

Torpoint Community College

6th Form Prospectus



S U B J E C T S F O R P O S T 1 6 S T U D E N T S



Torpoint Community College Sixth Form

There are many reasons that influence the choice of what to do and where to study when you have finished your GCSE exams. The advantages of staying with us at TCC include:

We know you and you know us – we have taught you and appreciate your strengths and where you may need extra support. You will have built those strong relationships with your teachers that can continue for this last phase of your education.

You will have a tutor who will meet with you regularly for 1:1 advice – this helps you to plan for university or an apprenticeship or whatever you want to do next. It also allows you to ask for help or support if you need it.

Excellent careers guidance and preparation for the next step.

Little time lost on travel and transport each day.

Small class sizes.

Highest level of teacher input to you individually every lesson.

Expert teachers who know their subjects inside out.

Here are the range of A Level and Post-16 courses offered at Torpoint:

Biology	Chemistry
Physics	Mathematics
English Language	English Literature
History	Geography
Spanish	Art and Design
Psychology	Drama
Media Studies	
CAMTEC Sport (equivalent of 2 A Levels)	



All of our students take 3 courses – but you can choose to start on 4 to try something new.

Detailed information on individual subjects can be found in this prospectus including subject teachers contact details for each subject lead.

For any further information, please contact Mr Golding on golding.j@torpoint.cornwall.sch.uk



A Level Art and Design

Entry Guidelines: 5 or more grade 4's or better

Exam Board: OCR

Components: Component 1– Personal Investigation– 60% of final grade.

Component 2– ESA (Externally Set Task), 40% of the final grade.

What's it all about?

In Art and Design, you will have the opportunity to develop your creativity and your personal style by experimenting and exploring with a wide range of different media, techniques and processes. You will have the opportunity to work with the following:

Textiles, Photography and Digital Media, Graphic Communication, Painting, Printmaking, 3D Design and Sculpture, Fashion, Critical and Contextual Studies. You will visit galleries, local FE and HE Colleges, work with PCA and have the chance to experience the world of Art and Design outside of the classroom. The course consists of two components.

Component 1 is based on a theme and will be your own personal investigation consisting of a practical portfolio and a related study which could take the form of an illustrated essay. Component 2 involves a starting point set by the Exam board, an extended period of preparation time and a 15-hour Exam period to produce the Final Piece with the preparation time leading up to it.

Which subjects go well with Art and Design?

A-Level Art and Design works well with any combination of subjects. Studying Art and Design shows employers and Universities that you have strong visual and creative skills.

What next?

If you wish to know more about this course and what career opportunities Art and Design can lead to, you can contact Miss Bell or Mrs Jones.

Email us on: Miss Bell– [Bell.L@torpoint.cornwall.sch.uk](mailto:bell.l@torpoint.cornwall.sch.uk)



A Level Biology

Entry Guidelines: 4 x grade 5's or better, including Science

Exam Board: OCR

Examinations: Biological processes– 100 marks– 2 hrs 15 minutes 37% of total A Level

Biological diversity– 100 marks– 2 hrs 15 minutes 37% of total A Level

Unified Biology—70 marks—1 hr 30 minutes 26% total A level

Examinations to be sat at the end of the A2 course.

Coursework: Practical Endorsement– assessed through teacher led practical activities.

What's it all about?

The aim is to develop your interest and enthusiasm for Biology, including developing an interest in further study and careers associated with Biology. It will encourage you to appreciate how society makes decisions about scientific issues and how the sciences contribute to the success of the economy and society. It will develop a deeper appreciation of the skills, knowledge and understanding of different areas of Biology and how they relate to each other. Biology's primary goal is to study life and living organisms. Whatever career you enter, wherever you go, whatever you do, your number one priority will be with living things. The course will be lively, including practical classes. We will work hard but hopefully have some fun along the way!

Which subjects go well with Biology?

Biology goes particularly well with the other Sciences Psychology, Physics and especially Chemistry but for many students Biology will be your only Science subject. At this stage students are often looking for a combination of A levels which keeps your options open and including Biology will help to do that.

What next?

If you wish to know more about this course and what career opportunities Biology can lead to, you can contact Miss Carr or Mrs Bray.

