

Uptake of GCE AS level subjects 2007–2013

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This statistical report investigates the uptake of AS levels in England from 2006 to 2013, and is intended as an update to Gill (2009). The data analysed were extracted from the National Pupil Database (NPD), which is maintained by the Department for Education.

The data includes all AS levels (including vocational or applied AS levels) and A-levels (since candidates cannot enter for an A-level without having also covered the content for and been assessed on the AS units). If there was an entry in the database for both an AS and an A-level in the same subject for the same candidate this was only counted as one entry, and re-sits of AS levels were excluded.

Most candidates took their AS levels in year 12. However, a substantial number were taken by candidates in year 13, so the most comprehensive way to present the data is for a particular cohort of students, covering AS levels entered in either year 12 or 13. Therefore, in all the tables the year columns refer to the two years in which the candidates in a particular year group could have entered for an AS level. E.g. 2006/7 refers to candidates who finished year 13 in 2007 and thus could have entered for AS levels in either 2006 or 2007.

Note that the number of candidates is higher than in corresponding A level uptake reports (eg Gill, 2014), as not all candidates taking AS levels go on to take an A level too: many take alternative vocational qualifications such as BTEC diplomas.

Table 1: Number of AS levels taken, by candidate, in 2006-2013 (% of AS level entry)

No of AS levels	2006/7	2007/8	2008/9	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13
1	4.4	4.2	4.6	5.1	5.4	5.7	6.1
2	4.7	4.6	4.7	5.5	5.7	5.9	6.3
3	14.4	14.8	15.3	15.6	15.8	15.0	15.8
4	35.6	36.1	37.0	37.5	38.6	39.4	41.5
5	32.7	32.1	30.5	28.5	27.1	26.8	23.7
6+	8.3	8.2	7.9	7.8	7.4	7.2	6.6
No of candidates	266,614	275,788	285,992	296,956	288,391	295,907	300,559

Table 2: Number of AS levels taken, by candidate, excluding General Studies in 2006-2013 (% of AS level entry)

No of AS levels	2006/7	2007/8	2008/9	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13
1	4.6	4.4	4.8	5.3	5.6	6.0	6.2
2	5.9	5.6	5.5	6.2	6.3	6.4	6.7
3	21.0	21.1	21.0	20.3	19.6	18.0	18.3
4	50.4	50.2	49.9	49.1	50.1	51.0	51.5
5	15.0	15.6	15.4	15.5	14.9	15.1	13.9
6+	3.1	3.1	3.4	3.5	3.4	3.4	3.5
No of candidates	265,902	275,085	285,359	296,108	287,668	295,218	299,838

In Tables 3-5 the uptake of the most popular AS levels are presented. Candidates were classified by gender (Table 4) and by prior attainment at GCSE level (Table 5). The GCSE grades for all candidates taking at least one AS level were converted into scores (A* = 8, A = 7, B = 6 etc) and a mean GCSE score was computed for each candidate. This was then used to divide the candidates into three approximately equal attainment groups in each year: low, medium and high.

Table 3: Uptake of individual subjects in 2006-2013 (% of AS level entry)**All**

Subject	2006/7	2007/8	2008/9	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13
Mathematics	26.2	27.4	29.1	30.7	32.3	34.1	34.9
Biology	23.1	23.3	22.6	25.1	25.9	26.7	27.2
Psychology	26.7	26.5	25.9	25.9	26.6	27.2	27.0
Chemistry	18.2	18.4	18.5	19.0	20.0	21.4	22.6
General Studies	39.5	37.5	34.1	30.4	27.8	25.8	21.9
History	20.1	20.0	19.6	19.6	19.9	19.8	20.1
English Literature	21.0	21.1	20.7	19.4	19.6	19.3	19.3
Physics	13.1	13.1	13.3	13.9	14.8	15.7	16.5
Sociology	12.7	12.7	12.9	12.8	13.1	13.5	13.6
Geography	13.5	13.2	13.2	12.8	12.3	12.4	12.9
Business Studies	13.8	13.6	13.7	13.3	12.5	12.2	12.0
Economics	7.3	7.7	8.6	9.4	9.6	9.7	10.7
English Language	9.0	9.3	9.7	9.9	9.8	10.1	10.2
Media/Film/Tv Studies	11.8	11.7	11.9	11.5	11.2	10.6	9.7
Religious Studies	8.1	8.4	8.7	8.5	8.8	9.1	9.1
Phys. Ed./Sports Studies	9.6	9.7	9.1	8.9	8.3	7.5	6.5
English Language & Lit	7.0	6.9	7.0	6.9	6.7	6.4	6.4
Art & Design: Photography	4.3	4.7	5.2	5.7	5.8	6.2	6.2
Law	7.3	7.3	7.5	7.1	6.5	6.3	6.1
Mathematics (Further)	4.1	4.5	4.9	5.3	5.6	5.9	6.1
Government & Politics	5.5	5.4	5.5	5.6	5.9	6.1	6.1
Art & Design (Fine Art)	7.4	7.3	7.0	7.1	6.6	6.4	6.0
Drama & Theatre Studies	7.1	6.9	6.8	6.7	6.5	6.0	5.5
French	7.2	7.2	6.7	6.2	6.0	5.8	5.3
Critical Thinking	8.2	8.6	7.9	7.2	6.6	5.9	4.7
D&T Product Design	7.3	7.3	6.8	5.7	5.3	4.9	4.6
Info & Comms Tech	6.7	5.9	5.4	5.1	5.0	4.8	4.5
Applied ICT	6.2	6.9	6.6	5.9	5.1	4.3	3.8
Spanish	3.0	3.1	3.1	3.1	3.2	3.1	3.3
Health & Social Care	4.1	4.2	3.9	3.6	3.4	3.4	3.3
Art & Design	4.7	4.9	4.5	4.0	3.5	3.2	3.1
Film Studies	3.3	3.2	3.3	3.3	3.3	3.1	2.9
Applied Business	4.3	4.5	4.4	3.9	3.4	3.0	2.9
Music	3.2	3.1	2.9	2.7	2.6	2.5	2.4
Comp Studies/Computing	2.9	2.6	2.4	2.2	2.2	2.1	2.2
German	3.2	3.0	2.7	2.6	2.4	2.2	2.1
Art & Design (Graphics)	1.7	1.9	2.1	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0
Accounting/Finance	2.3	2.4	2.3	2.3	2.1	2.0	1.9
Logic/ Philosophy	2.0	1.9	1.9	1.9	1.8	1.9	1.8
Classical Civilisation	1.9	1.7	1.7	1.7	1.6	1.7	1.6
Art & Design (Textiles)	1.6	1.7	1.7	1.9	1.9	1.7	1.6
Applied Science	0.7	0.9	1.0	1.3	1.5	1.5	1.6
Social Sci: Citizenship	1.0	1.1	1.1	1.6	1.6	1.7	1.4
Music Technology	1.7	1.8	1.8	1.7	1.6	1.5	1.4
Chinese	1.0	1.0	1.1	1.0	1.0	1.1	1.1

Table 4: Uptake of individual subjects by gender in 2006-2013 (% of AS level entry)**Male**

