

6.1 Extension Studies 2026-2027

PLAY

competitive
sport

EARN

new
qualifications

JOIN

a band or
student club

FIND

a new hobby
or interest

CHOOSE

an excellence
pathway



**85+ Enrichment Courses
to choose from**

Esher Sixth Form College 6.1 Extension Studies 2026-2027

Dear Student, Parents and Carers,

I am delighted to write to inform you of the 6.1 Extension Studies programme that all 6.1 students take part in.

Our Extension Studies programme is wide-ranging, and students choose a course alongside their core curriculum to complement their studies and aid their progression to university and employment or just, simply, to have fun! An Extension Study usually takes up one period on their timetable but some, such as Extended Project Qualification (EPQ) require two periods of commitment per week.

Types of Extension Study

We have two types of Extension Study in the first year: **short courses** that run for **one term** or **long courses** that run for **two terms**. Students can have two short courses or one long course on their timetable.

Taking an additional Extension Study

Where a student has an interest in and capacity to commit, they can add an additional Extension Study to their timetable in the second week of the autumn term. This could be a short or long course.

Most Extension Studies, except EPQ or Core Maths, finish at the end of the second term. Students who have two short courses, will begin a new course in January at the beginning of the second term.

How to select your course

Students are required to choose **six** Extension Studies they would be happy completing and we will work hard, timetable allowing, to ensure they get at least one of them. Please note that any of the six choices could be allocated to a student's timetable, so they must be happy with it as a choice.

All students should select **six** Extension Studies by accessing their online application area.

Details about each Extension Study are available in this document and also provides information about the key transferable skills that students will learn, things which universities and employers are particularly interested in.

Charges and costs

Most of our Extension Studies courses are free however a small number do incur a cost which will need to be paid by students. These include Duke of Edinburgh and Scuba Diving along with Sports Team affiliation costs. To remove financial barriers to taking part, the Duke of Edinburgh organisation can support students who meet certain criteria with some of the costs of completing the award. More information about this will be made available to students who select this option.

Details of our Duke of Edinburgh Gold Award and Scuba Diving course, sports team trials and college production audition are also included below.

Helen Humphreys

Director of Wider Learning

Duke of Edinburgh Gold Award

We would like to encourage as many students as possible to take part in our Duke of Edinburgh Gold Award scheme. Even if you have not done Duke of Edinburgh before, we are able to support you to register and achieve the award.



You can use other Extension Studies during your two years to complete different sections of your award. It will take you at least 12 months to complete the course and at least 18 months if you have not completed the Silver award.

What you need to do:

- **Volunteering:** 12 months.
- **Physical & Skills:** Choose one section to do for 12 months and the other for 6 months. (If you are a direct entrant, your longest section must last 18 months).
- **Expedition:** Plan, train for, and complete a 4-day, 3-night adventurous journey.
- **Residential:** A unique, Gold-only section where you undertake a shared activity in an unfamiliar setting away from home for 5 days and 4 nights, typically alongside people you don't know.



	Examples of Extension Studies and other activities that can help you achieve each stage of your Gold Duke of Edinburgh Award		
Volunteering	Community Volunteers	Student Ambassador	Student Mentor
Physical	Sports Team Membership		
Skills	LAMDA Public Speaking	LAMDA Speaking Prose and Verse	Long Creative courses e.g. Little Pottery Throwdown
	Leadership for Sixth formers Course	SCUBA diving	Long Music Courses e.g. Logic for Beginners, Band Membership

If you would like to complete Duke of Edinburgh, please choose it as **one of your six** Extension Studies and we will be in touch at the beginning of term with more details.

Sports Team Trials

Below is the information you will need if you wish to trial for a sports team here at Esher:

All students that want to take part in a team sport must complete the form.

[Esher Sports Teams Trials Sign Up – Fill in form](#)

Tuesday 1 September

Men's football surnames A-N – 10am-12pm – College 3G pitch

Men's football surnames M-Z – 12:30pm-2:30pm – College 3G pitch

Women's football – 2pm-4pm – College 3G pitch

Men's rugby – 2pm-4pm – College rugby pitch

Men's basketball – 2pm-4pm – College Sports Hall

Netball – 2pm-4pm – College netball courts

Hockey – 2pm-4pm – Old Cranleigh's hockey club

Monday 8 September

Women's rugby – select this as your first-choice extension, the trial will be your first training session on the 8th September

Women's basketball – select this as your first-choice extension, the trial will be your first training session on the 8th September.



College Production Auditions

Wednesday 26 August 2-4 pm in the Drama Studio



6.1 Extension Studies – course details

The list of courses follows below.

Please have a good look through to help you make your choices.

Remember you need to choose **six courses** that you are happy to take part in.

Sports and Fitness

Ball Sports

SHORT COURSE

Did you enjoy PE games at school and enjoy being active as part of a team? Then, this is the course for you. You will take part in a variety of different ball games including, but not limited to Futsal, dodgeball, handball, rounders, boules, pétanque, etc.

You will need to be in appropriate kit and enthusiastic about playing a variety of different games.

Five-a-side Goals League

SHORT COURSE

Esher Sixth Form College now has its own 5-a-side league! Gather your team and compete for glory in a fun, competitive environment. Whether you are a seasoned player or just looking to stay active, this league is the perfect chance to showcase your skills and enjoy the game.

All games will take place on the 3G Astroturf pitch. You will need suitable boots and appropriate kit in order to play.

Men's Basketball

LONG COURSE

The basketball squad competes in the Surrey Sixth Form Colleges league and also enters the Association of Colleges cup competition. The standard is high with many squad members playing at a high level for their club sides.

