

TOWNLEY
ELECTIVES



TOWNLEY
GRAMMAR SCHOOL

From here it's possible

EDUCATION THAT EMPOWERS



TOWNLEY ELECTIVES

Education that Empowers

Townley Grammar want to provide students with an education that allows them to go beyond the curriculum, providing a bespoke experience that allows students to specialise in fields they may not be able to during their study of A Levels.

Electives will enhance our students education, widening and deepening their knowledge and providing an exciting opportunity to study areas they may not be able to access till they get to university.

The purpose of the programme is therefore to enable all students to be able to develop their knowledge and understanding of areas that their academic rigours do not necessarily cover. There are therefore a wide variety of options for students to choose from; these range from accredited (certified) to non-accredited (non-certified) options as well as those which will require curricular or some extra-curricular involvement. Students will choose to take one or more of these electives for one period per week per elective through to the Summer Term.

Please read the options carefully and ensure you choose electives that complement your A Level choices.



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*Electives marked with an asterisk are accredited courses.
NB. Subjects offered are dependent on numbers and staffing.

ADDITIONAL MATHEMATICS

Additional Maths is an accredited one year course aimed at students not studying A-level Mathematics. The course is designed to build on the GCSE Mathematics course and extend knowledge to cover some of the basic concepts learnt at A-level such as calculus, statistics and mechanics. The course will help students studying any maths based A-Level course such as Computing, Economics, Physics, Biology or Chemistry, but can be taken by anyone wishing to extend their interest in the subject. (The course should not be taken by anyone taking A-level Mathematics).



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AN INTRODUCTION TO BRITISH POLITICS

The aim of this course is to give students an introduction to, and understanding of, the workings of the British political system. It will answer questions such as: How does Parliament pass laws? What is the role of the judiciary? Do we have a British constitution? What does it mean to vote? How important is your vote and how does the voting system operate in the UK? The course will give a foundation for students trying to comprehend the complexities of modern day politics in Britain looking at both systems and some current events.


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ANCIENT GREEK DRAMA

The drama produced in the ancient Greek theatre forms some of the most powerful literature of the ancient world, and has had a profound and wide reaching influence on modern culture, from Shakespeare to Tarantino. In this elective you will study plays produced by the ancient Athenians, including the myths on which they are based and the context in which they were performed. You will also have the chance to see how these plays have impacted modern culture.



