

## Studying a fourth A Level at CHB

Students can start four A Levels (as long as there are enough places in the fourth subject) at the beginning of Year 12

- The fourth subject can be added following subject discussions in March/April, or on GCSE results day.
- We encourage students to choose a fourth subject that adds breadth to their A Level subjects
  - For example, choosing subjects from at least two of the following groups:
    - Sciences: Biology, Chemistry, Computing, Maths, Physics, Maths and Further Maths
    - Humanities: Economics, English, Geography, History, Politics, Psychology, Religious Studies
    - Arts and Languages: Art, Design, Drama (CHG), French, German, Music
  - An EPQ (offered from November of Year 12 to November of Year 13) is a different way to add breadth at A Level which is valued highly by universities.
- Starting a fourth subject can help those students who can't decide between two subjects as their third choice.
- Some students will continue all four subjects to the end of Year 13, but this is rare.

Students can drop down to three subjects at any point

- We strongly encourage students to wait until the end of September before deciding, so that their decision is an informed one.
- If a student (or teacher) thinks that dropping to three subjects is in the student's best interests then the student will discuss their progress with all of their teachers, to help them make the right decision about which subject to drop.
- For university admissions, three good grades are far more useful than four not-so-good grades.

Further Maths

- Further Maths can only be studied as a fourth A Level
- Students can drop Further Maths at any point over the two years and move to a (Single) Maths class to study Maths A Level without Further Maths.
- If a student starts four A Levels including Further Maths, then the only subject they are able to drop is Further Maths.
  - The exception to this is when a student's university offers require Maths, Further Maths and only one other subject, but this is very rare.
- Students studying Further Maths can start a fifth subject. We recommend that students only do this when they are torn between two subjects and want to get extra information before deciding which to continue with. We will encourage students to make a choice about which subject to continue with at the end of September.