Subject	2006/7	2007/8	2008/9	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13
Mathematics	33.8	35.0	36.7	38.3	40.4	42.7	44.0
Physics	21.7	21.6	21.8	22.9	24.4	25.8	27.0
Biology	21.1	21.7	21.3	23.7	24.6	25.7	25.5
Chemistry	20.1	20.4	20.7	21.3	22.7	24.5	25.4
General Studies	40.2	37.8	34.5	30.8	28.4	25.9	21.9
History	21.4	21.2	20.7	20.2	20.4	20.1	20.3
Psychology	16.7	16.6	16.2	16.7	17.3	17.9	17.5
Economics	10.9	11.4	12.6	13.6	14.0	14.1	15.5
Business Studies	17.5	17.1	17.1	16.6	15.6	15.1	14.8
Geography	16.2	15.7	15.6	15.0	14.2	14.2	14.4
English Literature	13.7	13.6	13.5	12.1	11.9	11.4	11.2
Phys. Ed./Sports Studies	13.2	13.4	12.8	12.6	11.8	10.8	9.4
Media/Film/Tv Studies	11.3	11.5	11.5	11.1	10.7	10.0	9.2
Mathematics (Further)	6.0	6.5	7.0	7.4	7.9	8.6	9.1
Sociology	7.2	7.2	7.3	7.4	7.6	7.8	8.0
Government & Politics	6.8	6.6	6.7	6.7	7.1	7.3	7.3
English Language	6.9	7.2	7.5	7.4	7.2	7.3	7.2
D&T Product Design	9.3	9.2	8.7	8.3	8.1	7.5	7.1
Religious Studies	5.8	6.3	6.4	6.1	6.3	6.5	6.5
Info & Comms Tech	9.2	8.1	7.3	7.1	6.8	6.7	6.3
Law	6.9	6.6	6.8	6.4	5.8	5.6	5.4
Applied ICT	8.7	9.5	9.1	8.1	6.9	5.8	5.3
Critical Thinking	7.8	8.1	7.5	6.9	6.2	5.5	4.4
Comp Studies/Computing	5.8	5.2	4.7	4.3	4.2	4.2	4.3
English Language & Lit	4.7	4.8	4.8	4.6	4.4	4.2	4.0
Drama & Theatre Studies	4.6	4.7	4.7	4.7	4.5	4.2	3.8
Art & Design: Photography	3.4	3.7	3.8	4.0	3.8	3.8	3.7
French	5.0	4.9	4.6	4.2	4.0	3.8	3.5
Applied Business	5.2	5.4	5.1	4.5	3.9	3.4	3.3
Art & Design (Fine Art)	4.9	4.8	4.4	4.2	3.9	3.7	3.3
Film Studies	3.8	3.7	3.8	3.8	3.8	3.6	3.3
Accounting/Finance	3.1	3.2	3.0	3.1	2.9	2.7	2.7
Music	3.4	3.3	3.1	2.9	2.8	2.7	2.6
Music Technology	3.0	3.1	3.0	2.9	2.7	2.6	2.4
Spanish	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.2	2.3	2.2	2.3
Art & Design (Graphics)	1.8	2.1	2.2	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.0
German	2.6	2.5	2.3	2.1	2.0	1.8	1.7
Art & Design	3.0	3.0	2.8	2.4	2.0	1.7	1.7
Logic/ Philosophy	2.1	2.0	2.0	1.9	1.8	1.9	1.7
Applied Science	0.8	0.9	1.1	1.3	1.5	1.5	1.6
Classical Civilisation	1.7	1.5	1.5	1.4	1.3	1.4	1.3
Social Sci: Citizenship	0.9	1.0	1.0	1.4	1.5	1.5	1.3
Chinese	1.0	0.9	1.1	1.0	1.0	1.1	1.1
Health & Social Care	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.3	0.4	0.3	0.3
Art & Design (Textiles)	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1

Female

Subject	2006/7	2007/8	2008/9	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13
Psychology	35.2	34.9	34.3	34.0	34.6	35.2	35.1
Biology	24.8	24.6	23.7	26.4	27.1	27.6	28.8
Mathematics	19.8	20.9	22.6	24.2	25.3	26.7	27.2
English Literature	27.1	27.4	26.8	25.7	26.1	26.1	26.3
General Studies	38.8	37.2	33.8	30.0	27.3	25.8	21.9
Chemistry	16.6	16.6	16.6	16.9	17.7	18.9	20.2
History	19.1	18.9	18.7	19.1	19.5	19.5	20.0
Sociology	17.4	17.5	17.8	17.5	17.8	18.4	18.5
English Language	10.8	11.0	11.6	12.0	12.1	12.4	12.8
Geography	11.3	11.2	11.1	11.0	10.6	10.9	11.6
Religious Studies	10.0	10.3	10.7	10.5	11.0	11.3	11.3
Media/Film/Tv Studies	12.1	11.9	12.3	11.9	11.5	11.1	10.2
Business Studies	10.6	10.6	10.8	10.5	9.8	9.7	9.5
English Language & Lit	8.9	8.7	9.0	8.9	8.8	8.3	8.5
Art & Design (Fine Art)	9.5	9.5	9.3	9.5	9.0	8.8	8.3
Art & Design: Photography	5.0	5.6	6.4	7.1	7.5	8.3	8.3
Physics	5.8	5.8	6.0	6.1	6.6	7.0	7.4
Drama & Theatre Studies	9.2	8.8	8.7	8.4	8.2	7.5	7.0
French	9.1	9.1	8.5	8.0	7.8	7.4	6.8
Law	7.7	7.8	8.0	7.8	7.2	6.8	6.7
Economics	4.2	4.6	5.2	5.7	5.8	6.0	6.6
Health & Social Care	7.1	7.5	7.0	6.5	6.1	6.1	5.8
Government & Politics	4.4	4.3	4.6	4.6	4.8	5.1	5.0
Critical Thinking	8.5	9.0	8.2	7.5	6.9	6.3	5.0
Art & Design	6.2	6.5	5.9	5.4	4.7	4.5	4.4
Spanish	3.8	3.9	4.0	3.9	4.0	3.9	4.2
Phys. Ed./Sports Studies	6.6	6.6	6.0	5.6	5.3	4.7	4.0
Mathematics (Further)	2.4	2.8	3.2	3.4	3.5	3.6	3.6
Info & Comms Tech	4.6	4.0	3.7	3.4	3.4	3.2	3.0
Art & Design (Textiles)	2.9	3.1	3.1	3.3	3.3	3.2	2.9
Film Studies	2.9	2.8	2.8	2.9	2.9	2.7	2.6
Applied ICT	4.2	4.6	4.5	4.0	3.5	3.0	2.6
Applied Business	3.7	3.8	3.7	3.3	2.9	2.6	2.5
D&T Product Design	5.6	5.6	5.2	3.4	2.9	2.7	2.4
German	3.6	3.5	3.1	2.9	2.7	2.5	2.4
Music	3.1	2.9	2.7	2.4	2.5	2.3	2.2
Art & Design (Graphics)	1.6	1.8	2.0	2.0	1.9	1.9	1.9
Logic/ Philosophy	1.9	1.8	1.9	1.8	1.8	1.9	1.9
Classical Civilisation	2.0	1.8	1.8	1.9	1.8	1.9	1.8
Social Sci: Citizenship	1.1	1.2	1.2	1.7	1.6	1.8	1.6
Applied Science	0.7	0.9	1.0	1.2	1.5	1.5	1.5
Accounting/Finance	1.6	1.7	1.7	1.6	1.4	1.4	1.3
Chinese	1.0	1.0	1.1	1.0	1.0	1.2	1.1
Music Technology	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.6	0.6	0.5	0.5
Comp Studies/Computing	0.5	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4

Table 5: Uptake of individual subjects by prior attainment in 2006-2013 (% of AS level entry)

Low

Subject	2006/7	2007/8	2008/9	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13
Psychology	26.9	26.7	26.2	26.2	26.7	27.3	27.1
Sociology	18.7	19.1	20.0	19.8	20.5	21.3	21.4
Media/Film/Tv Studies	18.4	19.0	19.8	19.2	19.2	18.6	17.4
General Studies	33.6	31.9	28.5	24.7	21.3	19.6	15.8
Business Studies	15.5	15.6	15.8	15.9	15.1	14.8	15.1
English Literature	15.3	15.2	14.8	13.5	13.3	13.4	13.4
History	12.3	12.3	12.1	11.7	11.9	12.4	12.4
Mathematics	8.6	8.8	9.1	10.2	10.5	11.8	12.1
English Language	9.0	9.3	10.0	10.3	10.5	10.9	11.1
Art & Design: Photography	6.3	7.0	8.1	8.6	9.3	9.9	10.1
Biology	9.7	9.1	8.4	10.4	9.9	10.0	9.9
Law	9.7	9.6	9.7	9.4	8.6	8.5	8.3
Religious Studies	6.6	7.1	7.3	7.2	7.5	8.2	8.1
Geography	8.8	8.4	8.0	7.9	7.4	7.6	7.8
English Language & Lit	7.0	7.3	7.6	7.5	7.3	7.4	7.3
Applied ICT	11.6	12.9	12.1	10.8	9.2	7.8	6.9
Phys. Ed./Sports Studies	10.4	10.0	9.2	9.2	8.4	7.7	6.8
Info & Comms Tech	8.9	7.8	7.2	7.0	6.9	6.7	6.4
Health & Social Care	8.1	8.6	8.0	7.3	7.0	6.9	6.4
Drama & Theatre Studies	7.0	7.0	7.0	6.8	6.7	6.3	5.9
Art & Design (Fine Art)	6.7	6.9	6.6	6.7	6.2	6.1	5.8
Applied Business	8.5	8.9	8.3	7.5	6.5	5.7	5.8
Chemistry	5.5	5.1	5.0	5.4	5.2	5.5	5.6
D&T Product Design	8.0	8.0	7.5	6.6	6.2	5.9	5.5
Film Studies	5.4	5.3	5.8	5.7	5.8	5.6	5.4
Economics	3.6	3.8	4.0	4.4	4.4	4.6	5.2
Physics	4.4	4.1	4.0	4.5	4.5	4.7	4.9
Government & Politics	3.8	3.8	3.9	3.9	4.0	4.5	4.6
Applied Science	1.6	2.0	2.3	2.7	3.3	3.3	3.4
Art & Design	4.6	4.9	4.7	4.1	3.5	3.3	3.2
Art & Design (Graphics)	2.3	2.6	2.9	2.8	2.8	2.8	2.8
Accounting/Finance	3.0	3.2	3.0	3.0	2.9	2.5	2.6
Comp Studies/Computing	2.8	2.5	2.2	2.1	2.1	1.9	2.0
Art & Design (Textiles)	2.0	2.1	2.1	2.3	2.3	2.2	2.0
Social Sci: Citizenship	1.3	1.4	1.5	2.1	2.0	2.2	1.9
Music Technology	2.0	2.1	2.1	1.9	1.8	1.7	1.6
Critical Thinking	3.9	3.8	3.4	3.0	2.5	2.2	1.4
French	1.6	1.6	1.5	1.4	1.3	1.3	1.3
Music	1.7	1.6	1.5	1.4	1.3	1.3	1.2
Logic/ Philosophy	1.4	1.4	1.3	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.2
Spanish	0.8	0.8	0.9	0.9	0.9	1.0	1.1
Classical Civilisation	1.1	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.1	1.0
Mathematics (Further)	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.6	0.6	0.7
German	0.8	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.6	0.6	0.6
Chinese	0.2	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.3

