



COCKERMOUTH SCHOOL SIXTH FORM

SUBJECT INFORMATION

2015

Course Content	Exam board and qualifications
<p>APPLIED SCIENCE</p> <p>This BTEC course covers aspects of Biology, Chemistry and Physics, set within contexts of Industry.</p> <p>In Year 12 students complete Units covering:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) Fundamentals of Science ii) Working in the Science Industry iii) Scientific Practical Techniques. 	<p>Level 3 BTEC</p> <p>Year 12: Level 3 Certificate 30 Credits</p> <p>Year 13: Subsidiary Diploma 60 Credits</p> <p>Further details about the course can be accessed from the edexcel website :</p> <p>http://www.edexcel.com/quals/nationals10/appsci/Pages/default.aspx</p>
Assessment	Entry criteria
<p>This is a 1 or 2 year course which is 100% internally assessed. Each year of the course consists of 30 credits, awarded from three units. A number of tasks are required for each unit.</p>	<p>Minimum of C Grades at GCSE in two or more Sciences and a minimum of C grades in GCSE Maths and English</p>
Transferable skills you will develop	
<p>You will learn to take responsibility for your own learning, develop interpersonal and practical thinking skills. You will be required to manage your time efficiently and to work to a brief with set deadlines.</p>	
Progression	
<p>Students have progressed onto University, Apprenticeships and Employment. Career paths have included Nursing, L4 BTEC in Applied Science, GEN II Apprenticeships, Veterinary Nursing and Primary teaching.</p>	
For further details	
<p>Please contact the Head of Department Mr R Smith: smithr@cockermouthschool.org</p>	



Course Content	Exam board and qualifications
<p>ART</p> <p>This diverse course offers a wide range of techniques spanning both traditional and contemporary practice. Students will have opportunities to explore and then specialise in a variety and combination of methods used across all of the Visual Arts subjects. All projects are personalised and we strongly encourage individuals to further explore and develop their own ideas. Students choose to work in their specialist area focusing on combinations from Textiles, Ceramics, Sculpture, Painting, Drawing, Fashion, Photography and Print.</p>	<p>AQA AS ART, CRAFT AND DESIGN A LEVEL ART, CRAFT AND DESIGN INCLUDING www.aqa.org.uk/artanddesign</p>
Assessment	Entry criteria
<p>AS level. <i>2 components</i> Component 1 PORTFOLIO OF ARTWORK Component 2 EXTERNALLY SET ASSIGNMENT (Exam set by AQA) A- level <i>2 components</i> Component 1 PERSONAL INVESTIGATION (written extended essay and artwork) Component 2 EXTERNALLY SET ASSIGNMENT (Exam set by AQA)</p>	<p>You should have studied an Art based GCSE or BTEC course. Gaining a C Grade or equivalent or above in both Art and English language</p>
Transferable skills you will develop	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • independent working practice that will develop • Research and selection process • Time management • Decision making • Working to specific tasks and meeting deadlines • Presentation skills, both oral, visual, and written. 	
Progression	
<p>Many students use the course as a natural progression into the study of art, fashion, interiors, photography, and architecture at degree level. Others find it is a perfect foundation for primary teaching, psychology and other child centred courses. The natural link between media based careers in theatre, television, journalism and advertising is often helpful for students want to pursue careers in these areas. Often the nature of the course provides those who need to have some creative element in their studies for specific careers eg. Architecture, and certain areas of nursing.</p> <p>Recent A Level Students have progressed to the following degree courses: Art and Design at Leeds University, Illustration at Cardiff University and Animation at Northumbria.</p>	
For further details	
<p>Contact JT Clark HOD Art Dept clarkj@cockermouthschool.org.</p>	

Course Content	Exam board and qualifications
<p>BIOLOGY</p> <p>Biology involves the study of a wide range of exciting topics; from molecular biology to the study of ecosystems and from micro-organisms to mammals. Biology is never far from the headlines either; current topics in the news include human cloning, stem cell research, the problems caused by cutting down rainforests, AIDS and genetically modified foods.</p>	<p>AQA Biology</p> <p>Year 12 AS Year 13 A2</p> <p>Further details about the course can be accessed from the AQA website : http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/science/as-and-a-level/biology-7401-7402</p>
Assessment	Entry criteria
<p>AS – 2 written exams (50% each)</p> <p>A2 – 3 written papers, Paper 1 (35%), Paper 2 (35%) and Paper 3 (30%)</p>	<p>Minimum of B Grade at GCSE in the Biology component of Additional Science or B grade at GCSE Biology. Grade B in Maths GCSE recommended.</p>
Transferable skills you will develop	
<p>Good communication skills, problem solving, perseverance, data interpretation, analytical skills, good organisational skill.</p>	
Progression	
<p>Many students go on to a biologically-related degree course such as Medicine, Dentistry, Veterinary Science, Physiotherapy, Pharmacy, Optometry, Nursing, Marine Biology, Zoology or Forensic Science. Biotechnology and pharmacology are growing industries employing many Biology graduates. Biologists are vitally important in such areas as food production, ecology and cell biology. Others choose careers as diverse as Law, Computing, Accounting or Teaching. The skills of experimentation, logical analysis and evaluation learned in Biology have uses that transcend subject boundaries and are helpful in many career areas.</p> <p>Recent A Level Students have progressed to the following degree courses: Evolutionary Biology at Exeter and Biochemistry at Glasgow.</p>	
For further details	
<p>Please contact the Head of Department, Mr B. McArdle: mcardleb@cockermouthschool.org</p>	



Course Content	Exam board and qualifications
<p>BUSINESS STUDIES</p> <p>This Business course is a real-world focused one that is rooted in the study of relevant and up to date case studies, backed up by a full understanding of core theory that explains the rationale and principles behind actions.</p> <p>The course is delivered through a mixture of taught materials, class activities and self directed work. In addition, students are provided with textbooks, websites, magazines, newsletters and Twitter to assist. We also make use of guest speakers.</p> <p>All students will study four key modules:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Business Environment • Business Resources • Introduction to Marketing • Business Communications <p>Subsidiary students will also complete two further modules from the exam board list.</p>	<p>Edexcel BTEC Level 3 Subsidiary Diploma in Business</p> <p>http://www.edexcel.com/quals/nationals10/business/Pages/default.aspx</p>
Assessment	Entry criteria
<p>All modules are assessed through the completion of a piece of assessment documentation. This may be a report, portfolio, project, artefact or similar. Some modules have a compulsory format, others are flexible and can be discussed during the course.</p>	<p>Grade B at GCSE in one from Maths, English Language and Business Studies.</p>
Transferable skills you will develop	
<p>This course will develop a variety of skills including research and project writing plus data analysis and interpretation. Students will also develop their presentation skills and take part in a variety of group work tasks. Lastly, the core skill of evaluation will be enhanced through discussion and consideration of viewpoints.</p>	
Progression	
<p>The BTEC Level 3 will equally enable students to progress into employment, training or higher study. The qualification attracts UCAS points equivalent to A-level. All universities accept the validity of BTEC courses.</p> <p>All employers, educators and trainers value the development of transferable skills as mentioned. Many students of Level 3 courses choose to enter employment and continue to study part time to Level 4 (Undergraduate level) and beyond.</p>	
For further details	
<p>Contact Mr Dawson, Head of Economics and Business on dawsons@cockermouthschool.org</p>	



