

UCCESS ACHIEVED OGETHER'

ABOUT US

Sixth form will offer you the opportunity to study a wide range of both academic and vocational courses, providing you with the qualifications that you require to follow your chosen career path. Students will benefit from high quality teaching that builds upon previous knowledge and skills. Teachers will go above and beyond to support you to ensure that you realise your full potential.

An outstanding level of guidance is provided through our pastoral programme. Sixth form students are organised into Year 12 and 13 tutor groups. This enables us to provide you with a bespoke programme that will support you in all aspects of sixth form life and prepare you for life beyond.

A wide and varied enrichment programme will ensure that you will develop skills and qualities to enhance applications to university, apprenticeships and employment. Strong results and specific guidance enabled our 2023 cohort to progress onto their chosen destination.

The careers guidance programme you will receive will be of the highest quality. Sixth form students do immerse themselves into school life, working with younger students, assisting at open evenings and parent events and acting as excellent role models for the years below. We hope that you will fully embrace these opportunities and inspire those around you.

We pride ourselves on being a vibrant, welcoming and inclusive sixth form, which has such a wonderful family atmosphere and we hope you will join our success story.



THE SIXTH FORM STUDENT

Dress Code

You are young adults and will be treated accordingly. We do expect you to adopt our dress code of smart office wear.

Boys

- · Shirt with Collar and Tie
- Smart Trousers
- · V-neck jumper or cardigan
- Smart shoes
- Smart coat or jacket

Girls

- · Smart blouse with sleeves and a high neck line
- · Smart dress, trousers or skirt that is no shorter than knee length
- V-neck jumper or cardigan
- · Smart shoes
- Smart coat or jacket

Please note that T-shirts, crop tops, leggings, very tight trousers, canvas shoes, trainers or any other form of casual footwear are **not** permitted.

We pride ourselves on being an inclusive Sixth Form which makes sure that the needs of all our students are met.

As a sixth form student, you will benefit from a bespoke study programme that ensures your sixth form experience will provide you with the qualifications and wider skills to ensure that you progress seamlessly in your career pathway.

As the senior members of the school community, we do have high expectations of all of our sixth form students.

Sixth Form Study Programme

You will have timetabled lessons for your chosen subjects, plus volunteering, enrichment and independent study sessions.

We do expect you to carry out some independent study at school, alongside the expectations of independent study at home.

Contributing to the wider life of the school is vital for your personal development and to provide invaluable support for the younger students. As part of your study programme, you will be required to volunteer within a subject of your choice during the week to support those students within that lesson.

You will also be provided with a wide programme of enrichment activities to participate in. The programme is varied and will enable you to gain additional qualifications such as the Extended Project Qualification (EPQ) or participate in activities for your own personal development and wellbeing.

EnrichmentActivities

Students will participate in a range of activities during their I hour allocated enrichment time each week. These include • Student Mentoring • Charity Work • Sport and much more

The programme is designed to support you with every aspect of your sixth form education and also to prepare you for life beyond sixth form.

You will be organised into year-based tutor groups and will receive an organised programme of sessions every day.

In Year 12 this will include a focus upon the following key areas:

All About Me

- · Personal development
- · PSHE Programme
- · RSE Programme
- Wellbeing
- · The pathway ahead

Personal Development

- · Writing a Personal Statement
- How to apply for a job
- Managing finances
- · Character development ORACY

Making a Difference

- · Working with a link or tutor group
- One to one tutorials with your form tutor

- Your Future
- Transition
- Study Skills Development
- · Careers Guidance

- · Citizenship and British Values
- Revision and Study Techniques
- · Preparing for life beyond Sixth Form



OUR CURRICULUM

Everything we do at sixth form will have your personal career ambitions at the forefront.

The comprehensive tutor programme will support your personal development and guide you every step of the way to support your career choice. In addition to the tutor period sessions, you will receive a lot of external support and guidance.

You will receive support from universities as part of the support we provide for progression to Higher Education. Included are opportunities to visit other university campuses and also attend the UCAS fayre,

We will support you with every aspect of your UCAS application, should university be your preferred pathway to support your career journey.

