



ALEC REED ACADEMY
PROUD TO LEARN



Year 12 Prospectus

Entry 2012/13

Post 16 Centre
Alec Reed Academy

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Dr Hilary Macaulay
Principal

Welcome

Now that Year 11 is well underway it is very important to start planning the next step.

Staying on at Post - 16 is an exciting opportunity and we firmly believe that offering you the right choices and by individual targeting we will be able to support you in achieving success.

Although Alec Reed Academy will not be the right choice for all of you (e.g. those going straight into employment who do not need full-time study Post - 16), we believe that many of you should join the Academy's Further Education Centre! Why?

- Our results at 'A' level and BTEC are consistently good.
- We accept and welcome your increasing maturity but don't think you should be left to sink or swim. We will chase you over work that is late, coax you if you find aspects of the course less exciting than you'd hoped, provide support when you are under pressure - and support you throughout.
- We provide a Post - 16 which serves a wide variety of people and courses.

- We offer you the very best accommodation in our new Academy building. You will have access to a large number of PC's, Apple Macs and broadband internet connection.

In short, the Academy's Further Education Centre provides a supportive Post - 16 learning environment for students and we hope that you will take the opportunity to experience it for yourselves.

“We will chase you over work that is late, coax you if you find aspects of the course less exciting than you'd hoped, provide support when you are under pressure - and support you throughout.”

Shape your *future...*

Our Mission Statement

We aim to offer students a true partnership with staff, parents, industry and the community in helping you to achieve your highest standards in a technology rich environment. At Post - 16 we will prepare you for higher education and the world of work by:

- Providing you with a high quality, broad and balanced Post - 16 programme of study
- Harnessing your energies to establish a good working environment and to develop positive relationships with staff
- Having high expectations which will be reflected in targets set for staff and students alike
- Establishing a business-like ethos
- Providing quality enrichment opportunities

Post - 16 education at ARA is more than just qualifications; it is about equipping you with the life skills necessary to succeed in the outside world, to encourage you to work independently whilst at the same time encouraging you to work as part of a team and helping you develop your powers of analysis, reflection and review.

Why choose ARA?

We offer a wide range of qualifications and subjects to suit all needs and interests:

- GCE AS/A2 Levels (including vocational subjects)
- BTEC
- GCSE English and Maths resits (compulsory) if grade C or above is not achieved.
- Opportunities to take on responsibility in the Academy to further develop personal, organisational, social and technological skills
- A business-like, supportive and enjoyable working atmosphere which fully involves our students
- Pastoral support from your tutor, providing clear guidance in your programme of study
- Exciting experiences including foreign and UK wide trips, community work, sporting events etc.

Expectations and Values

These are some agreed values and qualities all Academy staff wish to see in Post - 16 students:

- Enthusiasm
- Determination
- Politeness
- A sense of fun and humour – education is to be enjoyed!
- Ambition
- Aspirations
- Mutual respect

A solid base of sound expectations and values goes a long way to secure success.

As you can see Post - 16 education at ARA is more than just “offering the right subjects!”

Your new start



Mr D Edwards
BTEC Co-ordinator/KS5
Learning Manager



Mrs N Rispoli-Hall
IB Co-ordinator/KS5
Learning Manager

Thank you for your interest in Post -16 study at Alec Reed Academy, which occupies very special place within our community. We are pleased you have chosen to study with us, and believe we can offer you a high quality experience. We are positive you will find the Academy to be a wonderful place to study with a friendly atmosphere and very supportive staff.

You will be joining us at an extremely exciting time in our development and many students travel a great distance to get here, which proves how popular and successful the Academy is. The Academy building is about to undertake a new development which will add an additional building to the existing structure. The Post 16 area will benefit from this expansion which will create additional study and recreational areas for our post 16 students. The additional space has allowed the curriculum to expand within the Academy which has led to planning for a number of additional courses.

Alec Reed Academy currently offers a wide variety of BTEC courses and traditional A levels as well as our popular International Baccalaureate Diploma programme (please see separate brochure for details) so we are sure you will find something to interest you in our prospectus. It is very important that you continue to work hard throughout Year 11 and try to achieve the best results you can, to give you the opportunity to study further. Our Admissions criteria ensures that you are following courses that are a suitable challenge for each individual student so please look very carefully at the diagram on page 10. This will inform you about the number of passes required to enable you to study a particular course and at a level of difficulty that is appropriate for you.

Should you wish to apply to continue your education at ARA, please complete all relevant sections of the application form in detail and return to the Academy. It is important that all sections of the form are completed, including full address and telephone number, as we will need to contact you for an interview. If you would like to discuss your application by telephone or email please do not hesitate to contact us.

We look forward to welcoming you to Further Education at the Academy and helping you shape your future.

“It is very important that you continue to work hard throughout Year 11 and try to achieve the best results you can, to give you the opportunity to study further.”

How it works

We are pleased to welcome students from all schools and colleges who meet our entry requirements. It is very important that you read through this brochure carefully as this will help you to make informed decisions about your Post - 16 education and whether or not you wish to apply to ARA.

Stage 1

Your form will be read through carefully. Judging by the evidence on the form, if it is likely that you will meet the entry requirements you will receive a letter thanking you for your application and saying that we will be contacting you later to arrange an interview. If evidence on the form suggests you are unlikely to meet the entry requirements, you will receive a letter thanking you for your application and suggesting an alternative more appropriate pathway. If there are any gaps on your form, it will be sent back to you for full completion.

Stage 2

The next stage in the admissions process is your interview. If you are unable to attend your interview

you must let us know as soon as you can. You should bring with you a copy of your latest school report and your Progress File. This will help us get a better picture of your interests and abilities. The interview is a two way process; for you to find out more about us and us about you. The interview will focus on you, your aspirations, interests and needs and how well we can match them. Students from other schools or colleges will have a guided tour of relevant curriculum areas by current Post - 16 students. At the end of your interview you may receive a conditional offer of a place to study at ARA.

Stage 3

Provisional enrolment. This is where you register as a Post - 16 student at ARA. Once your place has been confirmed and your courses started, there will be regular briefings to keep you informed about Post - 16 events and on-going business.

You are welcome to contact ARA about any aspects of your Post - 16 education, but please read this brochure and the courses for 2012/13 first.

Post 16 Routes

Route A

5 Grade A* to C in 4 or more subjects including Grade C in both English and Mathematics and B Grade in chosen Post 16 Subjects

AS Levels or BTEC Diploma / BTEC Subsidiary Diploma

Route B

4 Grade A* to D in 4 or more subjects including Grade D in English and Mathematics

BTEC Diploma / BTEC Subsidiary Diploma and Re-sit GCSE in English and/or Mathematics

Route C

4 A* to D Grades

BTEC Diploma / BTEC Subsidiary Diploma and GCSE

Admissions Policy

Entry Requirements

ARA is keen to receive applications from suitably qualified students.

Guideline entry requirements for Year 12:

To be offered a place to continue with your education at ARA you should satisfy the entry requirements on page 9 and the personal entry requirements outlined below.

If the subject you wish to study in Year 12 is one you have already taken at GCSE then you should have at least a grade B in that subject. If the subject is new to you then you should have at least a grade C (preferably grade B) in a related subject area. See routes on Page 6.

Personal entry requirements:

- You will be required to demonstrate your willingness to continue with your education at ARA signing the Post -16 Learning Agreement and the Attendance and Punctuality Agreement.
- You should be fully supportive of the Academy aims and ethos.

- You should presently be in full time and continuous education and no older than 16 at the start of Year 12.
- You must be a citizen of the UK, foreign national with the right to live and study in the UK or have the appropriate diplomatic status.
- Comments by your form tutor and Learning Manager in section 6 of the application form should be supportive and almost all marks should be either very good or good.
- If you are a student applying from overseas you should have taken International GCSEs or their equivalent and have the appropriate status.

Continuity and Progression

Where possible ARA will provide continuity and progression within the framework of all subjects and facilitate transfer between subjects.

We aim to ensure an appropriate progression route for all students upon course completion either into employment/training or to further/higher education.

Q & A

Do I have to wear a School Uniform?