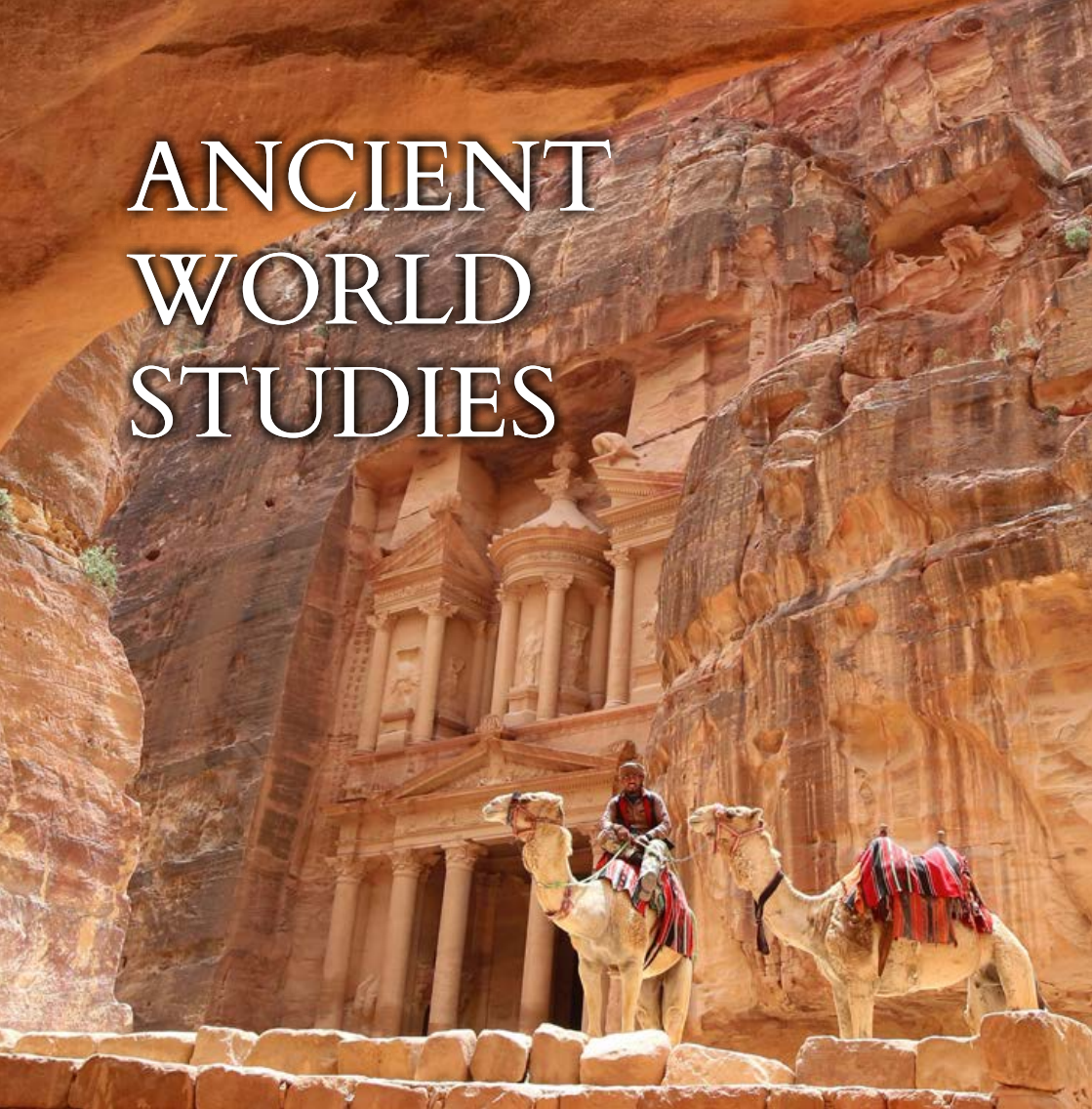
ANCIENT LANGUAGES

This course is offered for anyone interested in learning or consolidating knowledge in ancient languages. We will learn beginner's Latin, ancient Greek, Persian and one of either Norse or Egyptian hieroglyphs! By learning these languages, we will be able to get a new perspective on the cultures that spoke and used them, which in turn will lead to discussions of how those cultures can be connected to our own through their language and cultural traditions. Enriching your ideas of other languages will broaden your horizons and maybe even appreciate our own language as a descendant of so many in a new light.



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ANCIENT WORLD STUDIES

A large, ancient rock-cut temple with multiple columns and a pediment, carved into a reddish-brown cliff face. In the foreground, a person is riding a camel, and another camel is standing nearby. The scene is set in a desert environment with a warm, orange-toned sky.

This elective will enable you to study the lives, societies and cultural productions of a diverse range of ancient societies from across the world. Through art, architecture, literature and artefacts you will come to understand the values, beliefs and experiences of people who lived thousands of years ago. Each half term will focus on a different society, so you'll develop a broad historical and cultural understanding that will stand you in good stead if applying for a Humanities subject at university.

