide range of careers in fields such as biosciences, healthcare, environmental management, education and competitive courses such as Medicine, Dentistry and Veterinary Science. The possibilities are endless.

Chemistry A Level

Chemists are involved in everything from research into solving global environmental and pollution problems to the large-scale manufacture of plastics, perfumes and medicines. This subject not only allows you to investigate chemical processes but also enables you to make judgments on the efficiency of their reactions and how we minimise their impact on the environment.

You will develop a high standard of practical skills and earn a qualification which is well respected by universities as one which is both challenging and thorough in its approach.

Physics A Level

Physics is an interesting and challenging course and provides an excellent foundation for further study in science and engineering.

A Level Physics is a content led, flexible approach where the specification is divided into topics, each covering different key concepts of physics.

As learners progress through the course, they will build on their knowledge of the laws of physics, applying their understanding to solve problems on topics ranging from sub-atomic particles to the entire universe.



Science Applied AQA Certificate and Extended Certificate

This is a vocational qualification giving students an introduction to practical science.

Topics covered in the first year include key concepts in all science areas, applied experimental techniques and science in the modern world. In the second year you can undertake a scientific investigation, study the human body and take an optional unit in biology, chemistry or physics.

Assessment is a combination of coursework and examined units allowing learners to apply their knowledge in a practical way. It is an ideal qualification for students looking at healthcare related careers such as nursing, radiography etc. or those who would enjoy studying for a general science qualification. It is fully supported by some of our popular university choices such as Teesside, Sunderland and York St John. It is a two-year qualification equivalent to a full A Level in terms of UCAS points.

Engineering BTEC Extended Certificate

We offer a coursework based alternative to Physics A Level that is perfect for a wide range of technical careers.

Previous students have been particularly successful in gaining places at university and securing higher level apprenticeships.

The BTEC Extended Certificate in Engineering is a two-year course assessed by a combination of college marked coursework assignments, board marked assignments, and examination. It is best suited to students who may have difficulty with the more challenging and mathematically rigorous Physics A Level. Engineering is widely accepted for entry to higher level engineering apprenticeships and many engineering degrees when taken alongside A Level Mathematics.



Enhancing your experiences at Prior Pursglove College

WHAT IS THE 'PRIOR PLUS+' PROGRAMME?

At the heart of **Prior Plus+** is the individual student. **Prior Plus+** draws together the strands of your individual study programme and gives you the chance to leave college with more skills and experiences than just those gained through your academic qualifications.

Prior Plus+ encourages you to seek out experiences that maintain your health, contribute to your community, develop your employability, and enhance your skills and interests. For everything you do alongside your studies, either in or out of college, you can receive credits leading to either Bronze, Silver or Gold **Prior Plus+** certification.

You will follow a carefully tailored programme closely aligned to your career aspirations and personal skills development needs. During the week you will have three hours of compulsory study time allocated to the **Prior Plus+** programme on your individual timetable. These will consist of Pathway Support, Enrichment and other aspects of personal development such as developing your employability skills or even the opportunity for you to take part in offsite work experience.

You will also have access to a wide variety of lectures and other events covering a broad spectrum of academic subjects and topics linked to higher level study skills and university applications.

PATHWAY SUPPORT

You will be allocated to a Pathway Group and appointed a Pathway Leader. You will have weekly meetings with your Pathway Leader to discuss your progress in subjects and the steps you are taking to achieve your overall goals. You will also use this time to attend guest lectures and complete a series of virtual activities that will inform and help you develop your understanding of the local and wider community. You will be responsible for updating your weekly progress plan which will be monitored by your Pathway Leader. Here you will build your profile and log the activities that contribute towards your overall certification. Attendance in lessons and the maintenance of your individual activity log are central to the **Prior Plus+** programme. Strong attendance is the key to building your individual credits and you will be responsible for managing this along with your Pathway Leader. You will be able to track this via your own Data Dashboard. In year two of your studies, the focus of the Pathway support will focus on your destination beyond college. This will involve guiding you through the UCAS process or applying for Higher Apprenticeships.