The Academy's Further Education Centre does not have a school uniform but, like staff, we expect you to abide by a Dress Code which requires you to dress appropriately and sensibly. This will mean smart business clothing, including shirt and tie for boys, no excessive jewellery and no hats, hoodies or trainers. Further information regarding the Dress Code is available on request.

What can you expect from us to help you achieve your educational aims?

- Well-qualified, experienced and committed staff
- Individual support from teachers and tutors
- Equipment and outstanding facilities and resources to help you with your studies

What do we expect from you?

- You must be able to work independently. Only part of your work will be with a teacher in the classroom. For every hour spent with a teacher, at least two hours should be spent on further study. This approach may be different from your previous

experience and it requires maturity, self motivation and excellent organisational skills, this is part of the preparation for university or work.

- We have high expectations about your role in the Academy. As a student at ARA Post 16 you will have many privileges, but you will also have responsibilities. We expect you to set an example to younger students and help them to succeed. They will admire you and hope to be like you one day, so we ask you to be a good role model.
- Continuation of your course into Year 13 will be dependent on you meeting certain requirements throughout Year 12. These requirements include an excellent attendance and behaviour record. Also you must demonstrate that you are making every effort to succeed in your studies and that you meet the course entry requirements to proceed to Year 13. This is generally determined by final AS or BTEC unit results achieved in the public assessments and external examinations in the summer of Year 12.



Courses

What Courses are on Offer?

The courses listed in this prospectus will be offered provided that enough students meet the stated entry requirements.

- Students must study at least 10 hours to be enrolled in the sixth form.

Class sizes will vary.

'A' level and BTEC Nationals are usually two-year courses; 'AS' level usually last for one year. The 'AS' is the first half of a full 'A' level course and also an exit qualification in its own right.

A range of other activities, some of which are certificated, are offered to students to broaden their range of skills; for example, Community Sport Leadership. We also have a Student Leadership Team who are involved in a range of activities across the Academy.

The following courses are on offer:

- AS levels
- A levels (A2)
- BTEC Diploma
- BTEC Subsidiary Diploma
- GCSE English and Maths (retake).

Courses offered at Post - 16 which lead to examination qualifications fall into three main categories: 'A' level, 'AS' level and BTEC Diploma and Subsidiary Diploma.

- 'A' levels are generally regarded as the more academic two-year option. They provide demanding courses of study in a wide range of subjects and are suited to students who enjoy academic study and have proved their high academic ability by their GCSE results.

Each 'A' level course comprises of four - six units. The six units can be studied in one year but, more often, they are studied over two years. When studied over two years (three units per year) an 'A' level qualification can be gained in one of two ways:

- Study of a subject for one year to gain an 'AS' level qualification followed by study of the same subject at A2 level in the second year. Successful completion of A2 leads to an 'A' level in that subject;
- Study of a subject for one year to gain an 'AS' level qualification, followed by study of another 'AS' level three unit subject for the second year of Post 16.

At the end of the two-year course, therefore, a successful student will have an 'A' level qualification gained by an 'AS' then an A2 pass or 2 'AS' passes. Grades at 'A' level or 'AS' level are used by universities to help them select students for degree courses

Art, Craft and Design AS Level

Examination Board: AQA

Syllabus code: 1201A

Course Content

The GCE Art, Craft and Design course is unendorsed which means it allows students to work within many areas of the art and design spectrum, for example Fine Art, Graphic Communication, Three-dimensional Design, Photography and Textiles. Students will produce a coursework portfolio which will contain a number of thematic or conceptual projects. This portfolio may take the shape of sketchbooks, design sheets, work journals or mounted sheets. Technical skill based workshops are held throughout the course to support the students developing knowledge of processes, theory and materials.

AS Level

Coursework/portfolio	50% of final mark
Controlled Test	50% of final mark

The students will be given a choice of exam questions on which to base their work. They will have four weeks preparation time and 5 hours to complete the exam.

A2 Level

Personal investigation	50% of final mark
A personal study or 1000 word essay	
Controlled Test	50% of final mark

The students will be given a choice of exam questions on which to base their work. They will have four weeks preparation time and 5 hours to complete the exam.

Assessment

Coursework and exam work is marked holistically using the following four criteria:

1 - Developing ideas through sustained and focused investigations informed by contextual and other sources, demonstrating analytical and critical understanding.

2 - Experimenting with and selecting appropriate resources, media, materials, techniques and processes, reviewing and refining ideas as work develops.

3 - Recording in visual and/or other forms ideas, observations and insights relevant to intentions, demonstrating an ability to reflect on work and progress.

4 - Present a personal, informed and meaningful response demonstrating critical understanding, realising intentions and, where appropriate, making connections between visual, written, oral or other elements.

Entry Requirements

Route A including a grade B in GCSE Art, Textiles or Graphics.

Career Progression

Art and Design is one of the biggest growing industries in the UK. The opportunities for art students in today's society are many and varied from architect to film maker, graphic designer to landscape architect, illustrator to photographer, and list is continuing to grow.



“It is about having an adventurous and enquiring approach to art and design and developing the skills to express it.”

Art and Design:

Endorsed Graphic Communication AS Level

Examination Board: AQA

Syllabus code: 1203C

Course Content

The GCE Graphic Communication course is endorsed which means it requires students to work within one or more areas of Graphic design, such as illustration, advertising, packaging design, design for print, communication and computer graphics, multimedia, animation and web design. Students will produce a coursework portfolio which will contain a number of thematic or conceptual projects. This portfolio may take the shape of sketchbooks, design sheets, work journals or mounted sheets. Technical skill based workshops are held throughout the course to support the students developing knowledge of processes, theory and materials.

Students will learn understanding of meaning, function, style, scale, colour and content; an awareness of intended audience or purpose for of Graphic Communication; how to respond to an issue, concept or idea; working to a brief; appreciation of the relationship of form and function; appreciation of the appropriate use of typography and symbols; understanding of a variety of materials and genres appropriate to Graphic Communication; how images and artefacts relate to social, environmental, cultural and/or ethical contexts, and to the time and place in which they were created.

AS Level

Coursework/portfolio	50% of final mark
Controlled Test	50% of final mark

The students will be given a choice of exam questions on which to base their work. They will have four weeks preparation time and 5 hours to complete the exam.

A2 Level

Personal investigation	50% of final mark
A personal study or 1000 word essay	
Controlled Test	50% of final mark

The students will be given a choice of exam questions on which to base their work. They will have four

weeks preparation time and 5 hours to complete the exam.

Assessment

Coursework and exam work is marked holistically using the following four criteria:

- 1 - Developing ideas through sustained and focused investigations informed by contextual and other sources, demonstrating analytical and critical understanding.
- 2 - Experimenting with and selecting appropriate resources, media, materials, techniques and processes, reviewing and refining ideas as work develops.
- 3 - Recording in visual and/or other forms ideas, observations and insights relevant to intentions, demonstrating an ability to reflect on work and progress.
- 4 - Present a personal, informed and meaningful response demonstrating critical understanding, realising intentions and, where appropriate, making connections between visual, written, oral or other elements.

Entry Requirements

Route A including B Grade in GCSE Art, Textiles or Graphics.

Career Progression

Art and Design is one of the biggest grossing industries in the UK. The opportunities for art students in today's society are many and varied from architect to film maker, graphic designer to landscape architect, illustrator to photographer, and list is continuing to grow.

Art and Design:

Endorsed Textile Design AS Level

Examination Board: AQA

Syllabus code: 1204D

Course Content

The GCE Textile Design course is endorsed which means it requires students to work within one or more of the following areas: fashion, printed and/or dyed fabric and materials, domestic textiles and wallpaper, interior design, constructed textiles or textile installation. Students will produce a coursework portfolio which will contain a number of thematic or conceptual projects. This portfolio may take the shape of sketchbooks, design sheets, work journals or mounted sheets. Technical skill based workshops are held throughout the course to support the students developing knowledge of processes, theory and materials.