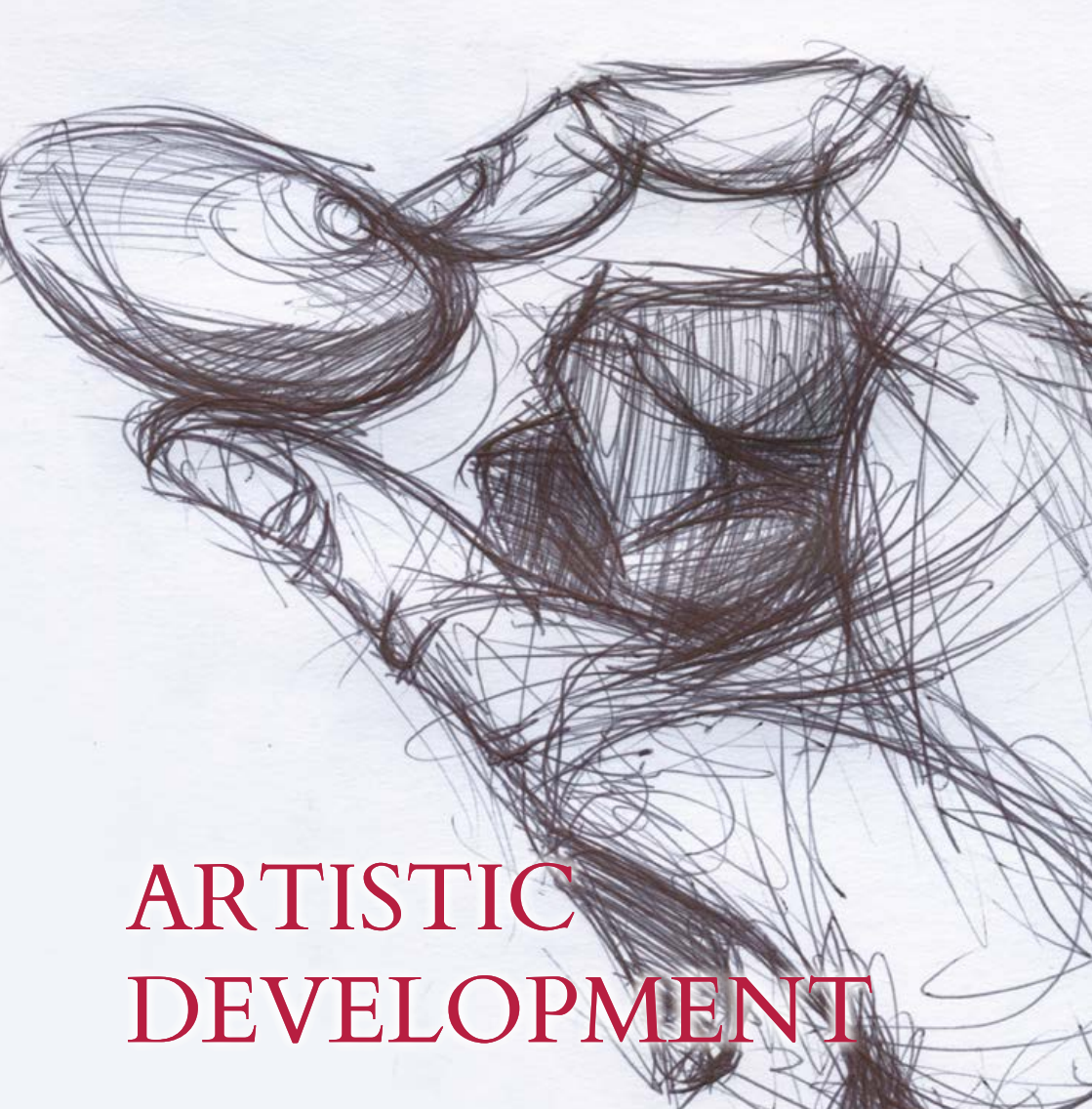


ART APPRECIATION

Visual language is around us on a daily basis, from billboard advertisements to television and film. Being able to decipher a visual language is a key skill; in this Art Appreciation course you will learn how to decode paintings and analyse what artists were trying to convey. You will also see how art sometimes shocked the world, and how it often changed the way people viewed society. The art appreciation course will teach you how to analyse images and understand a visual world at a deeper level. Suitable for any student interested in Art History.



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ARTISTIC DEVELOPMENT

In this course you will be taken through drawing and painting techniques to improve your skills. This course is an excellent opportunity for students to learn new skills or improve existing ones in Art. Suitable for any student interested in visual art.