Course Content	Exam board and qualifications
<p>CHEMISTRY</p> <p>The course is wide ranging and covers the three main disciplines of chemistry: Physical chemistry, Inorganic chemistry and Organic chemistry. The Chemistry specification has been designed to allow the simultaneous teaching of AS and A2 courses resulting in flexibility of the level of Chemistry that is wished to be studied.</p>	<p>AQA Chemistry</p> <p>Year 12 AS Year 13 A2</p> <p>Further details about the course can be accessed from the AQA website : http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/science/as-and-a-level/chemistry-7405</p>
Assessment	Entry criteria
<p>AS – 2 hour written exam, of short and long answers</p> <p>A2 – 2 x 2 hour written exams, of short and long answers plus 2 hour synoptic exam including practical skills and data analysis, some multiple choice.</p>	<p>Minimum of B Grade at GCSE in the Chemistry component of Additional Science or B Grade at GCSE Chemistry. Grade B in Maths GCSE recommended.</p>
Transferable skills you will develop	
<p>Demonstration of knowledge and understanding of scientific ideas, processes, techniques and procedures. Application of knowledge and understanding of scientific ideas processes, techniques and procedures in theoretical and practical context, handling both qualitative and quantitative data. Ability to analyse, interpret and evaluate scientific information, ideas and evidence, including judgements, conclusions, developing and refining practical design and procedures.</p>	
Progression	
<p>Degree in chemistry, combined degrees in the chemistry and engineering disciplines such as chemical engineering, mechanical engineering etc. Also, medicine, pharmacy and veterinary studies.</p> <p>Career links - supports progression into a wide variety of careers, including analytical chemist, chemical engineer, healthcare scientist, clinical biochemist, forensic scientist, pharmacologist, research scientist, toxicologist, nuclear industry. Also, chartered certified accountant, environment consultant, higher education lecturer, patent attorney, science writer or secondary school teacher.</p> <p>Recent A Level chemistry students have progressed to the following degree courses: Natural Sciences at the University of Cambridge; Medicine at University of York; Chemistry at the University of Sheffield; Aerospace Engineering at the University of Bath.</p>	
For further details	
<p>Please contact the Head of Department, Mr T Carruthers: carrutherst@cockermouthschool.org</p>	

<p>Course Content</p> <p>COMPUTING</p> <p>Computing is a rich and deep discipline in its own right, like Physics and Mathematics. It explores foundational principles and ideas, rather than training students in skills related to particular software. Computing's aspects of design, theory and experimentation are drawn from Engineering, Maths and Science respectively. Computing involves concepts and questions that have the potential to change how we view the world.</p> <p>For the new A level specification:</p> <p>The AS which is an excellent introduction to the subject for those students who do not intend to take the subject any further.</p> <p>The A level is a more advanced course designed to lead students on to Computer Science at university level or to supplement the skill sets of students intending to read mathematics, sciences or engineering at university.</p>	<p>Exam board and qualifications</p> <p>This is a new Specification and features increased maths content.</p> <p>AQA computer Science AS AQA computer Science A level</p> <p>http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/ict-and-computer-science/as-and-a-level</p>
<p>Assessment</p> <p>Those following the AS course will take two externally marked papers:</p> <p>Paper 1 is assessed as a practical on-screen programming exam (1.5 hours), which tests a student's ability to program and develop a provided skeleton code as well as theoretical knowledge (50% of AS)</p> <p>Paper 2 is assessed as a conventional written exam based (1.5 hour). (50% of AS)</p> <p>Those students following the A2 course will take their exams in year 13:</p> <p>Paper 1 is the on screen programming exam which tests a student's ability to program and develop a provided skeleton code as well as theoretical knowledge (40%)</p> <p>Paper 2 A theory paper based on subject content (40%)</p> <p>Non- Exam assessment</p> <p>Project work – investigation of a practical problem (20%)</p>	<p>Entry criteria</p> <p>Minimum Grade B in computer Science/computing if studied at GCSE</p> <p>Grade B GCSE Maths</p> <p>We would strongly advise students to take A level Maths with their Computer Science.</p>
<p>Transferable skills you will develop</p> <p>Computer Science is not just about learning how computers work and how to program them; it's about learning how to think logically and problem solving, which relate well to Maths and Physics and are skills that many successful professionals possess. All pupils will be able to read and write algorithms and be able to use a computer competently and confidently whether they go into a computing specific career or not. However few modern careers do not involve a degree of IT capability and there is still much scope for those with a higher level of skills to move forward quickly in a wide range of professions.</p>	
<p>Progression</p> <p>Many students go on to study subjects such as mathematics, physics, computing, computer science, computer engineering, software engineering, robotics and computer games programming at university, while others use this course to improve their career opportunities generally.</p> <p>On a more straightforward level, there are still huge opportunities in the many IT fields, including mobile technologies, games, project management, systems analysis and all the technical areas such as networking, databases and computer security. Many electrical engineering departments are now sub divisions of computing departments at Universities.</p> <p>Recent A Level Students have progressed to the following degree courses:</p> <p>Computing at Teeside and Computer Forensics and Security at Leeds Met.</p>	
<p>For further details</p> <p>Please contact the Head of Department, Miss Bowe: bowew@cockermouthschool.org</p>	



<p>Course Content</p> <p>CREATIVE MEDIA</p> <p>This is an exciting course if you want to work in the print-based media industry – as a journalist, researcher or graphic designer. You will develop the right skills base and a broad portfolio of print based media products; from magazine pages to graphic advertising which are all focused around project-based assignments. This qualification needs strong written and presentation skills. You need to be creative, with the ability to visually and verbally communicate ideas in an interesting and original way. You will be creating journalism and print based media related content for a variety of creative media industries including writing copy, factual writing for print, page layout and graphic narrative production.</p>	<p>Exam board and qualifications</p> <p>EDEXCEL Two year course for the full 60 credit BTEC Level Subsidiary Diploma, which is equivalent to one full A Level. One year course for the 30 credit BTEC Level 3 Certificate, which is equivalent to one AS level.</p> <p>www.edexcel.com/quals/nationals10/media</p>
<p>Assessment</p> <p>Each student's performance will be regularly assessed via portfolio evidence throughout the course. There are no external exams.</p>	<p>Entry criteria</p> <p>Being an avid reader of newspapers, online news, blogs and magazines is essential. You are expected to be dedicated, meet all deadlines and have exemplary attendance and punctuality. This course is hard work and challenging, it is also creative, enjoyable and very rewarding. Grade C and above at GCSE's or BTEC equivalent in Art, Media or Graphic Products. A B grade at GCSE English is preferred but a C grade will also be considered. An interest or qualification in ICT would also be advantageous.</p>
<p>Transferable skills you will develop</p>	
<p>The course promotes group work but also encourages independent learning; you will be taught how to be extremely well organised and meet deadlines as the course is 100% coursework. The course will develop your confidence and ability to research, communicate effectively by pitch ideas and present both you and your work in a professional way.</p>	
<p>Progression</p>	
<p>Print-Based Media Production could lead naturally into university courses in journalism, print media, graphic design, advertising or marketing and public relations. Alternatively, you may wish to seek employment in research and publishing.</p>	
<p>For further details</p>	
<p>Please contact the Head of Department, Mrs Tinkler : tinklers@cockermouthschool.org</p>	