Medium

Subject	2006/7	2007/8	2008/9	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13
Psychology	33.1	32.7	32.5	32.8	33.6	34.5	34.3
Mathematics	22.0	22.6	24.4	26.8	28.4	30.7	32.1
Biology	23.1	22.9	22.2	26.6	27.2	27.9	28.8
General Studies	43.8	41.4	37.6	33.6	30.6	28.5	24.1
History	21.0	20.9	20.4	20.2	20.8	20.9	21.7
English Literature	22.2	22.6	21.9	20.2	20.8	20.9	21.3
Chemistry	14.7	14.2	14.8	16.0	16.7	18.2	19.5
Physics	11.3	11.0	11.3	12.6	13.4	14.4	15.5
Sociology	14.3	14.3	14.4	14.2	14.6	15.0	15.3
Business Studies	16.5	16.5	16.6	16.3	15.7	15.2	14.9
Geography	15.1	14.7	14.4	14.0	13.5	13.7	14.5
English Language	11.2	11.6	11.9	12.0	12.2	12.6	12.7
Economics	6.3	6.7	7.6	8.6	9.1	9.4	10.7
Religious Studies	8.8	9.2	9.7	9.2	9.6	9.9	10.1
Media/Film/Tv Studies	12.8	12.6	12.8	12.1	11.7	10.8	9.7
Phys. Ed./Sports Studies	12.4	12.8	12.0	11.7	11.2	10.0	8.7
English Language & Lit	8.6	8.4	8.5	8.4	8.3	7.6	7.8
Law	8.4	8.5	8.8	8.3	7.8	7.5	7.3
Government & Politics	5.7	5.5	5.8	5.8	6.2	6.6	6.7
Art & Design (Fine Art)	8.0	8.0	7.6	7.5	7.1	6.9	6.4
Art & Design: Photography	4.6	5.2	5.6	6.2	6.1	6.5	6.4
Drama & Theatre Studies	8.1	7.9	7.8	7.6	7.5	6.9	6.3
D&T Product Design	8.6	8.6	8.2	6.7	6.1	5.7	5.2
Info & Comms Tech	7.7	6.8	6.2	5.8	5.6	5.5	5.1
French	5.0	4.9	4.4	4.0	3.9	3.8	3.8
Applied ICT	5.6	6.1	6.2	5.4	4.8	4.2	3.7
Art & Design	5.0	5.3	4.7	4.2	3.7	3.4	3.4
Critical Thinking	7.1	7.0	6.3	5.7	5.0	4.3	3.3
Mathematics (Further)	1.7	1.6	1.8	2.2	2.5	2.7	3.0
Health & Social Care	3.5	3.6	3.4	3.2	3.0	3.0	3.0
Film Studies	3.3	3.2	3.2	3.3	3.2	2.9	2.7
Comp Studies/Computing	3.5	3.2	2.9	2.7	2.6	2.6	2.6
Spanish	2.3	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.3	2.3	2.6
Applied Business	3.5	3.8	3.9	3.4	3.0	2.8	2.5
Music	3.1	3.0	2.7	2.6	2.6	2.5	2.3
Accounting/Finance	2.4	2.4	2.6	2.6	2.3	2.3	2.2
Art & Design (Graphics)	2.0	2.2	2.3	2.2	2.3	2.3	2.2
Logic/ Philosophy	2.2	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.0	2.1	2.1
Art & Design (Textiles)	1.9	1.9	2.0	2.1	2.1	2.0	1.8
Classical Civilisation	2.0	1.8	1.8	1.7	1.6	1.8	1.8
Music Technology	1.9	2.0	2.0	2.0	1.9	1.8	1.6
Social Sci: Citizenship	1.1	1.2	1.1	1.7	1.7	1.9	1.6
German	2.4	2.2	1.9	1.8	1.7	1.6	1.5
Applied Science	0.5	0.7	0.8	1.0	1.2	1.3	1.2
Chinese	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.3	0.4	0.4

High

Subject	2006/7	2007/8	2008/9	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13
Mathematics	45.7	47.9	50.6	53.1	55.6	57.3	59.2
Biology	36.9	37.7	36.9	39.0	40.9	42.6	43.9
Chemistry	33.7	34.6	34.5	35.0	37.4	39.9	42.8
Physics	22.3	22.6	22.9	23.7	25.4	26.7	28.2
History	28.1	27.5	27.1	27.8	27.7	27.0	27.2
General Studies	43.7	41.2	38.3	34.9	33.2	30.9	27.1
English Literature	26.6	26.2	26.0	25.5	25.4	24.5	24.1
Psychology	21.6	21.2	20.5	20.1	20.4	21.1	20.3
Geography	17.5	17.2	17.5	17.1	16.3	16.4	16.9
Economics	10.9	11.6	12.9	14.0	13.9	13.8	15.2
Mathematics (Further)	9.0	10.1	10.9	11.7	12.2	12.9	13.5
French	15.0	14.7	13.9	13.3	12.8	12.0	10.9
Critical Thinking	13.9	15.2	14.2	13.5	12.7	11.5	9.9
Religious Studies	9.3	9.5	9.6	9.5	9.7	9.7	9.6
English Language	7.3	7.4	7.6	7.8	7.4	7.3	7.1
Government & Politics	7.2	6.9	7.0	7.2	7.4	7.4	7.0
Spanish	5.9	6.0	6.1	6.1	6.2	5.9	6.2
Art & Design (Fine Art)	7.6	7.3	7.1	7.1	6.6	6.4	5.7
Business Studies	9.0	8.5	8.4	7.3	6.3	6.4	5.4
Drama & Theatre Studies	6.5	6.2	6.1	6.0	5.5	5.0	4.4
Sociology	5.7	5.4	5.1	4.9	4.6	4.8	4.4
Phys. Ed./Sports Studies	6.8	7.1	6.9	6.3	5.7	5.3	4.3
English Language & Lit	5.6	5.3	5.4	5.1	4.8	4.5	4.3
German	6.0	5.7	5.1	4.9	4.5	4.1	3.9
Music	5.1	4.8	4.5	4.1	4.1	3.8	3.6
D&T Product Design	5.7	5.6	5.2	4.0	3.9	3.5	3.2
Law	4.1	4.0	4.2	3.9	3.5	3.1	2.9
Art & Design	4.7	4.6	4.2	3.8	3.2	3.0	2.9
Media/Film/Tv Studies	4.5	4.2	4.0	3.6	3.2	2.9	2.3
Classical Civilisation	2.5	2.3	2.2	2.3	2.2	2.3	2.1
Logic/ Philosophy	2.3	2.2	2.3	2.4	2.4	2.5	2.1
Art & Design: Photography	2.0	2.0	2.3	2.3	2.2	2.4	2.1
Info & Comms Tech	3.6	3.1	2.9	2.7	2.4	2.3	2.0
Comp Studies/Computing	2.5	2.3	2.1	1.9	2.0	1.9	1.9
Applied ICT	1.6	1.9	2.0	1.7	1.5	1.1	1.0
Art & Design (Graphics)	0.9	1.1	1.1	1.1	0.9	1.0	1.0
Art & Design (Textiles)	1.1	1.1	1.2	1.2	1.1	1.1	0.9
Social Sci: Citizenship	0.6	0.6	0.6	1.0	1.0	1.1	0.9
Music Technology	1.3	1.3	1.3	1.2	1.1	1.0	0.9
Chinese	1.0	0.8	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.9
Film Studies	1.2	1.2	1.1	1.1	1.0	0.9	0.8
Accounting/Finance	0.9	1.1	1.0	0.9	0.8	0.8	0.7
Health & Social Care	0.7	0.8	0.7	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6
Applied Business	1.0	1.1	1.1	0.9	0.8	0.6	0.5
Applied Science	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.1

Table 6 gives the most popular combinations of AS levels (for candidates taking at least three subjects, and excluding General Studies) in each year. To give an idea of the number of possible combinations available to candidates, in 2006/7 there were just over 80,000 different combinations in this data. If we had included the candidates taking fewer than three AS levels and also included General Studies, this number would have been much larger.