The team will have **one training session each week** and **play fixtures on a Wednesday afternoon**.

PE A Level students who intend to be assessed in this sport are expected to join the team.

Costs: Year one £85 Year two £45. All students in the squads for sports teams must pay a sports affiliation fee towards the costs of coach transport, match kit, match officials, and competition entries. You will also receive a warmup jacket.

You will need to attend trials to be part of the Basketball team.

Men's Football

LONG COURSE

The College has four football squads. The first team play in the Tactic League, and the others compete in the Surrey Sixth Form Colleges league as well as AoC and ESFA competitions. The standard within the squads is particularly high with many playing at a high level for their club sides.

The team will have **one training session each week** and **play fixtures on a Wednesday afternoon**.

PE A Level students who intend to be assessed in this sport are expected to trial but may not make the team. If this is the case, they must be playing for an external side.

Costs: Year one £85 Year two £45. All students in the squads for sports teams must pay a sports affiliation fee towards the costs of coach transport, match kit, match officials, and competition entries. You will also receive a warmup jacket.

You will need to attend trials to be part of a football team.

Men's Football Development
LONG COURSE

For players who do not make a squad, we have a development squad where you can train and enhance your range of skills and have the opportunity to apply these skills to a competitive situation. Players can also progress into the teams if they are committed and show promise.

To be a part of the development squad, you will need to attend trials.

Men's Rugby
LONG COURSE

The 1st XV competes in the Surrey Sixth Form Colleges league and also enters the Association of Colleges (AOC) cup competition and the national NatWest Schools Cup. There is also a regional 7's competition. The standard of play is high and many of the students involved play to a high standard for their club sides at the weekend.

The team will have one training session each week and play fixtures on a Wednesday afternoon.

PE A Level students who intend to be assessed in this sport are expected to join the team.

Costs: Year one £85 Year two £45. All students in the squads for sports teams must pay a sports affiliation fee towards the costs of coach transport, match kit, match officials, and competition entries. You will also receive a warmup jacket.

You will need to attend trials to be part of the rugby team.

Men's Rugby Development
LONG COURSE

For players who do not make the squad, and/or do not want to play competitively on Wednesdays, we have a development squad where you can train and enhance your range of skills and have the opportunity to apply these skills to a competitive situation. Players can also progress into the team if they are committed and show promise.

To be a part of the development squad, you will need to attend trials.

Mixed Hockey
LONG COURSE

The Colleges hockey team regularly against other schools and colleges on Wednesday afternoons in the Association of College's league. The team also compete in National cup competition for Men's, Women's and mixed teams. The standard is high with many squad members playing at a good level for their club sides.

The team will have one training session each week and play fixtures on a Wednesday afternoon.

PE A Level students who intend to be assessed in this sport are expected to join the team.

Costs: Year one £85 Year two £45. All students in the squads for sports teams must pay a sports affiliation fee towards the costs of coach transport, match kit, match officials, and competition entries. You will also receive a warmup jacket.

You will need to attend trials to be part of the hockey team.

Pickleball
SHORT COURSE

Pickleball is a paddle sport that combines elements of tennis, badminton and ping-pong. Played on a badminton-sized court with a modified tennis net, it uses paddles and a lightweight plastic ball and can be played as singles or doubles. Easy to pick up and low-impact, pickleball is a fun and social sport that's growing fast worldwide - discover everything you need to know and start playing today.

Pilates
SHORT COURSE

Pilates is a method of exercise named after its creator, Joseph Pilates.

Unlike an aerobic or high impact class, we give time to really emphasise good postural alignment, core strength and better breath control. It's a floor-based workout, on the mat, and will help you to improve your flexibility, strength, and give you greater body awareness.

Women's Basketball
LONG COURSE

We run a women's basketball squad who train once per week to develop essential skills, fitness and tactical awareness of the game.

We are keen to take on players of all ability levels and welcome those who want to try basketball for the first time.

There are some friendly fixtures throughout the year and also the Association of Colleges regional tournament that we enter.

Players are also eligible to play alongside the men in a mixed team.

PE A Level students who intend to be assessed in this sport are expected to join the team.

Women's Fitness
SHORT COURSE

Weekly circuits sessions give experienced and inexperienced students the opportunity to learn strength, conditioning and aerobic-fitness exercises in a well-equipped and safe environment. A combination of circuits, free-weights and plyometrics exercises in a group setting. Participants move through a series of different exercises, with short rest breaks between each exercise, and repeat the sequence. These sessions will improve strength and cardiovascular fitness by targeting various muscle groups.

You will need to be in appropriate kit each week and be prepared to sweat!

Women's Football
LONG COURSE

We run one Women's Football Team who compete in the Surrey Sixth Form Colleges league and also enter the ESFA and AoC national cup competitions. The standard of play is high, and most players also represent teams outside of college.

The team will have one training session each week and play fixtures on a Wednesday afternoon.

PE A Level students who intend to be assessed in this sport are expected to join the team.

Costs: Year one £85 Year two £45. All students in the squads for sports teams must pay a sports affiliation fee towards the costs of coach transport, match kit, match officials, and competition entries. You will also receive a warmup jacket.

You will need to attend trials to be part of the football team.

Women's Netball
COURSE

LONG

There are three netball squads who compete in the Surrey Sixth Form Colleges league and also enter the AoC national cup competition. The standard of play is very high and many of the players compete to a high standard outside of college.

The team will have one training session each week and play fixtures on a Wednesday afternoon.

