PROPOSED SIXTH FORM QUALIFICATIONS – 2026 ENTRY

It is important to select the correct qualification route for the start of Year 12.
We want everyone to be able to follow the university, apprenticeship or employment path of their choice.

Note - Information subject to alteration. Courses run subject to numbers. Updated 19/01/26

A LEVEL PATHWAY

GCSE grades mainly 6-9
Exams after 2 years

Art
Biology
Chemistry
Computer Science
Drama & Theatre Studies
Economics
Engineering
English Language
English Literature
French
Geography
German
History
Maths
Further Maths
Media Studies
Photography
Physics
Psychology
Religious Studies
Sociology
Spanish
Textiles

VOCATIONAL & TECHNICAL PATHWAY

GCSE grades mainly 4-5
Mix of coursework/exams

Applied Science
BTEC National Extended Certificate
equivalent to 1 A Level

Business
BTEC National Extended Certificate
equivalent to 1 A Level

Business
BTEC National Diploma
equivalent to 2 A Levels

Criminology
WJEC Applied Diploma
equivalent to 1 A Level

Dance
BTEC National Extended Certificate
equivalent to 1 A Level

Health & Social Care
BTEC National Extended Certificate
equivalent to 1 A Level

Mental Health
Cambridge Advanced National Diploma
equivalent to 1 A Level

I.T: Computing - Applications Development
Cambridge Advanced Nationals (AAQ)
equivalent to 1 A Level

Music (Performing)
BTEC National Extended Certificate
equivalent to 1 A Level

Sport
BTEC National Extended Certificate
equivalent to 1 A Level

Sport
BTEC National Diploma
equivalent to 2 A Levels

ADDITIONAL QUALIFICATION
SIGN UP OPENS SEPTEMBER 2026

Extended Project Qualification (EPQ)

You have a desire to extend an area of study / interest through a research-based project
Equivalent to an AS Level

SUBJECT SPECIFIC MINIMUM ENTRY GRADES

A LEVEL

Art
Art 6

Biology
Biology 6 OR Combined Science 6-6 + Maths 6

Chemistry
Chemistry 6 OR Combined Science 6-6 + Maths 6

Computer Science
Computer Science 6 + Maths 5

Drama & Theatre Studies
Drama 5 OR BTEC L2 Performing Arts Merit

Economics
English Language 6 + Maths 6

Engineering
Engineering 6 OR Design Technology 6 + Maths 6

English Language
English Language 6 OR English Literature 5

English Literature
English Literature 6 OR English Language 5

French
French 6 + English Language 6

Geography
Geography 6 + English Language 6

German
German 6 + English Language 6

History
History 5 OR English Language 5

Maths
Maths 6

Further Maths
Maths 7 (taken alongside A Level Maths)

Media Studies
Media 6 or English Language 6 (must be I.T. literate)

Photography
Experience preferred: Creative or practical subject 5
OR BTEC L2 Merit
+ English Language 4 + English Literature 4

Physics
Physics 6 OR Combined Science 6-6 + Maths 6

Psychology
English Language 6 + Maths 6 + Biology 6 or Combined Science 5-5

Religious Studies
Religious Studies or Humanities subject 6 OR English Language or Literature 6

Sociology
English Language 6 + Literature 6 OR a humanities subject 6

Spanish
Spanish 6 + English Language 6

Textiles
BTEC L2 Tech Award Art & Design Practice (Textiles) Merit OR equivalent in art/design subject

VOCATIONAL & TECHNICAL

Applied Science
Combined Science 5-5
OR Separate Sciences 5

Business
Business 5
OR BTEC L2 Business/OCR Cambridge Nationals L2 Enterprise & Marketing Merit
OR Maths 4 + English Language 4

Criminology
English Language 5 + Maths 5

Dance
BTEC L2 Dance Merit
Relevant experience from outside school will be considered

Health & Social Care
BTEC L2 Health & Social Care Merit
OR English Language 4

Mental Health
English Language 4

I.T.
OCR Cambridge Nationals L2 I.T. Merit
OR Computer Science 5
OR English Language 5 + Maths 5

Music Performance
Music 5
OR BTEC L2 Music Practice Merit

Sport
BTEC L2 Sport Merit
OR PE 5
OR English Language 4
OR Science 4 / Combined Science 4-4

MINIMUM ENTRY REQUIREMENT

5 x *GCSEs at grade 4 or 5
To include English Language & Maths
*or vocational equivalent

IN EXCEPTIONAL CIRCUMSTANCES SUBJECT LEADERS MAY ACCEPT A PUPIL WHO HAS NARROWLY MISSED OUT ON THE SPECIFIC ENTRY GRADE

DENYS SALT
SIXTH FORM CENTRE