<p>Course Content</p> <p>DOUBLE MATHS</p> <p>This will take up two option blocks and leads to two A levels, one is title Mathematics, the other is titled Further Mathematics.</p>	<p>Exam board and qualifications</p> <p>Edexcel Maths (8371 for AS Mathematics) (9371 for A level Mathematics) (8372 for AS Further Mathematics) (9372 for A level further Mathematics)</p> <p>Year 12 AS Year 13 A2</p> <p>Further details about the course can be accessed from the Edexcel website :</p> <p>http://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/edexcel-a-levels/mathematics-2008.html</p>
<p>Assessment</p> <p>AS – Six written exams of one and a half hours, Core 1, Core 2, Further Pure 1, Statistics 1, Mechanics 1 and Decision Maths 1.</p> <p>A2 - Six written exams of one and a half hours, Core 3, Core 4, Further Pure 2, Statistics 2, Mechanics 2 and Decision Maths 2.</p>	<p>Entry criteria</p> <p>At least a good Grade A is required. Most students have an A* at GCSE.</p> <p>You certainly also will have to enjoy Maths. Twenty lessons per fortnight is a lot of Maths.</p>
<p>Transferable skills you will develop</p> <p>Apart from acquiring Mathematical knowledge, it is considered that students of this subject develop the ability to improve their problem solving skills and to think logically. There is also recognition that students who study Maths have experienced challenges, often very difficult ones, and are prepared to work hard to overcome the difficulties.</p>	
<p>Progression</p> <p>Studying any of the sciences at a higher level will usually involve an element of Mathematical ability. Many of our students go to university and study Mathematics. Many of the top universities' Engineering or Physics courses are keen that students study as much Maths as possible. Some of our Double Mathematicians have been successful in seeking Higher Level Apprenticeships</p> <p>Career links – The range of potential future careers is very wide, from Technical Apprenticeships through to professional Mathematicians. The range includes engineers, scientists, working in the financial sector, computing and indeed the medical world.</p> <p>Recent Double Mathematics students have progressed to the following degree courses: Mathematics at a wide range of universities, including Oxbridge. The full range of Science degrees at university. We regularly have students going on to study medicine. Some students have studied Double Maths and continued in a very different field, for example History, or Art.</p>	
<p>For further details</p> <p>Please contact the Head of Department, Mr A. Bradley: bradleya@cockermouthschool.org</p>	



Course Content	Exam board and qualifications
<p>DRAMA AND THEATRE STUDIES</p> <p>The course is designed to provide a balance across a range of practical activities that will inform your academic understanding. It combines the activities of exploring plays, creating theatre, the performing of plays, the analysis of theatre and the critical evaluation of all of these elements.</p> <p>Students completing the course successfully will have a thorough understanding of drama and theatre, highly toned analytical and creative skills and an ability to communicate effectively with others.</p>	<p>Edexcel Drama and Theatre Studies (8DR01/9DR01)</p> <p>Year 12 AS Year 13 A2</p> <p>Further details about the course can be accessed from the Edexcel website :</p> <p>http://www.edexcel.com/quals/gce/gce08/drama</p>
Assessment	Entry criteria
<p>AS</p> <p>Unit 1: Exploration of Drama and Theatre (40%) Practical and written analysis of two plays and an evaluation of a piece of live theatre.</p> <p>Unit 2: Theatre Text in Performance (60%) Performance of a monologue or duologue and a group performance of a published play.</p> <p>A Level</p> <p>Unit 3: Exploration of Dramatic Performance (40%) The creation of a devised piece of theatre.</p> <p>Unit 4: Theatre Text in Context (60%) 2 ½ hour written exam on a set play you have studied practically and academically.</p>	<p>Minimum of C Grade for GCSE Drama or C in English Literature if you've not studied GCSE Drama.</p>
Transferable skills you will develop	
<p>Communication, presentational, research, time management, management, leadership and team-working skills. Critical, analytical and evaluative writing abilities.</p>	
Progression	
<p>Aside from the obvious courses in the performing arts sector (both performance and production/technical) the academic abilities gained will be advantageous to you on any degree course where critical analysis, evaluation and research are required. Your ability to communicate complex and abstract thoughts, theories and ideas are transferable to many varied areas of study and work.</p>	
<p>Career links</p>	
<p>A qualification in Drama and Theatre Studies will allow you to progress not only into the many and varied careers within theatre, film, radio and television but also into other creative industries; PR and marketing, advertising, journalism, teaching or any job role that requires you to communicate.</p>	
<p>Recent A Level students have progressed to the following degree courses:</p>	
<p>Royal Scottish Academy of Music and Drama, Royal Court Theatre School, Central School of Speech and Drama, Liverpool John Moore's, LIPA and Man. Met. to study acting/theatre as well as a number of students who have gone on to study Musical Theatre, Drama and English and various Dance courses around the country.</p>	
For further details	
<p>Please contact the Head of Department, Mr B. Durkan : durkanb@cockermouthschool.org</p>	



<p>Course Content</p> <p>ECONOMICS</p> <p>Topics are split into Microeconomics relating to individuals and Macro economics relating the whole economy.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In Year 12 concepts include Supply and Demand, Production, Competition, Economic Policy and the National Economy • In Year 13 further topics include Labour Market, International Trade, The EU plus Income and Wealth, <p>The course is delivered through a mixture of taught materials, class activities and self directed work. In addition, students are provided with textbooks, websites, magazines, newsletters and Twitter to assist. We also attend revision workshops and have assistance from guest speakers.</p>	<p>Exam board and qualifications</p> <p>AQA AS and A-Level Economics</p> <p>Note</p> <p>Economics and Business are very different subjects. Every educator and employer treats them as such and there is no reason to not study both. Indeed, 14 of our current A-level students have selected to study both subjects</p> <p>http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/economics/as-and-a-level</p>
<p>Assessment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At the end of Year 12, all students will sit the AS qualification, assessed through 2x one and a half hour exams. These are entitled Markets & Market Failure and National Economy. • At the end of Year 13, the full A-Level will be assessed through 3x two hour exams covering the topics of Microeconomics, Macroeconomics and Principles & Issues. <p>The assessments will comprise a mix of essays, data response, multiple choice and short answers.</p>	<p>Entry criteria</p> <p>Grade B at GCSE in two of Maths, English Language and Business Studies.</p>
<p>Transferable skills you will develop</p> <p>Studying Economics will develop a range of transferable skills including analytical and evaluative techniques. The ability to use, calculate and interpret data will also be a feature of the course. Students who succeed are those with a strong grasp of theory and current affairs backed up by a thirst for knowledge and a willingness to have their viewpoint challenged.</p>	
<p>Progression</p> <p>Economics is a classical art with scientific principles and as such enables progression into a wide variety of careers, training and higher study. Many students continue to study Economics, Finance, Politics, Accountancy, Business, Marketing or Management at university. Others use the breadth of key skills as an excellent aid to study in an unrelated field.</p> <p>Within employment and training, employers place a high value on the key skills of analysis and evaluation plus the fact that students have engaged with the real world during their course. In all cases, decision makers have a confidence in the depth, breadth, quality and rigour of the course.</p> <p>Recent A Level Students have progressed to the following degree courses: International Finance and Economics at Sheffield Hallam</p>	
<p>For further details</p> <p>Contact Mr Dawson, Head of Economics and Business on dawsons@cockermouthschool.org</p>	



