

**Post 16
Super-curricular
Activities
September 2025-July 2026**



Tuxford Academy Super curricular resources (A level)

Super-curricular resources are additional resources going beyond (but linked to) your A level syllabus.



They're key to demonstrating your curiosity for a subject and vital for challenging and stretching your thinking at A level. They're equally useful for your personal statement, particularly if you're applying to Russell Group Universities or to Oxford or Cambridge.

You don't have to do/listen/read everything below that your subject teacher has suggested but whatever you do, please make a note of it on Unifrog, together with a sentence summarising what it was about and your thoughts (e.g. what's the argument/what do I think/how can I find out more? Yes you can disagree with what is being argued but make sure you make a note of your reasons!). This will help you when you start writing your personal statement/prepare for interviews.

Your local library is a fantastic resource-if your subject is recommending reading a book (or chapter), you don't have to buy them. Put in a request with your local library and they should be able to find it for you to borrow.

As well as subject specific resources, some apply to every/all subjects:

-HE+ (University of Cambridge)

-Oxplere (www.oxplere.org)-Big questions

-Unitasterdays.com (<https://www.unitasterdays.com/ondemand>)- videos explaining a range of different university subjects (from accounting to vet science) including reasons for studying the subject, what to expect when studying it, future career opportunities and applications tips).

Cambridge: Great super curricular resources

https://www.undergraduate.study.cam.ac.uk/files/publications/super-curricular_suggestions.pdf

Oxford: Great advice and resources for super curricular from Oxford [https://www.univ.ox.ac.uk/applying-to-univ/explore-your-](https://www.univ.ox.ac.uk/applying-to-univ/explore-your-subject/#:~:text=Super%2Dcurricular%20activities%20are%20those,about%20a%20new%20topic%20altogether.)

[subject/#:~:text=Super%2Dcurricular%20activities%20are%20those,about%20a%20new%20topic%20altogether.](https://www.univ.ox.ac.uk/applying-to-univ/explore-your-subject/#:~:text=Super%2Dcurricular%20activities%20are%20those,about%20a%20new%20topic%20altogether.)



Art and Photography:



Virtual Art Gallery Tours:

- <https://www.nottinghamcontemporary.org/record/virtually-visit-us/>
- <https://britishmuseum.withgoogle.com/>
- <https://artsandculture.google.com/story/mgVBDunxd5wXLw?hl=en>
- <https://artsandculture.google.com/partner/national-portrait-gallery>
- <https://artsandculture.google.com/partner/solomon-r-guggenheim-museum>
- <https://artsandculture.google.com/partner/rijksmuseum>
- <https://artsandculture.google.com/partner/musee-dorsay-paris>
- <https://www.nationalgallery.org.uk/visiting/virtual-tours#/central-hall/>
- <https://www.louvre.fr/en/online-tours>
- <https://www.theguardian.com/travel/2020/mar/23/10-of-the-worlds-best-virtual-museum-and-art-gallery-tours>
- <https://www.tate.org.uk/art>
- <https://www.moma.org/audio/playlist/289#stops>

General Arts:

- <https://www.nga.gov/learn/kids-app.html?fbclid=IwAR3g-1pSVCxNGXmpzsa8gkD9C4p8fSpcjGebLFnDWR0FBW0EwEpCKhrShs>
- https://www.metmuseum.org/art/online-features/metkids/?fbclid=IwAR2Q_KF_LsJrSDMot_fiHuZW-Oonj_-8bBVPM4hCIE45PahV8Aw9yZlwbmg
- <https://artsology.com/?fbclid=IwAR2QkqJKGEmVLilwXtOGsKluGgeQL6GXm0z3JRw07L19vv98lv0IpEYuxA>
- <http://www.kidsthinkdesign.org/>
- <https://www.instagram.com/p/B-MwhkHn4Yp/>
- <https://theartyteacher.com/>
- <https://www.tate.org.uk/kids>
- <https://color.method.ac>
- <https://www.paulcarneyarts.com/online-drawing-home>
- <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/z6hs34i>
- <https://www.ted.com/topics/art>