We work very closely with employers, training and apprenticeship providers and run specific sessions and assemblies to support you should the apprenticeship route be your preferred pathway.

The opportunity to attend our annual careers convention in the Autumn term will provide further opportunities to talk to Higher Education Institutions, employers and apprenticeship providers. Every student will also receive impartial careers advice from our independent careers advisor.

We guarantee you will leave sixth form as an extremely confident and competent individual who will have received the highest level of support as you progress on your journey as a future leader in your chosen career.

We offer a broad range of both academic and vocational subjects that will support students to follow their chosen career pathway. Teachers who deliver these subjects are experts within their field so we guarantee the highest standards of lesson delivery to secure excellent outcomes.

Students will need to choose three subjects, each from a different option block.

A LEVEL

- Biology
- Chemistry
- English
- History

- Maths
- Physics
- Pyschology

VOCATIONAL

- Business
- · Health and Social Care
- ·ICT
- Sport

A Level BIOLOGY

Overview

A Level Biology is a challenging, rewarding course that will help you to develop skills and knowledge necessary for a successful career. It offers you the freedom, creativity and opportunity for independent progression from GCSE Science or Biology.

A Level Biology builds on the concepts and skills developed in the GCSE. It will support you to progress to a Biology-related degree course.

What will I study?

Year 12

Core content:

- · 1 Biological molecules
- · 2 Cells
- · 3 Organisms exchange substances with their environment
- · 4 Genetic information, variation and relationships between organisms

Year 13

Core content:

- · 5 Energy transfers in and between organisms
- · 6 Organisms respond to changes in their internal and external environments
- · 7 Genetics, populations, evolution and ecosystems
- · 8 The control of gene expression

Entry Requirements

Grade 5 in Biology or Grade 5 in Combined Science

Career Progression

A Level Biology is a great choice if you want a career in health and clinical professions, including medicine, dentistry, veterinary science, physiotherapy, nursing and forensic science. Other subject links are human biology chemistry, physics, epidemiology, psychology, applied science, environmental studies and health and social care.

Assessment

Three examinations each lasting two hours.

- · Paper 1: (91 marks) Any topics from topics 1-4, including relevant practical skills (35% of A Level).
- · Paper 2: (91 marks) Any content from topics 5-8, including relevant practical skills (35% of A Level).
- · Paper 3: (78 marks) (78 marks) Any topics from 1-8, including relevant practical skills (30% of A Level).



A Level CHEMISTRY

Overview

This course will give you the skills and understanding to make decisions about the way chemistry affects your everyday life. You will apply concepts into contemporary areas of chemistry including: climate change, green chemistry, pharmaceuticals, chemistry research.

Handling data will be a key part of your work, allowing you to demonstrate information retrieval skills as well as use of numeracy and ICT. You will build up a range of practical skills that require creativity and accuracy as well as developing a firm understanding of health and safety issues.

What will I study?

As you become more skilled you will take responsibility for selecting appropriate qualitative and quantitative methods, recording your observations and findings accurately and precisely as well as critically analysing and evaluating the methodology, results and impact of your own and others' experimental investigative activities.

Entry Requirements

Grade 5 in Chemistry or Grade 5 in Combined Science; Grade 5 in Maths (Higher Tier)

Career Progression

Chemistry A Level is essential or very useful for: Medicine, Veterinary Science, Dentistry, Pharmacy, Biology (and Biology related subjects). Many chemistry graduates pursue a career in industry. We live in an age of molecular technology which ensures that chemistry graduates are in demand across the pharmaceutical, chemical, materials and biotechnology industries. Career paths include research and development, environmental monitoring, forensic science and management. Science journalists have a vital role to play as intermediaries between science and the public. They have a crucial role in explaining the complexities of the latest discoveries in pure and applied science, whether working for television, the internet or newspapers.

The commercial sector is a large employer of chemistry graduates. The analytical and problem solving skills developed during a chemistry degree are highly regarded and there are many opportunities for 'fast track' careers in the public sector, law, management and consultancy.