Students will learn awareness of the elements of Textile Design, such as shape, colour, texture, pattern, harmony, contrast and/or repetition, an appreciation of the relationship of form and function and, where applicable, the constraints of working to a brief, an understanding of a variety of textile methods, such as fabric printing (mono-printing, relief printing and/or screen printing), tie-dye, batik, spraying, transfer and fabric construction and stitching (appliqué, patchwork,

AS Level

Coursework/portfolio 50% of final mark

Controlled Test 50% of final mark

The students will be given a choice of exam questions on which to base their work. They will have four weeks preparation time and 5 hours to complete the exam.

A2 Level

Personal investigation 50% of final mark

A personal study or 1000 word essay

Controlled Test 50% of final mark

The students will be given a choice of exam questions on which to base their work. They will have four weeks preparation time and 5 hours to complete the exam.

Assessment

Coursework and exam work is marked holistically using the following four criteria:

- 1 - Developing ideas through sustained and focused investigations informed by contextual and other sources, demonstrating analytical and critical understanding.
- 2 - Experimenting with and selecting appropriate resources, media, materials, techniques and processes, reviewing and refining ideas as work develops.
- 3 - Recording in visual and/or other forms ideas, observations and insights relevant to intentions, demonstrating an ability to reflect on work and progress.
- 4 - Present a personal, informed and meaningful response demonstrating critical understanding, realising intentions and, where appropriate, making connections between visual, written, oral or other elements.

Entry requirements

Route A including B Grade in GCSE Art, Textiles or Graphics.

Career Progression

Art and Design is one of the biggest grossing industries in the UK. The opportunities for art students in today's society are many and varied from architect to film maker, graphic designer to landscape architect, illustrator to photographer, and list is continuing to grow.





Biology AS Level

Examination Board: OCR

Syllabus code: H021

Course Content

Biology is a varied and challenging subject, which has a major impact in today's world. It covers the function of the molecules that make up living things, together with the physiology of plants and animals. The OCR specification is divided into biological topics, each containing different key concepts of biology. For assessment purposes, knowledge and understanding of key concepts are treated separately at AS; important links between different areas of biology are largely assessed synoptically at A2.

Assessment

AS Level

Unit 1 Cell Exchange and Transport

Unit 2 Molecules, Biodiversity

Unit 3 Practical Skills in Biology

A2 Level

Unit 4 Communications, Homeostasis and Energy

Unit 5 Control Genomes and Environment

Unit 6 Practical Skills in Biology

Entry requirements

Route A including a grade B in GCSE Science and an additional Science and a grade B in English and Maths GCSE.

Career Progression

This subject is applied in a wide range of careers e.g. veterinary medicine and other health care related careers, food science, environmental management, bioinformatics, genetic engineering and Nano- technology. Biology is therefore very much a science of the future with wide ranging and exciting career opportunities.

“Science dominates our lives and presents society with tremendous opportunities and tremendous challenges.”

Business AS Level

Examination Board: AQA

Syllabus code: 2130

Course Content

The AS units focus on small to medium-sized businesses operating within national, as opposed to international, markets.

Unit 1 covers the issues involved in a business start-up, such as research and planning, as well as the factors that determine success.

Unit 2 focuses on how established businesses might improve their effectiveness by making tactical decisions at a functional level.

The A2 units build on the AS units by considering more complex business scenarios and focusing on strategy, as opposed to tactics.

Unit 3 focuses on larger businesses which may be trading in international markets, and how managers might measure the performance of the business. This unit considers functional strategies that larger businesses may adopt to achieve their objectives.

Unit 4 assesses the external factors that can act as catalysts for change, and considers these in relation to a range of businesses. This unit also examines the ways in which businesses can manage change successfully when responding to external stimuli.

Assessment

Unit 1 (BUSS1) Planning and Financing a Business
40% of AS, 20% of A Level
1 hour 15 minutes examination
60 marks which are made up from short answer

questions and extended responses based on a mini case study.

Unit 2 (BUSS2) Managing a Business
60% of AS, 30% of A Level
1 hour 30 minutes examination
80 marks made up of compulsory, multi-part data response questions.

Unit 3 (BUSS3) Strategies for Success
25% of A Level
1 hour 45 minutes examination
80 marks from questions requiring extended answers based on an unseen case study drawing upon knowledge from AS units.

Unit 4 (BUSS4) The Business Environment and Managing Change
25% of A Level
1 hour 45 minutes examination
80 marks from pre-release research tasks leading to the first section of a two section examination. The second section will consist of choice of essays. All questions will be essay style and synoptic therefore drawing upon knowledge from all four units.

Entry requirements

Students do not need to have studied Business before to do this course.

Route A

Career Progression

This course will provide you with knowledge and skills to enter the world of work and the course worth UCAS points so will help you achieve your place at university should that be your chosen route.



Chemistry AS Level

Examination Board: OCR

Syllabus code: H034

Course Content

Studying AS chemistry builds on the knowledge and understanding of Chemistry developed at GCSE level. The course aims to stimulate interest in and enjoyment of chemistry, to foster imaginative, logical and critical thinking, to demonstrate the wider application of chemical knowledge, showing appreciation for social, environmental, economic and technological contributions to society. It integrates theory and experimental work, developing investigative and manipulative skills. The A2 course is a natural progression from AS and further develops the principles studied at AS, as well as incorporating new ideas.

The specification is divided into chemical topics, each containing different key concepts of chemistry. Once the key features of a chemical topic have been developed, applications are considered. For assessment purposes, knowledge and understanding of key concepts are treated separately at AS; important links between different areas of chemistry are largely assessed synoptically at A2. While the teaching of practical skills may be integrated with the theoretical topics, they are assessed separately.

Unit Assessment

AS Level

Unit F321: Atoms, Bonds and Groups

- Atoms and reactions
- Electrons, bonding and structure
- The Periodic Table

Unit F322: Chains, Energy and Resources.

- Basic concepts and hydrocarbons
- Alcohols, halogenoalkanes and analysis
- Energy
- Resources

Unit F323: Practical Skills in Chemistry 1

- This AS (practical skills) unit is teacher assessed and externally moderated by OCR.
- Candidates are assessed on one task from each of the following categories: qualitative, quantitative and evaluative tasks.

A2 Level

Unit F324: Rings, Polymers and Analysis

- Rings, acids and amines
- Polymers and synthesis
- Analysis

Unit F325: Equilibria, Energetics and Elements

- Rates, equilibrium and pH
- Energy
- Transition elements

Unit F326: Practical Skills in Chemistry 2

- This A2 (practical skills) unit is teacher assessed and externally moderated by OCR.
- Candidates are assessed on one task from each of the following categories: qualitative, quantitative and evaluative tasks.

Entry Requirement

Route A including a grade B in GCSE Science and an additional Science and a grade B in English and Maths GCSE.

Career Progression

Students who study chemistry at A level have various career opportunities open to them. These may be within the field of chemistry e.g. research chemistry, pharmaceutical chemistry, analytical chemistry, biochemistry, environmental chemistry, medicinal chemistry, material science and chemical engineering



Computer Science AS Level

Examination Board: AQA

Syllabus code: 2510

Course Content

Students choosing this course will be embarking on a course aimed to develop their inquisitive and problem solving skills. Students are encouraged to identify real life problems and create automated solutions through their understanding of computer hardware and programming.

Students who choose this option will learn how to program a computer and will develop a deep understanding of theory and practice. Students will study a broad range of computer related topics. These include computer programming, databases, number systems, central processing units, operating systems, application software, networks, internets and intranets, IP addresses, expert systems, assembly language, data representation, SQL, hardware devices and server side scripting.

Assessment

AS Level

Unit 1: Problem Solving, Programming, Data Representation and Practical Exercise

- Fundamentals of Problem Solving
- Fundamentals of Programming
- Fundamentals of Data Representation
- Systems Development Life Cycle

Assessment: 60% of AS, 30% of A Level: 2 hour on-screen examination

Unit 2: The Computer Components, The Stored Program Concept and The Internet.

- Fundamentals of Computer Systems
- Fundamental Hardware Elements of Computers
- Machine Level Architecture
- Hardware Devices
- The Structure of the Internet
- Web page design
- Consequences of Uses of Computing

Assessment: 40% of AS, 20% of A Level: 1 hour written examination

A2 Level

Unit 3: Problem Solving, Programming, Operating Systems, Databases and Networking

- Problem Solving
- Programming Concepts

- Real Numbers
- Operating Systems
- Databases
- Communication and Networking

Assessment: 30% of A Level: 2 hour 30 minutes written examination

Unit 4: The Practical Project.

