

extension studies



As part of being a full time student at Esher, students are required to choose an Extension Studies course in both the first and second year. Extension Studies provide an excellent way for students to develop wider skills and abilities such as team-working, problem-solving, creativity, critical thinking and the capacity to conduct independent research, all of which are greatly valued by both universities and employers. Taking part in Extension Studies therefore brings an important extra dimension to university or job applications by presenting other skills and qualities not always covered by core academic subjects.

For their first year Extension Studies course, students take a Complementary Study alongside their core A Level or BTEC subjects, choosing from a wide range of activities. For their second year Extension Studies course students select a Progression Pathway alongside their core A Level or BTEC subjects.

The Extension Studies courses usually consist of one or two lessons per week and are designed to complement students' academic studies and/or help students progress in their chosen path beyond Esher College.

Complementary Studies in the first year:

We offer a wide range of over 40 different Complementary Studies. Whether you want to take a course to aid your academic subjects, or use it as an opportunity to try something completely different, there is sure to be a course for you.

The list of course change every year. Here are a few of the courses that have been on offer in previous years:

- Duke of Edinburgh
- College Magazine
- Community Volunteers
- Young Enterprise
- Photography
- Competitive Sports Teams (Football, Rugby, Netball, Hockey & Basketball)
- College Production
- Book Club
- College Production Musicians
- Creative Writing
- Debating Society
- Humanity: A journey of Discovery
- Print Making
- Human Rights, Global issues & Cinema

- Jazz Workshop
- Music Technology
- Exploring Psychology
- Dance
- School Mentoring
- Spanish for Backpackers
- Theatre Workshop
- Community Sports Leader Award
- Film Forum
- Scuba Diving
- Pilates
- Psychology in Film
- Critical Thinking
- Contemporary Choir

When will I chose a Complementary Study?

Your Complementary Study course forms an important and compulsory part of your first year study programme. You will not need to make any Complementary Studies choices until enrolment at the start of the academic year. The Complementary Studies booklet, with the complete list of courses on offer, can be found under 'Admissions' on the College website from mid-July. At enrolment you will be asked to choose options for a Complementary Study on your new timetable. Most Complementary Studies are not examined, but some courses lead to a qualification.

Progression Pathways in the second year:

In the second year we offer a range of different Progression Pathways designed to boost your academic subjects and/or support your progression on from Esher College. Your Progression Pathway course forms an important and compulsory part of your second year study programme.

The list of courses is reviewed each year. Here are a few of the courses that have been on offered in previous years, some of which lead to a qualification:

- Extended Project Qualification
- Effective Listening Skills
- Introduction to Counselling Skills
- GCSE Latin
- Creative Arts Portfolio
- Academic Mentoring
- Thinking Critically
- Career Development
- Study Skills for Success

- AS Further Maths
- College Production
- Drama Audition Workshop
- Theatre Workshop
- Community and Higher Sports Leaders Award
- Sports Teams

What our students say about Extension Studies:

"Allows you to gain work experience to add to your CV." School Mentor Scheme

"It's very fun and engaging, really good experience with lots of fun whilst making friends." College Production Musicians

"I enjoyed it as it varied from my usual studies and allowed me to develop new skills and another language." Spanish for Backpackers

"Students should take this course as it is a fun way to meet new people and have some time away from academic studies." Team Hockey

"It was a great course - required quite a lot of your own work, extra time and dedication - but you get a great sense of achievement once it's done." Scuba Diving.

"This complementary allows you to explore your communication skills with the vulnerable and also helps you develop your time management skills, but mainly your confidence in dealing with strangers and being able to assist them." Community Volunteers

I felt that I gained confidence whilst leading as well as good information on warm up and cool downs whilst coaching/leading a session. It was extremely fun and I always felt relaxed attending the sessions. It's a great opportunity to meet new people and gain a qualification." Sports Leader Award