Chemistry graduates are highly sought after by the teaching profession, which offers stimulating and rewarding careers for those looking to inspire the next generation. Other graduates pursue careers in universities, studying to PhD level, going on to cutting edge research and teaching undergraduates. In summary, chemistry helps us to understand the world and having a chemistry degree opens up a world of opportunities. There has never been a more exciting time to study chemistry!

Assessment

Three examinations will be sat:

Paper 1 Periodic table, elements and physical chemistry 2 hr 15 minutes 100 marks

Paper 2 Synthesis and analytical techniques 2 hr 15 minutes 100 marks

Paper 3 Unified chemistry 1 hr 30 minutes 70 marks



A Level ENGLISH

Overview

If you have enjoyed the challenges and variety of GCSE English Language and Literature, this course offers opportunities to engage analytically with a wide range of texts.

What will I study?

This specification enables you to explore drama, poetry and prose texts, under the themes of Love Through the Ages and Modern Times: Literature from 1945 to the Present Day.

The skills developed through the course include discussion and debate, essential to getting the best out of your critical reading and analysis of texts.

Entry Requirements

Grade 5 in English or English Literature.

Career Progression

This subject has always been regarded highly by universities and employers. It complements many career pathways including those which involve a high level of communication such as Human Resources, Teaching or Social Work. If you wish to follow careers in the Arts you would benefit from a background in English Literature. If you wish to follow a more scientific career you can also benefit from the cultural richness of English which adds another dimension to your studies. This subject would be extremely useful to aspiring writers and journalists.

Assessment

Year 12

Paper 1: Love Through the Ages

Section A: Shakespeare

Section B: Unseen Poetry

Section C: Comparing The Great Gatsby and Pre-1900 Love Poetry Written examination: 3 hours

Year 13:

Paper 1: Love Through the Ages

Section A: Shakespeare

Section B: Unseen Poetry

Section C: Comparing The Great Gatsby and Pre-1900 Love Poetry Written examination: 3 hours (40% of A Level)

Paper 2: Modern Times: Literature from 1945 to the Present Day. Section A: Set texts. One essay question on set text (25 marks) Section B: Contextual linking

· One compulsory question on an unseen extract (25 marks)

 One essay question linking two texts (25 marks) Written examination: 2 hours 30 minutes (40%) of A-Level

Non-examined Assessment

Assessed by teachers, moderated by AQA. (20% of A Level).



Overview

History maybe about the past, but it is a key subject which helps us to understand and form opinions about the rapidly changing world in which we live today.

What will I study?

The A Level course involves studying important historical rulers and developments including why countries go to war, revolutions and religious and political struggles. Your will develop you analytical and essay writing skills and interpret historical issues in a variety of ways. You will receive a lot of support but must be prepared to work hard and read widely!

Entry Requirements

Grade 5 in History

Career Progression

History combines well with other arts subjects and is highly regarded amongst both employers and universities. The analytical and communicative skills developed in History are the key to succeeding in the challenging and competitive work environment of the 21st Century. Historians follow a variety of career paths including the legal profession, local government, business, the armed forces and teaching.

Assessment

British period study: Unit Y106 - England 1485-1558 The Early Tudors Worth 25% I hour 30 minutes examination

Non-British period study: Unit Y221 - Democracy and Dictatorships in Germany 1919-63 Worth 15% I hour examination

Thematic study and historical interpretation: Y318 - Russia and its Rulers 1855-1964 Worth 40% 2 hours 30 minutes exam Topic based essay: Y100 Worth 20% 4000 word essay



A Level MATHS

Overview

Mathematics A level students and graduates are in high demand with employers. It is the essential transferable component across all science, engineering, technology and maths subjects. Currently 59% of employers state they are having difficulty recruiting people with mathematics skills.

What will I study?

- · A Maths A Level will develop transferable skills.
- Analytical skills
- · Communication skills
- · Investigative skills
- Problem solving skills
- Self management

These are all skills that employers are looking for and which help you when you are applying for jobs and when filling in the personal statement on your UCAS form.