Visit:

Lincoln Usher Gallery
Nottingham Contemporary
Yorkshire Sculpture Park
Sheffield Millenium Gallery
Tate Modern
Tate Britain
Tate Liverpool
National Portrait Gallery
White Cube Gallery
Saatchi Gallery



Biology:



Websites

1. <http://www.ibiblio.org/virtualcell/index.htm> – An interactive cell biology site
2. <http://www.dnai.org/a/index.html> – Explore the genetic code
3. <http://nobelprize.org> – Details of the history of the best scientific discoveries
4. <http://nature.com> – The site of the scientific journal
5. <http://royalsociety.org> – Podcasts, news and interviews with scientists about recent scientific developments
6. <http://www.nhm.ac.uk> – The London Natural History Museum's website with lots of interesting educational material
7. <http://www.bmj.com> – The website of the British Medical Journal
8. http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/science_and_environment - The BBC news page for Science and the Environment

Magazines

Biological sciences review

Big Picture

Books

Charles Darwin: The origin of species

Armand Marie Leroi: Mutants: On the Form, Varieties and Errors of the Human Body

David S. Goodsell: The Machinery of Life

Ernst Mayr: This Is Biology: The Science of the Living World

George C. Williams: Plan and Purpose in Nature

Steve Pinker: The Language Instinct

Edward O Wilson: The Diversity of Life

Richard Leaky: The Origin of Humankind

Bill Bryson: A Short History of Nearly Everything

Oliver Sachs: The Man Who Mistook His Wife For A Hat

Daniel Chamovitz: What A Plant Knows



Business:



Podcasts:

- <https://senecalearning.com/en-GB/blog/business-a-level-podcasts-by-seneca/>
- <https://podcasts.apple.com/gb/podcast/revise-a-level-business-revision/id1458824182>
- <https://www.tutor2u.net/business/blog/business-and-economics-podcasts-to-try>
- <http://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b006sz6t>
- <http://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b006s609>

Websites:

- www.tutor2u.net/business
- <http://www.bized.com/>
- <http://www.economist.com/>
- <http://www.economicsuk.com/>
- <http://www.bankofengland.co.uk/>
- <http://www.ft.com/>
- <http://www.bloomberg.com/>
- <http://www.moneyweek.com/>
- <http://www.guardian.co.uk/>
- <http://www.moneyweek.com/>
- <http://www.statistics.gov.uk/>

Other resources:

- Takingthebiz on Youtube
- Econplusdal on Youtube
- TED talks on YouTube
- <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/business>
- <http://www.beebusinessbee.co.uk/>
- <http://www.learnmarketing.net/>
- <http://www.telegraph.co.uk/business/>
- <http://www.guardian.co.uk/business>
- <http://www.independent.co.uk/news/business>



Chemistry:

Websites:

- <https://what-if.xkcd.com/>
e.g. Would a toaster still work in the freezer? How many fireflies would it take to match the brightness of the sun? 'What if?' takes a look at some absurd hypothetical questions and gives serious scientific answers to them.
- <https://www.rsc.org/journals-books-databases/a-z-resources-list/>
Explore Chemistry with the oldest chemical society in the world!

Podcasts:

<https://senecalearning.com/en-GB/blog/chemistry-a-level-podcasts-by-seneca/>

A range of podcasts designed to offer revision material for AS and A Level Chemistry

Magazine:

