Mansfield and Ashfield
SIXTH FORM COLLEGE

COURSE GUIDE

2027/2028



A FRESH START

A SUCCESSFUL FUTURE

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Provider

WELCOME

TO MANSFIELD AND ASHFIELD SIXTH FORM COLLEGE

If you are considering A Levels, you will be looking for a place of study where you can be confident you will excel academically whilst having the opportunity to explore subjects you enjoy in greater depth. A Levels provide an opportunity to challenge yourself and demonstrate higher-level thinking skills; they require commitment and enthusiasm. With our dedicated and talented team of tutors and achievement coaches, we are proud of the opportunities we can offer you to perform to the best of your ability.

Those who join us can feel confident they will be able to access the right support and advice throughout their A Level journey. Whether it be with selecting course options, managing workload, seeking advice on essay-writing or with planning a future career, we are there every step of the way, working closely with you to provide both academic and wellbeing support.

Our links with universities – including our unique relationship with Nottingham Trent University (NTU) and the local NTU Mansfield Hub, as well as local employers enable you to access a wide range of aspirational careers. With advice on everything from which career path to take through to support with completing your university or apprenticeship applications, we have the knowledge and advice to help you in the next exciting step towards your future.

Students join us from across the local area creating an opportunity to meet new people and become more independent. With increased independence, there is a higher degree of responsibility, and you must ensure your attendance and punctuality is good, and you have strong time management to meet deadlines. Equally, it is important to us that students have a voice, and we are keen to consult and seek the opinions of those we work with.

We hope we have inspired you, and the Sixth Form College team look forward to welcoming you if you decide to start a new adventure with us in September 2027.



Best wishes,



Joanna Wilson
Head of Mansfield and Ashfield Sixth Form College



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A LEVEL STUDY IN A COLLEGE ENVIRONMENT

At our Sixth Form College, we believe you should enjoy your independence with no uniforms, the freedom to manage your own studies, and speak to your tutors on a first-name basis. We are committed to creating a safe and inclusive learning environment that celebrates diversity and from student feedback, one of the aspects they cherish most is the opportunity to be their authentic selves.

We will work with you to create a study programme to match your interests and ambitions including specific pathways to university, higher-level apprenticeships or employment.

Our specialist tutors have expertise and passion for their subjects, and deliver five hours of study per subject every week, supported by a tutorial session from the achievement coaches. Beyond the classroom, many of our tutors also help to run various enrichment clubs and societies.

As a student, you will be provided with your own laptop and locker to use throughout your studies, easy access to the town centre and local facilities, and all-round support from career advisors, achievement coaches, the wellbeing team and more (further information can be found in our 'Helping you to succeed' section on **page 22**).

We have strong links with local employers including Sherwood Forest Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust, East Midlands Airport, Hopkins Solicitors, and global consultancy AECOM. We also have links to Nottingham Trent University* with their Mansfield Hub located at our Derby Road campus.

If you're interested in going to university, our achievement coaches and careers team work closely with universities to provide support to students who aspire to attend top-tier universities across the country. Our alumni have gone to various universities including University of Oxford, Keele University, University of Sheffield and Bishop Grosseteste University.

*As a partner college of Nottingham Trent University (NTU), you may be eligible for a range of benefits if you choose to progress to NTU after completing your course.

For more information, please visit Progress NTU
ntu.ac.uk/c/progress-ntu

NTU Nottingham Trent University

STUDY WHAT YOU LOVE

Over two years, you'll study at least three subjects - or four if you have exceptionally high entry qualifications. While some careers require specific subjects, most universities and employers focus on the grades you achieve and your total UCAS points.

We offer flexibility in subject combinations, so take the opportunity to choose wisely. Research your options thoroughly and select the subjects that interest you most and align with your future career goals.

The course information within this guide provides suggestions for subject combinations that work well together.

YOUR OPTIONS:

Option **1**	Choose **three** A Level courses
Option **2**	Choose **two** A Level courses and one vocational course

Both options can also include the Extended Project Qualification, find out more in our **Optional course** section below.

A LEVEL COURSES

- Biology
- Business Studies
- Chemistry
- Computer Science
- Economics
- Electronics
- English Language
- English Literature
- Environmental Science
- Film Studies
- Further Maths
- Geography
- History
- Law
- Maths
- Media
- Philosophy
- Physics
- Politics
- Psychology
- Religious Studies
- Sociology.

VOCATIONAL COURSES

(Equivalent to one A Level)

These Level 3 courses can be **studied alongside two A Level courses**. They enable you to combine both academic and vocational study, and they usually incorporate more coursework alongside exams.

- Applied Science (Extended Certificate)
- Criminology (Diploma)
- Health and Social Care (Extended Certificate)
- Sport and Exercise Science (Diploma).

OPTIONAL COURSE

The **Extended Project Qualification (EPQ)** may be undertaken in addition to your courses to help showcase your academic abilities and skills. This can help support your university applications since the EPQ is highly regarded by some of the more selective universities.

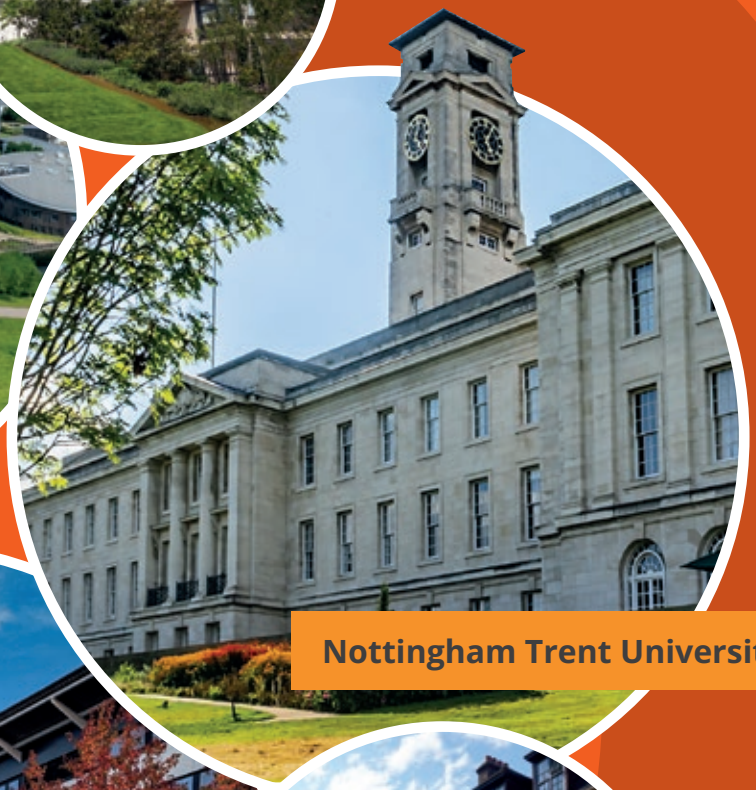
POSITIVE DESTINATIONS



Sheffield Hallam University



University of Hull



Nottingham Trent University



University of Warwick



University of York

Our students have gained entry to a wide variety of universities and apprenticeships covering over 50 undergraduate courses; see a small selection below.