PE A Level students who intend to be assessed in this sport are expected to join the team.

Costs: Year one £85 Year two £45. All students in the squads for sports teams must pay a sports affiliation fee towards the costs of coach transport, match kit, match officials, and competition entries. You will also receive a warmup jacket.

You will need to attend trials to be part of the netball team.

Women's Netball Development
LONG COURSE

We run a Netball Development Squad, which involves weekly training sessions but no requirement to play in Wednesday fixtures. You will develop a range of skills and have the opportunity to apply these skills to a competitive situation.

We are keen to take on players of all ability levels and welcome those who want to try netball for the first time!

To be a part of the development squad, you will need to attend trials.

Women's Rugby
LONG COURSE

The 1st XV competes in the Surrey Sixth Form Colleges league and also enters the Association of Colleges (AOC) cup competition. There is also a regional 7's competition.

The team will have one training session each week and play fixtures on a Wednesday afternoon.

PE A Level students who intend to be assessed in this sport are expected to join the team.

Costs: Year one £85 Year two £45. All students in the squads for sports teams must pay a sports affiliation fee towards the costs of coach transport, match kit, match officials, and competition entries. You will also receive a warmup jacket.

Workout**SHORT COURSE**

Workout is a designated session for students who wish to use the college's fitness suite to improve body conditioning and general health and fitness.

A qualified fitness instructor will help you with the design your programme and support you in the achievement of your goals.

There will be one session per week.

Humanities and Modern Foreign Languages

Ancient History

SHORT COURSE

Through studying a wide range of disparate sources this course will investigate the military and political history of ancient Greece and Rome.

The course will focus on turbulent events and periods: democratic Athens of the 6th -4th century BC, and the collapse of the Roman Republic in the late 1st century BC.

Brazilian Portuguese for Beginners

LONG COURSE

Bom dia! Tudo bem?

Learn the language of Brazil so that you can travel around a beautiful country and talk to some of the friendliest people in the world. You will develop a grasp of the language in greetings, daily activities, shopping and food, geography and culture.

THIS COURSE IS NOT SUITABLE FOR ANYONE WHO CAN ALREADY SPEAK SOME PORTUGUESE

Creative Writing

LONG COURSE

How might writing about your life change the way you live it? Choose Life Writing to find out. This is an eight-month writing project where I will ask you to put your thoughts, dreams and memories into words. You will choose, always, which of your writing pieces you shape, and when. Your writing might become personal essays, reflections, a diary or you may find you are beginning to turn your experiences into fiction.

There are some requirements:

- You need to be open to the challenges and demands of writing. We are not mimicking established forms and genres - the shape of your work and the way you express yourself must come from you, with the help of the group and from me.
- You must be able to listen to others and want to understand where they are coming from and be willing to write one piece a week.

No experience with writing necessary and you don't need to like English or see yourself as 'good' at it. Please note, you can't join this course late so you must select as first choice and be willing to commit to participating every week. So, what will become your material? It might be your reading, your vivid dreams, the people in your life. Maybe you already know the story you have to tell. Let's pick up a pen and see where the first sentence leads us. Anything is possible!

Debating Society

SHORT COURSE

A course for learning to refine your ability to argue persuasively and rigorously on a range of current affairs from freedom of speech to feminism to advances in science and technology. This will involve reading of some difficult articles, a willingness to speak publicly and engage respectfully with others with differing views.

There may be a chance to get involved with a debating competition outside of college as a result.

Economics Society

SHORT COURSE

Do you have an opinion of the economy and how it is currently being run? Do you read the news and have an interest in foreign affairs and what Mr Trump is up to?

Come join the Economic Society Club to learn more about these topics. There is an opportunity to meet people from industry to further broaden your appreciation for all things economics.

Introduction to Theology

SHORT COURSE

Through a rich theological investigation which blends insights from theological tradition with the work of literary masters, you will explore and debate some of life's big questions.

Expect interesting discussions, an exchange of ideas - both historical and contemporary - and a new way of seeing and thinking.

Develop new skills that will be useful in later life such as debating and critical thinking.

LAMDA Speaking Verse and Prose Grade 6
LONG COURSE

Love reading and performing and prepared to learn poems and passages by heart?

LAMDA Grade 6 qualification allows you the opportunity to perform a poem and prose extract from memory and sight read. You will learn about the use of body language, voice projection and modulation- all important skills in today's world!

LGBTQ+ Identity in Popular Culture
SHORT COURSE

On this course you will study the works of LGBTQ+ (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transsexual & Queer/Questioning) musicians, singers and performers from the early Twentieth Century through to the present day and consider how their musical output reflects wider shifts in societal attitudes - from prejudice and discrimination to acceptance and inclusion.

We will also look at 'gay friendly' musical artists who are regarded as influential and iconic, from an LGBTQ+ perspective.

Artists and musicians you will learn about include Judy Garland, David Bowie, Culture Club and Boy George, Queen and Freddie Mercury, The Pet Shop Boys, Madonna, Lady Gaga and Chappell Roan, amongst others! This will include listening to songs, watching videos, reading up on the background of performers and analysing song lyrics.

There will also be an opportunity for you to research your own chosen area of LGBTQ+ music and present your findings to the class. Come along and get knowledgeable about this fascinating and fabulous topic!

Model United Nations
LONG COURSE

Model United Nations (also known as simply "MUN") is an educational activity where students participate in a simulation of bodies within the United Nations system. Participants research a country, take roles as diplomats, investigate international issues, deliberate, consult, lead discussion and then develop solutions to world issues. You should have an interest in international affairs.