ENRICHMENT

Enrichment gives you the chance to earn status points that will contribute to your outcomes. It is designed to provide opportunities for you to explore beyond your curriculum choices and engage with a variety of experiences that will enhance your learning and wider life skills. It also addresses your specific needs or if you have a particular talent that you may want to develop further whilst at the college.

The enrichment programme falls under several key headings that will lead you to gain a variety of different experiences.

- Health and Wellbeing
- Community
- Employability and Future
- Personal Skills Development

You can sign up to a programme for the full year or can move between the programmes depending on your needs and interests, logging your experiences via your Student Advantage as you progress.

WORK EXPERIENCE AND EMPLOYABILITY

You are expected to undertake some form of work experience during your time at college. You should find your own placement and volunteering opportunities, but support is available from our experienced Work Experience Team who you can book in to see throughout your time at college.

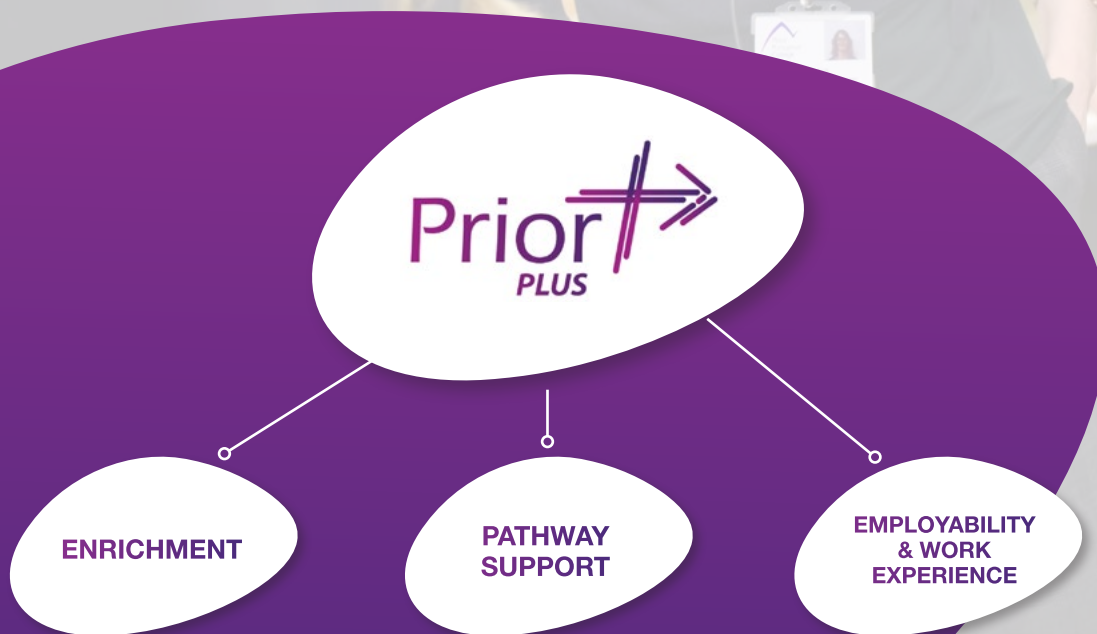
Our work experience and volunteering programme benefits from excellent links with local and national employers who provide stimulating and challenging placement opportunities.

If you are considering a career in medicine or allied to healthcare professions, veterinary science engineering or teaching, you should be completing work experience placements in support of your application to university. This helps to focus your choice of university course and adds a positive element to your UCAS personal statements and CVs. Work experience should also be undertaken to bolster your CVs and applications if you are considering apprenticeships and employment after college.

PRIOR PLUS+ AND CULTURAL CAPITAL

Your two years at Prior Pursglove College will help you make important decisions about your future. During this time, we endeavour to help you expand your knowledge of the culture of our college, the local area and wider world. Your subjects are delivered by experts in their field who will enrich your learning by helping you understand how the cultural aspects of the programme shape your life experiences.