Daniel Bramford
University of Nottingham
Physics with Theoretical Physics

Millie Hall
Nottingham Trent University
Business Management and Human Resources

Kady Lee
Nottingham Trent University
Journalism

Rowan Moss
University of Nottingham
Fine Art with History Foundation

Jake Parkes
Nottingham Trent University
Criminology

Alina Petrauska
University of Nottingham
Microbiology

Abbie Cheetham
King's Mill Hospital (Women's and Paediatrics)
Business Admin Apprenticeship

Sophie Orange
Nottinghamshire Police
Clerical Assistant Apprenticeship

Jasmine Gray
Optilight Electrical Services
Commissions and Maintenance Apprenticeship

Ralph Barrett
University of Durham
Politics

Charlee Barlow
University of Hull
Geography

Jack Davis
University of York
Maths

Natalia Maziarz
University of Manchester
Accounting and Finance

Cate Walters
Leeds Beckett University
Fashion Marketing

Harry Brooks
University of Leeds
Philosophy

Isla Hardy
Sheffield Hallam University
Primary Education

Demi Lambert
Sheffield Hallam University
Law

Jessica Benzie
University of Lincoln
Sport and Exercise Science

Ellise Donson
University of Lincoln
Education

Cara Leighton
Bishop Grosseteste University
Education Studies and Theology

James Martins
University of Derby
Civil Engineering

Evie Jeszke
University of Derby
Adult Nursing

Justyna Kazus
University of Wolverhampton
Architecture with Foundation Year

Megan Longmire
University of Warwick
Psychology

Konnah Aldread
University of Oxford
Maths and Computing

Isabella Bennett
University of Oxford
Law

Joshua Chick
University of Reading
Accounting and Finance

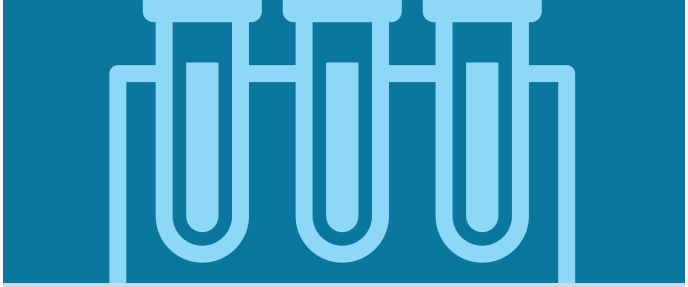
Anya Leivers
London Southbank University
Film and Television

Morgan Williams
King's College London
History

COURSES



Apply online today | **wnc.ac.uk/a-levels**



APPLIED SCIENCE
(EXTENDED CERTIFICATE)

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

- **GCSE English Language and Maths grade 4-9**
- **GCSE Double Science grade 4/4 and another GCSE grade 4-9 OR GCSE Triple Science grade 4/4/3 with 4 in Biology**
- **An overall average GCSE grade of 4 or higher*.**

OVERVIEW

This two-year course offers an alternative route for those passionate about pursuing science-related careers, catering to those who prefer a hands-on approach to learning over A Levels. This course is equivalent to one A Level with entry requirements set slightly lower than the A Level sciences, and adopts a more diversified set of assessment methods, including both exams and coursework. You will study:

- Biology, chemistry and physics
- Laboratory skills and data analysis
- Independent research project (compulsory).

WHERE CAN IT LEAD TO?

Further study at university level in applied sport and exercise sciences, nursing, secondary science education, and other related courses. Careers are often pursued in science, sports science, medicine, teaching and more.

COURSE COMBINATIONS - only two courses are required

- Computer Science
- Electronics
- Geography
- Maths
- Psychology
- Sociology.

HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?

50%

Exams

50%

Investigation skills and practical techniques



BIOLOGY

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

- **GCSE English Language and Maths grade 5-9**
- **GCSE Double Science grade 6/6 and another GCSE grade 4-9 OR GCSE Triple Science - 6/5/5 with 6 in Biology**
- **An overall average GCSE grade of 4 or higher*.**

OVERVIEW

Understanding biology is crucial for comprehending the functioning of our bodies, from organs to cells and genes. It also sheds light on the evolution and interactions of Earth's diverse organisms. Biologists contribute significantly to society by creating vaccines, enhancing healthcare, addressing species loss via conservation, and aiding in forensic investigations. This course offers comprehensive insight into biological molecules, cells, human physiology, evolution, genetic technology, and more. Additionally, it hones practical laboratory skills, precision in performing experiments, and proficiency in statistical analysis.

WHERE CAN IT LEAD TO?

Further study at university level in biomedical sciences, dentistry, environmental sciences, pharmacy, sports science and other related courses. Careers are often pursued in medicine, pharmaceuticals, sports science, marine biology, nature conversation and more.

COURSE COMBINATIONS

- Chemistry
- Criminology
- Electronics
- Environmental Science
- Further Maths
- Geography
- Maths
- Physics
- Psychology
- Sport and Exercise Science.

HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?

33%

Paper 1 (Exam): Biological molecules, cells, organisms exchanging substances with their environment, and genetic information, variation and relationships between organisms

33%

Paper 2 (Exam): Energy transfers in and between organisms, organisms respond to changes in their internal and external environments, and genetics, populations, evolution and ecosystems

33%

Paper 3 (Exam): Any content from across the full specification including required practicals with an emphasis on data analysis and evaluation

CPAC (required practical)
Not required to pass the A Level, but a pass is often required for university STEM courses

*To work out your grade average, add all of your grades together and divide by the number of GCSEs you've taken. If you need help, please contact our Enquiries Team on **0808 100 3626** or via email at **enquiries@wnc.ac.uk**.



BUSINESS STUDIES

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

- **GCSE English Language grade 5-9**
- **Four GCSEs grade 4-9 including GCSE Maths.**
- **An overall average GCSE grade of 4 or higher*.**

OVERVIEW

Having an understanding of business is becoming increasingly important in a fast-paced, technological world. This course will provide the grounding needed to cope with today's business environments. You will focus on the issues involved in a business start-up and look at how established businesses can improve effectiveness. You will also use mathematical skills to interpret quantitative data.

WHERE CAN IT LEAD TO?

Further study at university level in a range of subject areas including economics, management and enterprise, accountancy, project management, law-related degrees and finance-related degrees. Careers are often pursued as an accountant, analyst, advertising media buyer, business advisor, franchise owner, marketing professional and more.

COURSE COMBINATIONS

- Computer Science
- Criminology
- Economics
- Geography
- Law
- Maths
- Politics
- Psychology
- Sociology
- Sport and Exercise Science.

HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?

33%

Paper 1 (Exam): Units 1-10 - multiple choice, short answer, and extended writing questions

33%

Paper 2 (Exam): Units 1-10 - multiple choice, short answer, and extended writing questions

33%

Paper 3 (Exam): Units 1-10 - large case study with essay based questions



CHEMISTRY

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

- **GCSE English Language and Maths grade 5-9**
- **GCSE Double Science 6/6 and another GCSE grade 4-9 OR GCSE Triple Science 6/5/5 with 6 in Chemistry**
- **An overall average GCSE grade of 4 or higher*.**

OVERVIEW

Chemistry plays an important role in the modern world and has a huge impact on our lives. Chemists are involved in a diverse range of careers from developing medicines to analytical roles in industry or healthcare. During this course, you will build and develop your knowledge of many chemical principles including reacting amounts, structures, bonding, energetics, equilibria and organic chemistry. The course is delivered through a combination of practical work, interactive lessons and independent study.