Throughout the year, we will cover contemporary political, economic, media, environmental, health, scientific and human rights issues affecting the entire world. The breadth of issues covered should allow you to take a lead on issues that are of most interest to you no matter what your subject combinations are. Skills developed on this course include teamwork, leadership, strategic thinking, technical writing and speech making.

Money Expert
SHORT COURSE

Do you want to become a money expert?

What do you really know about money and how it can and will affect you in the future?

This course aims to grow your knowledge and understanding of bank accounts, insurance, savings, student loans, mortgages, as well as build your understanding of financial literacy. It serves to help with those difficult decisions in life and make life more manageable.

Young Enterprise
LONG COURSE

The Young Enterprise competition is a premier UK enterprise program where students form and run real businesses. It challenges students to develop products, manage finances, and compete in local, regional, and national finals. It also aims to build employability and team working skills, perfect for Higher Education and future employment.

Life Skills and Wellbeing

Become a Smarter Learner with AI

SHORT COURSE

Discover how AI can genuinely improve the way you learn by testing the latest tools, sharing ideas with other students, and investigating what actually works. Throughout the course you'll experiment with AI for revision, organisation, understanding difficult topics and exam preparation, before helping create The Esher Student AI Playbook for future students. This is a practical, discussion-based course where your experiences and discoveries shape the programme—no prior knowledge of AI required, just curiosity and a willingness to explore.

Allotment Skills & Sustainability Programme

LONG COURSE

This programme develops practical horticultural, ecological, and sustainability skills through a year-long allotment-based learning experience. Students build competence in soil science, crop production, propagation, pest management, composting systems, biodiversity, and environmental stewardship. The course follows the full plant lifecycle and includes data tracking, reflective practice, and student-led growing responsibility.

Card Games and Clever Play

SHORT COURSE

Unlock the strategy, skill and social fun behind classic and modern card games in this fast-paced, hands-on short course. Whether you're already a casual player or you've never picked up a deck before, this course shows you how card games blend logic, psychology, probability and teamwork in ways that are genuinely exciting. You'll learn the essentials of popular games such as Uno, Blackjack, Rummy, President, Mao, and Speed, exploring how each game rewards different strengths—quick thinking, bluffing, memory, pattern-spotting and tactical decision-making. Along the way, you'll pick up real skills: reading opponents, calculating odds, managing risk, and making confident strategic choices under pressure. Perfect for students who enjoy competition, strategy, creativity, or simply want a fun, social way to sharpen their thinking!

Chess for Beginners and Improvers

SHORT COURSE

Whether you're a complete beginner or seeking to break through a rating plateau, this course sets you on a rewarding chess journey! This course provides a solid foundation for beginners and improvers and is a way to develop your skills. Here are the key aspects covered:

- ✓ Rules and Setup: Learn how to set up the 8x8 chessboard, understand piece movements, and grasp the objective of the game.
- ✓ Piece Movements: Explore how each piece (king, queen, rook, bishop, knight, and pawn) moves. Understand capturing and the concept of checkmate.
- ✓ Basic Tactics: Discover essential tactics like forks, pins, and skewers. These strategies enhance your gameplay and help you gain an advantage.
- ✓ Checkmate Patterns: Practice common checkmating patterns. Recognize opportunities to deliver checkmate and win the game.

Community Volunteers

LONG COURSE

This activity is particularly suitable for those thinking of entering the caring professions such as teaching, medicine or nursing. It involves going out into the community to help in local hospitals, local care homes, nurseries and schools. Placements typically involve spending a minimum of one and a half hours working and assisting with various tasks: In schools you may be asked to help children with reading, sports, art, drama etc., or to help the teacher prepare materials for class use or clear up after a class.

In care homes you may be asked to talk with the old people or help to organise social activities. In a hospital you may be asked to work as a dining companion, assisting ward staff and patients during mealtimes.

Students will follow a short induction course with talks from caring professionals and will start their placements after October half-term with a weekly check-in back in college with a member of staff.

Data analysis with spreadsheets

SHORT COURSE

Master the power of data in this practical, career-boosting course. We will cover core spreadsheet skills, then move beyond the basics to explore practical applications including data management, financial modelling, and statistics. This is an informal space to develop skills that will serve you well further studies in subjects like Economics, Business, Psychology, and in your future workplace. The focus is on applying these tools to real-world scenarios in a clear, straightforward way. It is suitable for all students with no prior experience in spreadsheets or data analysis required.

Exploring Apprenticeships

SHORT COURSE

Understand the concept and benefits of apprenticeships. Explore different types of apprenticeships and industries. Learn how to research apprenticeship opportunities effectively. Develop essential application materials, such as CVs and cover letters. Enhance interview skills and techniques specific to apprenticeship interviews. Navigate the apprenticeship application process from start to finish. Utilise networking and outreach strategies to find apprenticeship opportunities.

Extended Project Qualification (EPQ)

LONG COURSE

The Extended Project Qualification (EPQ) is an opportunity for you to carry out a research project in an area that interests you. The qualification is highly regarded by universities and completing the qualification will help you to develop and evidence your skills of planning, research, time management and self-reflection.

There are two ways to achieve an EPQ qualification:

- Write a 5,000-word report based on your research
- Create an artefact (e.g. a fashion piece, a film, a song) and a written report based on your research

With either option you must also document how your project develops in a logbook and give a presentation about your project.