Table 6: Most common combinations of at least three AS-level subjects in 2006-2013, excluding General Studies

2006/7

Combination					%	Cum %
Biology	Chemistry	Physics	Mathematics		1.08	1.08
Biology	Chemistry	Mathematics	Psychology		0.46	1.54
Chemistry	Physics	Mathematics	Mathematics (Further)		0.31	1.85
Biology	Chemistry	Mathematics	Geography		0.31	2.16
Biology	Chemistry	Mathematics			0.25	2.41
Biology	Chemistry	Mathematics	History		0.21	2.63
Biology	Chemistry	Physics	Mathematics	Mathematics (Further)	0.20	2.82
Biology	Chemistry	Mathematics	Economics		0.17	2.99
Biology	Chemistry	Mathematics	French		0.17	3.16
Chemistry	Physics	Mathematics			0.17	3.33

2007/8

Combination					%	Cum %
Biology	Chemistry	Physics	Mathematics		1.10	1.10
Biology	Chemistry	Mathematics	Psychology		0.47	1.57
Chemistry	Physics	Mathematics	Mathematics (Further)		0.35	1.92
Biology	Chemistry	Mathematics	Geography		0.30	2.21
Biology	Chemistry	Mathematics			0.25	2.47
Biology	Chemistry	Physics	Mathematics	Mathematics (Further)	0.24	2.70
Biology	Chemistry	Mathematics	History		0.23	2.93
Biology	Chemistry	Mathematics	Economics		0.21	3.13
Biology	Chemistry	Mathematics	French		0.18	3.32
Biology	Chemistry	Physics	Mathematics	Critical Thinking	0.17	3.49

2008/9

Combination					%	Cum %
Biology	Chemistry	Physics	Mathematics		1.12	1.12
Biology	Chemistry	Mathematics	Psychology		0.51	1.64
Chemistry	Physics	Mathematics	Mathematics (Further)		0.36	2.00
Biology	Chemistry	Mathematics	Geography		0.33	2.33
Biology	Chemistry	Mathematics	History		0.28	2.61
Biology	Chemistry	Physics	Mathematics	Mathematics (Further)	0.27	2.88
Biology	Chemistry	Mathematics			0.26	3.14
Biology	Chemistry	Mathematics	Economics		0.24	3.38
Biology	Chemistry	Mathematics	French		0.19	3.58
Biology	Chemistry	Physics	Mathematics	Critical Thinking	0.17	3.75

2009/10

Combination				%	Cum %	
Biology	Chemistry	Physics	Mathematics	1.25	1.25	
Biology	Chemistry	Mathematics	Psychology	0.55	1.80	
Chemistry	Physics	Mathematics	Mathematics (Further)	0.41	2.21	
Biology	Chemistry	Mathematics	Geography	0.36	2.57	
Biology	Chemistry	Mathematics	History	0.32	2.88	
Biology	Chemistry	Mathematics		0.30	3.18	
Biology	Chemistry	Mathematics	Economics	0.29	3.48	
Biology	Chemistry	Physics	Mathematics	Mathematics (Further)	0.26	3.74
Biology	Chemistry	Mathematics	English Literature	0.19	3.93	
Biology	Chemistry	Mathematics	French	0.18	4.11	

2010/11

Combination				%	Cum %	
Biology	Chemistry	Physics	Mathematics	1.49	1.49	
Biology	Chemistry	Mathematics	Psychology	0.71	2.20	
Chemistry	Physics	Mathematics	Mathematics (Further)	0.51	2.71	
Biology	Chemistry	Mathematics	Geography	0.40	3.11	
Biology	Chemistry	Mathematics	History	0.35	3.45	
Biology	Chemistry	Mathematics		0.32	3.78	
Biology	Chemistry	Physics	Mathematics	Mathematics (Further)	0.32	4.10
Biology	Chemistry	Mathematics	Economics	0.32	4.42	
Biology	Chemistry	Mathematics	French	0.21	4.63	
Biology	Chemistry	Physics	Mathematics	Critical Thinking	0.21	4.84

2011/12

Combination				%	Cum %	
Biology	Chemistry	Physics	Mathematics	1.77	1.77	
Biology	Chemistry	Mathematics	Psychology	0.83	2.59	
Chemistry	Physics	Mathematics	Mathematics (Further)	0.62	3.21	
Biology	Chemistry	Mathematics	Geography	0.43	3.64	
Biology	Chemistry	Physics	Mathematics	Mathematics (Further)	0.38	4.02
Biology	Chemistry	Mathematics	History	0.38	4.40	
Biology	Chemistry	Mathematics	Economics	0.32	4.72	
Biology	Chemistry	Mathematics		0.29	5.01	
Biology	Chemistry	Mathematics	French	0.23	5.24	
Biology	Chemistry	Mathematics	English Literature	0.22	5.46	

2012/13

Combination				%	Cum %	
Biology	Chemistry	Physics	Mathematics	1.94	1.94	
Biology	Chemistry	Mathematics	Psychology	0.91	2.85	
Chemistry	Physics	Mathematics	Mathematics (Further)	0.71	3.55	
Biology	Chemistry	Mathematics	Geography	0.52	4.07	
Biology	Chemistry	Mathematics	History	0.44	4.51	
Biology	Chemistry	Mathematics	Economics	0.38	4.90	
Biology	Chemistry	Physics	Mathematics	Mathematics (Further)	0.38	5.28
Biology	Chemistry	Mathematics		0.31	5.59	
Biology	Chemistry	Mathematics	English Literature	0.27	5.87	
Biology	Chemistry	Mathematics	French	0.23	6.10	

Table 7 presents the uptake of five different subject areas at AS level. The subject areas were Arts, English, Languages, Science/Mathematics and Social Science/Humanities. Grouping subjects is not a straightforward task and the allocation to subject areas is always debatable. Details of the subject areas can be found in Appendix B. This analysis is restricted to those candidates with at least three AS level results. The total number of low attaining candidates is reduced because they were less likely to have taken three AS levels.

Table 7: Uptake of subject areas at AS level by gender and attainment in 2006-2013 (% of candidates with at least three AS levels, excluding General Studies)

2006/7

Subject Area	Male	Female	Low	Medium	High	All
Arts	39.4	43.4	52.0	45.3	31.4	41.6
English	29.8	52.9	42.9	45.5	40.8	42.4
Languages	11.8	18.3	4.8	10.2	26.2	15.3
Science/Maths	68.9	50.3	44.7	55.1	71.8	58.8
Social Science/Humanities	82.1	86.2	87.2	86.9	80.9	84.3
Number of students	108,467	129,591	42,600	88,918	98,990	238,058

2007/8

Subject Area	Male	Female	Low	Medium	High	All
Arts	39.7	43.5	52.6	46.2	30.9	41.8
English	29.9	52.5	42.6	45.9	39.9	42.2
Languages	11.6	18.2	5.0	9.9	25.8	15.2
Science/Maths	69.2	50.2	43.6	54.4	73.1	58.9
Social Science/Humanities	81.7	86.1	87.0	86.6	80.6	84.1
Number of students	113,313	134,384	45,319	90,569	105,007	247,697

2008/9

Subject Area	Male	Female	Low	Medium	High	All
Arts	39.1	43.2	53.2	45.3	30.2	41.3
English	29.9	52.6	43.3	45.6	39.9	42.2
Languages	11.4	17.4	4.8	9.3	24.7	14.6
Science/Maths	69.1	50.0	42.2	54.4	73.6	58.7
Social Science/Humanities	81.5	85.9	86.5	86.6	80.4	83.9
Number of students	117,236	138,594	41,616	94,794	111,572	255,830

2009/10

Subject Area	Male	Female	Low	Medium	High	All
Arts	37.9	42.7	52.9	44.5	28.6	40.5
English	28.5	51.8	42.4	43.7	39.2	41.1
Languages	10.9	17.0	4.7	9.1	24.1	14.2
Science/Maths	70.8	51.9	43.8	57.3	75.0	60.6
Social Science/Humanities	81.1	85.8	86.4	86.1	80.1	83.6
Number of students	120,426	141,461	37,673	96,725	119,126	261,887

2010/11

Subject Area	Male	Female	Low	Medium	High	All
Arts	36.1	41.4	52.1	42.9	26.7	39.0
English	27.7	51.9	42.6	44.0	38.0	40.8
Languages	10.8	17.0	4.9	9.0	23.7	14.1
Science/Maths	71.6	52.8	43.2	58.0	76.7	61.4
Social Science/Humanities	80.1	85.3	86.3	85.8	78.8	82.9
Number of students	137,368	115,856	33,093	95,097	117,519	253,224

2011/12

Subject Area	Male	Female	Low	Medium	High	All
Arts	34.1	40.2	50.9	41.1	25.5	37.5
English	26.6	51.2	42.6	43.4	36.5	40.0
Languages	10.5	16.6	4.9	8.9	22.6	13.9
Science/Maths	73.0	53.5	43.0	59.4	77.8	62.3
Social Science/Humanities	79.2	85.5	86.5	85.8	78.0	82.7
Number of students	117,743	140,870	31,100	97,448	122,983	258,613

2012/13

Subject Area	Male	Female	Low	Medium	High	All
Arts	31.2	37.9	48.7	37.9	22.7	34.9
English	25.9	51.4	42.7	43.4	35.7	39.8
Languages	10.4	16.4	5.1	9.2	22.1	13.6
Science/Maths	73.9	54.2	43.0	60.4	79.4	63.2
Social Science/Humanities	78.7	85.3	86.6	85.6	76.8	82.3
Number of students	118,523	142,616	29,638	97,630	127,258	261,139

For the following analysis subjects were also grouped into three different domains: Science and Mathematics, Arts and Languages and Social Science and Humanities (Bell *et al.*, 2005). Table 8 also presents the proportion of candidates classified as specialists (those entering subjects in only one domain), partly mixed (those entering subjects in two different domains) and those entering subjects in all three domains.