WHERE CAN IT LEAD TO?

Further study at university level in a range of chemistry-related courses, including medicine, dentistry, pharmacy, veterinary science, chemical engineering and many biological science degrees. Careers are often pursued as a chemical scientist, medical practitioner, radiographer, veterinary nurse, nurse, physiotherapist, biochemist and many more.

COURSE COMBINATIONS

- Biology
- Computer Science
- Electronics
- Environmental Science
- Further Maths
- Maths
- Physics
- Psychology.

HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?

33%

Paper 1 (Exam): Inorganic chemistry and relevant and physical chemistry (primarily Year 1 content)

33%

Paper 2 (Exam): Organic chemistry and relevant physical chemistry (primarily Year 2 content)

33%

Paper 3 (Exam): Any content from across the full specification including practical skills

CPAC (required practical) Not required to pass the A Level, but a pass is often required for university STEM courses

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COMPUTER SCIENCE

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

- GCSE Maths grade 6-9
- Four GCSEs grade 4-9 including English Language
- An overall average GCSE grade of 4 or higher*.

OVERVIEW

On this course, you will learn the technical aspects of computer science. With an emphasis on programming, abstract thinking, general problem solving, algorithmic and mathematical reasoning, and the inner workings of computer technologies, you will gain a wide range of skills that support you pursuing various career paths. We highly recommend also selecting A Level Maths as it complements the subject matter.

WHERE CAN IT LEAD TO?

Further study at university level with degrees in computer science, games programming, artificial intelligence, cyber security and many other areas. You can also progress onto an apprenticeship in digital marketing, cyber security and as an infrastructure technician. Careers are often pursued as a software developer, hardware and networking technician, games technologist and digital marketer.

COURSE COMBINATIONS

- Applied Science
- Business Studies
- Chemistry
- Electronics
- Film Studies
- Further Maths
- Maths
- Media
- Physics.

HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?

40%

Paper 1 (On-screen exam): Fundamentals of programming, data structures, algorithms, and theory of computation

40%

Paper 2 (Paper exam): Fundamentals of data representation, computer systems, architecture, communication and networking, databases, big data, functional programming, and ethical/legal aspects

20%

Non-exam assessment: Individual programming project - you will analyse a problem, and design, develop and evaluate a working solution in a programming language of your choice



CRIMINOLOGY (DIPLOMA)

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

- Five GCSEs grade 4-9 including English Language and Maths
- An overall average GCSE grade of 4 or higher*.

OVERVIEW

Covering the complex behaviours and implications of criminality, law, science, psychology of crime and sociology, this course is a fascinating first step into many popular careers. Over the two years, you will study four units that focus on who commits crimes and what types, theories to explain serious crimes, the process of taking a crime from the crime scene to the courtroom, and the punishment and criminal justice system of England.

WHERE CAN IT LEAD TO?

Further study at university level in criminology, law, psychology, sociology or a combination of these areas and many more. Careers are often pursued in courts and tribunal service, probation and offender management, law, crime scene investigation, psychology and counselling, social work and intelligence services.

COURSE COMBINATIONS - only two courses are required

Please note - Criminology is made up of elements of Psychology, Sociology and Law. Therefore, you will only be able to choose one of these subjects to study alongside Criminology.

- Biology
- Health and Social Care
- History
- Law
- Politics
- Psychology
- Sociology.

HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?

25%

Unit 1 (Internal Controlled Assessment): Changing awareness of crime

25%

Unit 2 (Exam): Criminological theories

25%

Unit 3 (Internal Controlled Assessment): Crime Scene to courtroom

25%

Unit 4 (Exam): Crime and punishment

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ECONOMICS

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

- **GCSE Maths grade 6-9**
- **Four GCSEs grade 4-9 including English Language**
- **An overall average GCSE grade of 4 or higher*.**

OVERVIEW

This thought-provoking course offers the opportunity to learn about the latest economic theories and practices in the context of different economic issues both nationally and internationally. This course is broadly divided into two sections; microeconomics, which looks at economic decision making by individuals and firms within specific markets, and macroeconomics which focuses on economic performance and policies within national and global economies. You will develop the knowledge and skills needed to understand and analyse data, think critically about issues and make informed decisions. All this is based within development of a detailed and comprehensive understanding of real-world events and their economic impacts. We recommend also selecting A Level Maths if you plan to study economics at university.

WHERE CAN IT LEAD TO?

Further study at university level in a range of courses including economics, business, accounting and finance, marketing, journalism, politics, law and history. As well as a career as a professional economist, those who study economics have varied careers in investment banking, finance, the civil service, public policy, the law, accountancy, marketing, politics, journalism and many more.

COURSE COMBINATIONS

- Biology
- Business Studies
- Chemistry
- Electronics
- English Language
- English Literature
- Film Studies
- Geography
- History
- Law
- Maths
- Media Studies
- Physics
- Politics
- Psychology
- Sociology.

HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?

Largely assessed through essay style questions, alongside a numeracy component.

33%

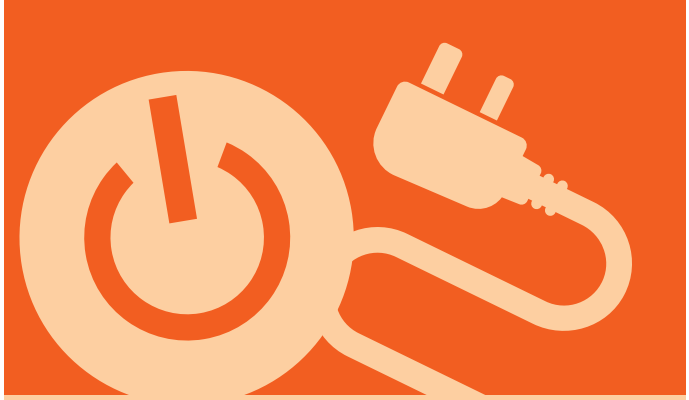
Paper 1 (Exam): Markets and market failure

33%

Paper 2 (Exam): The national and international economy

33%

Paper 3 (Exam): Economic principles and issues



ELECTRONICS

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

- **GCSE Maths grade 5-9**
- **GCSE Double Science grade 6/5 plus two other GCSEs grade 4-9 OR GCSE Triple Science grade 6/5/5 with a 6 in Physics plus another GCSE grade 4-9**
- **An overall average GCSE grade of 4 or higher*.**

OVERVIEW

Electronics is central to modern technology. Our A Level in Electronics gives you a strong foundation in electronic principles and practical engineering skills. You'll understand how electronic systems are designed, analysed, tested and implemented - combining theory with hands-on work in our well-equipped labs.

WHERE CAN IT LEAD TO?

Further study at university-level in engineering, computer science, telecommunications and related degrees. Careers are often pursued in engineering, computing, telecommunications, or other technical fields.

COURSE COMBINATIONS

When choosing your other A Level/s, you can pick Physics OR Computer Science - you can't choose both due to subject overlap.

- Applied Science
- Biology
- Chemistry
- Computer Science
- Economics
- Environmental Science
- Further Maths
- Maths
- Physics.

HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?