Entry Requirements

Grade 5 in Maths (Higher Tier)

Career Progression

Maths is one of the key facilitating subjects and it's essential for many higher education courses and careers. People with Maths A Level earn on average around 10% more than those without and people with a Maths degree can expect to earn over £220,000 more over their lifetime than a person whose education ceased at A Level.

Employers and University Admission tutors recognise A Level Maths as an excellent qualification. Top universities value A Level Maths as being a more suitable A Level choice than others when applying for any science related degree. A Maths A level can lead to careers in: Finance and Banking, Natural and Life Sciences, Business Consultancy and Operational Research, Engineering etc.

Assessment

Three examinations weighted 33.33% each

Paper 1 and Paper 2 containing content from pure mathematics. Paper 3 containing questions on statistics and mechanics.



A Level **PHYSICS**

Overview

Do you want to investigate the limits of space, the beginning of time and everything in between? How about understanding how the technology around you works? Do you want to save the planet or maybe just help people get better when they are ill? Or maybe you don't care about any of this and just want to earn a good wage? Well it doesn't really matter. Whatever you do, the knowledge and skills you gain by studying Physics will be useful. Physics is more than a subject - it trains your brain to think beyond boundaries.

In addition to preparing you for careers in the physical sciences and engineering, a secure understanding of Physics and the skills it develops is highly sought after by a wide range of employers in many different and varied fields.

What will I study?

Year 12

Measurements and Errors: How to analyse data from investigations and judge the quality of your interpretations.

Particles and Radiation: The structure of matter, the nature of antimatter and photons, the fundamental forces of the universe and quantum phenomena.

Mechanics and Materials: The motion of objects and how materials react under stress.

Waves: The properties of waves and introduction of principles of optics.

Electricity: The nature of electrical current and it's applications in direct current circuitry.

Year 13

Further Mechanics: Non-linear motion and the nature of oscillating systems.

Field and their consequences: The nature of gravitational, electric and magnetic fields, the principle of electromagnetic induction and capacitance.

Thermal Physics: The process of heat transfer and its effects upon matter.

Nuclear Physics: The stability of atoms, fission and fusion processes, nuclear reactors and energy generation.

Entry Requirements

Grade 5 in Physics or Grade 5 in both Core and Additional Science; Grade 5 in Maths (Higher Tier)

Career Progression

A Level physics leads to a variety of careers, not just Physics and Engineering. These are possible careers that A Level Physics can lead to: Audio technician, Food scientist, Oceanographer, Chemist, Geophysicist, Climatologist, Medical physicist, Radiographer, Ergonomics expert, Naval architect, Aeronautical, Design, Mechanical, Agricultural, Electrical/electronic engineering, Medical, Automobile, Flight, Mining.

Assessment

Paper 1: Written examination: 2 hours, 85 marks, 34% of A Level 60 marks of short and long answer questions and 25 multiple choice questions on content.

Paper 2: Written examination: 2 hours, 85 marks, 34% of A Level 60 marks of short and long answer questions and 25 multiple choice questions on content.

Paper 3: Written examination: 2 hours, 80 marks, 32% of A Level 45 marks of short and long answer questions on practical experiments and data analysis.

A Level PSYCHOLOGY =

Overview

Psychology: The science of mind and behaviour... this fascinating subject will help you to understand the effect that a variety of factors have on yours and others' actions. You will investigate classic studies from a range of psychological areas and compare these to modern studies; discovering how psychology has changed over time. You will see how psychology affects our everyday lives and underpins all of the actions we take and decisions we make.

There will also be opportunities to design your own psychological experiments and carry them out. Playing the role of 'psychologist' will allow you a deeper insight into the methods behind psychological research and the way that data is handled and analysed.

What will I study?

- · Introductory topics in Psychology: Social influence, Memory, Attachment, and Psychopathology.
- Psychology in context: Approaches, Biopsychology, and Research Methods.
- Issues and Options in Psychology: Issues and Debates, Relationships, Forensic Psychology, and Schizophrenia.

Entry Requirements

Grade 5 in English Language or English Literature.