Ultimately the goal of the Prior Plus+ programme is to help you fulfil your ambitions and help you grow as a young person.



High Flyers Programme

At Prior Pursglove College we pride ourselves on having the specialist experience and expertise to support all our students, but feel that we really excel at supporting our high-flying students, helping them gain places on the most competitive courses at the most prestigious universities. Students have gone on to study Medicine, Veterinary Science, Dentistry, Pharmacy, Astrophysics, Biochemistry and Pharmacy to name but a few.



In preparation for gaining places on the more competitive courses at the most prominent institutions we support our students by helping them build up an impressive portfolio of experience. This comes in many different shapes and sizes, from the chance to take part in enhanced academic experiences such as the Maths and Science Olympiads, The Nuffield Research Placement and mock law trials plus many others, to substantial internal support with the chance to gain the Extended Project Qualification, membership of our Additional Pathways and work experience opportunities.

We also have an up-to-date knowledge of support schemes at universities for high flying students and our expertise at helping students with the UCAS process is second to none.

We would hope that students aiming to apply for competitive courses and/or universities would be working towards achieving the **Prior Plus+ Gold Award**.

What are your progressions plans / aspirations for the future?

I am looking forward to attending university in the future with the hopes of studying medicine.

Why did you choose Prior Pursglove College?

It's a great college for A Levels with some of the best teaching and guidance an individual can receive within the classroom.

What is your favourite subject and what do you enjoy about this?

My favourite subject is Biology as I find it very interesting to study and analyse various topics ranging from substance exchange and energy transfers between organisms all the way to the human anatomy itself including the likes of cells, gene expression and evolution. Furthermore, it can be very insightful when we partake in various practical assessments throughout the year such as heart or plant dissections or culturing bacteria. Ultimately, everything revolves around all that is contained within biology so it helps to further understand the world around us and even make improvements if needed.

Amna Yaqub

Acklam Grange School

Biology, Chemistry,
Maths.

The College Campus

The facilities at Prior Pursglove College are some of the best in the area and it's our friendly, safe and relaxed campus that helps our students enjoy their time here.



There's plenty of social space to meet up with friends in your spare time and study areas to concentrate on work outside of classrooms. We are just a two minute walk away from the amenities of Guisborough High Street.

ART & MEDIA CENTRE

The Applegarth Centre is our £2 million dedicated Art & Media building with specialist media suite, Apple Mac computers, art studios, photography dark room and state-of-the-art facilities.

STEPHEN WHITEHEAD THEATRE

A professional theatre with a 170-seat space for performances and concerts.

SCIENCE LABS

State-of-the-art science facilities, providing an excellent range of specialist equipment, laboratories and a student-friendly science study area.

ACCESSIBILITY

Excellent access to all areas of the college for students with mobility issues.

RESOURCE CENTRE

The College is a stimulating place to study and provides excellent learning resources to support your studies. Open to all students, the Resource Centre is much more than just a library – it's a modern area designed, equipped and staffed to help you learn in the way that suits you best. Students can find quiet areas for individual study or work on group projects together in dedicated areas.

GYM

If you're the energetic type and like to keep fit, you can enjoy our brilliant college gym which has an impressive stock of high-tech equipment and app generated training programmes. Not only is

exercise good for your overall health and fitness but it also helps your mental well-being. Exercise will help keep you calm during those stressful periods and that will help you perform better in your studies. Make sure you check our gym out if you are hoping to study with us.

STUDENT CENTRAL

The recently refurbished Student Services building houses the college's cafeteria and an impressive social and study area that students can use during their free time.

CAFETERIA

Our cafeteria offers healthy options at affordable prices. Students can choose from a wide selection of cooked meals, salads, sandwiches and jacket potatoes.

What support is available?