40%

Paper 1 (Exam): Basics of Electronics

40%

Paper 2 (Exam): Advanced Electronics

20%

Non-exam assessment: Individual project - you will analyse a problem, and design, develop, and evaluate a working solution

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ENGLISH LANGUAGE

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

- **GCSE English Language grade 5-9**
- **Four GCSEs grade 4-9 including English Literature**
- **An overall average GCSE grade of 4 or higher*.**

OVERVIEW

On this course, you will explore the evolution and current usage of the English language. You will analyse a variety of spoken and written texts, examining different variations of English and developing a deep understanding and appreciation of the language in diverse contexts. Additionally, you will enhance your writing skills with a focus on genre, purpose, and audience.

WHERE CAN IT LEAD TO?

Further study at university level in subjects such as English, linguistics, creative writing, history, politics, media, communications and journalism. Career opportunities include roles as a journalist, author, editor, teacher, solicitor, public relations professional and more.

COURSE COMBINATIONS

- English Literature
- Film Studies
- History
- Law
- Media
- Politics
- Psychology
- Religious Studies
- Sociology.

HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?

40%

Paper 1 (Exam): Language, the individual and society

40%

Paper 2 (Exam): Language diversity and change

20%

Coursework: Language Investigation and a piece of original writing and commentary



ENGLISH LITERATURE

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

- **GCSE English Language and English Literature grade 5-9**
- **Three GCSEs grade 4-9**
- **An overall average GCSE grade of 4 or higher*.**

OVERVIEW

On this course, you will develop your interest and enjoyment of the written word. This includes gaining an understanding of the traditions of literature, making informed opinions and judgements on literary texts, and developing your knowledge of cultural and historical influences on texts. By reading widely, and critically, across centuries, genders and genres, you will develop as an independent reader and critic.

WHERE CAN IT LEAD TO?

Further study at university level in the subject or creative writing, history, politics, media and communications. Careers are often pursued as a teacher, marketing professional, public relations officer, librarian, author, translator, solicitor and more.

COURSE COMBINATIONS

- English Language
- Film Studies
- History
- Media
- Politics
- Psychology
- Religious Studies.

HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?

40%

Paper 1 (Exam): Love through the ages (one poetry and one prose text, of which one must be written pre-1900, and one Shakespeare play, plus two unseen poems)

40%

Paper 2 (Exam): Texts in shared contexts 2B** Modern Times: literature from 1945 to present day (one prose, one poetry and one drama, of which one must be written pre-2000, and plus an unseen prose extract)

20%

Coursework: Comparative critical study of two texts at least one of which must have been written pre-1900 – one extended essay (2,500 words) and a bibliography

**We have chosen option 2B for paper 2.

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ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

- **GCSE English Language and Maths grade 5-9**
- **GCSE Double Science grade 6/5 and another GCSE grade 4-9 OR GCSE Triple Science grade 6/5/5 in any combination**
- **An overall average GCSE grade of 4 or higher*.**

OVERVIEW

Studying the natural environment has never been more important and relevant than today. On this course, you will learn about the conservation of diverse species and habitats around the world, the composition of the atmosphere, nutrient cycles and the soil, methods of energy generation, and climate change. Additionally, you will study the different types of pollution and how we can reduce them, sustainable agriculture and fisheries, forestry and deforestation, and recycling and sustainability.

WHERE CAN IT LEAD TO?

Further study at university level in a range of courses including environmental science, geography, marine biology and geology. Careers are often pursued as an environmental scientist, marine biologist, town planner, environmental analyst, scientific adviser and many more.

COURSE COMBINATIONS

- Biology
- Chemistry
- Economics
- Electronics
- Geography
- Maths
- Physics.

HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?

50%

Paper 1 (Exam): The physical environment, energy resources, pollution, and research methods

50%

Paper 2 (Exam): The living environment, biological resources, sustainability, and research methods

CPAC (required at least four-day fieldwork practical)
Not required to pass A Level, but a pass is often required for university STEM courses



FILM STUDIES

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

- **Five GCSEs grade 4-9 including English Language**
- **An overall average GCSE grade of 4 or higher*.**

OVERVIEW

Film is a dominant art form, both reflecting and influencing society and culture. This course will give you a broader knowledge of film, exploring it over a range of time periods and movements including silent cinema, Hollywood, British film, American film, global films, documentary films and experimental films. Learning to read films as more than a form of entertainment will develop your skills in analysis and interpretation. You will also have the opportunity to work on a practical film project of your own.

WHERE CAN IT LEAD TO?

Further study at university level in cultural studies, creative writing, and film and television studies. Careers are often pursued as a TV production assistant, journalist, video editor, film producer, production manager and more.

COURSE COMBINATIONS

- Computer Science
- English Language
- English Literature
- Psychology
- Sociology.

HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?

35%

Paper 1 (Exam): Varieties of film and filmmaking

35%

Paper 2 (Exam): Global filmmaking and perspectives

30%

Non-exam assessment: Production – produce a short film, a screenplay, or a digitally produced storyboard from the screenplay with an evaluative analysis of 1600-1800 words

*To work out your grade average, add all of your grades together and divide by the number of GCSEs you've taken. If you need help, please contact our Enquiries Team on **0808 100 3626** or via email at **enquiries@wnc.ac.uk**.



FURTHER MATHS

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

- GCSE Maths grade 8-9
- Four GCSEs grade 4-9 including English Language
- You must also study A Level Maths
- An overall average GCSE grade of 4 or higher*.

OVERVIEW

This course is for those who are exceptionally talented mathematicians and have excelled at maths at GCSE. You will cover a range of advanced and theoretical topics including complex numbers, matrices, mathematical argument, language and proof, modelling and problem solving.

WHERE CAN IT LEAD TO?

Further study at university level in the subject or a maths-related degree such as engineering or physics. Careers are often pursued as an aeronautical engineer, biochemist, chemical engineer and more.

COURSE COMBINATIONS

This course can only be taken as a fourth option - you must choose to study A Level Maths alongside two other A Levels

- Chemistry
- Computer Science
- Electronics
- Maths
- Physics
- Psychology.

HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?

33%

Paper 1 (Exam): Core pure mathematics 1 (complex numbers, matrices, proof, vectors, and hyperbolic functions)

33%

Paper 2 (Exam): Core pure mathematics 2 (polar coordinates, differential equations, further calculus, and series)

33%

Paper 3 (Exam): You will study two optional topics – further mechanics and further statistics



GEOGRAPHY

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

- Five GCSEs grade 4-9
- An overall average GCSE grade of 4 or higher*.

OVERVIEW

Geography is split into three areas at A Level. Physical geography, human geography and geographical debates. This will include topics you may have studied before such as hazards and migration, but will also include new topics such as the study of power and borders, and life support systems. With climate concerns being a regular topic of interest in politics and business, now is a great time to be studying geography.

WHERE CAN IT LEAD TO?

Further study at university level in the subject or related courses such as environmental management, social policy, civil engineering, geology or science-related degrees. Careers are often pursued as a conservation professional, teacher, civil engineer, chartered surveyor and more.

COURSE COMBINATIONS

- Applied Science
- Biology
- Business Studies
- Economics
- Environmental Science
- Politics
- Psychology
- Sociology.

HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?

22%

Paper 1 (Exam): Physical systems

22%

Paper 2 (Exam): Human interaction

36%

Paper 3 (Exam): Geographical debates

20%

Non-exam assessment: Investigative geography

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*To work out your grade average, add all of your grades together and divide by the number of GCSEs you've taken. If you need help, please contact our Enquiries Team on **0808 100 3626** or via email at **enquiries@wnc.ac.uk**.



HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE
(EXTENDED CERTIFICATE)

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

- **GCSE English Language and Maths grade 4-9**
- **GCSE Double Science 4/4 and another GCSE grade 4-9 OR GCSE Triple Science grade 4/4/3 with 4 in Biology**
- **An overall average GCSE grade of 4 or higher*.**

OVERVIEW

This qualification allows you to engage in a broad investigation of various aspects of the health and social care sector. You will cover human lifespan and development, human biology and health, health and social care practice, and health, social policy and wellbeing.

WHERE CAN IT LEAD TO?

Further study at university level in health and social care, social work, nursing, healthcare science and paramedicine. Careers are often pursued in fields such as nursing, dental professions, ambulance service, midwifery, primary care, psychological professions and more.

COURSE COMBINATIONS - only two courses are required

- Biology
- English Language
- English Literature
- Maths
- Psychology
- Sociology.

HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?

25%

Unit 1 (Exam): Human lifespan development

25%

Unit 2 (Exam): Human biology and health

25%

Unit 3 (Internally assessed coursework): Principles of health and social care practice

25%

Unit 7 (Internally assessed coursework): Health science investigation



HISTORY

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

- **Five GCSEs grade 4-9 including English Language**
- **An overall average GCSE grade of 4 or higher*.**

OVERVIEW

A better knowledge and understanding of the past is an excellent way to get a clearer view of today's events, which is what makes studying history so compelling. On this course you will tackle a wide range of British, European and world history, allowing you to understand how modern society and government has been shaped by the past. You will learn how important history is in determining modern identity, culture and lifestyle.

WHERE CAN IT LEAD TO?

Further study at university level in courses such as history, archaeology, English, politics, philosophy and economics, international studies, media and communications, and journalism. Careers are often pursued as a researcher, museum curator, government officer, author and more.

COURSE COMBINATIONS

- Criminology
- Economics
- English Language
- English Literature
- Law
- Politics
- Religious Studies
- Sociology.

HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?

40%

Paper 1 (Exam): The making of a superpower: USA, 1865-1975

40%

Paper 2 (Exam): The making of modern Britain, 1951-2007

20%

Coursework: Historical investigation – Tsarist Russia

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LAW

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

- **Five GCSEs grade 4-9 including English Language**
- **An overall average GCSE grade of 4 or higher*.**

OVERVIEW

From prosecuting criminal offenders to remedying civil disputes, our legal system is a complex, ever-changing cornerstone of the society we live in. This course will include the intricacies of criminal law, tort law, and contract law, where you will develop problem-solving and analytical skills through engaging with real-life cases, and advising defendants and claimants on their legal matters. You will also study the background systems of our English legal system, gaining an understanding of how our law functions. This course provides a great first step to a career in law.

WHERE CAN IT LEAD TO?

Further study at university level, where you can become a barrister, solicitor, or legal executive. Another option is a degree apprenticeship combining practical work experience and earning whilst studying. Careers often pursued include judges, senior police officers, probation officers and more.

COURSE COMBINATIONS

- Business Studies
- Criminology
- Economics
- English Language
- History
- Philosophy
- Politics
- Sociology.

HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?

33%

Paper 1 (Exam): Criminal law (75%), and the nature of law and the English legal system (25%)

33%

Paper 2 (Exam): Tort (75%), and the nature of law and the English legal system (25%)

33%

Paper 3 (Exam): Law of contract (75%), and the nature of law and the English legal system (25%)



MATHS

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

- **GCSE Maths grade 6-9**
- **Four GCSEs grade 4-9**
- **An overall average GCSE grade of 4 or higher*.**

OVERVIEW

A Level Maths builds on and extends GCSE knowledge and skills whilst also introducing new ideas, such as calculus and its applications. It emphasises how mathematical ideas are interconnected and how these ideas can be applied to model situations. On the course, there is a strong emphasis on logical reasoning and problem-solving, so you will also learn to use your mathematical skills and techniques to solve challenging problems.

WHERE CAN IT LEAD TO?

Further study at university level in maths, business, accountancy, science, computing, engineering or economics. Careers are often pursued as a financial advisor, chartered accountant, finance officers, bank and post office clerk, finance and investment analyst and more.

COURSE COMBINATIONS

- Applied Science
- Biology
- Business Studies
- Chemistry
- Computer Science
- Economics
- Electronics
- Environmental Science
- Further Maths
- Mathematical Studies
- Physics.

HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?

33%

Paper 1 (Exam): Pure mathematics (algebra, calculus, trigonometry, coordinate geometry, and proof)

33%

Paper 2 (Exam): Pure mathematics and mechanics (further algebra, further calculus, forces, motion, and Newton's laws)

33%

Paper 3 (Exam): Pure mathematics and statistics (sequences, vectors, probability, and hypothesis testing)

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MEDIA

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

- **Five GCSEs grade 4-9**
- **An overall average GCSE grade of 4 or higher*.**

OVERVIEW

On this course, you will be taught how to analyse the various forms of media language and representations that we consume every day to develop your ability to deconstruct a variety of texts. Alongside this, you will study the industry behind media products, and consider the relationship between media products and their audiences. This course will give you a broader knowledge of media forms including newspapers, advertising and marketing, film, music videos, radio, video games, magazines, television and online, social, and participatory media. You will study a variety of close study products across these forms to enable you to apply your knowledge of the theoretical framework. You will also undertake a creative project, applying the skills you have learned to research and create your own media products.

WHERE CAN IT LEAD TO?

Further study at university level in communications and media-related subjects such as journalism, TV production and broadcasting. Careers are often pursued as a public relations officer, photographer, journalist, editor, art officer, broadcaster, marketing professional and more.

COURSE COMBINATIONS

- Computer Science
- English Language
- English Literature
- Politics
- Psychology
- Sociology.

HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?

35%

Paper 1 (Exam): Media one - Section A: media language and representation, with advertising and marketing, and music video close study products. Section B: media industries and audiences, with film (industry only), radio, and newspaper close study products

35%

Paper 2 (Exam): Media two - In-depth essay questions on television, video games, online, social participatory media, and magazines

30%

Non-exam assessment: An independently created cross-media production from a choice of six briefs



PHILOSOPHY

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

- **Five GCSEs grade 4-9 including English Language**
- **An overall average GCSE grade of 4 or higher*.**

OVERVIEW

This course is designed to give you a thorough grounding in the key concepts and methods of philosophy. You will have the opportunity to engage with big questions in a purely secular context. You will develop important skills that you need for progression to higher education. You will learn to be clear and precise in your thinking and writing. You will engage with complex texts, analysing and evaluating the arguments of others, and constructing and defending your own arguments.

WHERE CAN IT LEAD TO?

A Level Philosophy sharpens your skills of analysis and your ability to construct solid arguments. These transferable skills make it ideal preparation for most academic university courses, in particular law, politics and the social sciences.

COURSE COMBINATIONS

- English Literature
- Economics
- History
- Law
- Politics
- Psychology
- Religious Studies
- Sociology.

HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?

50%

Paper 1 (Exam): Epistemology (50%) and moral philosophy (50%)

50%

Paper 2 (Exam): The metaphysics of God (50%) and metaphysics of mind (50%)

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PHYSICS

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

- GCSE English Language grade 4-9
- GCSE Maths grade 6-9
- GCSE Double Science grade 6/6 and another GCSE grade 4-9 **OR** GCSE Triple Science grade 6/6/5 with 6 in Physics
- An overall average GCSE grade of 4 or higher*.