Career Progression

Psychology underpins all human behaviour, so any career that involves working with people would make use of psychological study.

Previous students have gone on to: teach (a variety of subjects including: Psychology, Maths, Dance and Business); study criminology and work in prisons; study mental health nursing and continue in the field of psychology as research assistants... among many other things.

Assessment

H567/01: Research Methods: 90 marks; 2 hour examination; synoptic content; 30% A Level total.

H567/02: Psychological Themes through Core Studies: 105 marks; 2 hour examination; synoptic content; 35% A Level total.

H567/03: Applied Psychology: 105 marks; 2 hour examination; 35% A Level total.





Overview

Level 3 Cambridge Technicals in Business qualifications help students to achieve their potential and progress to the next stage of their lives, whether that's higher education, anapprenticeship or employment. The content is refreshing, exciting, up to date, engaging, fit for purpose and suitable for the needs of our students. The course will be assessed through a mix of a exams and coursework.

What will I study?

- · How the marketing mix imapcts businesses and the decisions they make.
- · How ethical dilemmas and responsibilities create challenges for business organisations.
- · The role of businesses in meeting the needs and wants of society
- The ways that businesses fund themselves and budget their money.

Year 12

Theme 1: Marketing and People

Theme 2: Managing Business Activities

Year 13

Theme 3: Business Decisions and Strategy

Theme 4: Global Business

Entry Requirements

GCSE English Language/Literature at Grade 4 or above. GCSE Mathematics at Grade 4 or above.

Career Progression

Business students who go on to study at degree level are in high demand with employers worldwide and are some of the most employable. You will have a wide variety of possible career options open to you upon graduation. Business is both a theoretical and a practical discipline, meaning that you not only gain a great range of knowledge, but also learn the skills needed to apply this knowledge to real life settings, again assisting with employability and putting you ahead of the pack.

Business touches on nearly every aspect of modern society and is useful for both your professional and personal life, as well as being a very interesting subject to study.

For those who wish to aquire a range of business and generic skills you will develop decision making, problem solving and critical thinking skills.

Possible careers include: Human Resources Officer, Insurance Underwriter, Management Consultant, Marketing Manager, Logistics and Distribution Manager, Retail Manager

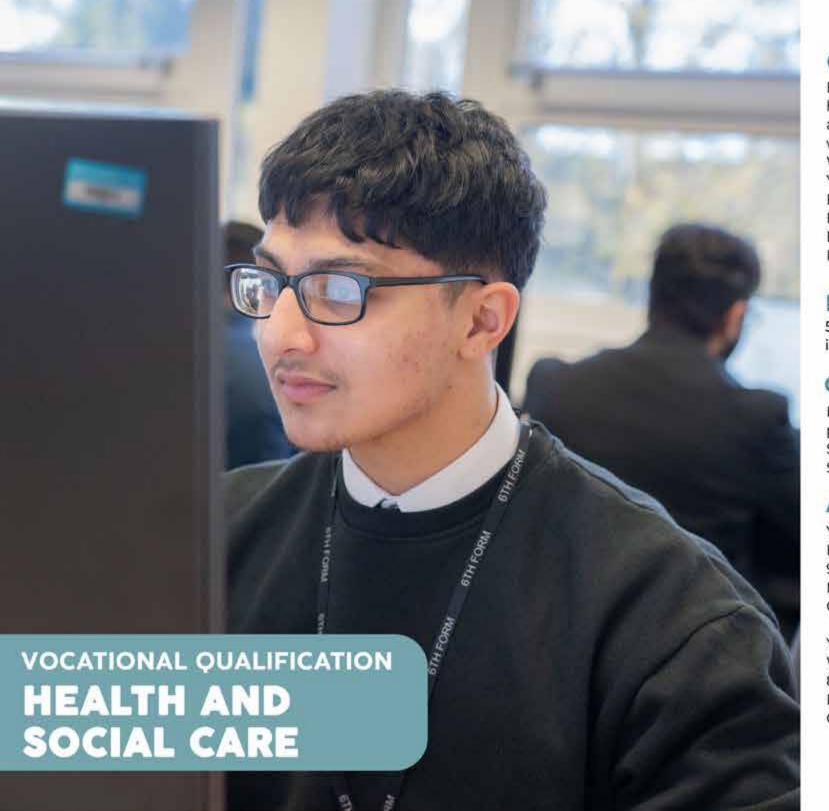
Assessment

There will be three mandatory units that must be completed:

- · The Business Environment (examination)
- Working in Business (examination)
- Customer and Communication (coursework)



You will study a further two optional units (coursework)



Overview

BTEC Level 3 Extended Certificate Health and Social Care is a great introduction to working in the health and social care sector. It allows you to investigate more fully in the working environments associated with these areas. It is a skills-based course where you develop your own personal skills in line with whichever health and social care career you are interested in

What will I study?

Year 12 and 13

Externally assessed unit: Human Lifespan Development

Internally assessed coursework unit: Meeting Individual Care and Support Needs

Externally assessed unit: Working in Health and Social Care

Internally assessed unit: Psychological Perspectives in Health and Social Care

Entry Requirements

5 passes at GCSE Grade 4 or equivalent to include a Merit in Health and Social Care or a GCSE Grade 4 in English

Career Progression

BTEC Health and Social Care is a vocational course which means there is a chance to investigate potential careers as the course progresses.

Studying in Health and Social Care can lead to careers in: Nursing or Midwifery, Teaching, Elderly care, Supporting those with additional needs, Early years

Assessment

Year 12

Human Lifespan and Development:

90 marks; 1 hour 30 minutes exam; 25% of the overall Extended Certificate

Meeting Individual Care and Support Needs:

Coursework unit; 90 credits; 25% of the overall Extended Certificate

Year 13

Working in Health and Social Care:

80 marks; 1 hour 30 minutes exam; 25% of the overall Extended Certificate

Psychological Perspectives in Health and Social Care:

Coursework Unit; 60 credits; 25% of the overall Extended Certificate



VOCATIONAL QUALIFICATION

Overview

Information Technologies is a 'must have' for every Post 16 student. This qualification is not just about being able to use computers. This qualification is designed to give learners a range of specialist knowledge and transferable skills in the context of applied IT, providing them with the opportunity to enter an apprenticeship, move directly into employment, or progress to a related Higher Education (HE) course.

What will I study?

Unit 1: Fundamentals of IT: In this unit you will explore the fundamentals of computing and ICT, you will learn about how a computer works and how networks of computers work together. You will also look at employability skills.

Unit 2: Global Information systems: In this unit you will explore how information is used and utilised by organisations.

Project:

You will complete one project which will provide evidence for 3 units of work.

Unit 5: Virtual and Augmented reality: In this unit you will explain the world of virtual and augmented reality and develop of product to solve a problem.

Unit 9: Project development: In this unit you will develop skills of project management and development. You will learn about the relevant documentation and also the importance of planning Unit 13: Social Media and Digital marketing: You will investigate the world of social media and see how companies use social media to support their marketing campaigns. You will then develop your own digital and social media strategy.

Entry Requirements

5 passes at GCSE Grade 4 or equivalent to include a Merit in ICT or a GCSE Grade 4 in Maths

Career Progression

Studying ICT will give you a wide choice of progression options into further study, training, or relevant employment. You will be well equipped to pursue careers in Computer Science, Information Systems, Multimedia, Software Engineering, Computer Networking, e-business and information.

Assessment

Learners must achieve a total of 5 units consisting of 2 mandatory examined units and 3 further units. The units are listed above.



VOCATIONAL QUALIFICATION SPORT

overview

The BTEC Level 3 Extended Certificate offers great flexibility through the units of study. This qualification is designed to support progression to higher education.

Employers and professional bodies have also been involved and consulted to ensure that the content is appropriate for those of you who may choose to enter employment directly in the sport sector.

You will cover a variety of units that help prepare you for a range of employment and further education opportunities. The course is delivered in a number of ways including practical sessions and more classroom based theory work.

What will I study?