<https://www.chemistryworld.com/>

Keep up to date with the latest Chemistry news with this magazine

Chemistry Course Reading List: Texts marked * are especially useful

- * *Physical Chemistry*, P W Atkins, Oxford University Press (8th edn.) 2006, [7th edn. 2001]
- * *Inorganic Chemistry*, Shriver and Atkins, Oxford University Press (4th edn) 2006, (previous edn., 1999)
- Chemistry of the Elements*, Greenwood & Earnshaw, Pergamon (2nd edn.), 1997 [1st edn. 1985]
- Foundations of Organic Chemistry*, Hornby & Peach, Oxford Chemistry Primer, OUP, 1996
- * *A Guide to Mechanism in Organic Chemistry*, Sykes, Pearson (6th edn.), 1986
- Organic Chemistry*, Maitland, Jones, Norton, (3rd edn.) 2004
- * *Mathematical Methods for Science Students*, G. Stephenson, Pearson (2nd edn.) 1978, rep. 1984
- Organic Chemistry*, Clayden, Greeves, Warren and Wothers, OUP

Computer Science:



Magazines:

- Scientific American
- New Scientist
- The Register <https://www.theregister.com/>

Books:

- Dewdney, *The New Turing Omnibus: 66 Excursions in Computer Science*
- Houston, *How to Think Like a Mathematician*
- Singh, *The Code Book: The Secret History of Codes and Codebreaking*

Podcasts:

- BBC Radio 4 – In Our Time – Alan Turing <https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/m000ncmw>
- BBC – Computing in Britain <https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b06bq6j1/episodes/downloads>
- New York Times – Rabbit Hole <https://www.nytimes.com/column/rabbit-hole>
- Software Engineering Radio <https://www.se-radio.net/>
- Signals and Threads <https://signalsandthreads.com/>
- Spark <https://www.cbc.ca/radio/spark>

TED Talks:

- George Dyson: The birth of the computer <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EF692dBzWAs&index=1&list=PLF7032F8EB1A4F9E2>
- Tim Berners-Lee: The year open data went worldwide <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3YcZ3Zqk0a8&list=PLF7032F8EB1A4F9E2&index=20>
- Brianna Brownwell – How does artificial intelligence learn https://www.ted.com/talks/brianna_brownell_how_does_artificial_intelligence_learn

TV/YouTube:

- YouTube - The Age of AI
- BBC iPlayer – Computer Says No <https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/m0015gvw>



Engineering/Product Design:



Magazine:

- <https://www.dezeen.com/> Architecture and Design magazine

Podcasts:

- <https://grantondesign.com/Podcasts>
- <https://www.buildingstoriespodcast.com/>
- <https://www.data.org.uk/news/designed-for-life-series-of-podcasts/>



English Language:



- 'Word of Mouth' podcast
- 'Lexis' podcast
- EngLangBlog website <http://englishlangsfx.blogspot.com/>
- I Love English Language website <https://aggslanguage.wordpress.com/>
- Sara Thorne '*Mastering Advanced English Language*'
- Any books by David Crystal
- 'The Adventure of English' documentary on YouTube
- Cambridge Topics in English Language- series of short books
- E-Mag



French:



- News In Slow French (Website)
- Little Talk in Slow French (podcast)
- FrenchPod101
- Le Monde (newspaper)
- MFL Fun Facebook group
- 1jour1question on Youtube
- **Le Petit Prince : Antoine de Saint Exupéry**
Illustrated audio book to read & watch. Follow the adventures of the little prince and what he finds out about the world and people. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ChFPwOo4f80>
- **Harry Potter à l'école des sorciers** Harry Potter & the Philosopher's stone in French
Warning: 8 hours long! <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VX7k4HLHyVY>
- **Lingo mastery: Learn French by reading: Les Pays francophones** Listen to the story and read it at the same time. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JYMoQfdf1Ss>
- **A bag of Marbles Joseph Joffo** Read this book in English. It is about WWII in France seen through the autobiography of a child. This will back up your study of Au Revoir les Enfants.
- **Film: Intouchables** Watch the film 'Intouchables' (French version 2012) This is relevant to the A level topic 'Les marginalisés'
- **Film: Les Choristes** The whole film is on You Tube. It is about life in a school for children from difficult backgrounds in post war France. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=p-Cr-qtBcvc>

There are many other French language full films available on You Tube. Netflix has lots of series and films in French. You could also use the Duolingo app to start learning a new language.