OVERVIEWW

Physics is a fundamental science subject and the key to understanding the world around us and the world beyond us. It is the study of matter, energy, force and motion, which can challenge our imagination and lead to world-changing discoveries such as lasers and computers. You can expect to learn valuable, transferable skills such as problem solving and analysis.

WHERE CAN IT LEAD TO?

Further study at university level in a range of courses including astronomy, engineering, medicine and information technology. Careers are often pursued as an engineering technician, physical scientist, civil engineer, architect and more.

COURSE COMBINATIONS

- Biology
- Chemistry
- Computer Science
- Electronics
- Environmental Science
- Further Maths
- Maths.

HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?

33%

Paper 1 (Exam): Measurements and their errors, particles and radiation, waves, mechanics and materials, and electricity

33%

Paper 2 (Exam): Further mechanics and thermal physics, fields and their consequences, and nuclear physics

33%

Paper 3 (Exam): Section A: practical skills and data analysis, and Section B: optional topic (e.g. astrophysics, medical physics, engineering physics)

CPAC (required practical) – Not required to pass the A Level, but a pass is often required for university STEM courses



POLITICS

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

- Five GCSEs grade 4-9 including English Language
- An overall average GCSE grade of 4 or higher*.

OVERVIEW

Covering news and current affairs from both the UK and the USA, this course looks at the historical and controversial nature of politics within the world in which we live. Over the course of two years, you will sit three core papers that focus on the ideologies behind politics, UK politics and democracy, the UK Government, and the different types of politics in the UK and USA. If you enjoy learning about politics and the people in power, this course could be perfect for you.

WHERE CAN IT LEAD TO?

Further study at university level in politics, philosophy, economics, law, journalism and many more. Careers in government (including national and local level), civil service, the United Nations, law, intelligence, mediation and negotiation and more.

COURSE COMBINATIONS

- Business Studies
- Criminology
- Economics
- English Language
- English Literature
- Geography
- History
- Law
- Philosophy
- Psychology
- Sociology.

HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?

33%

Paper 1 (Exam): Government and politics in the UK

33%

Paper 2 (Exam): The government and politics of the USA and comparative politics

33%

Paper 3 (Exam): Political ideas

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PSYCHOLOGY

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

- **GCSE English Language and Maths grade 4-9**
- **GCSE Double Science grade 4/4 and another GCSE grade 4-9 OR GCSE Triple Science grade 4/4/3 with 4 in Biology**
- **An overall average GCSE grade of 4 or higher*.**

OVERVIEW

Do you ever wonder why people do the things they do? Or are you interested in knowing more about how the brain works? Studying psychology will give you the skills needed to understand human behaviour, to develop an understanding of the different areas of psychology and explore topical issues. This course follows the AQA specification which explores topics such as forensic psychology and attachment, how our memory works, and how other people can influence our behaviour. You will also consider different explanations of behaviour including mental health conditions such as Obsessive Compulsive Disorder (OCD), depression, phobias and schizophrenia.

WHERE CAN IT LEAD TO?

Further study at university level in subjects including health studies, criminology, science, and psychology. In the future, you may choose to specialise in a certain area of psychology or pursue a career as a psychologist or counsellor.

COURSE COMBINATIONS

- Applied Science
- Biology
- Business Studies
- Chemistry
- Criminology
- Economics
- English Language
- English Literature
- Film Studies
- Geography
- Media
- Philosophy
- Politics
- Religious Studies
- Sociology
- Sport and Exercise Science.

HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?

33%

Paper 1 (Exam): Social influence (25%), memory (25%), attachment (25%), and psychopathology (25%)

33%

Paper 2 (Exam): Approaches (25%), biopsychology (25%), and research methods (50%)

33%

Paper 3 (Exam): Issues and debates (25%), schizophrenia (25%), cognition and development (25%), and forensic psychology (25%)



RELIGIOUS STUDIES

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

- **Five GCSEs grade 4-9 including English Language**
- **An overall average GCSE grade of 4 or higher*.**

OVERVIEW

This course is for people who like to think, giving you the opportunity to grapple with important questions we have faced for centuries. How did the universe get here? Why do we talk and behave in certain ways? Does the language we use have any meaning? You will deal with these questions by looking at arguments given by religious, secular and philosophical theorists, critically evaluating them, by focusing on both their content and form/structure to formulate your own views.

WHERE CAN IT LEAD TO?

This course builds a variety of transferable skills including being able to decide you own views from arguments given by others about the same question. These are highly valuable in the majority of workplaces and further education. Typically, students will go on to further education or careers such as teaching, law, politics and analytics.

COURSE COMBINATIONS

- English Literature
- History
- Law
- Philosophy
- Politics
- Psychology
- Sociology.

HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?

50%

Paper 1 (Exam): Philosophy of religion (50%) and ethics (50%)

50%

Paper 2 (Exam): Study of religion (Christianity) and dialogues

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SOCIOLOGY

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

- **Five GCSEs grade 4-9 including English Language**
- **An overall average GCSE grade of 4 or higher*.**

OVERVIEW

A Level Sociology helps you to develop a critical understanding of society by examining the influence of institutions, such as the education system, family, belief systems and religion, and the criminal justice system. During this course, you will look at how society through social, economic and political influences shapes people but then how people, in turn, shape society. A central focus of sociology is inequality, where various inequalities between different social groups are examined.

WHERE CAN IT LEAD TO?

Further study at university level in subjects such as social studies, psychology, law, business and politics. Careers are often pursued as a journalist, social worker, teacher, marketing executive, police officer, HR executive and more.

COURSE COMBINATIONS

- Applied Science
- Business Studies
- Criminology
- Economics
- English Language
- Film Studies
- Geography
- History
- Law
- Media
- Philosophy
- Politics
- Psychology
- Religious Studies
- Sport and Exercise Science.

HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?

33%

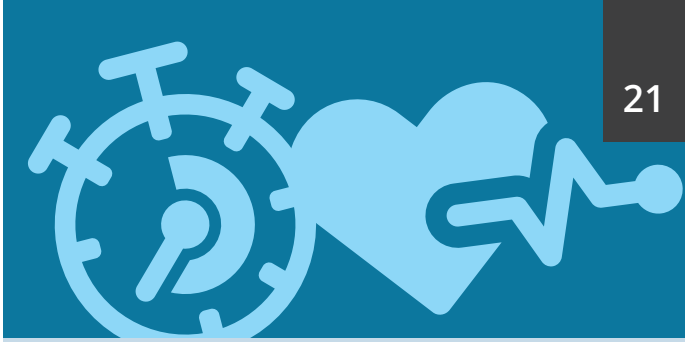
Paper 1 (Exam): Education with theory and methods

33%

Paper 2 (Exam): Topics in sociology

33%

Paper 3 (Exam): Crime and deviance with theory and methods



SPORT AND EXERCISE SCIENCE (DIPLOMA)

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

- **GCSE English Language and Maths grade 4-9**
- **GCSE Double Science grade 4/4 and another GCSE grade 4-9 OR GCSE Triple Science grade 4/4/4**
- **An overall average GCSE grade of 4 or higher*.**

OVERVIEW

Dive into a dynamic exploration of the industry of sport and exercise science. You will delve into four insightful units – each one serving as insight in pivotal aspects of sport and exercise science:

- Functional anatomy
- Applied sport and exercise psychology
- Coaching for performance and fitness
- Physical activity for individual and group-based exercise.