Email us on: Miss Carr- carr.a@torpoint.cornwall.sch.uk

A Level Chemistry

Entry Guidelines– 4 grade 5s or better including Science

Exam Board: OCR

Content: Foundations of Chemistry; Periodic table and energy; Organic chemistry and analysis; Physical chemistry and transition elements

Examinations: Examinations to be sat at the end of the A level course.

Periodic table, elements, and physical chemistry– 100 marks– 2 hrs 15 minutes 37% of total A level

Synthesis and analytical techniques– 100 marks– 2 hrs 15 minutes 37% of total A level

Unified Chemistry– 70 marks– 1 hr 30 minutes 26% of total A level

Coursework: Practical Endorsement– assessed through teacher led practical activities. Minimum 12 assessed activities during Yr 12 and Yr 13, awarded at end of Yr 13, Pass or ungraded.

What's it all about?

Chemistry is the study of substances, what they are made of, how they interact and what role they play in living things. Chemistry is a fundamental subject and bridges the gap between the physical and biological sciences; it can lead to a wide variety of careers such as forensic science, pharmacology, medicine, veterinary science, bio-chemistry, and dentistry. The transferable skills obtained from chemistry, such as analysing evidence to produce conclusions are also well regarded in many other areas. Chemistry is involved everywhere from space research to exploration of the bottom of the oceans.

Which subjects go well with Chemistry?

Chemistry goes particularly well with the other sciences especially Physics and Biology, but for many students Chemistry may be their only Science subject. It is helpful to study maths as well as Chemistry. At this stage students are looking for a combination of A levels which keeps options open and including Chemistry will do that; many key skills are developed such as problem solving, teamwork, numeracy skills and practical skills.

Past students have gone on to study Medicine, Engineering, Pharmacy, Forensic Science, Languages, Business, Law, Dentistry, Biochemistry, Biology, and many other subjects in universities around the country including Oxbridge.

What next?

If you wish to know more about this course and what career opportunities Chemistry can lead to you can contact Mr O'Driscoll, Mrs Shiel or Mr Cameron.

Email us on: odriscoll.l@torpoint.cornwall.sch.uk, shiel.e@torpoint.cornwall.sch.uk

A Level English Language

Entry Guidelines: 4 grade 5's or better including an English at grade 6 or better

Exam Board: AQA (7702)

Examinations: Paper 1 (40% of A level); Paper 2 (40% of A level)

Coursework: Language Investigation (20%)

What's it all about?

In English Language you will explore how different types of texts have different features and you will learn about some of the methods of language analysis we can use to engage with a variety of texts. As part of the course you will learn about:

- Textual Variations and Representations
- Children's Language Development
- Language Diversity and Change

You will also develop your writing skills and conduct your own language investigation which allows you the opportunity to pursue an area of individual interest.

Which subjects go well with English Language?

English Language works well with any combination of subjects and is accepted by all Universities. Many Science students choose Language as their fourth subject to show they have diversity. Lots of students study Language alongside Literature and Media. It also works well with any combination of Humanities subjects. Either way, studying English Language shows employers and higher education that you have excellent communication skills.

What next?

If you wish to know more about this course and what career opportunities English Language can lead to, you can contact Ms Lockett or Mrs Doidge

Email us on: Ms Lockett- lockett.c@torpoint.cornwall.sch.uk

Mrs Doidge- doidge.a@torpoint.cornwall.sch.uk

A Level English Literature

Entry Guidelines: 4 grade 5's or better including English at grade 6 or better

Exam Board: AQA (7712)

Examinations: Paper 1 (40% of A level), Paper 2 (40% of A level)

Coursework: Independent Critical Study (20% of A level)

What's it all about?

The aims of A Level Literature are to encourage you to develop your interest in, and enjoyment of, literature and literary studies. You will read widely and independently both set texts and ways of responding to them. You will also explore the wider discourses of the texts you are reading and others' interpretation of them, engaging in looking at literature in a historicist way. For coursework, you will complete a comparative independent critical study of two texts on a theme of your choice.

Which subjects go well with English Literature?

English Literature works well with any combination of subjects and is accepted by all Universities. Many science students choose Literature as their fourth subject to show they have diversity. Lots of students study Literature alongside Language and Media. It also works well with any combination of Humanities subjects. Either way, studying English Literature shows employers and higher education that you have excellent communication skills.

What next?