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CHOIR

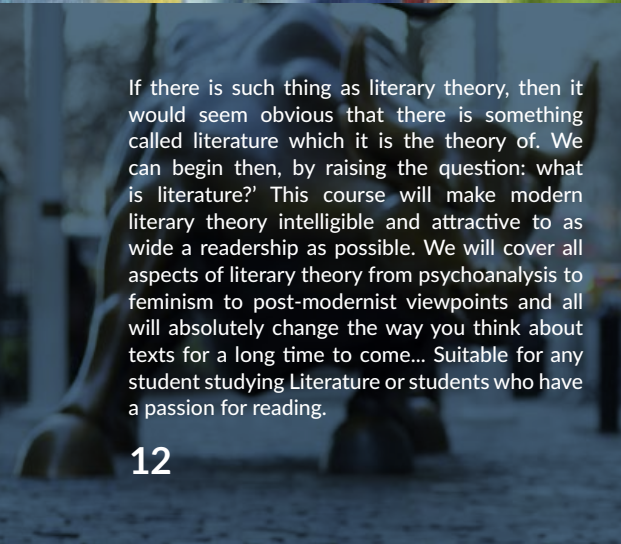
This elective is for anyone who enjoys singing. We will sing songs in a range of styles, in up to three part harmony, with song choices led by group interest and taste. Rock, pop, gospel, jazz and classical repertoire are all available but other requests are also possible. No previous singing or music reading experience is required. Practice will build to performances in a range of events throughout the year.



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CRITICAL THEORY IN LITERATURE



If there is such thing as literary theory, then it would seem obvious that there is something called literature which it is the theory of. We can begin then, by raising the question: what is literature? This course will make modern literary theory intelligible and attractive to as wide a readership as possible. We will cover all aspects of literary theory from psychoanalysis to feminism to post-modernist viewpoints and all will absolutely change the way you think about texts for a long time to come... Suitable for any student studying Literature or students who have a passion for reading.





DANCE LEADERS

Dance Leaders is a bespoke course which enables successful learners to lead purposeful and enjoyable dance activity sessions, under indirect and direct supervision. Key content: leadership skills including organisation, planning, communication and teamwork through the medium of dance. Leaders can expect to: develop their leadership skills, plan, lead and evaluate dance sessions, assist in planning a dance activity/event, lead dance activity sessions. Suitable for all students that have a passion for Dance.



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DEAF AWARENESS

The focus of this is to highlight the impact of hearing loss on everyday life and increase visibility and inclusion of Deaf people. You'll develop a range of techniques and skills to communicate effectively. Deaf awareness is about promoting the positive aspects of deafness and social inclusion. Beneficial for anyone who is going to be working with a variety of people in the future.



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ELECTRONICS

This is a beginner's course and will cover basic skills and knowledge of electronics. This course will cover theory (looking at various components) as well as practicals including soldering, designing and making circuit boards.


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EUROPEAN LANGUAGES FRENCH

This course is designed for beginner students who would like to learn French, or pick up where they left off in KS3. The emphasis of the course focuses on learning to communicate in settings that students might find themselves in should they visit a French speaking country. Interactive, productive and receptive skills are developed through contextualised study of language, texts and themes. This course is not suitable for anyone who has a GCSE in French or is a native speaker.





EUROPEAN LANGUAGES GERMAN

This course is designed for beginner students who would like to learn German, or pick up where they left off in KS3. The emphasis of the course focuses on learning to communicate in settings that students might find themselves in should they visit a German speaking country. Interactive, productive and receptive skills are developed through contextualised study of language, texts and themes. This course is not suitable for anyone who has a GCSE in German or is a native speaker.



EUROPEAN LANGUAGES ITALIAN



This course is designed for students who would like to learn Italian. The emphasis of the course focuses on learning to communicate in Italian and developing intercultural understanding. Interactive, productive and receptive skills are developed through contextualised study of language, texts and themes.



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EUROPEAN LANGUAGES SPANISH

This course is designed for beginner students who would like to learn Spanish, or pick up where they left off in KS3. The emphasis of the course focuses on learning to communicate in settings that students might find themselves in should they visit a Spanish speaking country. Interactive, productive and receptive skills are developed through contextualised study of language, texts and themes. This course is not suitable for anyone who has a GCSE in Spanish or native speakers.