If you are very keen to explore an area of interest in a subject further, or explore links between the subjects you study, then this is for you. **You must have high degree of self-motivation, be able to work independently and be willing to carry out extensive research.**

6th Form Leadership – from Participant to Pioneer

LONG COURSE

In a world shaped by AI, and rapid change, one skill stands out: human connection. Today's leaders aren't defined by titles - they're defined by Emotional Intelligence (EQ).

Leadership is not a destination you reach someday—it is a mindset you practice every single day. On this course you have the opportunity to grow the skills and the confidence required to move from being a participant in someone else's story to being the pioneer of your own.

You don't have to be the loudest in the room to lead. Gain the confidence to lead teams, projects, and discussions. Build skills employers value: Initiative, Influence, and Commitment under pressure. Learn practical tools from leaders in business, sport, and the military.

The journey from who you are to who you are meant to be starts with the decision to take ownership of your potential. Sign up today and begin your journey from Participant to Pioneer!

Lego Challenge

SHORT COURSE

Do you love making things? Challenging yourself creatively? Or just looking for something fun, relaxed and friendly? Lego Challenge might be for you.

Each week, you'll be set construction tasks both individually and in teams, putting your imagination to the test.

You don't need to be an expert, just bring along your ideas and energy and we'll provide the bricks. You'll meet similar people and build something amazing together from the ground up – one brick at a time!

Listening Skills Level 2 Certificate

LONG COURSE

Develop your listening skills and achieve a nationally recognised qualification that is useful for careers that involve interpersonal skills.

- Learn basic counselling skills (listening and responding skills) in helping roles
- Find out more about counselling (this qualification won't teach you to be a counsellor, but may help you decide whether or not you want to train as one);
- Improve professional and personal relationships

Money Expert

SHORT COURSE

Do you want to become a money expert?

What do you really know about money and how it can and will affect you in the future?

This course aims to grow your knowledge and understanding of bank accounts, insurance, savings, student loans, mortgages, as well as build your understanding of financial literacy. It serves to help with those difficult decisions in life and make life more manageable.

Mindfulness Masterpieces

SHORT COURSE

Looking for a way to switch off, relax, and get creative? Mindful Masterpieces offers the perfect opportunity to unwind while bringing a design to life through paint-by-numbers. No experience is needed – just a willingness to try something new and enjoy the process. As you paint, you will watch your artwork come together step by step. It's a great way to reset, clear your mind, and spend time in a calm, welcoming space. This experience can help reduce stress, boost your mood, and promote mindfulness. You should leave the sessions feeling relaxed, accomplished and something you can be truly proud of – your very own finished masterpiece

Race around the World- Student Edition

SHORT COURSE

If you're curious about travel, fascinated by different cultures, or dreaming of a future Gap Year, this course is built for you. *Race Across the World – Student Edition* turns global exploration into a challenge where smart planning, teamwork and creativity matter more than speed.

Just like the TV series, you'll be racing to a final destination and hitting checkpoints along the way — but you'll be doing it virtually. Each week is a new leg of the journey, a new country to crack, and a fresh set of obstacles to navigate. You won't be eliminated for coming last, but you *will* need to level up your planning skills to stay competitive.

There's one big twist: **no flying allowed**. You'll have to figure out how to cross continents using only land and sea transport, all while staying within a tight budget that also covers food and accommodation. Expect to compare routes, juggle costs, and make tough decisions about time versus money.

You'll work in pairs or small teams to design your travel plan for each leg, using maps, real transport options, and cultural research to build the most efficient and realistic route. Each week you'll produce a record of your journey — maps, timelines, images, highlights — creating a travel log that shows exactly how you made it from checkpoint to checkpoint. This course is perfect if you want adventure, strategy, teamwork and a taste of what real independent travel feels like. It's fun, competitive, and gives you skills you can actually use in the real world.

Scuba Diving

LONG COURSE

“Because the Surface of the Ocean is the beginning of the Sky”

If you've ever snorkelled and been frustrated that you can't go down to the Octopuses Garden, then maybe you might want to take the opportunity to learn to scuba dive and obtain your PADI Open Water Certification which will give you the knowledge and skills needed to remain safe as you experience your first breaths underwater. It could lead to a lifestyle change, or just a lot of fun!

The course comprises: theory, taught through weekly lessons in college as part of your timetable; Confined Water Training to develop skills in a safe swimming pool environment. This comprises 6 sessions on Wednesday evenings at Scuba

Academy in Tolworth; four Open Water Dives at Wraysbury Dive Centre where you will demonstrate your skills over 2 days in a real environment. Practical training is provided by 5* Aquanaut Dive School <http://www.aquanautscuba.co.uk/>
All scuba students must complete a medical self-assessment questionnaire and commit to all planned sessions. Don't worry, you haven't been alive long enough to have most of medical exclusions! You don't have to be a fantastic swimmer as long as you are confident in the water and not claustrophobic. If you need more information before committing, then please email [naglennard@esher.ac.uk](mailto:neglennard@esher.ac.uk).

Costs: £410 includes all tuition, kit hire and certification. This is more than £200 less than dive school costs for the same course!

Additional Costs – Entrance to Wraysbury Dive Centre for your Open Water in June (approx. £15 per day) and air fills (approx. £21) paid directly to WDC on the day.

The course continues to be extremely popular, we have certified more than 400 students since we started the programme with a success rate of more than 90%.

This course is frequently oversubscribed, so please do not select this unless you have discussed the costs and commitment with your parent/guardian otherwise you are likely to disappoint other students for whom the course is full.

Maths, Science and IT

Contemporary Geographical Issues

SHORT COURSE

Ever heard of the Kuril Islands or wondered what life is like in Jammu and Kashmir?