If you want a bigger challenge, there are free French novels that you can download on this site:
<https://www.fluentu.com/blog/french/free-french-ebooks/>



Geography:



Books:

- *Factfulness: Ten Reasons We're Wrong About the World — and Why Things Are Better Than You Think* by Anna Rosling Rönnlund, Hans Rosling, and Ola Rosling
- *Prisoners of Geography: Ten Maps That Tell You Everything You Need To Know About Global Politics* Tim Marshall
- *Geography: Ideas in Profile* Danny Dorling and Carl Lee
- *There Is No Planet B: A Handbook for the Make Or Break Years* Mike Berners-Lee
- *Adventures in the Anthropocene: A Journey to the Heart of the Planet We Made* Gaia Vince
- *Population 10 Billion* Danny Dorling
- *Divided: Why We're Living in an Age of Walls* Tim Marshall
- *Doughnut Economics: Seven Ways to Think Like a 21st-Century Economist* Kate Raworth
- *Collapse: How Societies Choose to Fail or Succeed* Jared Diamond
- *Disaster by Choice: How Our Actions Turn Natural Hazards Into Catastrophes* Ian Kelman
- *When the rivers run dry* Fred Pearce
- *No. More. Plastic.: What You Can Do to Make a Difference – the #2minutesolution* Martin Dorey
- *The Uninhabitable Earth* David Wallace-Wells
- *Development: A Very Short Introduction* Ian Goldin
- *No One Is Too Small to Make a Difference* Greta Thunberg
- *Invisible Women: Data Bias in a World Designed for Men* Caroline Criado-Perez
- *The European Union: A Very Short Introduction* John Pinder
- *Should We All be Vegan? A Primer for the 21st Century* Molly Watson
- *Under the Weather: Stories about Climate Change* Tony Bradman
- *Worth Dying for: The Power and Politics of Flags* Tim Marshall
- *Future Cities: All That Matters* Camilla Ween
- *Is Democracy Failing? A Primer for the 21st Century* Niheer Dasandi
- *Cradle to Cradle: Remaking the Way We Make Things* Michael Braungart and William McDonough
- *The Syrian Civil War* Katie Dicker
- *Gaia: A New Look at Life on Earth* James Lovelock
- *The Global Casino* Nick Middleton
- *We Are the Weather: Saving the Planet Begins at Breakfast* Jonathan Safran Foer
- *The New Odyssey: The Story of Europe's Refugee Crisis* Patrick Kingsley
- *Silent Spring* Rachel Carson

Podcasts

- Geopod

Magazines

- GA magazine



History:



General resources:

Podcasts:

- Historyextra.com (BBC History magazine)
- 'In Our Time' (Radio 4), BBC.co.uk
- 'The Rest is History' with historians Tom Holland and Dominic Sandbrook
- You're Dead to Me' with historian Greg Jenner (Horrible Histories)

Magazine (in school LRC):

- Modern History Review (useful articles on your A level subjects but also useful to see how academic historians write/construct an argument).

Additional resources:

- Look at the homework sheets with the 'essential, consolidation and advisory' tasks. They contain lots of suggested podcasts, websites, books and videos relevant to specific topics/units and lessons.
- Look on your America Padlet pages, which include a huge array of America resources – far more than we could fit on this one piece of paper. Look at the link from your revision guide.

India:

Books:

- Ian Copeland, *India 1885-1947: The Unmaking of an Empire* (Routledge, 2001)
- Tim Leadbeater, *Britain and India 1845-1947* (Hodder, 2008)
- Rosemary Rees, *Britain and the Nationalist Challenge in India 1900-47* (Pearson, 2010)

Film/TV:

- Gandhi (1982)
- Viceroy's House (2017)
- The Day India Burned, BBC
- Last Days of the Raj, Channel 4
- The Empire in Colour, ITV

Empire:

Podcast:

- 'Empire' by William Dalrymple and Anita Anand
 - <https://pod.amrevpodcast.com/> American Revolution (many to listen to!)