PATHWAY LEADERS

At the heart of our **Prior Plus+** programme are our Pathway Leaders. You will have your own dedicated Pathway Leader who is there to support you within the framework of **Prior Plus+**. They are the first person you will meet to help familiarise you with the way the college works and to introduce you to life at Prior. They will be there to help you optimise the opportunities on offer and guide you in the right direction so that you build an impressive portfolio of experiences, whilst also making sure that your academic studies are on track.

Throughout your college life, you will follow a personal development programme, delivered through multiple sessions with your Pathway Leader, which will support and develop you as a young adult, widen your knowledge base and raise your aspirations. This will work towards Bronze standard **Prior Plus+** qualification.

CAREERS GUIDANCE

We are fortunate to have a team of dedicated Careers Co-ordinators based in the college and available to see students on an appointment basis to give specialist advice and guidance. As is required by Gatsby benchmarks, all our advisors are fully trained, committed to offering an impartial service and work to a confidentiality statement where information is only shared amongst relevant staff with the student's consent. In addition to individual advice and guidance the Careers Team organises an extensive programme of visits and speakers that are available to all students who would like to take part. They are widely publicised throughout the academic year and involvement in these all helps towards building credits for the **Prior Plus+** Awards.

At Prior we have excellent links with local and national employers and our students benefit from this through the wide range of work experience



and volunteering opportunities on offer. Our Work Experience Team are available to support students in finding their placements and any experience that they have will also add credits for the **Prior Plus+** Awards.

LEARNING SUPPORT

As well as the help you receive from your subject teachers and Pathway Leader, we also offer additional support when you need it to help you complete your studies successfully.

If you have a specific learning difficulty or disability, our experienced team is able to support, for example, dyslexia, dyspraxia, physical disability, visual impairment, hearing impairment or English as a second language.

The support we offer is designed to provide all individuals with what they need to succeed on their chosen course. This may include one-to-one support, British Sign Language communicators, personal care, equipment and resources, assessment and exam arrangements.

Make sure that you discuss any support needs at your college interview and we will begin to put support in place for when you start your studies with us.

If you have an Education Health and Care Plan (EHCP), then in most cases we will already know about you, but please tell us this at enrolment and bring a copy with you. We will then look at your plan and decide upon the support needed.

COUNSELLING SERVICE

Students can sometimes have problems for which they need confidential help and support, such as personal or stress-related issues, or they may just need help to make the right decision. If you have a problem, don't be afraid to ask, we can help you no matter how big or small the problem is.

FINANCIAL SUPPORT

If you are under 19 years of age when you start your course, you will not normally have to pay tuition fees or examination fees on the first occasion.

Financial support for students aged 16-18 is available through the PPC Bursary Scheme, for students whose household income is below £30,000* per annum. Some students may also be eligible for free college meals.

This support is means tested and evidence of income is required with the application. If you think you may be eligible and would like to discuss it further, please contact the college, where staff are available to help.

EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES

Staff play an important role in safeguarding the welfare of our students. The college has a Safeguarding Policy to ensure that the welfare of the student is always placed at the centre of everything we do.

We are also aware of our responsibilities under the Disability Discrimination Act and will make sure that students with a disability are not disadvantaged or treated less favourably than other students who are not disabled.

We aim to treat everyone equally and with respect, regardless of differences in culture or ability. We will protect individuals from discrimination due to their race, disability, gender, age, religion or belief, sexual orientation, transgender, pregnancy or marital/civil partnership status. A copy of our Single Equality Scheme is available on our website or can be sent out on request.

*Means-tested for students from low income families and linked to attendance and performance.