<p>Course Content</p> <p>ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE</p> <p>The course covers a wide variety of texts. It enables students to see how linguistic and literary methods are related and to explore these links in their work. The variety of assessment styles used, such as re-creative writing, commentary writing, discursive essays and research-based investigative writing, allows students to develop a wide range of skills.</p>	<p>Exam board and qualifications</p> <p>AQA English Language and Literature AS and A level. 7706/7707</p> <p>Year 12 AS Year 13 A level</p> <p>Further details about the course can be accessed from the AQA website : http://www.aqa.org.uk/resources/english/specifications/AQA-7706-7707-SP-2015-V1-0.PDF</p>
<p>Assessment</p> <p>AS – two written exams (100% of AS)</p> <p>A level - two written exams (80%) and non-exam assessment (20%)</p>	<p>Entry criteria</p> <p>Minimum of B Grade at GCSE in English Language and English Literature</p>
<p>Transferable skills you will develop</p> <p>Oral and written communication skills, cultural and social awareness, critical thinking and analytical skills, creative writing skills, close textual analysis.</p>	
<p>Progression</p> <p>Degrees in English Language, English Literature, Media and Journalism. The skills developed also support a wider range of academic disciplines such as history, geography, sociology and psychology.</p> <p>Career links - supports progression into a wide variety of careers, including teaching, law and journalism.</p> <p>Recent A Level English Language and Literature students have progressed to the following degree courses: Early Childhood Studies at Leeds; Drama and English at Liverpool John Moores; Civil Engineering at Newcastle; Sports Science and Injury Rehabilitation at York St John.</p>	
<p>For further details</p> <p>Please contact the Head of Department Ms. C. Quine: quinec@cockermouthschool.org</p>	



<p>Course Content</p> <p>ENGLISH LANGUAGE</p> <p>The course is wide ranging in content, covering aspects of language study as diverse as language change over time to the acquisition of children’s speech. Whilst the majority of the course is exam focused there is also the opportunity for independent, investigative research at A2. The non-exam assessment also includes a creative writing element. The course incorporates a variety of assessment styles, such as data analysis, discursive essays, directed writing, original writing and research-based investigative writing; this allows students to develop a wide range of skills. These include critical reading, data analysis, evaluation, the ability to develop and sustain arguments and a range of different writing skills which are invaluable for both further study and future employment.</p>	<p>Exam board and qualifications</p> <p>AQA English Language AS and A level. 7701/7702</p> <p>Year 12 AS Year 13 A level</p> <p>Further details about the course can be accessed from the AQA website : http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/english/as-and-a-level/english-language-7701-7702/spec-at-a-glance</p>
<p>Assessment</p> <p>AS – two written exams (100% of AS)</p> <p>A level - two written exams (80%) and non-exam assessment (20%)</p>	<p>Entry criteria</p> <p>Minimum of B Grade at GCSE in English Language and English Literature</p>
<p>Transferable skills you will develop</p>	
<p>The course will equip you with skills that are useful in the workplace, such as data analysis and report writing. You will also develop...</p>	
<p>Progression</p>	
<p>Degrees in English Language, English Literature, Media and Journalism. The skills developed also support a wider range of academic disciplines such as history, geography, sociology and psychology.</p> <p>Career links - supports progression into a wide variety of careers, including teaching, law and journalism.</p> <p>Recent A Level English Language and Literature students have progressed to the following degree courses: Law at Leeds University, English Language and Linguistics at York St John, Media, Culture and Communication at Liverpool John Moore, Psychology at Aberdeen, Middle Eastern Studies at Manchester University, Electrical and Electronic Engineering at Manchester University.</p>	
<p>For further details</p>	
<p>Please contact the Head of Department Ms C Quine: guinec@cockermouthschool.org</p>	

<p>Course Content</p> <p>ENGLISH LITERATURE</p> <p>The course approaches the study of literature by encouraging the independent study of a range of texts within a shared context. You will study poetry, prose and drama at AS and at A2. Assessment is through a range of styles, such as passage based questions, unseen material, single-text questions, multiple-text questions and open and closed book approaches, allowing you to develop a wide range of skills. At A2 you will be able to explore your own literary interests by choosing your own texts for your non-exam assessment. Both courses will enable you to develop high-level critical skills, the ability to articulate informed, personal and creative responses to literary texts, as well as detailed understanding of the significance and influence of the contexts in which literary texts are written and received.</p>	<p>Exam board and qualifications</p> <p>AQA English Literature A (7711)</p> <p>Year 12 AS Year 13 A2</p> <p>Further details about the course can be accessed from the AQA website : http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/english</p>
<p>Assessment</p> <p>AS – 100% examination Paper 1 – Shakespeare and Poetry (1 hour 30 minutes) Paper 2 – Prose (1 hour 30 minutes)</p> <p>A2 – 80% examination / 20% non-exam assessment Paper 1 – Love through the ages (3 hours) Paper 2 – Texts in Shared Contexts (2 hours 30 minutes) Non-exam assessment – Independent Critical Study</p>	<p>Entry criteria</p> <p>Minimum of B Grade at GCSE in English Language and English Literature</p>
<p>Transferable skills you will develop</p>	
<p>Oral and written communication skills, historical, cultural and social awareness, critical thinking and analytical skills</p>	
<p>Progression</p> <p>English Literature or English degrees; evidence of general academic ability for the full range of degree courses, such as Law, Medicine, Social and Political Sciences, Physical Sciences, English Language and Linguistics, Drama, Business, and a range of vocational courses such as Nursing, Teaching and Social Care.</p> <p>Career links - supports progression into a wide variety of careers, including business, teaching, law, accountancy, the Civil Service, international development, tourism, journalism, marketing and advertising.</p> <p>Recent A Level English students have progressed to the following degree courses: English and Drama at Sheffield University; English at Liverpool University; English Language at Salford University; Teaching at York St John University; Creative Writing at the University of East Anglia; English at Manchester University; French and German at Newcastle University, Politics, Philosophy and Economics at Oxford University.</p>	
<p>For further details</p>	
<p>Please contact the Head of Department, Ms Cheryl Quine: quince@cockermouthschool.org</p>	



