



Curriculum

Students in Sixth Form have the opportunity to follow one of four pathways. These are outlined in the table below. Typically, students will follow a three course pathway (A Level, Level 3 vocational or a combination of both). Those who have very high attainment at GCSE and who demonstrate their academic potential and capacity to cope with a more academically demanding curriculum will be able to select four A Level courses and will study all four subjects during Years 12 and 13.

Pathway	Minimum Entry Requirements
A Level Pathway (Four Courses)	At least six 9 / 8 / 7 grades at GCSE with at least a grade 6 in both English (Language or Literature) and Mathematics
A Level Pathway (Three Courses)	At least five 9 – 4 grades at GCSE with at least a grade 4 in both English (Language or Literature) and Mathematics
A Level and Level 3 Vocational Pathway (Three Courses)	At least five 9 – 4 grades at GCSE with at least a grade 4 English (Language or Literature) and Mathematics
Level 3 Vocational Pathway (Three Courses)	At least five 9 – 4 grades at GCSE

In addition to meeting the minimum entry requirements for the chosen pathway, students must fulfil the entry requirements for each subject they intend to study. Where exceptional circumstances exist, a student may be accepted onto a pathway without having fully met the entry requirements (and these will be considered on a case by case basis).

A wide range of A Level and Level 3 vocational courses are offered to students, all taught by experienced subject specialists. All courses will last two years in duration with examinations taken at the end of Year 13.

A Level Courses		Level 3 Vocational Qualifications
Art	History	Business Studies (BTEC)
Biology	Mathematics	Computing (BTEC)
Chemistry	Music	Digital Media (Cambridge Technical)
Drama and Theatre Studies	Music Technology	Engineering (BTEC)
English Language and Literature	Physical Education	Performing Arts Dance (BTEC)
English Literature	Physics	Science (BTEC)
Film Studies	Politics	Sport (BTEC)
Further Mathematics	Religious Studies	
Geography	Spanish	

In the event of insufficient numbers of students (fewer than five) electing to take a subject, the subject will not be offered and the school will inform individuals affected before the start of the course.



GCSE English and Mathematics

Any student who joins Sixth Form without having previously attained a grade 4 in GCSE English Language or English Literature and/or Mathematics will retake the GCSE during Year 12. They receive additional teaching and resit the examination(s) when their teachers feel they are ready to do so.

Extended Project Qualification / Project Based Learning

Some students will have the opportunity to complete the Extended Project Qualification. It provides an opportunity for students to extend their abilities beyond A Level or vocational study and prepare for university or their future career. It can also be used to earn extra UCAS points. It allows students to embark on largely self-directed projects.

By taking responsibility for the choice and design of an individual project, students become more reflective and independent learners, develop decision-making and problem-solving skills and improve their research, analysis and presentation skills. Projects carried out previously include research on Shakespeare's representation of women, black holes and capital punishment. In addition to the Extended Project Qualification, some students choose to engage in other project-based learning activities, including the Nuffield Research Project and Massive Online Open Courses (MOOCs).