- A choice of any problem to solve using programming

Assessment: 20% of A Level: Coursework, internally assessed, and moderated by AQA.

Entry Requirements

Route A Students considering this course should have a grade B GCSE in IT minimum (or a Credit in DiDA), and a grade B in GCSE Mathematics.

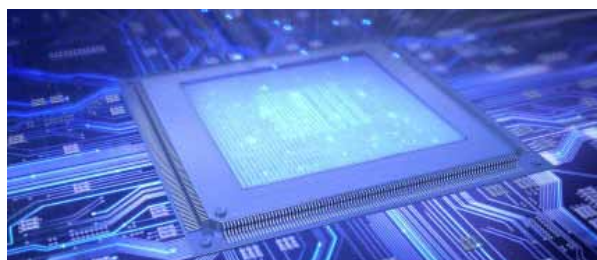
Career Progression

There is a wide variety of opportunity in the IT industry and for candidates with the right skills, prospects are high. Well qualified and experienced IT professionals can currently aspire to earn in excess of £50,000 a year. There are a lot of different careers to choose from, including Games Programmer, Database Manager, Systems Analyst and Web Developer.

A Level Computing is an ideal preparation for those considering further study at university or college in a computer related discipline. There are a wide variety of courses on offer for students interested in taking this route, including Computer Science, Graphics, Game Design, Information Systems, Computer Animation and Systems Engineering.

A Level Computing could also be an excellent choice for students considering further study an unrelated subject. Students taking this course will learn critical thinking, logical analysis and conceptual understanding. All of these are key skills for any undergraduate course.

It is possible to progress directly to the job market with this qualification. Some companies offer entry-level positions with on the job training, such as a helpdesk assistant or a trainee programmer.



Design Technology:

Product Design AS Level

Examination Board: WJEC

Syllabus code: 2111/01

Course Content

Design Technology: Product Design course provides a stimulating and enjoyable experience which broadens understanding of the work of designers and manufacturers. The course covers a wide range of design and making practices as well as a range of practical work in 2D and 3D processes, including design drawing, modelling and manufacturing.

Students investigate and analyse historical and contemporary influences on the work of designers, crafts people, inventors and engineers to develop their creative and innovative skills and increases awareness of Industrial and Commercial practice and understanding of related topics such as sustainability and environmental issues. Visits to industries and Design Museums will supplement classroom learning and students will be encouraged to be independent, creative, innovative learners. To be successful students will have to be prepared to use the Academy workshops outside of timetabled lessons.

Assessment

AS Level

Unit DT1 – The Written Paper

During this section of the examination students will be tested on students' knowledge and understanding in four specific areas. This knowledge will be presented to candidates in practical designing and making sessions as well as in more formal theoretical lessons.

- 4.1.1 Designing and Innovation
- 4.1.2 Product Analysis
- 4.2.1 Materials and Components
- 4.2.2 Industrial and Commercial Practice

Unit DT2 - The Design and Make project

During the course of the academic year students will be set a substantial design and make task which will provide them with the opportunity to apply their knowledge and skills to solve a real problem. During completion of this project it is anticipated that students will complete work in the following areas.

- (i) Research and analysis
- (ii) Design Brief and specification
- (iii) Design considerations and investigation
- (iv) Generating proposals
- (v) Development details
- (vi) Detail designing

- (vii) Planning/Quality Assurance/Quality Control
- (viii) Evaluation

This work will be presented in a range of different formats including an A3 Portfolio and an A4 report it will also, occasionally, require the use of specialist IT programs. Through these documents there should be a clear representation of the journey that has been taken through the design process to the manufacture of the product, its testing and evaluation.

A2 Level

Unit DT3 – The Written Paper

Unit DT3 is delivered in the same manner as Unit DT1 and includes the same four areas of focus plus an additional four.

- 4.1.3 Human Responsibility
- 4.1.4 Public Interaction
- 4.2.3 Processes
- 4.2.4 Production Systems and Control.

Unit DT4 – The Design and Make Project

The major project must be a single, integrated project involving the design and manufacture of a product using any material or combination of materials. It will be approached in a similar manner to the project completed in the AS but should be more complex and display progression in all areas of the course. It should show students' ability to analyse, synthesise and draw conclusions from an in-depth study of a product and then to take this knowledge forward to manufacture a high quality product, which displays creative expertise and a complete understanding of the design process.

Entry Requirements

Route A

Career Progression

Universities & Industries are keen to recruit people with good capabilities in product design, and who understand how products are developed and manufactured successfully.

Possible careers include consumer product design, engineering product design, marketing, industrial design consultancy, production engineering, project planning, technical sales, furniture design, CAD/CAM, buying, interior/exhibition design, advertising & display design.

Some students become in-house designers whilst others work in design consultancies or as Freelance Designers. Students can also progress into computer aided design, design management or go on to teaching or postgraduate research.

English Literature AS Level

Examination Board: EDEXCEL

Syllabus code: 8ET01

Course Content

English Literature offers students the challenge of reading and studying a wide range of literature written at various periods of time and in different styles.

As well as studying specific texts for the examination, students will gain knowledge about the social, historical and cultural contexts of certain writers and their works.

Students will learn how to analyse texts and to write about them critically. Students will develop their own responses to Literature and combine this with knowledge of how Literature 'works' – how writers achieve effects in their writing, and how effectively they 'shape' their works or create characters and settings.

Unit 1: Explorations in Prose and Poetry (including texts from 1800 to 1945)

In this unit students will study the genres of prose and poetry. Groups of texts have been put together to draw out common or contrasting aspects.

Students will read one core literary heritage novel and one further novel or novella to inform their reading and response. Students will also read one selection of poems identified for study from a choice of three published collections.

Unit 2: Explorations in Drama
(Shakespeare and drama, including plays from 1300 – 1800)

In this coursework unit students will explore drama texts and produce a coursework folder containing an

explorative study and a creative critical response.

Students will study a play in detail, draw upon your knowledge of a further play(s) and/or explore relevant critical reception. This approach will enhance students' ability to consider the contexts in which the texts were written and are received.

Assessment

Unit 1: Explorations in Prose and Poetry
30% of total marks

Two hour, 15 minute examination:

- Section A: Unseen poetry or prose, short-answer response
- Section B: Poetry essay response
- Section C: Prose essay response

Unit 2: Explorations in Drama
20% of total marks
Coursework: 2000 - 2500 words

- Explorative study
- Creative critical response

Entry Requirements

Route A

Career Progression

This is a course that is valued by almost every profession. Whether it is a science or humanities based career all professions appreciate someone who has the ability to read, understand and communicate the ideas of others, as well as their own. Careers such as Law and Journalism, public sector professions such as teaching, the police force or being a doctor welcome as English A Level.



Geography AS Level



Examination Board: AQA

Syllabus code: 1031

Course Content

A level Geography is an exciting contemporary subject that will appeal not only to keen geographers but also to economics and business studies students as well as biologists and scientists. The course empowers students to understand interconnected global issues and contribute to a better future. Students are given the opportunity to develop study skills and conduct research into topics of interest to them from classics such as glaciation to contemporary cultural geography.

There are opportunities for fieldwork at AS and A2 level and students will develop a range of skills that employers and universities are looking for.

AS Level

Unit 1 – Physical and Human Geography

- The study of core geographical concepts along with contrasting themes of contemporary or environmental impact, management and sustainability.
- Topics include rivers and flooding, population, hot desert environments and health issues.

Unit 2 – Geographical skills

- Students will develop investigative, cartographic, graphical, ICT and statistical skills through unit 1 and be tested on how well you apply these.

A2 Level

Unit 3 – Contemporary Geographical Issues

- Students will study three topics from plate tectonics, weather and climate, ecosystems, world cities, development and globalisation, and contemporary conflicts and challenges.