<p>Course Content</p> <p>FRENCH The course is wide ranging and covers a number of current affairs topics, including media, popular culture, environment, multicultural society and global challenges. At A2 you will choose two cultural topics eg. a literary text, a film director, a historical period. In this course you will develop advanced level skills in reading, writing, listening and speaking the foreign language.</p>	<p>Exam board and qualifications</p> <p>AQA French (2650)</p> <p>Year 12 AS Year 13 A2</p> <p>Further details about the course can be accessed from the AQA website : http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/languages#bm-A-level</p>
<p>Assessment</p> <p>AS - a written exam (70%) and an oral exam (30%);</p> <p>A2 - written exam (35%) and oral exam (15%) of the total; the rest of the qualification is made up of the AS module marks</p>	<p>Entry criteria</p> <p>Minimum of B Grade at GCSE in the relevant language</p>
<p>Transferable skills you will develop</p>	
<p>Oral and written communication skills, problem solving, cultural and social awareness, critical thinking and analytical skills</p>	
<p>Progression</p>	
<p>Language and combined degrees in the language studied and other European and non-European languages; useful if you want to study an unrelated subject with a year abroad; evidence of general academic ability for the full range of degree courses, for example Law, Medicine, Social and Political Sciences, Physical Sciences, English Language and Linguistics.</p> <p>Career links - supports progression into a wide variety of careers, including business, teaching, law, accountancy, the Civil Service, international development, tourism, journalism, marketing</p> <p>Recent A Level language students have progressed to the following degree courses: German and Russian at Oxford University; Physics with a year in the USA at the University of Kent; Linguistics with French at Newcastle University; Chinese at the University of Cambridge; Physics with Astrophysics at the University of Glasgow</p>	
<p>For further details</p>	
<p>Please contact the Head of Department, Mr D. Elliott: elliottd@cockermouthschool.org</p>	



<p>Course Content</p> <p>GEOGRAPHY</p> <p>In Year 12 the core topics are River Management, Cold Environments, Population Change, Energy issues in the 21st century. There is also field work to investigate local rivers and drainage basins and statistical analysis based on this.</p> <p>In Year 13 the core topics are Plate Tectonics, Weather & Climate and Associated Hazards and Contemporary Conflicts and Challenges. Pupils also study a specific region chosen by the exam board with advance information provided by AQA to examine the issues that affect the area and their management.</p>	<p>Exam board and qualifications</p> <p>AQA Geography (2030)</p> <p>Year 12 AS Year 13 A2</p> <p>Further details about the course can be accessed from the AQA website : http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/geography/a-level/geography-2030</p>
<p>Assessment</p> <p>AS – Paper 1 on core topics (70%) and Paper 2 on Geographical Skills including fieldwork (30%);</p> <p>A2 – Paper 3 on core topics (60%) and Paper 4 is an Issues analysis of a specific region of the world (40%).</p>	<p>Entry criteria</p> <p>Minimum of B Grade at GCSE in Geography or B grade in Maths and English if students have not completed Geography GCSE</p>
<p>Transferable skills you will develop</p> <p>Oral and written communication skills including essay writing, statistical analysis and data presentation, use of Geographical Information Systems, problem solving.</p>	
<p>Progression</p> <p>Career links - This A' Level is a good foundation for careers in a variety of settings including: Water Companies, Weather forecasting, Geographical Information Systems, Urban Planning, Countryside & Land Management, Environmental Management, Civil Engineering, Conservation, Civil Service, Local Government, Overseas Development, Travel & Tourism, Law, Business & Administration, Marketing.</p> <p>Recent A Level Students have progressed to the following degree courses: Countryside Management at Aberystwyth and Geography at Northumbria</p>	
<p>For further details</p> <p>Please contact the Head of Department, Mr R Pawson: pawsonr@cockermouthschool.org</p>	

Course Content	Exam board and qualifications
<p>GERMAN</p> <p>The course is wide ranging and covers a number of current affairs topics, including media, popular culture, environment, multicultural society and global challenges. At A2 you will choose two cultural topics eg. a literary text, a film director, a historical period. In this course you will develop advanced level skills in reading, writing, listening and speaking the foreign language.</p>	<p>AQA German (2660)</p> <p>Year 12 AS Year 13 A2</p> <p>Further details about the course can be accessed from the AQA website : http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/languages#bm-A-level</p>
Assessment	Entry criteria
<p>AS - a written exam (70%) and an oral exam (30%);</p> <p>A2 - written exam (35%) and oral exam (15%) of the total; the rest of the qualification is made up of the AS module marks</p>	<p>Minimum of B Grade at GCSE in the relevant language</p>
Transferable skills you will develop	
<p>Oral and written communication skills, problem solving, cultural and social awareness, critical thinking and analytical skills</p>	
Progression	
<p>Language and combined degrees in the language studied and other European and non-European languages; useful if you want to study an unrelated subject with a year abroad; evidence of general academic ability for the full range of degree courses, for example Law, Medicine, Social and Political Sciences, Physical Sciences, English Language and Linguistics.</p> <p>Career links - supports progression into a wide variety of careers, including business, teaching, law, accountancy, the Civil Service, international development, tourism, journalism, marketing</p> <p>Recent A Level language students have progressed to the following degree courses: German and Russian at Oxford University; Physics with a year in the USA at the University of Kent; Linguistics with French at Newcastle University; Chinese at the University of Cambridge; Physics with Astrophysics at the University of Glasgow</p>	
For further details	
<p>Please contact the Head of Department, Mr D. Elliott: elliottd@cockermouthschool.org</p>	

<p>Course Content</p> <p>HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE</p> <p>The course is a predominately portfolio work, which consists of assignment based learning. The course delves into the world of health and social care, where we cover topics that focus on health, lifestyles and children.</p> <p>Students are tracked throughout to determine the level of achievement and feedback is consistent to achieving positive results.</p>	<p>Exam board and qualifications</p> <p>OCR is the Awarding Body A level in Health and Social Care</p> <p>http://ocr.org.uk/qualifications/by-subject/health-and-social-care/</p>
<p>Assessment</p> <p><u>Year 12:</u> AS - 3 mandatory units: Unit 1: Promoting Quality Care (External Test) Unit 2: Communication in Care (portfolio) Unit 3: Promoting Good Health (portfolio)</p> <p><u>Year 13:</u> A2 Unit 10: Care Practice and Provision (Portfolio – mandatory) Unit 13: Child Development (portfolio) External Test: Social Trends</p> <p>Portfolio 60% and exam 40%</p>	<p>Entry criteria</p> <p>B grade in English Language is advisable, a C grade may be considered</p> <p>You do not need to have done this subject in GCSE</p>
<p>Transferable skills you will develop</p> <p>You will learn to analyse, evaluate, research and problem solve. You will participate in producing a lesson for year 7, developing an activity for a child and visiting/working with services in the local area. You will learn how to communicate effectively with different ages and understand the importance of communication within this field. Participate in assignment based activities, research and investigative work and group work.</p> <p>You will also learn how to use feedback to your advantage.</p>	
<p>Progression</p> <p>These are wide and varied throughout the health and social care sector, from nursing to teaching, working with the police and social work. The course is an excellent foundation for comparative studies in further education.</p> <p>Recent A Level Students have progressed to the following degree courses: Adult Nursing at Manchester University and Child Health and Wellbeing at Edgehill.</p>	
<p>For further details</p> <p>Contact Mrs Batchelor batchelorl@cockermouthschool.org</p>	