Year 12

Mandatory Units

Unit 1: Anatomy and Physiology: 20 weeks

You will look at a number of key areas including the skeleton, the muscular system, the cardio-respiratory system and the energy systems.

Unit 3: Professional Development in the Sports Industry: 10 weeks

You will explore the knowledge and skills required for different career pathways in the sports industry. Learners will take part in, and reflect on, a personal skills audit, career action plan and practical interview assessment activities.

Year 13

Mandatory Unit

Unit 2: Fitness Training and Programming for Health, Sport and Well-being: 20 weeks You will explore the client screening and lifestyle assessment, fitness training methods and fitness programming to support improvements in a client's health and wellbeing.

Additional Unit

Unit 4: Sports Leadership :10 weeks

You will study the roles of a sports leader, the importance of psychological factors and their link with effective leadership. You will also explore an effective leadership style when leading a team during sport and exercise activities.

Entry Requirements

5 passes at GCSE Grade 4 or equivalent to inclue a Merit in Sport or a GCSE Grade 4 in GCSE English

Career Progression

Possible careers include: Sports Development Officer, PE Teacher, Strength and Conditioning Coach, Human Nutritionist, Personal Trainer, Sports Scientist, Performance Analyst, Sports Therapist, Sports Marketing.

Assessment

This course is 33% coursework, 67% external assessment which consists of one examination and one set task. You will complete 4 units in total.

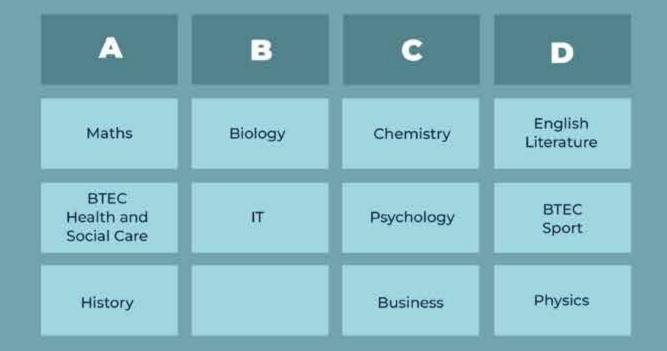
Year 12

- Two Units will be completed in Year 12
- One internally assessed, coursework based unit and one externally assessed examination
 Year 13
- Two units will be completed in Year 13
- One internally assessed, coursework based unit and one externally assessed timed assignment



SIXTH FORM OPTION BLOCKS

Students are required to select a minimum of three subjects. Each subject must be from a different option block.





NEXT STEPS

WHAT ARE MY NEXT STEPS?

- Research your potential career pathway to find our what subjects you might need to study.
- · Read the subject information in the prospectus carefully
- · Complete the online application form
- You will be then invited to a short interview with the sixth form team so make sure that you attend this interview and bring any questions you may have.

"Choosing to study at sixth form was the best decision I made. The level of support and the quality of teaching was excellent and enabled me to achieve the grades I needed to study at university."

SIXTH FORM ALUMNI

Our students progress onto positive destinations.

These include University, Apprenticeships and employment.

Courses our students have studied at University:

- Business Management
- Music Performance
- History and Political Science
- · Business Economics
- · Sport and Exercise Science
- · Children's Nursing
- Marketing
- Automotive Engineering
- Education Studies
- Microbiology
- · Games Art

Employment Destinations:

- Management
- · Engineering Apprenticeship
- Social Care
- · Nursery School Apprenticeship
- Army
- · Accountancy Apprenticeship

APPLICATION

Thursday 23rd November 2023

Sixth Form Open Evening

Friday 12th January 2024

Deadline for online applications

February 2024

Sixth Form Interviews

Monday 6th May 2024

GCSE Examinations begin

Summer Term 2024

Sixth Form Induction Days

Thursday 24th August 2024

GCSE Results Day Year 12 Registration

September 2024

Sixth Form lessons start

HOW TO APPLY

Complete an application form.

All application forms to be received by Friday 12th January 2024 to guarantee an interview.

Download an Application Form

www.smestowacademy.co.uk/sixthform

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