Unit 4 – Fieldwork investigation or issues analysis

- Students will have the opportunity to conduct field work or apply your analytical and research skills to an important issue.

Assessment

Students' work is assessed through four exams that contain a variety of short answer, data response and structured essay style questions. Students sit two exams at the end of Year 12 and two at the end of Year 13.

Entry Requirements

Route A including a grade B in GCSE Geography

Career Progression

Geography develops thinkers who can see the bigger picture and a range of transferable skills that are valued by employers and universities alike. As such, geographers are employed in a vast range of occupations and careers. Geography graduates have one of the highest rates of graduate employment and studying geography can provide you with good skills and a firm base for life-long learning. Geographers tend to go either into careers relating directly to the subject or careers based on the skills developed such as marketing and the financial sector.

History AS Level

Examination Board: AQA

Syllabus code: 1041

Course Content

The A level history course builds on the knowledge and skills gained at GCSE. It is designed to help students understand the value and significance of world events in the past. Knowing how people lived in the past helps students to understand why people act the way they do today.

The course looks in detail at a diverse range of topics, including Elizabethan England, USA 1890-1945 and life in Nazi Germany.

In the first year students will cover two themes which are fundamental in the study of history.

1. The first theme is change and consolidation, looking at how societies change over time and how the government respond to the need for change.
2. The second theme is periods of change which looks directly at key historical events and how they have changed people's lives.

In the second year there are also two learning themes these include;

1. The state and the people: change and continuity, looking at the relationship between a state and the citizens over a 50 year period.
2. Historical Enquiry this included investigating life-changing events over a hundred year period.

Assessment

AS Level

Unit 1: USA 1890-1945\

Written examination paper - 50% of AS mark 25% of A2 mark

Unit 2: Life in Nazi Germany 1933-45

Written source paper - 50% of AS mark 25% of A2 mark

A2 Level

Unit 3: The Triumph of Elizabethan Britain 1547-1603

Written paper - 30% of A2 mark

Unit 4: To be confirmed

Coursework - 20% of A2 mark

Entry requirements

Route A including a grade B in GCSE RS, History or Geography

Career progression

Successful History students become practiced in the analytical, research, and study skills that are useful in Higher education and in the workplace. History is a well respected discipline and is invaluable to any student intending to follow an academic subject at university. Those which to enter the professions; accountancy, law, journalism, medicine and teaching will find that university admissions tutors look favourable upon an A level in History.



ICT AS Level

Examination Board: AQA

Syllabus code: 2520

Course Content

This course comprehensively covers all aspects of ICT to a high level. It is suitable for students who will be pursuing IT as a career, those who are going on to study an IT related subject at college or university and for those who have a strong interest in the subject. The A Level has the backing of a range of industries, higher education and the National Computing Centre.

Assessment

Students study four modules over two years. Those who pass units 1 and 2 in year 12 will achieve an AS Level, and can progress to the A2 in year 13.

AS Level

Unit 1: Practical Problem Solving in the Digital World (50% of AS-Level): In this unit students sit a theory based exam and complete a sample piece of work. The main topics include:

- How a computer works.
- How ICT systems are planned, designed, developed, tested in the real world.
- Creating an advanced ICT system using programming, relational databases and interactive multimedia.

Unit 2: Living in the Digital World (50% of AS-Level): In this unit students will have to complete an exam. In this unit students will study the following:

- ICT system components and how they work
- People, ICT and the evolution of the user interface
- Data and ICT security
- The role of ICT in security
- The role of ICT in the global economy.

A2 Level

Unit 3: The Use of ICT in the Digital World (60% of A2-Level): Students take an exam on the following:

- Cutting Edge developments in ICT
- Information and Systems
- Management and ICT
- System Analysis and Development
- Large Scale ICT projects
- ICT Support Systems

Unit 4: The ICT Project (40% of A2-Level): Students plan, design, develop and make an advanced ICT system. This might be

- Programming (Basic or Java)
- Advanced Relational Database
- Advanced Graphics, animation
- Multimedia solutions such as Flash, Adobe Premiere, and Photoshop
- Any other suitable Advanced software package

Entry Requirements

Route A and Merit in DIDA.

Career Progression

A Level IT or Computing is ideal for those considering further study at university or college in a computer related discipline. There are a wide variety of courses on offer for students interested in taking this route, including Computer Science, Graphics, Game Design, Information Systems, Computer Animation and Systems Engineering. A Level IT is also a good choice for students considering further study a non-IT subject. Most degree courses include computer based modules and options, and many consider IT as an essential analysis tool.

There is a wide variety of opportunity in the IT industry. For candidates with the right skills, prospects are high. Well qualified and experienced IT professionals can currently aspire to earn in excess of £50,000. There are a lot of different career paths to choose from. Many require further training, but some can be accessed with just an IT A Level (the company usually provides further training). These include helpdesk administrator, trainee programmer or junior web page designer.

“The course is designed to equip the student with the essential IT skills which are useful both in a business environment and for further education.”

Mathematics AS Level

Examination Board: EDEXCEL

Syllabus code: 8371

Course Content

Mathematics offers students the challenge of developing their reasoning skills to construct logical arguments, recognise incorrect reasoning and to construct mathematical proofs. Students will learn a range of mathematical skills and techniques and apply these in more unstructured problems. They will learn to recognise how 'real world' problems can be modelled and will then refine and improve these models. Students will be studying how mathematics is relevant to other fields of study, to the world of work and to society in general.

Pure Mathematics

This course of study is the building block for Mathematics and for so many subjects such as Physics, Engineering, Economics, etc.

Students will study units on: Algebra and functions; Coordinate Geometry; Sequences and series; Graphs; Trigonometry; Calculus

Statistics

This is a very important branch of Mathematics and is particularly important in Psychology, science, management science, etc.

You will study units on: Mathematical modelling of real life situations; Representing data; Analysing data; Testing hypotheses; Probability distributions

Mechanics

Mechanics is an essential requirement to successful study in physics and engineering looking at the effect of forces in different situations.

Students will study units on: Creating simple models; Particles moving in straight lines; Forces; The equations of motion; Moments.

Assessment

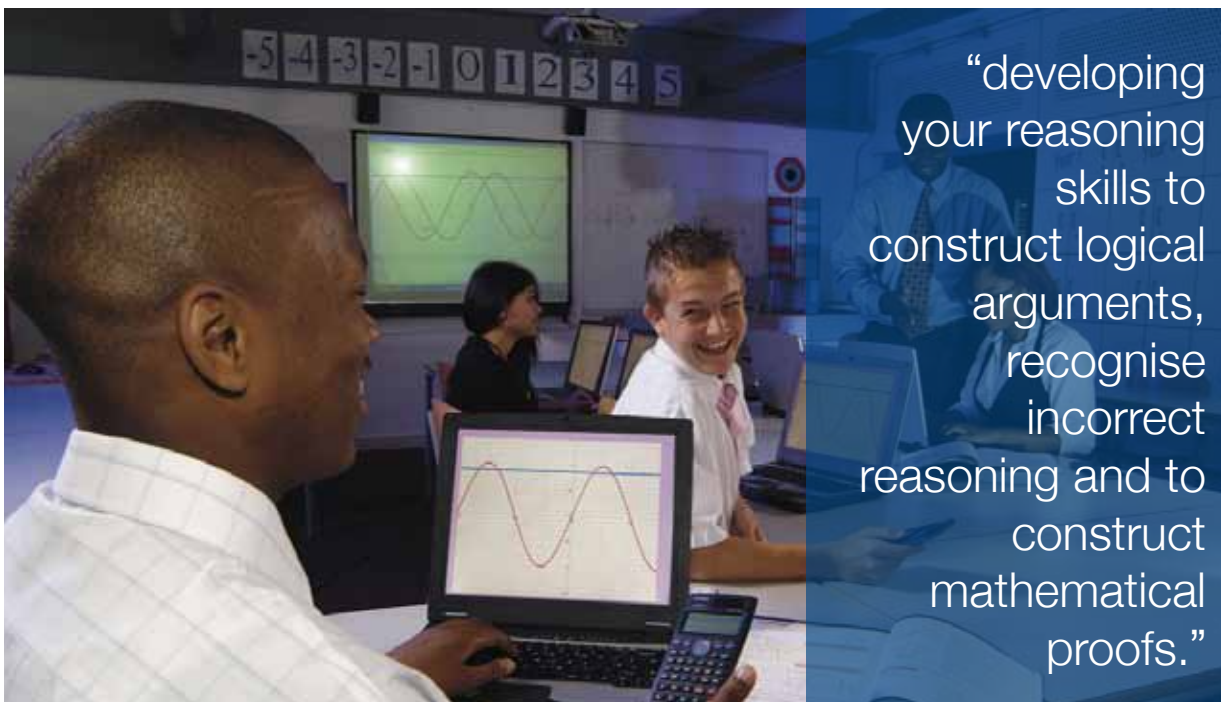
Assessment for mathematics AS level is solely exams.