WHERE CAN IT LEAD TO?

Further study at university level including degrees in physiotherapy, biology, sport and exercise science, analysis and much more. Launch an exciting career as a sports therapist, sport psychologist, sports coach, exercise physiologist, biomechanist and more.

COURSE COMBINATIONS - only two courses are required

- Biology
- Business Studies
- Psychology
- Sociology.

HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?

25%

Unit 2 (Exam): Functional anatomy

25%

Unit 6 (Exam): Coaching for performance and fitness

33%

Unit 3 (Exam): Applied sport and exercise psychology

17%

Unit 10 (Internally assessed coursework): Physical activity for individual and group-based exercise

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HELPING YOU TO SUCCEED

We know that studying A Levels can be challenging and stressful at times. We want you to not only maximise your potential, but also enjoy your time here. This is why we take a 360˚ approach to our support services. Whether it's careers advice, support with assignments or simply someone to talk to, there is a dedicated team for you.

ACHIEVEMENT COACHES

Our achievement coaches will take a comprehensive approach in supporting you academically across all your subjects, and help you to overcome barriers to success. We recognise that your needs may be different to other students' needs, so they will provide you with tailored advice and guidance to help you. If you need additional support, you will meet with them more regularly to help keep you on track. You can book meetings with your achievement coach as often as you need.

One-to-one academic reviews with your achievement coach are held every term to discuss any concerns, support with revision techniques, exam skills, extra support sessions and more, to ensure that you are consistently making positive progress in your subjects.

They will also liaise with your parents/carers regarding your academic progress, attendance, punctuality, and behaviour.

Alongside your subject lessons, you will have a mandatory two-hour tutorial each week, which will cover study skills, life skills, careers, destinations, citizenship, and personal development. This is another opportunity to receive support from your achievement coach whilst working in a group and independently.

ATTENDANCE AND RETENTION COACH

To meet our high standards of attendance and punctuality, our attendance and retention coach will support and monitor your attendance which we believe can directly affect your academic performance. We will help you overcome any barriers which might be affecting your attendance.

DESTINATIONS COACH

Our destinations coach will support you to work towards a positive destination when you leave us and help you to decide your next steps, whether that is applying for university, looking for apprenticeships, or going into full-time employment. They will also work closely with you whatever your ambition; if you are applying to Oxbridge* or a medicine-related course you will receive support with personal statements and admissions tests, equally we will support you in applying for apprenticeships or jobs with completing applications and interview skills.

*Oxbridge refers to the University of Oxford and the University of Cambridge that both have a harder application process which requires additional support and preparation.

As a student, you will have access to a range of support services across college to help you best navigate student life. Our dedicated support teams can be contacted before you apply or start your course and offer personalised support on everything from careers and finance to health and wellbeing.

CAREERS AND EMPLOYABILITY TEAM

Our team of fully-qualified and professional advisers who provide career development, support and coaching, covering university options and registration, employment and apprenticeships guidance.

01623 413325

careers@wnc.ac.uk

wnc.ac.uk/careers-advice

WORK PLACEMENT TEAM

Our work placement team is here to help research companies, secure work placements and answer any questions.

01623 900616

workplacement@wnc.ac.uk

STUDENT FINANCE TEAM

Receive expert financial advice regarding the support bursaries available and how to apply if you think you're eligible.

01623 900455

studentfinance@wnc.ac.uk

wnc.ac.uk/finance

STUDENT WELFARE TEAM

No matter the concern, you can receive impartial guidance, advice and support from our dedicated student welfare team via discrete and flexible topical support sessions and drop-in opportunities.

wellbeingcentre@wnc.ac.uk

wnc.ac.uk/welfare



THE INCLUSION SERVICE

Within the Inclusion Service we have five specialist teams supporting students with:

- Autistic spectrum disorder, emotional behavioural difficulties and mental health conditions
- Deaf/hearing loss
- Dyslexia and dyscalculia
- Physical disability and complex needs
- Visual impairment.

Providing a number of services to students who may need additional help during their studies, the teams work closely with students, schools, outside agencies and tutors to provide an individual support package.

Each team offers tailored support and a wide range of specialist services including:

- Initial assessment of support needs
- A customised transition into college programme that includes personalised visits to prospective students, providing comprehensive information about our offer and expert assistance to help students become acquainted with the college layout, environment, and staff
- Specialist classroom support e.g. communication support workers, visual impairment, IT training, learning support assistants, sign language professionals and advanced learning support practitioners
- Assistive technology e.g. specialist software, specialist auditory equipment
- Specialist support for dyslexia and dyscalculia
- Assessment via normal way of working processes for exam access arrangements
- Support with personal care needs
- Advice and guidance regarding local authority transport for students with learning difficulties and/or disabilities
- Transition and advice to support students into adulthood after leaving college.

theinclusionservice@wnc.ac.uk

MAKING THE MOST OF SIXTH FORM LIFE

GUEST SPEAKERS

With great links to both industry and local organisations, we will provide you with the opportunity to attend guest talks from an array of exciting speakers. In previous years, we have welcomed:

- Visitors from Nottingham Trent University and the University of Nottingham discussing personal statements, as well as speakers from the University of Derby, University of Lincoln and Sheffield Hallam University.
- PC Kieran Shepard from Nottinghamshire Police who talked to students about sextortion, online safety, knife crime, extremism, spiking and drink driving.
- Richard C. Bower, Mansfield's Poet Laureate, who shared his personal journey from keeping his writing private to becoming a published poet, encouraging students to find confidence in their own voices.
- Q&A panels for each curriculum area – panellists have included local MPs, police officers and NHS workers.

UNIVERSITY VISITS

Last year, we visited the University of Oxford, University of Nottingham, Nottingham Trent University, University of Lincoln, Sheffield Hallam University, and University of Derby. These visits helped our students learn about life on campus and find out more about studying at university.

TRIPS AND VISITS

Trips in past years have included a trip to Shrewsbury Prison for sociology students, a trip to see Hamilton, the Houses of Parliament and an unexpected tour inside of 10 Downing Street for politics students, a trip to Bletchley Park for computing students, and a residential trip to Bangor for environmental science students.

All students will have the chance to attend a UCAS Discovery Fair where you will have the opportunity to speak to universities, employers and apprenticeship providers from across the country about your next steps.

DUKE OF EDINBURGH AWARD

The Duke of Edinburgh Award (DofE) is the ultimate adventure for young people, giving you the chance to develop new skills, make lifelong memories, and stand out to universities and employers. With just a small weekly commitment alongside your studies, you can achieve something truly life-changing.

FRIENDS OF THE EARTH

Are you passionate about the planet? If so, look out for our projects with Friends of the Earth, a national environmental campaigning community. Currently, students are running 'Planet Over Profit' workshops where students can create bunting, artwork, and messages about protecting people and the planet, which will later be shared with MPs and decision makers as part of their campaign work.

CLUBS AND SOCIETIES

Previously, we have had different clubs such as Crochet Club, Airsoft, Debate Club, Mooting Society, Photography Society, Spanish Club and Zumba. We welcome any suggestions, so let us know what clubs and activities you would like to see!