If you are interested in extending your knowledge and have a desire to find out more about geographical issues and unusual places, then this class could be just what you are looking for.

Each week you will investigate a part of the world or an issue and develop your skills of analysis and evaluation using a range of resources.

Crest Award Chemistry

LONG COURSE

The Crest Award in Chemistry is an exciting opportunity for students to explore the world of chemistry beyond the classroom. It encourages hands-on experiments, creative thinking, and real-life problem solving.

By participating, students get to investigate interesting chemical concepts, develop practical skills, and earn a recognized award that celebrates their curiosity and achievements in science.

It's a great way to deepen your understanding and show your passion for chemistry! Crest awards are recognised by Universities and employers and can enhance your application particularly in STEM fields.

Introduction to Forensic and Criminal Psychology

SHORT COURSE

Ever wondered what drives people to commit crime, how offenders are identified, or whether criminals are born or made?

This course explores the science behind crime and criminal behaviour, combining insights from psychology, criminology and forensic investigation. You will examine how psychologists explain offending behaviour, investigate the minds of psychopaths, and discover how offender profiling is used to help solve crimes. Alongside this, you'll explore real forensic techniques, including fingerprint analysis, blood pattern analysis, and the role of forensic botany and toxicology in criminal investigations. The course also considers the ongoing debate over whether rehabilitation or punishment is the most effective response to crime. Throughout, you'll engage with real-life case studies and research, developing critical thinking and analytical skills that are valuable for university study and beyond. This course is ideal for students with an interest in Psychology, Criminology, Law, Policing, Forensic Science, or any career involving the investigation and understanding of human behaviour.

An introduction to Neurodiversity

SHORT COURSE

In this short course we will explore the history of neurodiversity and their types, psychological and social dynamics, sensory processing and simulations, applications in the workplace, and considerations for further research.

The Female Factor

SHORT COURSE

Did you know that most medical research has been done on male bodies—and then just applied to women? That means a lot of what we know about health doesn't fully reflect how female bodies actually work. But here's the truth: women's bodies are different, and they deserve their own spotlight.

In this short course, we'll explore how things like food, exercise, sleep, and mental health affect women differently. We'll also talk about the menstrual cycle, hormones, and the different types of contraception available. This course is all about learning how the female body works, clearing up common myths, and helping you feel confident and empowered when it comes to your health.

Computer Game Design

LONG COURSE

This Extension Study will introduce 6.1 students to basic computer game development using GameMaker 2. Students will create simple mini games through the Drag and Drop system, rather than coding, with a focus on designing sprites and visual assets, building rooms, creating objects, adding events, and controlling movement, collisions, scoring, lives and game flow.

The course is best suited to students with some design ability, as they will be expected to generate and develop their own visual ideas. Students will develop skills in sprite design, pixel art, room layout, object creation, simple game mechanics, testing, refinement and presentation, while also considering how visual design decisions affect gameplay and user experience.

Mathematical Studies (Core Maths)

LONG COURSE (TILL JUNE 2027)

The course focuses on numerical, statistical, financial and problem-solving skills in maths, which will help with mathematical and statistical content in subjects such as Biology, Psychology, Economics, Business Studies and Geography.

There is a reduced emphasis on algebra, although you will still be working with formulae. You will practise familiar number skills such as percentages and decimals, and useful new ones like Fermi Estimations. You will also learn how to compute income tax, national insurance and different kinds of interest rates. The statistics content consists of Normal Distribution, Correlation, Regression and Estimation.

Students who enjoyed maths at GCSE and achieved a grade 5 or above and would like another qualification in maths. The course is excellent preparation for managing your personal finances and good preparation for degrees with an element of statistics.

Core Maths is taught over two lessons per week, and the final assessment will be by examination in the summer term.

Students must note that the course is examined and preparation for the exam in summer is crucial.

The course is **not available** to current students of A Level Mathematics

Maths Behind Physics and Engineering.

LONG COURSE

Students will explore topics such as electrical circuits, motion, fields, waves, and data analysis, developing the skills required for success at university level.

The focus is on understanding, application, and problem-solving, rather than rote learning, making it an excellent preparation for higher education.

Recommended entry requirements:

Students should be studying A-level Mathematics and A-level Physics, or have a strong background in both subjects. This course is particularly suitable for students who enjoy problem-solving and mathematical reasoning, are confident with algebra and basic calculus and are interested in Physics, Engineering, or related STEM degrees.

Maths Curiosity Shop

SHORT COURSE

If you are interested in Mathematics and considering studying Mathematics at university, this is the course for you!

In this course, we will look at some Mathematical concepts that you're likely to see in an undergraduate course, including elementary number theory and an insight into why some calculus works.

Psychology in Film

SHORT COURSE

This course is for students who are interested in Psychology and in exploring themes such as attachment theory, memory and mental illness through the medium of film. Examples of films to be screened include Memento, Shutter Island and We Need To Talk About Kevin, as well as documentaries such as Bowling for Columbine.

This course may also be of interest to Film Studies students, as we will discuss the narrative structure of these films, as well as how the medium represents stereotypical assumptions about abnormality.

PyGame**LONG COURSE**

Unlock your inner developer and bring your ideas to life with our Pygame course. This course is designed for those who already have some experience with coding in any language and are looking to apply that logic to the world of game development. It is an informal, project-focused environment where we will bridge the gap between basic syntax and functional software, exploring mechanics, physics, and interactive design. If you are keen to move beyond theory and start building playable projects to bolster your portfolio, this is the perfect space to stretch your skills.