Course Content	Exam board and qualifications
<p>HISTORY</p> <p>AS units:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> In search of the American Dream: the USA 1917-96. South Africa 1948-94: from apartheid state to 'rainbow nation.' <p>A Level units: These include the 2 units outlined above plus</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Poverty, public health and the state in Britain, c.1780-1939. Coursework unit, a choice of questions will be set. 	<p>Edexcel route F: Searching for rights and freedoms in the twentieth century.</p> <p>http://www.edexcel.com/migrationdocuments/A%20level%20from%202015/9781446914366_GCE_2015_A_HIST_WEB.PDF</p>
Assessment	Entry criteria
<p>AS units:</p> <p>Paper 1 (USA) 2 hours 15 minutes. It is worth 60% of the AS (30% A Level)*</p> <p>Paper 2 (South Africa) 1 hour 30 minutes. It is worth 40% of the AS (20% A Level)*</p> <p>Paper 3 (poverty and public health) 2 hours 15 minutes. It is worth 30% of the A level.</p> <p>Coursework. A 3000-4000 word essay based on independent enquiry. It is worth 20% of the A level.</p>	<p>Students should have a Grade B or above in GCSE History. If they have not completed a History GCSE then a Grade B or above in English is acceptable.</p>
Transferable skills you will develop	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Independent and critical thinking Research skills. Evaluative and analytical skills. The ability to take information from several sources and develop an effective and supported argument. 	
Progression	
<p>Students who study History go on to a wide range of jobs and further education opportunities. History can prepare you for any career which requires you to research, to look at evidence and to collate information and write at length. It is also primarily about people and so the range of jobs it may lead to is a long one! Examples include the law, teaching, media, journalism to name but a few.</p> <p>Recent A Level Students have progressed to the following degree courses: French & History at Cardiff University and History with Archaeology at Chester</p>	
For further details	
<p>Please contact the Head of History, Mrs Greenhalgh: greenhalghj@cockermouthschool.org</p>	

Course Content	Exam board and qualifications
<p>ICT</p> <p>As one of the most rapidly changing subjects, ICT is the study of technology and systems that dominate our personal and working lives</p> <p>A level ICT will assist you in developing a broad range of skills, knowledge and understanding of ICT.</p> <p>You will study the different technologies emerging and their impact on individuals and society; understand the consequences of using ICT and acquire the skills, knowledge and understanding of ICT to help solve problems. The course aims to develop your ICT skills to a high level of ability.</p> <p>The first year is the AS course and covers topics such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unit IT1: information systems with spreadsheet task (60%) • Unit IT2: presenting information Practical task (40%) <p>The second year completes the A' level with topics such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unit IT3: use and impact of ICT (Theory exam 60%) • Unit IT4: relational database project (Practical coursework 40%) 	<p>WJEC A level ICT</p> <p>http://www.wjec.co.uk/qualifications/ict/information-and-communication-technology-gce-a-as/</p>
<p>Assessment</p> <p>60% exam and 40% coursework in both AS and A2</p>	<p>Entry criteria</p> <p>You will need to have a good general education with the ability to communicate and analyse data. We would expect you to have GCSE English Grade C If you have taken ICT GCSE then a Grade C is required.</p>
<p>Transferable skills you will develop</p> <p>ICT A level teaches the use of computers as a powerful tool that can be used to your advantage in many fields of life. From web development and mobile networks through to artificial intelligence, ICT will equip students with an essential life skill in today's technological world. The course aims to teach skills that are usable in the business world and not just taught as a theory.</p>	
<p>Progression</p> <p>Many students apply to and are offered places at university to study courses such as IT and business studies, IT management and business information systems or any career in user support, systems analysis and systems development. ICT is a very useful qualification to have for many degrees and career paths. A number of students go onto employment or move onto an apprenticeship programme.</p> <p>Recent A Level Students have progressed to the following degree courses: Web Systems Development at Edge Hill</p>	
<p>For further details Contact Miss Bowe Head of ICT and Computing bowew@cockermouthschool.org</p>	

<p>Course Content</p> <p>MATHEMATICS</p> <p>The course will consist of four modules of Core Mathematics and one of Statistics and one of Mechanics. The Core Mathematics is largely algebraic in nature. We also study further Trigonometry, Sequences and Calculus. The Statistics module contains work on probability, the mean and standard deviation along with regression and discrete random variables. The Mechanics module contains work on constant acceleration, forces, Newton's Second law and momentum.</p>	<p>Exam board and qualifications</p> <p>Edexcel Maths (8371 for AS) (9371 for A level) Year 12 AS Year 13 A2</p> <p>Further details about the course can be accessed from the Edexcel website :</p> <p>http://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/edexcel-a-levels/mathematics-2008.html</p>
<p>Assessment</p> <p>AS – Three written exams of one and a half hours, Core 1, Core 2 and Mechanics 1.</p> <p>A2 - Three written exams of one and a half hours, Core 3, Core 4 and Statistics 1.</p>	<p>Entry criteria</p> <p>Ideally a grade A at GCSE.</p> <p>We will consider students who have achieved a good grade B. If a student has a good grade B and wishes to start the course then they will be asked to do the following.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meet with the Head of Mathematics on the first day of term to discuss whether their percentage at GCSE is a good grade B. For students who did not complete their GCSE at Cockermouth School we will need to see their results statement from the exam board. • Complete the work set on the Induction Day. Further details will be available on the school's website. • Sit an assessment on the first day of term . This assessment will aim to establish if a student has the necessary algebraic skills to cope with the GCSE. Further details will be available on the school's website.
<p>Transferable skills you will develop</p> <p>Apart from acquiring Mathematical knowledge, it is considered that students of this subject develop the ability to improve their problem solving skills and to think logically. There is also recognition that students who study Maths have experienced challenges, often very difficult ones, and are prepared to work hard to overcome the difficulties.</p>	
<p>Progression</p> <p>Studying any of the sciences at a higher level will usually involve an element of Mathematical ability. Many of our students go to university and study Mathematics. For those seeking apprenticeships, an AS or an A level in Mathematics is also looked very favourably on.</p> <p>Career links – The range of potential future careers is very wide, from Technical Apprenticeships through to professional Mathematicians. The range includes engineers, scientists, working in the financial sector, computing and indeed the medical world.</p> <p>Recent A Level Mathematics students have progressed to the following degree courses: Mathematics at a wide range of universities, including Oxbridge. The full range of Science degrees at university. An increasing number have been successful in securing apprenticeships. Some students have studied Maths and continued in a very different field, for example History, or Art.</p>	
<p>For further details</p> <p>Please contact the Head of Department, Mr A. Bradley at : bradleya@cockermouthschool.org</p>	