Entry Requirements

Route A including a grade B in GCSE Maths and Maths Statistics

Career Progression

An AS or A level in Mathematics will enable students to follow a range of courses at University. It also serves as an excellent foundation for engineering, medicine, science, management and psychology courses. Employers will recognise advanced and sophisticated reasoning skills, including the ability to solve problems.



“developing your reasoning skills to construct logical arguments, recognise incorrect reasoning and to construct mathematical proofs.”



Media AS Level

Examination Board: AQA

Syllabus code: 2570

Course Content

Media literacy is an essential skill for the 21st century in a rapidly changing world, which is increasingly embracing new technologies and working methods. Media is an interesting, engaging, challenging and enjoyable area of study. Students will gain a solid understanding of the purposes, principles, concepts, techniques and systems of media products in print, audio-visual and new/emerging media platforms. Students will study the contemporary media landscape to look at the changing ways and contexts in which media texts are produced and consumed.

Students will study key concepts such as media language, media representations, media reception and media production across different areas and discover how media products are promoted across different media platforms. Students will also carry out cross-media studies, such as broadcast or film fiction, documentary and hybrid forms, lifestyle, music, news or sport.

Students will develop two linked practical production pieces in different media platforms based on a set production brief.

Assessment

Assessment for Media is a combination of examinations relating to Media theory studied and practical production coursework, with written supporting account.

Entry Requirements

Route A including a grade B in GCSE English.

Career Progression

Although Media is essentially a vocational course, the wide-ranging skills developed in studying Media are very appealing to all employers and Universities. Media Studies requires a combination of written and practical skills, a strong analytical ability, research skills and creativity. Students also need to communicate through various forms, including the debate of key issues which affect all of society. Media is such a strong force – it is guided by society, yet in turn can shape it. To be able to study Media in all its forms will stretch the general knowledge, social understanding and world-view of students in a way which will surely impact future study in any area.

Performing Arts AS Level

Examination Board: EDEXCEL

Syllabus code: 8781

Course Content

The Edexcel GCE in Performing Arts enables students to develop broad skills, knowledge and understanding based on the practical needs and concerns of the performing arts industry.

Edexcel's GCE in Performing Arts gives students an understanding of all aspects of performing arts and combines it with the opportunity to specialise in either performance or production support.

While developing students' own skills, they will simultaneously gain insights into the nature of the industry. Current employment opportunities, constraints and the issues facing professionals working within the performing arts sector are all reflected in the course.

The qualification encourages talent by offering a genuinely practical approach. There are no written exams, and assessment is solely through portfolio and performance, which are internally assessed and externally moderated.

The vocational emphasis of this qualification encourages you to apply working methods used by professionals as individuals, in teams, and with clients, commissioners and audiences.

The qualification has an AS/A2 structure. It can take the form of:

- a Single Award AS GCE (3 units)
- a Single Award Advanced GCE (6 units)

Assessment

AS Level

Unit 1 - Exploring Skills for Performance (internally assessed)

Unit 2 - Planning for an Event (internally assessed)

Unit 3 - Performing to a Commission (externally assessed)

A2 Level

Unit 4 Employment Opportunities in the Performing Arts (internally assessed)

Unit 5 or Unit 6

Unit 5 - Advanced Performance Practice (internally assessed)

Unit 6 - Advanced Production Practice (internally assessed)

Unit 7 - Production Delivery (externally assessed)

Entry Requirements

Route A including a grade B in GCSE Music/Drama or Performing Arts

Career Progression

The Edexcel GCE in Performing Arts qualifies for UCAS points. It gives students a wide choice of progression options into further study, training or relevant employment.

Students who successfully complete the qualification will be well equipped to move onto degrees or BTEC Higher National Diplomas in Performing Arts. Career opportunities for people working, or wishing to work, in the performing arts industry are wide and varied.



Philosophy AS Level



Examination Board: AQA

Syllabus code: 1171

Course Content

People who ever sit quietly and ask themselves difficult questions? Like 'does God exist?', or 'are we really free?' are philosophical by nature. Most people agree that philosophy is about using rational argument and logical thinking to shine some light on life's big questions. In doing so students will get a greater understanding of the world we live in, and of themselves.

Philosophy helps students develop a number of new skills:

- How to think for yourself
- How to examine information in a critical way
- How to form judgements based on clear evaluation of information
- How to put your point of view across clearly
- How to take responsibility for your own learning.

In the first year (AS) students will have an introduction to philosophy in two parts. Part 1 includes subjects like 'The idea of God, and 'Why should I be moral?' Part 2 includes 'Realism and idealism' and 'Free will and determinism'. This first year gets you into the mind-set of philosophy, from where students can spread their wings and consider loftier subjects. In year two, the first study topic is 'Key themes in philosophy'. Here students will shine a light on

subjects like moral and religious philosophy, along with stuff like political philosophy. The second study topic is 'Philosophical problems', where students get their heads around some of the issues pondered by great philosophers over the years.

Assessment

In the first year students will sit two papers; one covering what you learned in Part 1, the other Part 2. Each 90 minute paper will account for 50% of your marks for the year. In the second year students will have two papers again, but this time the paper covering 'Key themes' accounts for 60% of your marks for the year, whilst 'Philosophical problems' accounts for 40%.

Entry Requirements

Route A including a grade GCSE B in RS, History or Geography

Career Progression

For the vast majority of students - even those who go on to take the subject at university - 'philosopher' is not the kind of job title you see down at the local job centre. But what philosophy does do is fine-tune your reasoning so that your enhanced intellect can be applied to other careers.

Law, politics, the civil service, journalism, advertising, education ... these are some of the careers where your ability to turn abstract subjects into solid concepts will be highly regarded.

Physics AS Level

Examination Board: OCR

Syllabus code: H159

Course Content

The teaching approach has an emphasis on the practical applications of physics. The Advancing Physics course enables students to learn both about fundamental physical concepts and about physics in everyday and technological settings. The course shows how physics is practised and used today. It also shows the usefulness of the subject, and illustrates the kind of impact which discoveries in physics have had on the way we live. This specification has been developed in consultation with the Institute of Physics.

The AS course provides a satisfying experience for the students who choose to take AS GCE. At the end of the course candidates should know more of what physics is about and its place in the world. The AS course provides a sound foundation for the students who chooses to go on to the second year and to take the Advanced GCE award.

Assessment

There are six units within the course three for AS and three for A2

AS Level

Unit 1 Physics in action

Unit 2 Understanding Processes Experimentation and data handling

Unit 3 Physics in Practice (practical skills coursework)

A2 Level

Unit 4 Rise and fall of the clockwork universe

Unit 5 Field and Particle Pictures

Unit 6 Researching Physics (practical skills coursework)

The course work contributes 20% of the AS mark and 20% of the A2 mark (so overall this corresponds to 20% of the total A level marks)

Entry Requirements

Route A including a grade B in Science and an additional Science and a grade B in English and Maths GCSE.

Career opportunities

This course is the ideal foundation for such subjects as Engineering, Optometry, and Medical careers.



Spanish AS Level

Examination Board: EDEXCEL

Syllabus code: 8SP01

Course Content

The GCE Spanish is about taking the opportunity to further develop the linguistic skills students have acquired to date by pushing it to the next level. During the course students will have the chance to develop their ability to understand and use Spanish effectively for the purpose of practical communication and of building valid arguments, imaginatively and creatively. Students will also be expected to develop a deeper understanding of Spanish grammar and get insights into the culture and civilization of Spain and other Spanish speaking countries. Throughout the course students will be encouraged to adopt an international outlook, taking a positive attitude towards foreign language learning and a variety of cultures.