Robotics and Electronics**LONG COURSE**

Get hands-on with technology in this practical workshop. We start by exploring robotics and control systems, where you will build and programme your own mobile robot vehicle, before moving on to design electronic systems for everything from audio processing to automated controls. This is a low-pressure environment perfect for anyone interested in how things work under the hood. You do not need any previous knowledge of electronics or engineering to get involved; we provide all the guidance and equipment you need to start building.

Creative and Performing Arts

College Band LONG COURSE

Great for any student wishing to be in a Popular Music or Rock band. This is a great opportunity to work within a group of likeminded musicians in order to improve your technique and have fun!

Highly suitable for those students looking to study a music related degree at university. Ability to play guitar, bass, drums, keyboard, or sing required.

Performances occur throughout the year at Open Mic, Canteen Gigs, Events and Open Evening. Opportunities to perform with the wider community are also available.

College Production SHORT COURSE

The College Production is a production of a play which can include ensemble work, dance and music. This course offers the opportunity to creatively collaborate with other students, gain experience in performing and develop skills such as teamwork and communication. In addition to the 2 periods timetabled on Wednesday afternoons, there are some additional rehearsals, which take place outside of college hours. We pride ourselves on a high standard of production and therefore expect 100% attendance and commitment.

Our productions usually perform over 3 evenings to an invited audience. In previous productions, many students have been involved on stage, backstage or in creating the costumes and set. Any student can audition to become part of the company as an actor, dancer or singer.

If you are interested in College Production you must attend **the Audition Workshop on Wednesday 26th August 2-p.m.** the Drama Studio. There is no preparation required - you will be asked to work in groups and perform some scripted extracts. We use this to manage numbers and help select which course would be better suited to you. We will then be able to confirm if you have a place in the College Production or the Theatre Workshop.

College Production Pit Band LONG COURSE

A collaborative opportunity to create music to support the college production play.

The themes of the play are decided in advance. Rehearsals take the form of devising sessions which can use improvisation.

Ability to sing or play an instrument required and ideally read music. Please note you could be on stage for some of the performance

Crafting Club SHORT COURSE FROM JANUARY 2027

Our Crafting Club is a friendly, relaxed space for anyone who loves to create with their hands. Whether you're a complete beginner or an experienced maker, the club allows you to explore a variety of crafts while sharing ideas, skills, and inspiration.

Sessions may include sewing, decoupage, scrapbooking, sketching, painting, journaling, and making keyrings, with plenty of opportunity to experiment and work at your own pace. Your input will affect what we cover in our sessions, so don't be shy to share your thoughts and ideas. You may bring your own projects or try something new in a supportive, social environment.

Above all, the club is about creativity and enjoyment, taking time to slow down and enjoy the process together!

Develop your Creativity SHORT COURSE

Covering Art, Music, literature, Performance, & Film, this term long programme is an introduction to idea generation and development techniques across a range of disciplines. No specialist knowledge is needed, just an interest in exploring creativity through practical exercises and illustrated talks to help unlock your creative potential. Discover and experiment with process and approaches used by painters, designers, writers, musicians, performers, film makers, etc. to unlock original and innovative ideas and outcomes.

Exploring Drawing

SHORT COURSE

This complementary study will allow you to explore and experiment with a range of different drawing techniques. You will create a collection of drawings using a range of media and approaches. It will enable you to develop your drawing skills through practising with a variety of traditional and contemporary media and subject matter.

The course is suitable for all levels from those who have little experience of drawing through to those who are possibly studying a creative subject as part of their programme of study. You will create a sketchbook of portrait drawings which will be a fantastic addition to your portfolio and a valuable addition to your application if you are intending to study on an Art Foundation or Degree course in the future.

Great Esher Sewing Bee

SHORT COURSE

Do you wish you could sew? Then come and learn!

You will be designing and creating a personalised cushion, which will build your confidence with the sewing machines and great for a personal handmade Christmas gift. You will then move on to a pair of shortie PJ bottoms.

Once you have gained confidence with the sewing machine, you can then start to upcycle or recycle your own clothes.

No prior sewing skills are necessary. We will start you from the beginning. Equally, if you already have sewing skills, you can learn more advanced skills and more complicated processes and techniques.

Illustration Workshop

SHORT COURSE

This workshop will help to broaden your understanding of illustration using traditional printing techniques, drawing, painting and collage.

You will gain experience using specialist techniques, tools and materials within a fun and engaging environment.

This course would suit any student who will be studying on any creative course as it will supplement the portfolio and improve understanding of methods, printing and composition/layout skills.

It is also open to any student who would like to develop a new skill and learn more about this artistic pathway. No previous experience necessary!

Grade 5 Music theory

LONG COURSE

A course in reading and writing music aimed at singers and instrumentalists who need to take the Grade 5 music theory exam in order to progress to a Grade 6 practical exam.

Course requirement for Music A level students.

Opportunity to take the exam using one of the music department practice rooms.

Weekly lessons cover music clefs, notating rhythms, chords and cadences, ornamentation and musical terminology.

Jazz Band

LONG COURSE

A workshop style rehearsal slot each week for you to learn to play Jazz in a fun and practical environment. It will include improvisation practice and development of skills for all players.

You need to be able to read music and have an ability to play from memory/by ear is also an asset.

Performances take place each half term at regular performance events such as Open Mic, Concerts and Recitals, Introduction Evening, Open Evening and Performance Tour.

Regular attendance is important for the ensemble to blend and develop. All participants must come ready and prepared to play each week.