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FILM STUDIES



Filmmakers use a range of elements in constructing narrative meaning and generating response. The key elements of film form consist of cinematography, mise-en-scène, editing, sound and performance and provide an important starting point for learners' study of film at A level. This is not a supplement for A Level Film Studies in which all of the elective is already covered - this course is designed for students who wish to pursue their interest in Film whilst also taking on different A Level studies.

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GAMES DEVELOPMENT

Computer games development is a very popular pastime for children and adults alike. Its popularity is reflected in the size of the games industry with games running on phones to consoles to home computers. The skills required to produce a game are varied, from a computer science point of view, a mix of technical and creative processes have to be employed to produce a finished product. The course will provide an introduction into the graphical and programming techniques required to produce a working 2D or 3D prototype game that could be targeted at the mobile or web markets.



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GERMAN FILM STUDIES

This course is designed for students who would like to continue with German. The emphasis of the course focuses on improving communication in German and develop intercultural understanding. Films, like "Lola rennt" and "Goodbye Lenin" will enable students to dive into Germany's history, affecting its present identity. The course will complement other A-Level studies, such as History, English & Film Studies, Politics, Sociology, and Art.



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HEALTH AND FITNESS



Year 12 students will follow a well-balanced Physical Education programme of activities such as: Fitness, Volleyball, Basketball, Badminton, Football and Netball. The aim of this programme is to develop students' confidence, health and resilience with vast opportunities to develop teamwork and leadership skills. Students will also be encouraged to develop their personal and social skills, reflecting an ethos of respect, fair play, determination, courage and excellence.



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MATHEMATICS BEYOND A LEVEL

'Problem Solving for Mathematicians' is designed to provide practice in the advanced problem solving skills necessary for success in advanced mathematics. It is particularly valuable for those students intending to apply to top Russell Group universities to study Mathematics or a related subject. Material covered will include the Advanced Extension Award, Oxford MAT and Cambridge STEP papers, as well as more general problem solving and puzzles. Students must be studying A level Mathematics, and the course is particularly suitable for those studying Further Mathematics.



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MATHEMATICS FOR ECONOMISTS

Mathematics for Economists will cover all the essential mathematics skills for students who are taking Economics A Level. Over the course we will be covering and brushing up on mathematics skills that you would have acquired during GCSE Mathematics classes, as well as putting into practice and learning new formulae required to be able to sufficiently provide quantitative analysis from Economics A Level. Later on in the course we will also be learning how to better scrutinise and interpret graphical representations of data, which will include looking at the implausibility of making economic judgements purely on the basis of mathematical paradigms. (The course is aimed at students who are not taking A-level mathematics and who achieved a level 6 or below in GCSE Mathematics)

MATHS FOR SCIENTISTS

The course is designed to provide support for students studying a Science subject but not studying Mathematics. There will be a range of topics covered in the classes, including areas of both Mathematics and all three Sciences. You will develop a range of key skills, and most importantly learn how to reflect on them, building your confidence with the many mathematical concepts contained with all the Science A-level courses. (The course should not be taken by anyone taking A-level Mathematics)


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MEDICAL

The course will provide support for submitting Medicine applications. There will be a range of topics covered in the classes, including preparation for writing personal statements and practice at interview technique. You will develop a range of key skills, and most importantly learn how to reflect on them. You will be given guidance on the types of work experience to look for, how to apply and how to get the most out of it. Sessions may also include additional science work, and discussions and presentations about articles and news from the world of medicine.



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MUSICAL THEATRE



The aim of this course is to develop performance skills in acting, singing and/or dancing. It will explore a wide array of musical theatre examples, building to informal showcases. This will be a fun and enjoyable experience for all. No previous experience necessary, although willingness to try and energy required!