Table 8: Uptake of combinations of AS level subjects by gender and attainment in 2006-2013 (% of candidates with at least three AS levels excluding General Studies)

2006/7

Arts	Sci-Mat	SocHum	Male	Female	Low	Medium	High	All
Yes	-	-	2.2	4.6	5.6	3.5	1.9	3.5
-	Yes	-	6.8	2.0	2.1	3.4	5.8	4.1
-	-	Yes	4.3	4.3	7.7	4.5	1.5	4.3
Specialist			13.3	10.8	15.4	11.4	9.2	11.9
Yes	Yes	-	8.9	7.3	5.2	6.2	11.5	8.0
Yes	-	Yes	24.5	40.9	42.0	36.9	24.7	33.4
-	Yes	Yes	26.4	14.5	16.1	19.3	23.5	19.9
Partly Mixed			59.8	62.7	63.3	62.3	59.6	61.4
Yes	Yes	Yes	26.9	26.5	21.3	26.2	31.1	26.7

2007/8

Arts	Sci-Mat	SocHum	Male	Female	Low	Medium	High	All
Yes	-	-	2.4	4.6	6.1	3.7	1.7	3.6
-	Yes	-	6.8	2.0	2.0	3.3	6.1	4.2
-	-	Yes	4.0	4.3	7.7	4.4	1.5	4.2
Specialist			13.3	10.9	15.7	11.4	9.3	12.0
Yes	Yes	-	9.1	7.3	5.0	6.3	11.6	8.1
Yes	-	Yes	24.4	40.9	42.6	37.5	23.6	33.3
-	Yes	Yes	26.4	14.6	15.9	18.7	24.2	20.0
Partly Mixed			59.8	62.8	63.5	62.6	59.5	61.4
Yes	Yes	Yes	27.0	26.3	20.8	26.0	31.2	26.6

2008/9

Arts	Sci-Mat	SocHum	Male	Female	Low	Medium	High	All
Yes	-	-	2.4	4.7	6.5	3.6	1.7	3.7
-	Yes	-	7.0	2.0	2.0	3.5	6.3	4.3
-	-	Yes	4.3	4.5	7.9	4.7	1.6	4.4
Specialist			13.7	11.2	16.4	11.7	9.6	12.3
Yes	Yes	-	9.0	7.4	5.0	6.3	11.6	8.1
Yes	-	Yes	24.2	40.9	43.5	37.3	23.1	33.2
-	Yes	Yes	26.5	15.0	15.2	19.2	25.0	20.2
Partly Mixed			59.7	63.2	63.6	62.8	59.6	61.6
Yes	Yes	Yes	26.6	25.6	19.9	25.4	30.9	26.1

2009/10

Arts	Sci-Mat	SocHum	Male	Female	Low	Medium	High	All
Yes	-	-	2.3	4.5	6.2	3.4	1.6	3.5
-	Yes	-	7.5	2.2	2.2	3.9	6.7	4.6
-	-	Yes	4.2	4.2	7.8	4.4	1.5	4.2
Specialist			14.0	10.9	16.2	11.7	9.8	12.3
Yes	Yes	-	9.2	7.5	5.1	6.7	11.7	8.3
Yes	-	Yes	22.7	39.4	42.2	34.9	21.8	31.7
-	Yes	Yes	28.0	15.6	16.0	20.6	26.1	21.3
Partly Mixed			59.9	62.5	63.3	62.2	59.6	61.3
Yes	Yes	Yes	26.1	26.6	20.5	26.1	30.6	26.4

2010/11

Arts	Sci-Mat	SocHum	Male	Female	Low	Medium	High	All
Yes	-	-	2.1	4.5	6.3	3.3	1.4	3.4
-	Yes	-	8.6	2.4	2.3	4.4	7.8	5.3
-	-	Yes	4.2	4.0	7.9	4.3	1.4	4.1
Specialist			15.0	11.0	16.5	12.0	10.6	12.8
Yes	Yes	-	9.2	7.8	5.1	6.6	12.0	8.4
Yes	-	Yes	22.0	38.7	42.7	34.4	20.5	31.1
-	Yes	Yes	28.7	16.3	15.9	21.3	27.2	22.0
Partly Mixed			59.9	62.8	63.7	62.3	59.7	61.5
Yes	Yes	Yes	25.1	26.3	19.9	25.7	29.7	25.8

2011/12

Arts	Sci-Mat	SocHum	Male	Female	Low	Medium	High	All
Yes	-	-	1.9	4.1	6.0	2.9	1.3	3.1
-	Yes	-	9.6	2.6	2.4	4.7	8.8	5.8
-	-	Yes	4.3	4.2	8.1	4.4	1.4	4.2
Specialist			15.9	10.9	16.5	12.0	11.6	13.2
Yes	Yes	-	9.2	7.7	5.1	6.6	11.9	8.4
Yes	-	Yes	20.8	38.3	42.9	33.3	19.5	30.3
-	Yes	Yes	29.8	17.0	16.2	22.5	28.2	22.8
Partly Mixed			59.8	63.0	64.2	62.4	59.6	61.5
Yes	Yes	Yes	24.4	26.1	19.3	25.6	28.8	25.3

2012/13

Arts	Sci-Mat	SocHum	Male	Female	Low	Medium	High	All
Yes	-	-	1.8	3.9	6.0	2.7	1.0	2.9
-	Yes	-	10.6	2.9	2.7	5.2	9.8	6.4
-	-	Yes	4.6	4.2	8.5	4.6	1.4	4.4
Specialist			16.9	11.0	17.1	12.4	12.2	13.7
Yes	Yes	-	9.0	7.9	4.8	6.6	12.3	8.4
Yes	-	Yes	19.7	37.7	42.5	32.4	18.2	29.5
-	Yes	Yes	31.1	17.8	16.8	23.4	29.6	23.8
Partly Mixed			59.8	63.4	64.1	62.4	60.2	61.8
Yes	Yes	Yes	23.3	25.6	18.8	25.2	27.6	24.6

In the following tables the percentage of candidates dropping each subject after AS level is displayed (excluding candidates who did not take any A-levels at all). For this we did not include AS levels that were taken in year 13, nor any AS levels or A-levels taken early. It is not possible to determine from the data which candidates only intended to take the AS level and which subjects were genuinely 'dropped' after AS level. Indeed, Social Science: Citizenship was only offered at AS level until 2009/10, which explains why it was apparently 'dropped' by 100% of candidates in the years prior to this. The subjects included here are the most popular at AS level, as in Tables 3–5.

Table 9: Subjects dropped after AS level 2006-2013 (% of candidates taking AS level and also taking at least one A-level)