All students will be stretched to the best of their ability and will need to develop grammatical skills and an overall linguistic competence in the following areas:

AS level – Grammar as specified by Edexcel at AS level.

- 1) Transition unit: Family Affairs
- 2) Youth Culture and Concerns (music, fashion, technologies, relationships)
- 3) Lifestyle, Health and Fitness (sport, food, health issues)
- 4) The World Around Us (tourist information, travel, weather, pollution, recycling)
- 5) Education and Employment (schooling, education policy, the world of work)
- 6) Media (the press, internet, radio and television)

A2 level (Edexcel: 9SP01) – Grammar as specified by Edexcel at AS level.

A2 topics are all AS topics plus:

- 1) Customs, Traditions, Beliefs and Religions
- 2) National and International events
- 3) Literature and the Arts

Set Literary Texts

Anonymous, La vida de Lazarillo de Tormes;

Antonio Buero Vallejo, El concierto de San Ovidi;

Laura Esquivel, Como agua para chocolate; Fiestas;

Carmen Laforet, Las ataduras;

Ramon J Sender, Requiem por un campesino español

Assessment

At both AS and A2 levels, assessment is externally assessed by Edexcel, while Spanish teachers at ARA will conduct oral examinations.

AS Level

Unit 1: 6SP01 Speaking
8-10mins 30%

Unit 2: 6SP02 Listening, Reading & Writing
2 ½ hrs 70%

A2 Level

Unit 3: 6SP03 Speaking
11-13mins 35%

Unit 4: 6SP04 Translation (English-Spanish),
2 ½ hrs 65%

Essay writing & Research-Based Essay

Throughout the course students will be continuously assessed in class as well as through homework tasks, past exam papers and mock exams, while four linguistic skills of Listening, Speaking, Reading and Writing will also be assessed individually on a regular basis.

Entry Requirement

Route A including a grade B in GCSE Spanish

Career Progression

Spanish is spoken in over 20 countries around the globe and in 4 different continents, making being fluent in it a real advantage if you are looking into a career in International Business, NGOs or even the European Council. In fact there is a wide range of careers you could peruse if you know Spanish; for example: Translating, Interpreting, Law, Banking, Finance, Tourism, Marketing, Management and Language Teaching amongst many others.

Business BTEC Level 3 Diploma



Examination Board: EDEXCEL

Syllabus code: JD801

Course Content

There are four mandatory units plus optional units that provide for a combined total of 120 credits.

AS Level

- Unit 1: The Business Environment (10 credits, mandatory)
- Unit 2: Business Resources (10 credits, mandatory)
- Unit 3: Introduction to Marketing (10 credits, mandatory)
- Unit 4: Business Communication (10 credits, mandatory)
- Unit 11: Relationship Marketing (10 credits, optional)
- Unit 12: Internet Marketing in Business (10 credits, optional)

A2 Level

- Unit 10: Market Research in Business (10 credits, optional)
- Unit 13: Recruitment and Selection in Business (10 credits, optional)
- Unit 14: Aspects of Employment Law (10 credits, optional)
- Unit 16: Human Resource Management in Business (10 credits, optional)
- Unit 17: Training in the Business Workplace (10 credits, optional)
- Unit 18: Managing a Business Event (10 credits, optional)

BTEC National which is at Level 3 – is made up of four sizes of qualification:

- Certificates, Subsidiary Diplomas, Diplomas and Extended Diplomas.
- The Certificate is equivalent to one AS Level.
- Subsidiary Diplomas 1 A Level .
- Diploma is equivalent to 2 A Levels
- Extended is equivalent to 3 A Levels

So, why choose BTEC?

BTECs is a work-related qualification. It is designed to accommodate the needs of employers as well as allowing progression to university.

By nature BTECs provide a more practical, real-world approach to learning alongside a theoretical background, giving you the knowledge, understanding and skills needed to prepare for employment. Each unit is assessed through the completion of assignments that are designed by you as tutor and that call on a range of evidence types. Such flexibility enables you to deliver a qualification that is just right for your learners.

Entry Requirements

Route B

Career Progression

This course will provide you with the practical skills and knowledge to go on to University or into employment. The course is also worth UCAS points so will help you achieve your place at university should that be your chosen route.

Creative Media (Film and Television)

BTEC Level 3 Subsidiary Diploma

Examination Board: EDEXCEL

Syllabus code: XY475

Course Content

The Certificate in Creative Media consists of 7 units:

- Unit 1: Pre-Production Techniques for the Creative Media Industries
- Unit 2: Communication Skills for Creative Media Production
- Unit 3: Research Techniques for the Creative Media Industries
- Unit 4: Presentation techniques for Broadcasting
- Unit 5: Music Video Production
- Unit 6: Advertisement Production for Television
- Unit 7: Designing Indents for Television

(At least 45 credits from the 60 above must be at Level 3 or above)

Understanding the Media industry and its products is becoming increasingly important due to its effect on society and our lives. This course provides a practical way of engaging with an industry which is increasingly embracing new technologies and working methods.

Media is an interesting, engaging, challenging and enjoyable area of study which allows for a mixture of creativity and business know-how.

Assessment

Assessment for Creative Media is a combination of written and practical production units.

Entry Requirements

5 C's or above at GCSE or equivalent

Route C

Career Progression

Creative Media allows you to develop wide-ranging skills which are very appealing to all employers and Universities. Media Studies requires a combination of written and practical skills which will demonstrate your ability to analyse texts and industries, while at the same time providing you with a portfolio of work to showcase your creative and practical skills. This qualification will allow you to move on to further study, pursue a career in the film and television industry or to take up a career in any field which values this wide range of skills and attributes.



Health & Social Care

BTEC Level 3 Diploma



Examination Board: QCF

Syllabus code: NA442

Course Content

This course is focused on developing your understanding of the skills you will need in order to work in a health and/or social care setting.

The course ranges over topics that will support your development as a suitable person to pursue a career in these and other professions, and will help you to identify where to go after sixth form.

You will study units including: Developing Effective Communication; Equality, Diversity and Rights; Lifespan development; Sociology; Psychology and Human Physiology.

In the compulsory unit 'Personal and Professional Development' you will complete a placement as the basis of your coursework to reflect upon your own skills as a health and/or social care practitioner, and to start to develop these skills in a working environment.

Assessment

You will be assessed through a coursework portfolio, you will be graded in terms of pass, merit, distinction and distinction*. You will not have any examinations to complete this course.

Entry Requirements

Route B

Career progression

The BTEC Level 3 qualification will provide you with a grounding suitable to go on to study degree subjects including: nursing, psychology, speech therapy, occupational therapy, nutrition, social work and teaching, among others.

The nature of the BTEC course will also enable you to apply directly to health or social care professions, such as nursery teaching, caring or support teaching, and to pursue professional development study in these settings.

Where appropriate, you may be eligible to complete the BTEC Extended Diploma and gain a more in-depth and broad skills base to take with you into your chosen profession or route of study.

“The nature of the BTEC course will also enable you to apply directly to health or social care professions.”

ICT BTEC Level 3 Subsidiary Diploma



Examination Board: EDEXCEL

Syllabus code: SH336

Course Content

This is a two year course and is equivalent to an A Level. The qualification is ideal for students intending to work in the IT sector, or to progress to higher education.

The course is practical and work related and has been designed to meet the current employment needs of the ICT industry. The skills and course content is up to date and relevant and gives an excellent grounding in business practice. Students taking this course will develop their skills as well as improving their knowledge.