Little Pottery Throwdown

SHORT COURSE (SEPTEMBER -DECEMBER) and LONG COURSE (SEPTEMBER – MARCH)

Learn about the properties of clay, and how to work with it. You'll be taught hand-building techniques, sculpting, modelling, and creating detailed and textured surfaces.

You'll create pinch pots, sculptures, and tiles, and learn coil building and slap construction. You will also have plenty of opportunity to create works of your own choosing, once you've developed your skills.

This course will teach you to visualise and create a 3D outcome. Alongside helping you to develop fine motor skills, plan and carry out a project, and create detailed work.

These sessions will enable you to create outcomes which could form part of your coursework submission for any creative A Levels you are studying and could also be added to your portfolio work if you wish to apply for an art foundation course or an art degree.

This course would suit any student who will be studying on any creative course, but it is also open to any student who enjoys art. No experience necessary - just bring your imagination and get ready to sculpt and shape your own unique clay masterpieces!

Mixed Media

SHORT COURSE

Mixed media is a work of art that uses more than one medium. Students will have the opportunity to explore a wide range of printing techniques whilst using mixed media.

Students will learn to experiment and express themselves; by utilising techniques with print making and mixed media, this allows them to have creative freedom and explore limitless possibilities. Mixed media encourages students to combine various materials—such as paints/spray paint, pastels, inks, collage elements, and found objects—into a single artwork, fostering creativity and problem-solving skills. In this workshop, students will be exploring texture, colour, and composition in diverse and unexpected ways.

Music Technology Logic for Beginners

LONG COURSE

This is a course for any Music Technology students and musicians who want to learn a more detailed approach to using the Digital Audio Workstation Logic X which we run in the college's Music Department Mac Suite, M006.

Paint and Sip

SHORT COURSE

Unwind and tap into your creative side at our Paint and Sip sessions. This is a purely relaxed, informal opportunity to step away from your studies, socialise, and enjoy a creative activity in a low-pressure environment. Whether you are an experienced artist or have never picked up a brush before, this session is all about experimenting and enjoying the process—no prior experience is required, and all materials are provided. Come along to express yourself, have a chat, enjoy a hot drink and enjoy some time away from the screen to create something unique.

Photography

SHORT COURSE

Photography surrounds us and is now more a part of everyone's life than it ever was before. So why not learn how to create beautiful images and be a better image maker?

We cover the fundamental basics of exposure and composition in the first term, lots of practical shooting with digital SLR cameras in groups and a chance to meet new friends. You will start to look at postproduction, using Photoshop and learning tricks of the photographic trade! By the end of the course, you will have a good understanding of digital cameras, Photoshop, and you will have created your own photographic portfolio. You do not need any of your own kit or experience – just a passion for photography!

This course is not suitable for those studying A Level Photography.

Photography darkroom
SHORT COURSE

The darkroom sessions will aim to enhance student understanding of earlier photographic development processes and give an exciting introduction to the darkroom environment.

This course is suited to those students who have experience in photography and working an SLR camera. This would be an ideal choice for students thinking about continuing photography after Esher and those that would like to experience a hands-on process week by week.

You will be able to expand on previous photographic knowledge and gain additional skills and get creative with alternative camera-free processes such as photograms and cyanotypes. The use of black and white 35mm film will also be included allowing students to process their own and develop photographs in a traditional manner.

Ramberts Dance Grade 6
SHORT COURSE

Rambert Grades is a new contemporary dance course which has been developed by the world's leading contemporary dance organisations, Rambert School and Rambert Dance Company.

At Esher College we are offering Level 3 Grade 6 with the option to be examined and achieve UCAS points. The grading system is fresh and unique, in that students are assessed over three areas - technical, creative, and performance.

Students should have some dance background (although this could be in a different dance style e.g. ballet). Rambert Grades is committed to being accessible and inclusive.

Seasons by Number
SHORT COURSE

Connect with the seasons whilst connecting with the canvas, number by number!

This will be ideal for students who look forward to a session of calmness and mindfulness within their week-

You will be given the painting by number kits and throughout the course. The images you paint will change seasonally - number by number, bring the seasons alive with colour!

Theatre Workshop
SHORT COURSE

Theatre Workshop is focused on acting and developing performance skills and usually ends with a performance of extracts or a short play to an invited audience. There is the opportunity to explore different genres and styles of theatre through practical workshops.

You will work creatively together with the support of second year student directors. In the lead up to a performance, some additional rehearsals outside of the 2 periods timetabled will be scheduled to ensure a high standard of production and we expect students to be committed.

If you are interested, you must attend **the Audition Workshop on Wednesday 26th August 2-p.m.** in the Drama Studio. There is no preparation required - you will be asked to work in groups and perform some scripted extracts. We use this to manage numbers and help select which course would be better suited to you. We will then be able to confirm if you have a place in the College Production or the Theatre Workshop.

Zinemaking
SHORT COURSE

A Zine is a self-published magazine that can be about any topic, from personal stories and poetry to activism and fan art. Zines are part of a subculture of independent media that challenges mainstream narratives and values, having a long history of being used by marginalised groups to create their own spaces and communities. They are also fun and creative, allowing you to experiment with different formats, styles, and materials. The Beginner's Zinemaking Extension Studies course is perfect for creative students who have great ideas and enjoy sharing them. You will discover different types of zines, styles, and techniques, create your own original content, use various tools and software for your zine design and layout, and learn how to print and bind your zines in a way that suits your work best. This will help you to express your creativity and communicate your ideas, whether you are making zines for fun, for activism, or for your own personal brand.