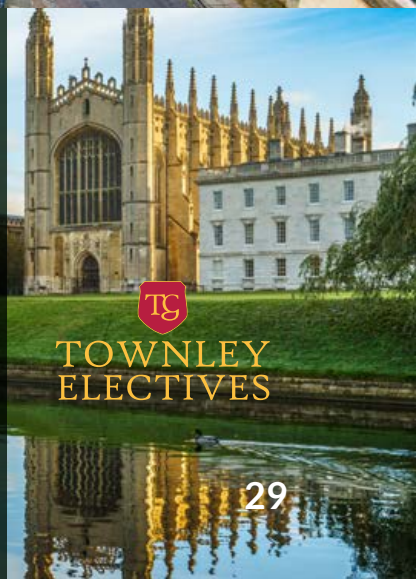


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OXBRIDGE



Interested in applying to Oxford or Cambridge University in Year 13? This course will provide support for your application to Oxbridge. There will be a range of topics covered in the classes, including preparation and support for admissions tests, personal statements and interviews. You will develop a range of key skills, and most importantly learn how to reflect on them. You will be given an opportunity to discuss your interests with fellow students and build your knowledge of wider topics, developing your communication skills as well as debating skills. You will be able to produce a well-rounded personal statement relevant to your chosen field, as well as having increased confidence when dealing with interview questions. It is not a requirement for students wishing to apply to Oxbridge to attend this course.



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PHARMACEUTICAL SCIENCE

This course will provide an overview of choosing a career in Pharmaceutical Science. It includes a wide range of topics covering working for health care providers, how medicines are prepared and dispensed. You will learn how pharmaceutical scientists are expertly trained to discover, develop, test and manufacture new medications. Throughout the elective, you will study how pharmaceutical scientists spend their time in a laboratory discovering and learning how different compounds interact with disease causing cells and organisms. In addition, how they research and investigate how these compounds interact with the human body to ultimately determine if they can become new drugs. Sessions will include investigative analysis using analytical techniques used in pharmaceutical research and industry.



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PHILOSOPHICAL AND ETHICAL THINKING

An introduction to key philosophical ideas such as "How can we know anything?" "What is real?" "What is art?"

Also an examination of key issues in political philosophy, ethical philosophy, feminist philosophy and philosophy of the mind. Ending with an exploration of the role of philosophers and ethicists in 21st century Britain.

PHYSICS AND SOCIETY

Physics is integral to every aspect of life and matter in the universe, from the microscopic - the structure of the atom- to the macroscopic - the amazing phenomena in the Universe. The laws and concepts of physics guide it all. In the elective we will discuss some current ideas and applications beyond the scope of the A level syllabus. Primarily for those wishing to study Physics or Engineering at University it is also for those intrigued by the subject, who wish to know more. It is hoped we will engage in problem solving working towards the Physics Challenge national competition. It is also intended that we can invite Stem ambassadors into Townley to share their experiences of a life in science.

PLAY AND PERFORMANCE



The aim of this elective is for students who are interested in performance and technical aspects of theatre, to stage a play to be performed in the summer term guided by the Drama department but directed by the students. This would be particularly beneficial for students considering a profession within the creative arts, but equally for those wanting to develop confidence in presentational flair and precision.

PUBLIC SPEAKING



This elective is designed to enable learners to develop a wide range of skills in public speaking. Learners will be able to deliver two prepared speeches and one impromptu speech. They will integrate their knowledge and skills, demonstrating an understanding of the subject matter and the techniques required to speak in public.



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SONGWRITING

In this course students will explore chord patterns, song structures, lyric writing, melody shape and instrumentation, looking at existing songs along the way and working towards writing songs of their own. Students need some skills in keyboard or guitar and should ideally have taken GCSE Music, although this is not essential for those with good skills.