Course Content	Exam board and qualifications
<p>PHYSICAL EDUCATION</p> <p>The course is wide ranging and you will cover many aspects of sport. You will still need to be a performer (or coach, or official) in two/one sport. You will also learn about the science of sport, psychology of sport and put sport in a socio cultural perspective.</p>	<p>OCR A level PE (H554)</p> <p>Year 12 AS Year 13 A2</p> <p>Further details about the course can be accessed from the OCR website : www.ocr.org</p>
Assessment	Entry criteria
<p>AS - a written exam (60%) and two sports as one of performer/coach/official (40%);</p> <p>A2 - written exam (70%) and one sport as a performer/coach/official (30%)</p>	<p>Grade C in English Language and Grade C in PE if studied at GCSE.</p>
Transferable skills you will develop	
<p>Oral and written communication skills, team work and understanding of sport and physical activity in a wide perspective</p>	
Progression	
<p>Many pupils do progress into sports related courses at university, but many use it as their fourth A level and look to go to university in a wide variety of courses. Taking A level PE is not a decision to have a career in sport, but does allow you to be credited for your skill in your sport to gain a good grade in your A levels</p> <p>Career links - supports progression into a wide variety of careers, including business, teaching, tourism, journalism, marketing, coaching, physiotherapy and many more.</p> <p>Recent A Level PE students have progressed to the following degree courses: Sports Science at a variety of institutions. Sports Coaching Degrees. Education/Teaching courses. Nursing. Physiotherapy. Aeronautical Engineering at Leeds University.</p>	
For further details	
<p>Please contact the Head of Department, Mr C HAYES – hayesc@cockermouthschool.org</p>	



Course Content	Exam board and qualifications
<p>PHYSICS</p> <p>The course builds on material covered at GCSE including waves, motion and electricity while also introducing new concepts such as particle physics, quantum phenomena and fields. The Physics specification has been designed to allow the simultaneous teaching of AS and A2 courses resulting in flexibility of the level of Physics that is wished to be studied.</p>	<p>AQA Physics</p> <p>Year 12 AS Year 13 A2</p> <p>Further details about the course can be accessed from the AQA website : http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/science/as-and-a-level/physics-7407-7408</p>
Assessment	Entry criteria
<p>AS – 2 x 90 minute written exams, incorporating long and short questions, practical and data analysis questions and multiple-choice.</p> <p>A2 – 3 x 2 hour written exams, each of short and long answers and some multiple choice questions. The third paper will additionally cover practical and data analysis questions.</p>	<p>Minimum of B Grade at GCSE in the Physics component of Additional Science or B Grade at GCSE Physics. Grade B in Maths GCSE essential.</p>
Transferable skills you will develop	
<p>Through the application of mathematics you will develop excellent problem solving skills. You will develop an inquiring mind and be encouraged to plan how to investigate relationships between physical quantities. You will develop communication skills, making effective use of subject specific terminology in both written and oral communication.</p>	
Progression	
<p>Degrees in Physics, Natural Sciences and Engineering are all closely supported by following this course, but other less obvious degrees such as computing, accountancy and Law also welcome applications from A Level Physics students. A Level maths is often required in addition to study these degrees.</p> <p>Career links - supports progression into a wide variety of careers, including Engineering, Science research, medicine and the telecommunications industry. Some students have gone on to careers in journalism, theatre production and accountancy to name just a few.</p> <p>Recent A Level physics students have progressed to the following degree courses: Physics, Natural Sciences, Medicine, Engineering, Maths, Accountancy, Veterinary medicine, Music, Law, Business and Economics. Universities include Oxford, Leeds and Glasgow.</p>	
For further details	
<p>Please contact the Head of Department, Miss S Carruthers: carrutherss@cockermouthschool.org</p>	

<p>Course Content</p> <p>PRODUCT DESIGN</p> <p>The course is wide ranging and the specification is designed to offer learners opportunities to study, propose and realise prototype solutions closely linked to the real world of product design, in a range of material areas. Recognising the routes that are pursued at GCSE this specification provides candidates with opportunities to continue their studies either exclusively or as a combination of focus material areas, for example in resistant materials, or graphics, or electronics , or indeed a mixture of these.</p>	<p>Exam board and qualifications</p> <p>OCR Product Design AS (H053) OCR Product Design A2 (H453)</p> <p>Year 12 AS Year 13 A2</p> <p>Further details about the course can be accessed from the AQA website : http://www.ocr.org.uk/qualifications-as-a-level-gce-design-and-technology-product-design-ho53-ho54</p>
<p>Assessment</p> <p>AS – a product study (60% AS / 30% A2)and an Innovation challenge design & practical exam (40% AS / 20% A2);</p> <p>A2 – Design Make & Evaluate project (30%) and oral exam (20%) of the total; the rest of the qualification is made up of the AS module marks</p>	<p>Entry criteria</p> <p>Minimum of 'B' Grade at GCSE recommended in the relevant resistant materials, graphic products, electronic products, product design, or good ('B' grades in Maths Science, English etc...</p>
<p>Transferable skills you will develop</p>	
<p>Oral , written and drawing communication skills, problem solving, cultural and social awareness, critical thinking and analytical , evaluative skills, 'e-folio', practical skills , CAD / CAM.</p>	
<p>Progression</p>	
<p>Language and combined degrees in the language studied and other European and non-European languages; useful if you want to study an unrelated subject with a year abroad; evidence of general academic ability for the full range of degree</p> <p>Career links - supports progression into a wide variety of careers including civil / electrical /mechanical engineering , Gen II , interior design, graphic design , 3D/ product design , architecture technician / architect, design & technology teaching , or as a subject to support points scores to other non-product design related degrees – transport , business etc...</p> <p>Recent 'A Level' Product Design students have progressed to the following degree courses: including civil / electrical /mechanical engineering , interior design, graphic design , 3D/ product design , architecture, design & technology teaching , or as a subject to support points scores to other non-product design related degrees.</p>	
<p>For further details</p>	
<p>Please contact the Head of Department, Mr D. Armstrong , via: reception@cockermouthschool.org</p>	

Course Content	Exam board and qualifications
<p>MUSIC</p> <p>At AS you will listen to a range of music and answer questions about the pieces, study musicals and one orchestral piece, and answer essay-style questions about them.</p> <p>You will create pieces of music of your own as part of your exam portfolio, and submit one for the exam. You can use Music Creator, Sibelius or Audacity software on a PC (or other software or hardware), or perform your pieces live.</p> <p>You have a range of performance options:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -perform 5-8 minutes of music as a player or a singer Or as part of a group - sequence a piece of music using a computer - produce a multi-tracked recording using microphones <p>At A2 you will listen to a range of music and answer questions about the pieces, study choral music and one orchestral piece, and answer essay-style questions about them.</p> <p>You will create pieces of music of your own, or arrange pieces of music, as part of your exam portfolio, and submit one for the exam. You can use Music Creator, Sibelius or Audacity software on a PC (or other software or hardware), or perform your pieces live.</p> <p>You have a range of performance options:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -perform 10-15 minutes of music as a player or a singer - sequence a piece of music using a computer - produce a multi-tracked recording using microphones 	<p>AQA Music (2270)</p> <p>Year 12 AS Year 13 A2</p> <p>Further details about the course can be accessed from the AQA website : http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/music/a-level/music-2270</p>
<p>Assessment</p> <p>AS Listening and essay writing – 30% External exam AS Composing – 30% Controlled Assessment (20 hours) AS Performing – 40% Internally Assessed A2 Listening and essay writing – 40% External exam A2 Composing – 30% Controlled Assessment (20 hours) A2 Performing – 30% Internally Assessed</p>	<p>Entry criteria</p> <p>Grade B in GCSE Music is normally expected. Students without this will be considered if they are considered to have the necessary skills to complete the course, and should speak to the Head of Music.</p>
<p>Transferable skills you will develop</p> <p>Working independently, creating and developing original ideas, presenting a finished product working to deadlines Working as part of a team to solve problems and create an end product. Respond articulately to something you've heard; analyse material and present findings in written form</p>	
<p>Progression</p> <p>Music, combined degrees in Music and another subject, Conservatoire courses in composition or performance. Evidence of general academic ability for the full range of degree courses.</p> <p>Career links</p> <p>Conservatoire study as a performer or composer; professional performer, composer or arranger Band member; Singer-songwriter; Music publishing; Sound engineer; Arts Administration Classroom teacher; Instrumental or vocal teacher Music librarian; Music Therapist; Piano Tuner; Instrument Repairer; Instrument Manufacturer</p> <p>Recent A Level Music students have progressed to the following degree courses: Music at Leeds College of Music, Composition at Birmingham and Glasgow Conservatoires, Performance at Birmingham Conservatoire, Music degrees at Glasgow University, Huddersfield University</p>	
<p>For further details</p> <p>Please contact the Head of Department, Martin Ulyatt: ulyattm@cockermouthschool.org</p>	