All

Subject	2006/ 7 (%)	2007/ 8 (%)	2008/ 9 (%)	2009/ 10 (%)	2010/ 11 (%)	2011/ 12 (%)	2012/ 13 (%)
Critical Thinking	84.9	83.7	83.1	86.0	87.2	92.2	91.0
Social Sci: Citizenship	100.0	100.0	100.0	74.7	69.5	69.0	70.4
General Studies	33.2	34.2	35.2	35.5	36.0	43.4	40.1
Logic/ Philosophy	34.5	34.5	33.4	32.5	33.8	37.9	39.8
German	27.2	27.9	27.3	26.5	28.3	32.0	34.9
Comp Studies/Computing	29.4	31.7	29.4	31.9	31.4	34.9	34.5
French	28.7	28.4	27.8	26.3	26.8	31.0	33.3
Spanish	23.4	24.3	23.5	22.9	24.6	27.7	30.2
Physics	22.4	22.7	23.3	23.9	25.3	28.5	29.7
Accounting/Finance	28.2	28.5	27.7	26.7	25.9	27.2	29.1
Info & Comms Tech	26.4	26.3	25.8	22.9	23.5	27.1	26.2
Chemistry	20.9	21.3	22.5	21.7	20.9	26.8	26.2
Psychology	22.7	23.0	23.5	21.1	23.1	25.9	25.3
Biology	21.0	20.9	21.4	22.1	21.9	25.2	25.3
Law	18.5	18.2	20.2	21.9	21.8	24.2	25.1
Music	20.4	20.7	20.4	19.4	19.8	23.3	24.3
Economics	18.5	17.9	18.0	18.8	18.6	20.8	23.0
Music Technology	21.0	21.1	22.0	22.4	20.2	23.6	22.1
Mathematics	18.2	18.6	17.5	19.3	18.3	22.1	22.0
Phys. Ed./Sports Studies	14.0	14.1	14.1	17.0	18.4	20.9	21.3
Applied ICT	15.7	15.5	17.4	18.0	18.7	20.9	20.8
Religious Studies	16.6	16.6	17.5	17.0	16.9	20.3	20.6
Applied Science	11.4	14.6	13.8	18.5	17.2	18.8	19.9
Geography	16.3	16.3	17.4	17.0	16.2	18.2	19.9
D&T Product Design	16.1	15.4	15.5	16.2	14.9	17.7	19.4
History	17.9	17.1	16.9	17.2	17.4	19.0	19.4
Government & Politics	18.8	16.7	16.6	16.1	15.4	19.2	19.3
English Literature	13.9	14.1	14.5	14.9	16.5	18.3	19.0
Sociology	14.0	14.5	14.2	14.4	14.9	17.8	18.7
Classical Civilisation	17.0	15.5	15.2	18.0	17.0	18.7	18.7
Business Studies	15.0	13.8	14.3	14.5	14.7	17.1	18.5
Art & Design: Photography	18.2	18.8	17.8	17.6	16.2	17.0	17.9
Art & Design	16.9	15.8	15.7	15.9	14.3	18.3	16.8
Art & Design (Textiles)	15.8	16.1	16.4	16.3	15.0	16.4	16.7
Art & Design (Fine Art)	15.7	15.8	15.7	16.1	15.3	18.0	16.4
Drama & Theatre Studies	12.9	12.5	12.6	13.9	14.0	15.5	15.9
Media/Film/Tv Studies	12.7	12.3	12.7	14.3	12.7	14.9	14.4
English Language	15.0	14.5	13.7	13.4	13.0	14.3	14.3
Film Studies	12.1	12.8	13.0	14.0	12.9	13.9	14.1
Art & Design (Graphics)	15.1	15.5	15.1	15.3	13.2	16.4	14.0
English Language & Lit	12.5	11.1	11.8	12.4	12.2	13.6	13.7
Mathematics (Further)	3.0	3.6	4.2	7.0	7.9	10.9	10.9
Health & Social Care	7.5	8.9	9.1	9.2	10.2	11.3	10.7
Applied Business	8.2	9.1	9.6	11.1	10.0	10.5	9.9
Chinese	14.9	12.8	8.5	10.2	5.0	6.3	7.6

Table 10: Subjects dropped after AS level by gender 2006-2013 (candidates with at least one A-level)

Males

Subject	2006/ 7 (%)	2007/ 8 (%)	2008/ 9 (%)	2009/ 10 (%)	2010/ 11 (%)	2011/ 12 (%)	2012/ 13 (%)
Critical Thinking	84.1	81.4	82.4	87.4	87.4	91.9	91.3
Social Sci: Citizenship	100.0	100.0	100.0	74.9	69.4	69.1	68.7
General Studies	31.5	33.4	34.0	35.3	35.3	42.9	38.7
Logic/ Philosophy	30.7	29.9	29.4	28.6	29.3	33.6	35.1
Comp Studies/Computing	28.5	30.5	28.5	31.0	30.5	34.4	33.7
Psychology	28.7	27.6	29.0	25.6	28.6	32.3	32.6
German	25.6	25.2	25.6	24.4	24.5	29.4	32.2
French	26.9	26.3	25.5	24.2	24.5	28.1	29.6
Spanish	20.2	21.1	20.5	21.0	22.4	24.0	27.6
Law	19.2	19.7	21.2	22.7	23.8	27.1	27.4
Accounting/Finance	27.5	27.5	26.7	25.8	25.2	26.6	26.8
Physics	20.4	20.4	21.3	21.9	22.8	25.8	26.5
Biology	20.6	20.9	21.3	21.2	22.1	25.6	25.9
Info & Comms Tech	25.1	25.9	25.3	22.6	23.5	27.4	25.9
Chemistry	20.7	20.5	22.0	21.0	19.9	26.0	25.5
Music	18.4	19.3	20.2	18.0	19.1	22.6	23.0
Sociology	15.9	16.3	15.8	17.0	16.8	21.1	22.9
Applied Science	11.3	15.6	13.9	19.0	17.9	21.2	22.5
Economics	17.6	16.6	16.6	17.4	17.1	19.4	22.1
Phys. Ed./Sports Studies	13.5	13.9	13.5	16.4	18.6	21.0	21.3
Applied ICT	14.8	14.9	17.3	17.9	18.9	21.3	20.9
Religious Studies	16.2	16.4	17.8	16.3	17.4	20.2	20.2
English Literature	13.7	14.6	14.6	15.4	17.1	19.3	19.9
Geography	15.2	15.7	16.5	16.0	15.5	17.4	19.7
D&T Product Design	15.6	14.5	14.6	15.2	14.2	17.2	19.5
Music Technology	18.2	19.0	19.8	20.0	17.3	20.4	19.0
Health & Social Care	15.4	15.8	19.4	16.7	25.2	26.5	18.6
Mathematics	16.4	16.7	15.6	17.3	16.1	19.1	18.4
Art & Design: Photography	18.7	19.3	18.2	17.9	17.3	17.1	18.3
Classical Civilisation	16.7	14.7	15.6	18.7	17.9	19.8	17.6
Government & Politics	16.4	14.7	14.5	14.5	13.8	17.1	16.9
Art & Design (Fine Art)	15.4	15.6	15.3	15.6	16.0	18.2	16.7
History	15.0	14.8	14.4	14.8	15.0	15.9	16.3
Art & Design	16.1	14.6	15.9	15.7	15.5	18.5	16.1
English Language	16.7	16.0	14.9	14.6	14.8	16.2	15.8
Drama & Theatre Studies	12.8	12.5	12.3	13.6	13.2	15.2	15.1
English Language & Lit	13.8	11.8	13.1	14.4	13.5	15.3	14.9
Business Studies	12.3	11.8	11.5	11.9	11.5	14.3	14.8
Art & Design (Graphics)	15.6	14.7	14.9	14.8	13.3	16.8	14.8
Media/Film/Tv Studies	11.9	11.5	12.0	13.5	12.4	13.9	14.1
Film Studies	10.1	11.0	11.3	12.3	11.7	10.8	12.8
Art & Design (Textiles)	10.8	20.2	23.0	23.4	18.3	14.4	10.1
Applied Business	8.2	9.2	9.6	11.1	9.6	10.5	9.8
Mathematics (Further)	2.6	3.0	3.7	6.3	7.2	9.8	9.4
Chinese	13.9	9.3	7.0	9.4	4.7	6.2	7.1