The Units

Students have 5 hours of lessons a week, and study six units from the following areas:-

- Computer Animation,
- Digital Graphics
- Programming
- Networks
- Security
- Websites (scripting, production, client side etc)
- Multimedia
- Modelling

Analysis

- Communication and Employability Skills,
- Computer components
- Computer Gaming

Entry Requirements

Route B including a Pass at DIDA or minimum grade C at GCSE

Career Progression

BTEC ICT is useful for those considering further study in the field. There are a wide variety of courses on offer for students interested in taking this route, including Computer Science, Graphics, Game Design, Information Systems, Computer Animation and Systems Engineering. Most degree courses include computer based modules and options, and many consider IT as an essential analysis tool. For those interested in working in the IT industry there are lots of different career paths to choose from.

Music BTEC Level 3 Diploma

Examination Board: EDEXCEL

Syllabus code: KN630

Course Content

The BTEC Level 3 Diploma provides a specialist work-related programme of study that covers the key knowledge and practical skills needed for a career in the music industry.

The course is modular, comprising of practical and academic study and contains many elements which are performance and or production based. The BTEC Level 3 Diploma offers flexibility and is broadly equivalent to two GCE's.

The Level 3 Diploma allows for a broader range of topic areas to follow. There are 3 mandatory units plus optional units that provide for a combined total of 120 credits.

Music and Society – Students will know the functions of music in society, how technology affects music making and consumption in society and how politics, business and industry affect music-makers and users.

Music Project – Students will prepare and work as a member of a team towards a successful live event, understanding the complete process in preparing for and delivering the live music event.

The Sound and Music Industry – Students will know about the sound and music industries and how they relate to the broader entertainment industry. They will be able to create a business plan for a product or service and know the importance of royalties in the sound and music industry.

Each year the course team selects nine of the following units to suit the resources available and the perceived interests in the group.

Arranging Music

Composing Music

Concert Production and staging

Improvising Music

Music in the Community

Music Performance Session Styles

Music Performance Techniques

Music Theory and Harmony

Pop Music in Practice

Studying Music from Around the World

The Functional Music Keyboard

Working and Developing as a Musical Ensemble

Assessment

You are continually assessed through written and practical assignments. There is no final examination. You are required to pass all units to complete the course. There will be an external assessment of a sample of work.

Entry Requirements

Route B

Career Progression

The course is a qualification recognised by numerous universities and music colleges in securing a place on music related degrees and courses. Career opportunities for people working, or wishing to work, in the music industry are wide and varied. Careers in this sector range from singing with a pop band to music publishing with many different options in between.

This course aims to give the learners the opportunity to gain understanding and practical skills in a variety of areas. There are also opportunities for learners to gain an understanding of the different working patterns with the industry especially working as a freelancer.



Sport Studies

BTEC Level 3 Diploma



Examination Board: EDEXCEL

Syllabus code: A01272

Course Content

The BTEC Diploma is designed to provide a specialist work-related qualification in a range of employment sectors. They have been developed to provide preparation for employment in the Sports and Leisure industry.

The 120 credit BTEC Level 3 Diploma broadens and expands the specialist work related focus from the level 2 course. The course is based upon the interaction between practical, theory and vocational links with the knowledge base applied to the sports and leisure employment sector with a focus on Performance and Excellence.

To enhance the vocational aspects of the course the students visit sport centres in the public and private sector and professional football clubs to view training facilities and training sessions. Key skills are bedded across each unit and provide a foundation for continual learning with aspects like effective communication, ICT skills and personnel development.

Assessment

All units are assessed through assignment based coursework.

Entry Requirements

Route B

Career Progression

Students who successfully complete the Diploma can apply to continue their studies at The Alec Reed Academy and move onto the Extended Diploma in Sport. The course will enable you to follow a range of courses at University such as BTEC Higher Nationals, Sports Management, Physiotherapy, Sport and Exercise Science, Teacher Training, Sports Coaching and Development and Biology.

The course also provides you with the qualities and knowledge required for employment in the public or private sectors of the sport, leisure and recreation industry.

“provides a specialist work related programme of study that covers the key knowledge and practical skills required in the sport and leisure industry.”

Travel & Tourism BTEC Level 3 Diploma

Examination Board: EDEXCEL

Syllabus code: NP231

Course Content

A BTEC Level 3 Diploma is a nationally recognised work-related qualification designed to provide you with a choice of routes into further education or employment. The course covers a wide range of topics. It takes two years to study and is equivalent to 2 A-levels. Your qualification is made up of a number of units, most of which are 10 credits. You need 120 credits for the diploma.

In the first year you will study:

- **Unit 1:** Investigating Travel and Tourism
Learn the components of the Travel and Tourism industry, the roles and responsibilities people have and how they have changed over time.
- **Unit 2:** The Business of Travel and Tourism
Know how to run a business in the industry and plan a travel and tourism project using a budget
- **Unit 3:** The UK as a Destination
Find out about the many things the UK has to offer the domestic and overseas visitor, from ancient castles to theme parks.
- **Unit 4:** Customer Service in Travel and Tourism
Learn transferable skills about dealing with customers that will be useful in any job.

- **Unit 7:** The European Travel Market

Locate tourism destinations in Europe from EuroDisney to Croatia and understand the appeal of holidays in Europe.

- **Unit 8:** Long Haul Destinations

Find out about far away places in exotic locations from Antarctica to the rainforests of Brazil.

Assessment

Over the course you will assemble a portfolio of evidence to show you have met the assessment criteria. This might include examples of adverts or brochures you produce, role plays that are recorded and other evidence that you have understood the work. This will be marked by your teacher. There is no exam. Depending on what criteria you meet you will be awarded a pass, merit or distinction.

Entry Requirements

Route B

Career Progression

There are over 30,000 working in travel industry locally. Some areas of employment have further learning opportunities within them, for example a Modern Apprenticeship. There is also the opportunity to study at university.



Football Academy



About the Football Academy

Over the last few years a very successful Sports Academy has been developed at Alec Reed Academy. It has been recognised nationally that students are provided with excellent opportunities that develop many skills in their chosen sport.

Specialists, who are experts in their field, work with the Sports Academy students to develop their knowledge and application of tactical, technical, physical, psycho-logical and coaching strategies of their chosen sport during session, during school time and during out of school hours learning time.

Alec Reed Academy encourages all Sports Academy students to achieve their maximum potential through coaching sessions in addition to them being given the opportunity and support required to compete competitively at various levels during the school week and beyond.

Football Academy

The Football Academy was the focus area of the Post 16 Sports Academy when the course was designed in 2003. Since then it has gone on from strength to strength.

Currently the Football Academy has had 12 students represent professional clubs and 32 students play at semi-professional standard. Including Bradley Bubb playing for Aldershot Town FC & Yannick Bolaise at Bristol City FC.

On the playing side the Academy has played and defeated a number of professional sides including Swindon Town, AFC Bournemouth and others. Students are coached by UEFA trained coaches 3 times a week.

Alongside this coaching students are able to complete one of the following nationally recognised courses:

FA Level 1 Coaching Award

FA Level 2 Coaching Award

Junior Football Organisers Course

SAQ Level 1

First Aid in Sport

The Academy is continuing to achieve both practically and academically with the Academy winning numerous county competitions and reaching the last eight of the English Schools Competition in 2005, 2007 and 2008 and reaching the final in 2006. They were also Middlesex champions in 2010/2011 the fourth time they had been crowned champions in seven years.

Year 12 Options Block

A	B	C	D	E
Biology AS	Physics AS	Chemistry AS	Maths AS	English AS
Art & Design Textiles AS	Media AS	History AS	Art, Craft and Design AS	Design & Technology AS
Philosophy & Ethics AS	IT AS	Business AS	Spanish AS	Computer Science AS
		Art Graphics AS	Geography AS	Performing Arts AS
Sport Studies BTEC Diploma		Sport Studies BTEC Extended Diploma	Soccer Skills	Creative Media BTEC Subsidiary Diploma
Business BTEC Diploma		Business BTEC Extended Diploma	Maths GCSE Resit	English GCSE Resit
Health & Social Care BTEC Diploma		Travel & Tourism BTEC Extended Diploma		ICT BTEC Subsidiary Diploma
Music BTEC Diploma		Health & Social BTEC Extended Diploma		
Travel & Tourism BTEC Diploma		Music BTEC Extended Diploma		



ALEC REED ACADEMY
PROUD TO LEARN

Year 12 Prospectus

Post 16 Centre

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