Course Content	Exam board and qualifications
<p>PSYCHOLOGY</p> <p>AS level - The course covers the main approaches in psychology (learning, cognitive and biological) and explores 'psychology in context', for example, attachment styles, memory and eyewitness testimony; obedience to authority and mental health. Research methods are also a key component to the AS level.</p> <p>A level - This course parallels the AS level for the first year and then aims to broaden and deepen knowledge with regard to the approaches, incorporating humanistic and psychodynamic perspectives. Research methods are a significant element to the course. You will also study three core topics: schizophrenia, relationships and aggression.</p>	<p>AQA 'A' Psychology</p> <p>Year 12 AS (7181) Year 12 and 13 A Level (7182)</p> <p>Further details about the course can be accessed from the AQA website : http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/psychology/as-and-a-level/psychology-7181-7182/spec-at-a-glance</p>
Assessment	Entry criteria
<p>AS level - two 1.5 hour written exams. 50% of the AS level each.</p> <p>A level - three two hour written exams. 33.3% of the A level each.</p>	<p>Minimum of B Grade at GCSE English language and a minimum of 2 B Grades in science. Grade B in mathematics preferred.</p>
Transferable skills you will develop	
<p>Skills in the design and implementation of a range of research methods. Written communication skills, analytical and reasoning skills, problem solving. Assessing issues from a broader perspective, for example cross-culturally and historically. Data analysis and interpretation and mathematical skills.</p>	
Progression	
<p>Psychology A Level could lead on to a psychology degree; and the transferable skills gained would demonstrate general academic ability for a wide range of degree courses.</p> <p>Career links - Psychology can lead on to a career as a qualified psychologist in areas such as clinical, educational, occupational and criminal psychology. Furthermore, it would be useful in careers such as nursing, teaching, social work and human resources.</p> <p>Recent A level psychology students have progressed to the following degree courses: Psychology at Bradford/Aberdeen/Liverpool University; Nursing at Aberdeen; Sociology, Media and IT at Liverpool John Moores; English at Newcastle.</p>	
For further details	
<p>Please contact the Head of Department, Miss K Priest: priestk@cockermouthschool.org</p>	

Course Content	Exam board and qualifications
<p>RELIGIOUS STUDIES</p> <p>The course is in two parts: Philosophy of Religion and Religious Ethics. This is an exciting and thought provoking course which challenges students to question the nature of reality and truth, and to examine the ethics of many relevant and stimulating moral dilemmas. To many of the questions posed there are no certain answers, rather there are many answers that have been given which can be studied, analysed and evaluated. An open and tolerant mind is required.</p>	<p>OCR H172/H572</p> <p>Year 12 AS Year 13 A2</p> <p>Further details about the course can be accessed from the OCR website : http://www.ocr.org.uk/qualifications/as-a-level-gce-religious-studies-h172-h572/</p>
Assessment	Entry criteria
<p>AS – 2 x 1.5 hour written examinations</p> <p>A2 – 2 x 1.5 hour written examinations</p>	<p>Minimum of B Grade at GCSE in Religious Studies, English or History.</p>
Transferable skills you will develop	
<p>Religious Studies develops a variety of skills, including those of discussion and debate. The valuable skills of logical argument and critical evaluation are also developed and can be transferred to other areas of study.</p>	
Progression	
<p>This course provides a suitable foundation for the further study of Religious Studies, Philosophy or Theology. As with any subject in the area of Humanities, students acquire a great range of skills, such as analysis, interpretation, critical thinking and the ability to produce extended evaluative pieces of writing. These are skills that will prepare students well for a range of courses in higher education and, beyond that, in employment generally.</p> <p>Career links - In the world of work, employers look for someone with an enquiring mind, an appreciation of different viewpoints, and an ability to make clear, balanced decisions. The skills developed through this course could be particularly useful for careers in teaching, the Civil Service, Law, Medicine, Administration or the Media. Any career that involves working with people, dealing with logic and reasoning would follow on from Religious Studies.</p> <p>Recent A Level students have progressed to the following degree courses: Psychology at Aberdeen and Sociology at Liverpool.</p>	
For further details	
<p>Please contact the Head of Department: Miss Angela Messenger messenger@cockermouthschool.org.uk</p>	



<p>Course Content</p> <p>SPANISH The course is wide ranging and covers a number of current affairs topics, including media, popular culture, environment, multicultural society and global challenges. At A2 you will choose two cultural topics eg. a literary text, a film director, a historical period. In this course you will develop advanced level skills in reading, writing, listening and speaking the foreign language.</p>	<p>Exam board and qualifications</p> <p>AQA Spanish (2695)</p> <p>Year 12 AS Year 13 A2</p> <p>Further details about the course can be accessed from the AQA website : http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/languages/bm-A-level</p>
<p>Assessment</p> <p>AS - a written exam (70%) and an oral exam (30%);</p> <p>A2 - written exam (35%) and oral exam (15%) of the total; the rest of the qualification is made up of the AS module marks</p>	<p>Entry criteria</p> <p>Minimum of B Grade at GCSE in the relevant language</p>
<p>Transferable skills you will develop</p>	
<p>Oral and written communication skills, problem solving, cultural and social awareness, critical thinking and analytical skills</p>	
<p>Progression</p> <p>Language and combined degrees in the language studied and other European and non-European languages; useful if you want to study an unrelated subject with a year abroad; evidence of general academic ability for the full range of degree courses, for example Law, Medicine, Social and Political Sciences, Physical Sciences, English Language and Linguistics.</p> <p>Career links - supports progression into a wide variety of careers, including business, teaching, law, accountancy, the Civil Service, international development, tourism, journalism, marketing</p> <p>Recent A Level language students have progressed to the following degree courses: Media, Culture and Communications at Liverpool John Moores, Medicine at UCL and French with Spanish at Manchester</p>	
<p>For further details</p>	
<p>Please contact the Head of Department, Mr D. Elliott: elliottd@cockermouthschool.org</p>	