Females

Subject	2006/ 7 (%)	2007/ 8 (%)	2008/ 9 (%)	2009/ 10 (%)	2010/ 11 (%)	2011/ 12 (%)	2012/ 13 (%)
Critical Thinking	85.5	85.3	83.6	84.9	87.0	92.4	90.7
Social Sci: Citizenship	100.0	100.0	100.0	74.6	69.5	69.0	71.6
Comp Studies/Computing	38.1	44.5	38.5	41.7	41.6	40.1	44.9
Logic/ Philosophy	37.9	38.7	36.9	35.8	37.6	41.4	43.5
General Studies	34.7	34.9	36.2	35.7	36.6	43.9	41.1
Physics	29.0	30.0	29.6	30.5	33.6	37.1	39.6
German	28.2	29.5	28.5	27.8	30.6	33.6	36.5
French	29.5	29.3	28.8	27.2	27.8	32.2	34.8
Music Technology	31.1	29.9	30.6	33.0	31.8	37.5	34.1
Accounting/Finance	29.3	30.0	29.2	28.0	27.1	28.4	33.1
Spanish	24.9	25.8	24.9	23.8	25.6	29.4	31.3
Chemistry	21.0	22.0	23.0	22.3	22.0	27.6	26.9
Mathematics	20.8	21.4	20.0	22.2	21.4	26.0	26.9
Info & Comms Tech	28.6	27.0	26.7	23.5	23.4	26.6	26.8
Music	22.2	22.0	20.6	20.9	20.5	24.0	25.6
Economics	20.5	20.8	21.0	21.8	21.7	23.5	24.9
Biology	21.2	20.9	21.5	22.8	21.8	24.9	24.8
Law	18.0	17.3	19.5	21.3	20.4	22.2	23.5
Business Studies	18.7	16.4	18.2	18.2	18.8	20.8	23.3
Psychology	20.5	21.3	21.4	19.3	20.9	23.4	22.5
Government & Politics	22.0	19.5	19.2	18.1	17.3	21.8	22.4
History	20.6	19.3	19.2	19.3	19.5	21.7	22.0
Phys. Ed./Sports Studies	14.8	14.5	15.1	18.1	18.1	20.6	21.3
Religious Studies	16.8	16.8	17.3	17.4	16.6	20.4	20.8
Applied ICT	17.3	16.6	17.4	18.2	18.3	20.2	20.6
Geography	17.7	17.1	18.3	18.2	16.9	19.1	20.0
Classical Civilisation	17.2	16.1	15.0	17.5	16.4	18.0	19.3
D&T Product Design	16.8	16.7	16.9	18.5	16.7	18.9	19.3
English Literature	13.9	13.9	14.4	14.6	16.3	18.0	18.7
Applied Science	11.4	13.9	13.7	18.0	16.7	17.0	18.0
Art & Design: Photography	17.9	18.6	17.6	17.5	15.8	17.0	17.7
Sociology	13.3	13.9	13.7	13.5	14.3	16.7	17.3
Art & Design	17.2	16.3	15.6	15.9	13.8	18.3	17.0
Art & Design (Textiles)	15.9	15.9	16.2	16.1	14.9	16.4	16.9
Art & Design (Fine Art)	15.9	15.9	15.9	16.3	15.0	18.0	16.3
Drama & Theatre Studies	12.9	12.5	12.8	14.1	14.4	15.6	16.2
Film Studies	14.2	14.9	14.9	15.8	14.3	17.4	15.5
Media/Film/Tv Studies	13.2	12.9	13.2	15.0	12.9	15.6	14.7
Mathematics (Further)	3.8	4.9	5.3	8.7	9.6	13.3	14.4
English Language	14.1	13.6	13.0	12.8	12.1	13.4	13.6
Art & Design (Graphics)	14.6	16.2	15.3	15.6	13.2	16.0	13.5
English Language & Lit	11.9	10.8	11.3	11.6	11.6	12.8	13.2
Health & Social Care	7.2	8.7	8.7	9.0	9.6	10.7	10.3
Applied Business	8.2	8.9	9.7	11.0	10.4	10.6	10.0
Chinese	15.8	15.7	9.8	11.1	5.2	6.3	8.0

Table 11: Subjects dropped after AS level by prior attainment 2006-2013 (candidates with at least one A-level)

Low

Subject	2006/ 7 (%)	2007/ 8 (%)	2008/ 9 (%)	2009/ 10 (%)	2010/ 11 (%)	2011/ 12 (%)	2012/ 13 (%)
Critical Thinking	83.5	82.9	82.3	83.6	83.0	87.9	83.1
Social Sci: Citizenship	100.0	100.0	100.0	72.2	66.2	59.8	60.4
General Studies	47.6	48.7	51.4	51.0	52.8	58.4	57.6
Logic/ Philosophy	44.7	45.0	46.8	44.8	44.8	52.5	51.4
Biology	41.5	40.8	42.0	45.2	44.1	48.2	49.3
Physics	39.9	38.8	40.6	40.7	41.7	45.9	43.7
Chemistry	36.5	37.5	37.5	39.5	39.2	45.3	42.6
Comp Studies/Computing	34.4	39.2	37.2	41.4	37.6	40.8	40.8
Mathematics	36.3	36.9	34.8	36.0	33.5	41.4	39.1
French	44.5	42.9	41.7	35.7	35.1	38.3	37.4
Accounting/Finance	33.2	34.0	31.1	31.9	31.5	32.9	36.5
Psychology	29.6	29.9	31.7	30.1	32.0	36.7	35.4
Economics	27.9	28.3	29.2	30.1	28.3	30.9	35.1
German	39.5	38.9	39.8	36.0	33.2	33.3	34.8
Spanish	29.6	29.0	28.6	25.7	24.2	31.2	32.8
Law	21.3	21.6	24.7	26.8	26.8	30.9	31.2
Geography	22.1	24.2	25.3	24.9	24.5	27.4	29.5
Info & Comms Tech	27.7	27.1	26.6	24.5	25.2	29.3	28.6
Phys. Ed./Sports Studies	16.3	17.0	17.7	20.7	21.9	25.0	27.2
Government & Politics	24.1	24.1	22.9	24.6	21.6	27.4	25.8
Mathematics (Further)	12.2	11.2	15.5	16.5	23.9	28.5	23.4
Business Studies	17.6	15.9	17.2	16.8	18.1	21.1	22.6
English Literature	16.3	16.3	16.5	17.3	19.7	20.6	22.0
Classical Civilisation	18.7	19.2	18.7	22.1	23.3	22.5	21.9
Religious Studies	17.7	17.5	19.3	19.2	17.9	21.1	21.7
Sociology	16.1	16.0	16.5	16.5	17.1	19.9	21.6
Music	22.7	23.8	22.8	20.5	20.7	21.8	21.5
History	21.1	19.2	19.7	19.8	18.4	21.0	21.0
D&T Product Design	16.9	15.3	16.0	16.0	14.9	17.3	19.5
Applied Science	10.5	13.9	13.4	18.6	16.3	18.4	19.1
Applied ICT	14.8	14.1	15.9	16.6	17.4	18.6	18.2
Music Technology	17.4	17.1	19.4	17.9	17.2	18.8	16.3
Art & Design	15.3	15.0	15.7	15.0	12.5	16.8	15.0
Art & Design (Fine Art)	16.6	15.8	15.9	15.6	14.3	16.0	14.6
English Language	14.2	13.9	12.8	13.7	12.2	14.2	13.9
Art & Design (Textiles)	13.6	14.8	14.1	14.0	12.4	12.4	13.7
English Language & Lit	14.2	12.1	13.1	13.1	13.0	13.6	13.6
Art & Design: Photography	15.6	16.0	15.2	14.3	12.1	12.9	13.5
Media/Film/Tv Studies	10.4	10.0	10.2	11.5	10.0	12.0	12.3
Film Studies	9.8	10.7	10.5	11.3	10.6	11.4	11.8
Drama & Theatre Studies	9.8	9.8	10.5	11.0	11.5	11.9	11.8
Art & Design (Graphics)	14.2	15.0	13.7	13.9	11.2	14.9	11.7
Health & Social Care	6.0	7.6	8.2	8.0	9.4	9.9	9.6
Applied Business	7.2	8.3	9.1	10.7	9.5	9.5	8.8
Chinese	5.4	6.1	7.7	7.8	3.9	4.9	4.7

Medium

Subject	2006/ 7 (%)	2007/ 8 (%)	2008/ 9 (%)	2009/ 10 (%)	2010/ 11 (%)	2011/ 12 (%)	2012/ 13 (%)
Critical Thinking	83.8	83.6	82.6	86.9	87.2	92.3	90.5
Social Sci: Citizenship	100.0	100.0	100.0	74.3	70.2	73.0	74.0
Logic/ Philosophy	35.9	39.3	37.1	33.9	37.1	41.6	42.5
French	39.0	37.9	37.4	35.7	36.4	40.4	42.4
General Studies	32.5	34.2	36.3	36.4	37.3	44.9	40.6
German	35.4	35.7	34.6	34.1	36.4	37.8	40.3
Chemistry	30.5	31.5	33.8	32.1	31.5	39.4	37.1
Physics	28.8	29.7	31.2	31.4	33.5	36.5	36.8
Spanish	27.9	28.7	31.3	28.5	29.4	32.8	34.4
Biology	27.2	28.2	29.3	29.2	29.5	33.6	34.2
Comp Studies/Computing	29.0	29.0	27.5	29.9	30.5	31.5	33.0
Mathematics	26.8	27.9	26.9	28.5	26.5	31.1	30.1
Accounting/Finance	27.3	28.5	27.3	26.3	24.3	26.8	27.6
Economics	21.8	21.3	21.1	21.6	21.3	23.7	25.2
Info & Comms Tech	24.4	24.4	23.7	20.3	20.6	24.2	23.3
Music	19.0	21.4	19.3	20.1	18.4	21.1	23.2
Psychology	20.6	21.6	21.4	18.8	21.2	23.4	22.8
Law	17.6	16.9	18.7	20.6	20.2	20.6	22.3
Applied ICT	15.5	16.1	17.6	17.8	18.3	21.3	22.2
Applied Science	13.7	16.3	15.0	17.3	19.6	18.9	21.0
Religious Studies	16.6	16.6	16.9	16.8	16.8	20.4	20.4
Mathematics (Further)	7.2	9.7	10.6	15.5	16.5	20.6	19.8
Government & Politics	20.5	16.3	17.6	17.4	16.3	20.1	19.7
Music Technology	18.5	20.0	19.2	21.6	18.1	22.2	19.4
Art & Design: Photography	18.2	18.5	17.4	18.4	18.0	17.3	19.4
History	19.1	17.1	17.3	17.9	17.7	18.8	18.8
English Literature	13.8	14.6	14.9	15.7	16.7	19.1	18.5
Phys. Ed./Sports Studies	11.4	12.0	11.4	14.5	15.9	17.8	18.5
Geography	15.8	15.4	17.5	16.7	15.6	17.2	18.5
Classical Civilisation	17.5	16.5	15.3	18.0	15.6	18.6	18.1
D&T Product Design	13.5	13.6	13.5	14.3	12.8	15.2	16.8
Art & Design (Textiles)	16.2	17.1	15.9	15.0	14.9	15.4	16.8
Sociology	11.8	13.2	12.1	12.1	12.9	15.8	16.0
Business Studies	13.0	11.7	12.3	12.2	12.4	14.6	15.8
Media/Film/Tv Studies	12.9	12.4	13.2	15.6	13.8	15.6	15.3
Art & Design (Fine Art)	14.8	14.4	14.4	15.0	14.8	17.2	15.3
Film Studies	12.7	13.5	13.3	15.1	13.5	14.7	15.2
Art & Design	15.8	15.1	14.6	14.3	13.2	16.2	14.9
Drama & Theatre Studies	11.9	11.5	11.4	13.2	13.2	14.0	14.7
Art & Design (Graphics)	14.2	14.1	15.3	13.8	13.2	15.8	13.3
English Language	14.2	13.3	12.8	12.6	12.3	13.5	13.2
English Language & Lit	11.5	10.3	10.9	11.9	11.3	12.3	13.0
Applied Business	8.8	9.8	9.0	10.6	9.4	11.3	11.2
Health & Social Care	9.2	9.7	8.7	10.5	10.3	13.2	10.9
Chinese	9.5	7.7	7.8	11.8	5.0	5.3	6.1