Books:

- Ashley Jackson, *A Very Short Introduction* (Oxford, 2013)
- Niall Ferguson, *Empire* (Penguin, 2004)
- William Dalrymple, *The Last Mughal* (Bloomsbury, 2006) and *The Anarchy* (Bloomsbury 2019)
- Nigel Biggar, *Colonialism, A Moral reckoning* (William Collins, 2023)

America:

Books:

- Neil Fairclough, *Better day Coming*
- Brinkley and Ambrose, *The rise to globalism: American foreign policy since 1938*

Films:

- The Butler, Ten years a slave, the Help, Eyes on the Prize, Milk, Hidden Figures, Selma, Oppenheimer

Podcasts:

[Crash Course US History Preview](#), The rest is History and [People s Century p22 1970 Half the People](#) (women's rights in the USA)

Maths:

- Oxford online Maths club: Weekly livestream from University of Oxford with lots of puzzles, lectures and much more!
<https://www.maths.ox.ac.uk/outreach/oxford-online-maths-club>
- Collection of great Maths-related blogs: <https://abakcus.com/35-interesting-mathematics-blogs-for-math-people/>
- A brilliant video created by one of our very own. Can you rival this explanation of the creation of pi....?
https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=JJuu6Xi6_OM



Philosophy and Ethics:

- Aristotle's Basic Philosophies The Panpsycast Podcast
Model Essay answer – Critically compare Plato's philosophical approach with that of Aristotle. Charlotte Vardy
<https://divinityphilosophy.net/2019/09/30/critically-compare-platos-philosophical-approach-with-that-of-aristotle-40/>
- A Conversation with Pascal's Ghost From *The Cosmological Inversion: Sacred and Secular Constructs of "Faith" and "Belief"* John Roemischer
- *Irreducible Complexity Demystified* Pete Dunkelberg
- *Living in the light of the End* Tony Higton Resurrection (Pg 84-87) shorturl.at/CGLM9
- Double or nothing: Martin Luther's doctrine on Predestination Brian Mattson shorturl.at/bozBU
- Religious Pluralism
- Internet Encyclopaedia of Philosophy Part 3.c. John Hick: the Pluralistic Hypothesis
shorturl.at/jlsuH
- The Mystery of Salvation The Doctrine Commission shorturl.at/jCENX
- Anselm's Ontological Argument for the Existence of God and its Value for Apologetics John Wilsey
shorturl.at/ksyMZ
- In our time – The Ontological Argument BBC Radio 4 shorturl.at/firFH

Physics:



Websites

- [20 Best Physics Podcasts You Must Follow in 2025](#)
- [PhET: Free online physics, chemistry, biology, earth science and math simulations](#)
- [Top 10 Weird but Cool Physics Ideas](#)

Magazines

- [Magazine – Physics World](#)
- [Physics News, Interviews and Columns | Quanta Magazine](#)

Keep up to date with the latest physics news

Books

1. *Six Easy Pieces* by Richard Feynman

Why: A brilliant introduction to core physics concepts (like motion, energy, and quantum behavior) delivered in Feynman's famously clear and engaging style. Suitable for bridging GCSE/A Level to university-level thinking.

Focus Areas: Classical mechanics, quantum theory, atomic structure.

2. *The Feynman Lectures on Physics (Volume I)* by Richard Feynman

Why: For students wanting a more substantial challenge, this is a classic. It dives deeper into mechanics, radiation, and heat, blending conceptual insight with mathematical elegance.

Focus Areas: Mechanics, thermodynamics, mathematical modelling.

Note: Great for high achievers or those preparing for physics/engineering degrees.

3. *Why Does $E=mc^2$?* by Brian Cox & Jeff Forshaw

Why: An excellent and readable exploration of special relativity, unpacking Einstein's iconic equation in a way that connects theory with the real world.

Focus Areas: Relativity, mass-energy equivalence, spacetime.

4. *The Particle at the End of the Universe* by Sean Carroll

Why: A captivating account of the discovery of the Higgs boson and the science behind it. Great for contextualising the Standard Model and particle physics.