Benefits of coming to Prior

TRANSPORT

- Only 50p per journey on college dedicated buses.
- Extensive bus routes from across the area to transport students to and from college.
- Transport bursary for eligible students, who live outside of Guisborough and who use the college transport.*

COLLEGE BURSARY AWARDS

- Weekly subsistence bursary for students whose family income is below £25,000.*
- Up to £30 bursary for care leavers/ those in care.
- Subsidised stationery purchases/study materials.
- Free college meals for eligible students.*
- Free UCAS application for eligible students.*
- Free exam resits for eligible students.*
- Free essential course related trips for eligible students.*
- Help with childcare costs through Care2Learn for eligible students.
- Digital access bursary towards broadband or phone data for eligible students.*

*Means-tested for students from low income families who meet eligibility criteria and linked to attendance and performance. Income threshold is subject to change, check college website for current levels.



What are your progressions plans / aspirations for the future?

Medicine to go into surgery.

Why did you choose Prior Pursglove College?

It has a strong reputation for academic subjects.

What is the best thing about being a Prior Pursglove College student?

Having a lot of resources and support for education and progression into universities.

Hamza Arshad

Outwood Academy Acklam

Further Maths, Biology,
Chemistry.

Plus...



**FREE
COLLEGE GYM
MEMBERSHIP**



**FREE
WI-FI ACROSS
THE CAMPUS**



**ACCESS TO
MICROSOFT 365
(UP TO 5 DEVICES)**

Find out more

Taster Sessions

Too many subjects to choose from?
Undecided which ones will be the best for you?
Why not come to our Taster Sessions?

These are held at the college from 4.30pm – 5.30pm during the autumn term, where you will get a feel for the subject, meet the teaching staff and have the opportunity to look at the facilities we offer. Information about these can be found on the college website.

Open College

If you can't make any of our events and want a look around the college, please ring or email us and we will arrange an individual tour. If you wish to speak to specific members of staff, we can also arrange a time for you to catch up with them.

Open Evenings and Information Morning

Wednesday 18th October 2023

17:00 - 20:00

Saturday 9th December 2023

10:00 - 12:00

Thursday 8th February 2024

17:00 - 19:30

Tuesday 26th March 2024

17:00 - 19:00

How and when to apply

Apply early to make sure you get a guaranteed place at the college.

Complete the college application form, which can be found online at www.pursglove.ac.uk or the paper-based version found in the back of this prospectus. Remember that you don't need to know exactly what subjects you hope to do with us as this will not be finalised until you enrol with us in August. You have plenty of time to make your final choice.

The main priority is to make sure that you secure your place with us.

Where to find us

 **Prior Pursglove College**
Church Walk, Guisborough, TS14 6BU


 01287 280 800

 ppc.enquiries@pursglove.ac.uk

 [/priorpursglovecollege](https://www.facebook.com/priorpursglovecollege)

 [@PriorPursglove](https://twitter.com/PriorPursglove)

 [@PriorPursglove](https://www.instagram.com/PriorPursglove)

 www.pursglove.ac.uk

How to apply

Step 1

Complete the tear-out application form or complete the one on our college website under the 'Apply Now' banner. You will receive an acknowledgement immediately if you apply online, or through the post if you use the paper based application.

Step 2

Attend an interview with one of our interview team either over the phone, at your school or at an Interview Evening held at the college. This will secure your place with us.

Step 3

Join us for an exclusive look at our college at one of our Open Events taking place throughout the academic year. Dates can be found on page 50 of this prospectus.

Step 4

Sample our subjects at our Taster Sessions held throughout November, perfect for those wanting to know more about our wide range of subjects. Keep an eye on our website and social media pages for further details.

Step 5

Attend one of our many exciting events held throughout the year including our amazing arts exhibitions and our spectacular shows.

Step 6

Experience a day in the life of a Prior Pursglove student at our Preview Day which takes place in the summer term.

Step 7

Finally join us for enrolment at the end of August. No matter what your GCSE grades are, we will have options for you.

Step 8

If you have any questions please contact our school liaison team via: ppc.enquiries@pursglove.ac.uk.

Join us on social for the latest college news...

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Where to find us:



Prior Pursglove College

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01287 280 800



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www.pursglove.ac.uk

Working as part of



The information in this prospectus is correct at the time of publication but circumstances may arise which cause us to revise our provisions.