If you wish to know more about this course and what career opportunities English Literature can lead to you can contact Mrs Read, Mrs Hext or Ms Hodgkinson

Email us on:

Mrs Read- read.d@torpoint.cornwall.sch.uk

Mrs Hext- hext.l@torpoint.cornwall.sch.uk

Ms Hodgkinson- Hodgkinson.j@torpoint.cornwall.sch.uk

A Level Geography

Entry Guidelines: 4 grade 5's or better including Geography at grade 6 or better

Exam Board: AQA

Examinations: 2 papers at the end of Year 13

Coursework: 20% of the A Level course is assessed through the completion of fieldwork and a write up (NEA)

What's it all about?

In Geography you will explore a range of human and physical processes and interactions which influence today's modern world. The course will build upon the skills and understanding developed at GCSE. You will analyse the dangerous nature of our risky planet, learning about the causes and impacts of natural hazards. You will develop your physical knowledge through investigating a landscape in detail. You will learn what makes them unique and why they are vulnerable to damage. The major cycles which govern the Earth's major processes will form part of the core component of the course.

Core Human themes include global governance and changing places. Your learning journey will explore the increasingly global nature of our world and the impact of the spread of cultural and technology. The importance of identify and place marketing is also central to the learning as is the importance of sustainable development. This is analysed by addressing important people-environmental questions and how we balance and manage projects.

Research and fieldwork skills are vital for the course and students will complete at least four days fieldwork during the course. 20% of the A Level course is assessed through the completion of fieldwork and research investigation over the summer of year 12.

Which subjects go well with Geography?

Geography works well with any combination of subjects and is accepted by all Universities. Many Geography students study Geography alongside History, Biology and English Language.

What next?

If you wish to know more about this course and what career opportunities Geography can lead to, contact Miss Lindup: Lindup.C@torpoint.cornwall.sch.uk

A Level History

Entry Guidelines: 4 grade 5's or better including min grade 4 in English

Exam Board: Edexcel

Examinations: A Level exams in 3 papers at the end of Year 13

Coursework: For A Level only in Year 13 25%

What's it all about?

History is a subject which develops the main thinking skills (reasoning and evaluation; thinking creatively; enquiry and information processing). Because of this, it is extremely useful– these skills help you make real progress in your other subjects. Employers and other educational institutions (colleges and universities) value History qualifications too, because they know someone with a History A Level will be able to think carefully but quickly about a range of issues, as well as being able to support what they say effectively and working efficiently and independently. We study a range of different time periods which help you see the world in which you live with a much wider view. There are 2 topics taught in Year 12 linked by the theme of Revolutions: In year 13, students study a Depth unit on the Witch craze in Europe and America. They also complete a coursework unit looking at why historians disagree about Nazi Germany.

Paper 1– Britain 1625-1701

Paper 2– Russia 1894-1924

Which subjects go well with History?

History is one of the truly cross-curricular subjects. Everyone needs to know how to examine fact, make judgements and present these in a logical, concise, manner. These are the skills that History teaches. It is a useful AS for scientists, who need to keep up their written analytical skills. It also goes without saying that all language-based subjects go well with History. Students have studied A Level History and gone on to Technology, and Sciences at University as well as the more obvious Law, Criminology, and other BA courses. Naturally some even study History!

What next?

If you wish to know more about this course and what career opportunities History can lead to, you can contact Mr Golding;

golding.j@torpoint.cornwall.sch.uk

AS and A2 Mathematics

Entry Guidelines: 4 grade 5's or better, and Maths at grade 6, or better.

Exam Board: AQA (provisionally)

Examinations: AS: 2 Exam papers equally weighted, both in June Y12.

A2: 3 Exam papers equally weighted, all in June Y13.

Coursework: No coursework

What's it all about?

In Maths at the start of year 12 you will consolidate and extend some of the concepts and techniques covered at GCSE. These include surds, transformations, algebra, and functions. You will then move on to pure maths topics including calculus, advanced trigonometry, polynomials, and logarithms. You will spend time delving into the links between all areas of functions, you will also learn about lots of the applications of maths to real world problems and discover the beauty of maths. There are also elements of both Statistics and Mechanics in this course. These will cover distributions and hypothesis testing, as well as kinematics, forces, and Newton's Laws. Much of the pure maths covered involves algebraic manipulation and therefore confidence and ability in this area is important.