Focus Areas: Quantum field theory, particle physics, the Large Hadron Collider.

5. *Storm in a Teacup: The Physics of Everyday Life* by Helen Czerski

Why: Makes abstract A Level topics relevant by linking them to familiar phenomena—ideal for strengthening intuitive understanding.

Focus Areas: Fluid dynamics, thermodynamics, electromagnetism in real-world settings.



PE:



- The PE Review (available in our library)
- www.theeverlearner.com (all Y10-13 students who study an academic course have access to this)
- The High Performance podcast with Jake Humphrey (athletes, sportsmen/women discussing how to achieve and maximise performance with links to sport that can be transferred into other areas)
- Sky Sports/BBC Sport App (keep up to date with contemporary issues such as media, drugs, violence in sport)
- National Governing Bodies such as the RFU, FA, LTA websites (focus on individual sports)



Politics:

General:

- Listen to Today on Radio 4 (everyday 6 - 9am – also available on iplayer/BBC sounds): this is the agenda setting news programme.
- Listen to the political thinking podcasts with Nick Robinson
- Read a broadsheet newspaper
- The Rest is Politics on Youtube
- Find a politics podcast: The Week in Westminster/BBC moral maze etc.

Books:

- An introduction to Political Philosophy, Wolff
- The Blair Years, Alistair Campbell
- Fire and Fury: inside the White house, Wolff.
- The Manifestos for the main political parties.
- The Establishment by Owen Jones

Films/TV/Radio:

- Andrew Marr's a History of modern Britain
- The Thick of It: BBC Sitcom (WARNING: Language)
- Spitting Image: BBC Sitcom
- Yes Minister/Yes Prime Minister: BBC sitcom
- Question Time: BBC
- Any Questions/Any Answers (Radio 4)
- Newsnight
- Panorama Documentaries

Psychology:

Reading:

Psychology review (Psychology teacher post articles in a wider reading folder in Teams)

<https://digest.bps.org.uk/>

Podcasts:

- PsychCrunch
- Hidden brain
- The positive Psychology podcast

MOOCs:

- <https://www.mooc-list.com/tags/psychology>



Spanish:

- Audira (Podcast)
- Spanishpod101 (Podcast)
- BBC El Mundo (news website)
- 20 Minutos (Spanish news)
- News in Slow Spanish (website)
- MFL Fun Facebook group
- **Bella Durmiente: Charles Perrault** Illustrated audio book of Sleeping Beauty to read & watch. You will find other well-known-tales in this series. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GbzJHHFTgig>
- **Harry Potter: La piedra filosofal** Harry Potter & the Philosopher's Stone in Spanish. Warning: 8 hours long!
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aZ49dufr2tM>
- **Lingo mastery: Learn Spanish by reading: De viaje por latinoamérica** Listen to the story and read it at the same time. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lm9EiMRUkY4>
- **La Muerte de un Poeta** This film is about the life and death of Federico García Lorca. He wrote the play 'La Casa de Bernarda Alba' that is one of your cultural topics.
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PO4QijXLV_s
- **Nobody Writes to the Colonel & Chronicle of a death Foretold** **Gabriel Garcia Marquez**
Read these two books by a famous Columbian author in English. They are both on the AQA booklist although we do not study them

Films:

- **Ocho Apellidos Vascos and Ocho Apellidos catalanes (The Spanish Affair 1 & 2)** Watch these two films. The first one is an AQA set film. The second one is on Netflix. Relevant to the Year 12 topic 'La identidad regional en España'
- **Don Quijote:** The whole film is on You Tube. This is a film about the Spanish literary character and folk hero, Don Quixote <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rhGewcEF-KA>
- There are many other Spanish language full films available on You Tube.
- Netflix has lots of series and films in Spanish.
- Start to learn another language with the Duolingo app
- If you want a bigger challenge, there are free Spanish novels that you can download on this site:
<https://www.fluentu.com/blog/spanish/free-spanish-ebooks/>