High

Subject	2006/ 7 (%)	2007/ 8 (%)	2008/ 9 (%)	2009/ 10 (%)	2010/ 11 (%)	2011/ 12 (%)	2012/ 13 (%)
Critical Thinking	85.7	83.8	83.4	86.0	87.7	92.8	91.7
Social Sci: Citizenship	100.0	100.0	100.0	79.3	73.7	78.6	80.0
German	25.2	26.0	26.0	25.2	27.3	32.2	35.6
Music Technology	29.0	27.7	29.9	29.9	28.0	32.8	34.8
Logic/ Philosophy	27.9	24.8	23.9	26.6	27.2	30.0	32.3
General Studies	24.6	25.1	24.4	26.0	26.1	34.6	31.8
Applied Science	10.0	15.7	14.0	20.8	15.4	24.4	31.6
Comp Studies/Computing	25.6	28.5	25.2	26.5	27.8	34.6	31.6
Art & Design: Photography	25.1	27.1	27.1	27.1	26.2	31.0	31.1
French	24.8	24.6	24.3	23.4	23.9	28.2	30.7
Applied ICT	21.2	21.3	23.6	25.2	26.1	30.6	29.3
Spanish	21.9	23.0	20.9	21.4	23.9	26.6	29.0
Info & Comms Tech	27.8	27.5	28.6	25.1	26.5	28.6	28.4
Music	20.8	19.7	20.7	18.9	20.4	25.2	26.3
Physics	17.8	18.2	18.6	19.1	20.3	23.8	25.5
Film Studies	18.9	19.1	22.1	22.1	22.0	23.6	24.6
Media/Film/Tv Studies	19.9	20.3	20.4	22.8	23.0	26.6	24.1
D&T Product Design	18.6	17.9	17.9	19.5	18.1	22.0	23.6
Art & Design (Textiles)	18.4	16.9	19.8	21.7	20.1	25.3	22.5
Drama & Theatre Studies	17.0	16.4	16.4	17.6	17.9	21.4	22.0
Art & Design (Graphics)	19.4	19.0	17.5	21.0	18.3	21.1	21.2
Chemistry	15.8	16.4	17.2	16.0	15.6	20.7	20.9
Art & Design	19.7	17.7	17.1	18.3	17.2	22.3	20.9
Religious Studies	16.1	16.2	16.9	16.1	16.4	19.8	20.2
Phys. Ed./Sports Studies	15.6	14.5	14.6	16.8	19.1	21.9	20.1
Psychology	18.6	18.1	18.4	15.6	17.4	19.5	19.8
Economics	15.1	14.6	14.7	15.6	15.5	17.5	19.6
Art & Design (Fine Art)	16.2	17.1	17.1	17.8	16.8	20.7	19.4
History	15.9	16.2	15.6	15.7	16.8	18.5	19.4
Accounting/Finance	24.0	23.2	27.4	19.5	20.0	22.8	19.3
Health & Social Care	15.4	18.8	20.0	15.3	19.2	15.8	19.2
Law	14.8	14.9	15.0	15.4	15.5	18.3	18.9
Chinese	17.4	15.2	11.6	14.1	11.7	11.5	18.6
English Literature	12.7	12.7	13.3	13.1	15.0	16.7	18.0
Sociology	13.8	13.8	12.9	13.9	13.6	16.8	17.9
Classical Civilisation	15.9	13.3	14.0	16.7	15.6	17.5	17.8
Geography	14.2	13.8	14.2	14.2	13.6	15.5	17.4
Business Studies	14.4	14.4	13.6	15.3	13.4	16.0	17.4
English Language	17.1	16.9	16.0	14.2	15.0	15.7	16.9
Mathematics	13.2	13.4	12.3	14.0	13.6	16.3	16.7
Biology	13.4	13.6	14.0	13.4	13.7	17.0	16.7
Government & Politics	15.6	13.8	13.1	11.8	12.2	14.5	16.0
English Language & Lit	11.9	10.5	11.6	12.4	12.3	15.8	14.9
Applied Business	14.2	12.2	14.3	15.6	15.3	14.9	13.6
Mathematics (Further)	2.4	3.1	3.6	6.3	6.9	9.7	9.7

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Appendix A – Subject Classifications

Science/Maths

LEAP code	Subject Title
0008	Applied Science
0009	Applied Engineering
0010	Applied ICT
1010	Biology
1030	Biology: Human
1110	Chemistry
1210	Physics
1310	Science SA
1730	Electronics
1750	Environmental Science
1770	Geology
1830	Psychology (As a Science)
1910	Science in Society
1920	Science for Public Understanding
2200	Use of Mathematics
2210	Mathematics
2220	Mathematics (Mechanics)
2230	Mathematics (Pure)
2250	Mathematics (Applied)
2260	Mathematics (Statistics)
2330	Mathematics (Further)
2340	Additional Mathematics
2510	Statistics
2610	Computer Studies/Computing
2650	Information & Communications Technology

English

LEAP code	Subject Title
5010	English Language & Literature
5030	English Language
5110	English Literature
5210	Drama & Theatre Studies
5310	Communication Studies
5330	Expressive Arts & Performance Studies

Languages

LEAP code	Subject Title
5510	Welsh Language
5515	Welsh (Second Language)
5550	Irish
5630	Dutch
5650	French
5670	German
5690	Italian
5710	Modern Greek
5730	Portuguese
5750	Spanish
5910	Arabic
5930	Bengali
5950	Chinese
5970	Gujarati
6010	Japanese
6030	Modern Hebrew
6050	Punjabi
6070	Polish
6090	Russian
6110	Turkish
6130	Urdu
6150	Persian
6550	Classical Greek
6610	Latin
6650	Other Classical Languages

Social Science/Humanities

LEAP code	Subject Title
0002	Applied Business
0003	Health & Social Care
0016	Leisure & Recreation
0017	Travel & Tourism
3210	Business Studies: Single
3230	Business Studies & Economics
3310	Home Economics
3350	Home Economics: Food
3910	Geography
3920	World Development
4010	History
4150	European Studies
4410	Economics
4510	Humanities: Single
4610	Religious Studies
4730	Archaeology
4770	Law
4790	Logic/ Philosophy
4830	Government & Politics
4850	Psychology
4890	Sociology
4892	Anthropology
4910	Social Science: Citizenship
6500	Classics (General)
6510	Ancient History
6530	Classical Civilisation
7410	Accounting/Finance
7810	General Studies
7830	Critical Thinking
8000	Design & Technology
9020	D&T Food Technology
9050	D&T Textiles Technology
9060	D&T Systems & Control
9080	D&T Product Design

Arts

LEAP code	Subject Title
0001	Applied Art & Design
0012	Media: Communication & Production
0015	Performing Arts
3510	Art & Design
3550	Art & Design (Graphics)
3570	Art & Design (Photography)
3650	Art & Design (Textiles)
3670	Art & Design (3d Studies)
3680	Art & Design (Critical Studies)
3690	Art & Design (Fine Art)
3830	History of Art
5350	Media/Film/Tv Studies
5360	Film Studies
7010	Music
7040	Music Technology
7210	Physical Education/Sports Studies
7230	Dance