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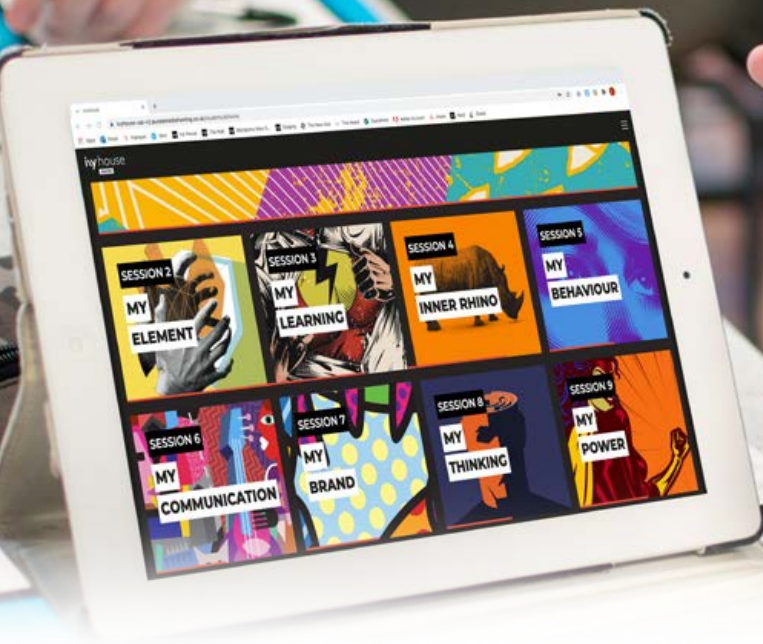
STEM CREST AWARD



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CREST is a UK award scheme that recognises success, and enables students to build their skills and demonstrate personal achievement in project work. It is student-led, which means that young people take ownership of their projects and choose to undertake them in areas they enjoy or see as relevant. This is an exciting opportunity to participate in the STEM Crest Awards run by British Science Association.





THE IVY HOUSE AWARD

ivyhouse
AWARD

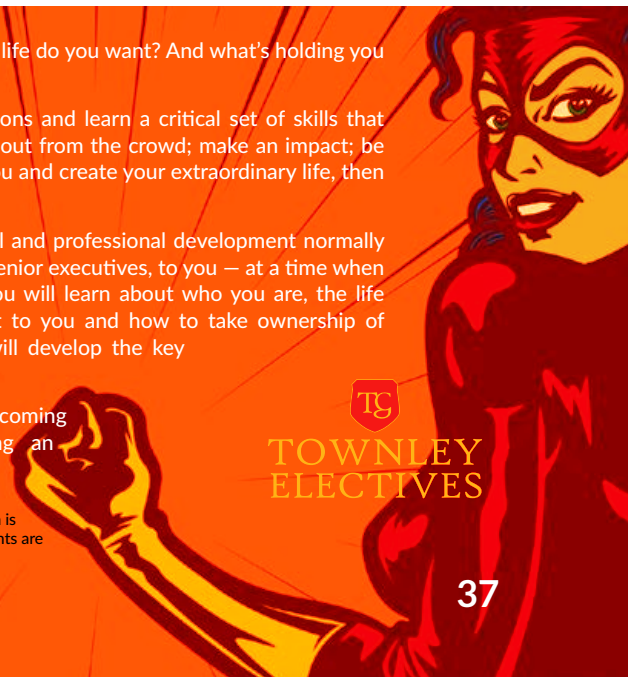
Who do you want to be? What kind of life do you want? And what's holding you back from making it a reality?

If you're keen to answer those questions and learn a critical set of skills that will allow you to pitch yourself; stand out from the crowd; make an impact; be memorable; find the right career for you and create your extraordinary life, then The Ivy House Award is for you.

The Award brings the kind of personal and professional development normally only available to a tiny percentage of senior executives, to you — at a time when it can make the biggest difference. You will learn about who you are, the life you want to create, what's important to you and how to take ownership of your future. Most importantly, you will develop the key leadership and life

skills that form the foundation of becoming an extraordinary leader and leading an extraordinary life.

*This course does have a learner fee attached which is paid by the student. This can be supported, if students are eligible, by the discretionary bursary.



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UCAT & BMAT PREPARATION

The UK Clinical Aptitude Test (UCAT) and The BioMedical Admissions Test (BMAT) is a compulsory admissions test for all UK Medicine courses and some Biomedical Science and Dentistry courses. As well as being an entry requirement, a good result gives you the chance to stand out from the crowd and show your potential for these demanding and highly competitive courses. This elective is intended to prepare students for these admission tests.

UCAT

UNIVERSITY CLINICAL
APTITUDE TEST

BMAT

BIOMEDICAL ADMISSIONS TEST



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