Which subjects go well with Mathematics?

Mathematics works well with any combination of subjects and is looked on favourably by all Universities. As a STEM subject (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths) many students pair maths with science subjects. Lots of students find Maths useful for subjects such as Psychology and Geography where understanding of statistical techniques can be useful. It is the type of subject which works well with a diverse range of A-Levels.

What next?

If you wish to know more about this course and what career opportunities Maths can lead to, you can contact Mrs Seaman or Mrs Bates.

Email us on: Mrs Seaman– seaman.j@torpoint.cornwall.sch.uk

Mrs Bates– Bates.G@torpoint.cornwall.sch.uk

A Level Media Studies

Entry Guidelines: 5 or more Grade 4's or better

Exam Board: Eduqas

Examinations: Paper 1 (35%) Paper 2 (35%)

Coursework (NEA): Creating a media product (30% of the final grade)

What's it all about?

Media Studies is a really diverse, interesting and fun subject. You will analyse a range of media texts, from film to new technologies, such as the internet and gaming, as well as applying key media theories to them. We consider audiences as both producers and consumers of media texts, with an emphasis on contemporary issues and debates in the media. There are two exams requiring you to respond to set questions covering the four key concepts underpinning the study of the media: Language, Representation, Industry and Audience. You also get a chance to put your creative skills to the test with a major practical production— you may produce magazine pages, a music video or television trailer as well as a linked website. There are lots of options to choose from and you get the opportunity to research an area that interests you. Media Studies will prepare you for progression into work or higher education in a range of English and media-related areas.

What subjects go well with Media Studies?

Media Studies is an English based subject so works well with any of the A-Level English

options and is accepted by most Universities. It also works well with any combination of Humanities subjects and even Art, as there is a creative element involved. However, everyone can enjoy this subject, as it is so varied—we're guaranteed to study a media text that interests you.

What next?

If you wish to know more about this course and what career opportunities Media Studies can lead to, you can contact Mrs Read or Ms Reilly

Email us on: Mrs Read- read.d@torpoint.cornwall.sch.uk

Ms Reilly- reilly.z@torpoint.cornwall.sch.uk

Level 3 CAMTEC Sport

Entry Guidelines: 5 or more Grade 4's or better

Examinations: at least 4 units are assessed with examinations. The other units internally assessed through coursework.

What's it all about?

CamTEC Sport courses are the equivalent to two or three A levels. The course aims to open up opportunities of work or further study within Sport, Health Fitness, Leadership, Teaching & Coaching but develop skills that are recognised in a wide range of career areas. The course is comprised of 12 or 18 units which all have a vocational purpose, and which are assessed through examination and coursework. Units include Anatomy and Physiology, Nutrition, Personal Training, Instruction of Physical activity, Sports Psychology, Sports Coaching, Sports Injuries, Sports Development, Practical Team, and Individual Sports, Outdoor and Adventurous Activities. Students will develop theoretical knowledge, gain practical experience to build their personal skills with assignments being applied to vocational situations wherever possible. Previous students are now PE teachers, Primary teachers, Physiotherapists, Fitness Instructors, Sports Coaches and in the armed forces. We have a number of students at universities studying Physical Education, Sports Coaching, Sports Marketing and Sports Journalism. Several have been successful in following on to fitness apprenticeship established between ourselves and the YMCA and the Life Centre.

Which subjects go well with Sport?

CamTEC Sport works well with any combination of subjects and is accepted by all Sports degrees at Universities. It is important to check which combinations are needed for specific degrees.

What next?

If you wish to know more about this course and what career opportunities CamTEC Sport can lead to, you can contact Mr Evans or Miss Milford.

Email us on: evans.m@torpoint.cornwall.sch.uk

milford.h@torpoint.cornwall.sch.uk

A Level Physics

Entry Guidelines: 4 grade 5's or better, including Science or Maths.

Exam Board: OCR

Content: Foundations of Physics; Forces and Motion; Electrons, Waves and Photons; Newtonian World and Astrophysics; Particles and Medical Physics.

Examinations: Modelling Physics, 100 marks, 2.25 hours 37%

Exploring Physics, 100 marks 2.25 hours, 37%

Unified Physics, 70 marks, 1.5 hours, 26%

All taken at the end of Year 13

Practical skills endorsement: Minimum 12 assessed activities during Year 12 and Year 13, awarded at end of Year 13, Pass or ungraded.

What's it all about?

Physics is the study of a wide range of topics considering the very small (smaller than protons and neutrons!) to the very large e.g. the universe itself! Along with virtually everything in between! The course includes material from the old favourite options of Cosmology and Medical Physics. We usually have smallish classes (less than 10 students) so you get a great level of attention from the teacher to support you with your studies.

Which subjects go well with Physics?

Physics works particularly well with a combination of Sciences and Maths. It can also be useful with subjects such as Geography and Design Technology which can include elements of Science. It is well regarded by all Universities. Studying Physics shows employers and higher education that you have excellent mathematical problem-solving skills and if you can do Physics then you can probably do anything else too.

What next?

If you wish to know more about this course and what career opportunities Physics can lead to, you can contact Mrs Preece.

Email Mrs Preece on: preece@torpoint.cornwall.sch.uk

A Level Psychology

Entry Guidelines: 5 or more Grade 4's or better with a minimum of a grade 5 in English, Maths and Science.

Exam Board: AQA

Examinations:

Introductory Topics in Psychology: 96 marks 2 hrs 33.3% of total A level

Psychology in Context: 96 marks 2 hrs 33.3 % of total A level

Issues and Options in Psychology: 96 marks 2 hrs 33.3.% of total A level

Examinations to be sat at the end of the A2 course.

Coursework: none

What's it all about?

Psychology is the scientific study of the human mind and behaviour.

In Year 12 we look at the origins of psychology, approaches in psychology, memory, attachment, social influence, and psychopathology. In Year 13 we study biopsychology and issues and debates, alongside optional topics such as schizophrenia, relationships, and forensic psychology. We consider psychology as a science; with weekly research methods lessons embedded throughout the course.

Exam questions will require both highly specific responses and definitions as well as elaborated, applied, and evaluated essay responses. The final examinations have a 10% mathematical skills component, 25-30% research methods and 9% biology. The perfect psychology student will have a keen interest in science, be mathematically competent and above all, have the potential to structure, extend, elaborate, and evaluate in essays. Psychology provides a diverse range of experiences and useful transferable skills, with many of the topics allowing a greater understanding of the wider world.

Which subjects go well with Psychology?

Psychology matches well with most subjects at post-16: English Literature and English Language provide support with the skills of evaluation and essay writing required. An understanding of Biology is important for the physiological aspects of the course. Maths is used for data analysis and statistics. Psychology also discusses the reasons behind behaviours seen in historical events studied in History.

What next?

If you wish to know more about this course and what career opportunities Psychology can lead to, contact Mrs Penter: penter.e@torpoint.cornwall.sch.uk

A Level Spanish

Entry Requirements: 4 grade 4s or better including Spanish grade 6 or above.

Exam Board: AQA

Examinations: End of year 13: Paper 1 (listening, reading, and writing), Paper 2 (writing), Paper 3 (Speaking).

What's it all about?

In Spanish at A Level, you will develop your ability to communicate with a native speaker. Students will study technological and social change, looking at the multicultural nature of Hispanic society. They will study highlights of Hispanic artistic culture, including a focus on Spanish regional identity and the cultural heritage of past civilisations. They will learn about aspects of the diverse political landscape of the Hispanic world.

Students will explore the influence of the past on present-day Hispanic communities. Throughout their studies, they learn the language in the context of Hispanic countries and issues and influences which have shaped them. Students will study texts and film and will have the opportunity to carry out independent research on an area of their choice.

Which subjects go well with Spanish?

Spanish works well with many combinations of subjects and is accepted by all Universities. Students choose MFL for their chosen career path or for diversity. Lots of students study Spanish alongside Art, English, History, Media, and Science. It also works well with any combination of Humanities subjects. Studying Spanish demonstrates to potential employers and higher education that you have excellent communication skills.

What next?

If you wish to know more about this course and what career opportunities Spanish can lead to, you can contact Ms Murphy or Mr Riley

Email us on: Ms Murphy– Murphy.K@torpoint.cornwall.sch.uk

Mr Riley– Riley.E@torpoint.cornwall.sch.uk