FUNDRAISING AND VOLUNTEERING

Giving up your time to do something good is not only rewarding to the people you help, but it can be fun, and you'll also gain a huge sense of satisfaction. It looks good on your CV or UCAS application too!













LEARNER VOICE

We believe in empowering students to actively contribute towards a high-quality educational experience for themselves, their peers, and future students. Learner Voice is about giving students the opportunity to have their say in how the college operates and a greater sense of ownership over their learning journey.

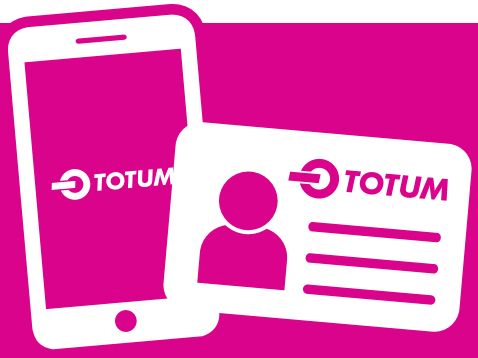
Learner reps are selected to represent their student body – in our case Mansfield and Ashfield Sixth Form College, and they find out about the issues that matter to students and present these to senior staff. Learner reps play a crucial role in listening, collecting, and conveying students' perspectives to bring about positive change.

STUDENT AMBASSADORS

You can also become a student ambassador and represent the college at events throughout the year. As a paid position, it is not only a great opportunity to earn money, but also to gain valuable skills and support potential students in their transition to college.

CAREERS AND PROGRESSION FAIR

Our Careers and Progression Fair in February invites local employers and universities to our campus to speak to students about potential opportunities, and give further guidance on choosing their future destination.



TOTUM

As soon as you have enrolled at college, you can apply for a free TOTUM student membership. It gives you access to over 400 discounts, deals and offers on big-name brands both online and in-store, giving you big savings on eating out, tech, fashion, travel and more! For only £14.99 per year, you can upgrade to the TOTUM+ membership with access to more premium discounts such as tickets for just £25 at ATG Tickets and a FREE proof of age ID card worth £15!

WORK PLACEMENTS

A great way to experience what working life could be like within the profession you would like to work in is through a work placement. Some of our recent students have completed work placements within the NHS and healthcare professions (including roles in operating theatres, HR, finance and business administration), journalism, radio stations, solicitors, veterinary surgeries, councils, primary schools and nurseries, museums, clothing and textile services, photography studios, and many more.

Patrycja, carried out her placement at the Queen's Medical Centre (QMC). This was a fantastic opportunity for her to develop skills in healthcare.

"My work experience in vascular surgery at QMC gave me valuable insight into hospital practice. I observed ward rounds, clinics, duplex scans, and procedures, including bypass surgery and an amputation. This experience helped me develop an understanding of surgical techniques, the role of anaesthesia, and the importance of teamwork between surgeons, nurses, ODPs, and anaesthetists. I also attended a multidisciplinary team meeting (MDT), where complex cases were discussed collaboratively to plan patient-centred care. This highlighted the importance of communication and teamwork in achieving the best outcomes. Overall, the experience improved my confidence, communication skills and ability to reflect critically on patient care."

Blakley carried out his placement at Phillips Solicitors and had the opportunity to develop his skills and understanding of the legal profession.

"My work experience at Phillips Solicitors gave me the opportunity to work alongside legal professionals at many different stages of their career, this gave me the insight into what a career in the legal profession looks like. My placement also included carrying out day-to-day tasks of being a solicitor including shadowing their work within the courtroom."

Brooke carried out two placements at Queen Elizabeth Academy (QEA) and Phillips Solicitors. This was a fantastic opportunity for her to look at two different career paths, and help her decide what career she wants in the future.

"As part of my A Levels, I carried out two work placements. One of my work placements was at Phillips Solicitors, where I experienced the day-to-day role of a solicitor. I was given the opportunity to sit in the courtroom viewing cases, understand case summaries, and comprehend the importance of the administrative work behind solicitors. My other work placement was in the history department at QEA, a local secondary school, where I gained an insight into teaching as a future career. This opportunity allowed me to shadow a history teacher, support students, gain an understanding of the impact that teachers can have on students, and the administrative side of teaching. During my time on my placement with QEA, I was also able to accompany them on a trip to the Black Country Living Museum, where I was able to understand how school trips are run and the ins and outs of how they are organised. This also allowed me to understand how trips can be another way of learning external to the classroom by allowing students to build upon their prior knowledge. Overall, my two work placements have allowed me to gain an insight into future careers, and have helped me decide that I would like to pursue a career in teaching in the future."

Parth carried out his placement at Sherwood Forest Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust and had the opportunity to develop his skills and understanding of the finance profession.

"I really enjoyed my time working in the finance department at Sherwood Forest Hospital Trust. It gave me a much clearer understanding of how finances are managed in a large organisation and how important each role is in keeping things running smoothly. Everyone I worked with was approachable and always willing to take the time to explain things, which made it much easier to learn and feel part of the team. Being part of a multidisciplinary environment also helped me see how different departments work together, and it's definitely improved my confidence and prepared me for working in larger organisations in the future."

OUR FACILITIES

Our dedicated sixth form college features fully-equipped classrooms, science labs, a supportive learning resource centre and plenty of space for group project work and socialising.

A recent addition to the sixth form college is the Common Room which is a space for Year 13's to relax with friends between lessons. The campus is a short walk away from the town centre where you can find various shops and eateries.

To help you continue learning outside of the classroom, you will be provided with your own laptop to use throughout your time here with us. You will also have a dedicated locker where you can safely store all your books and belongings when they aren't needed. You can use your laptop to access your online resources 24/7.

The Gallery Café offers breakfast and lunch service with a selection of hot meals, jacket potatoes, burgers, wraps, Chicago Town pizza, snacks, cold drinks and Starbucks hot drinks.

And don't forget, you're part of the West Nottinghamshire College family, so you can take full advantage of all the services available at the Derby Road campus. Revive is our professional hair and beauty salon which offers exclusive discounted rates for students on a range of treatments, including facials, massages, hair styling, gel nails and more. Our award-winning Refined restaurant is also a place you must visit; offering great value for money and fun, themed evenings that serve up cuisines from around the world.



Common Room



MANSFIELD


Gallery Cafe


LRC


The Gallery


Science labs


Lockers

GETTING TO COLLEGE

We're here to help you get to sixth form college using the various transport options available, whether that's by bus using the award-winning West Notts College Travel Scheme, taking the train, car, bike or on foot.



BY BUS

The sixth form college benefits from two main bus services; Stagecoach and trentbarton which both cover the Nottinghamshire area and large parts of Derbyshire. Travelling by bus is generally the cheapest option for getting around especially when using the West Notts College Travel Scheme.

BY TRAIN

Our sixth form college has great connections with the Robin Hood Line which runs regular trains from Nottingham to Worksop (via Mansfield), making train travel easier than you think. If you're planning on regularly using the train, a Railcard may save you up to a third off fares.

BY BIKE

If you live within five miles of the sixth form college, you could cycle here in around 30 minutes. Our campus has secure bike storage*.

ON FOOT

If you live within a two-mile distance, you could walk here in around 30 minutes – helping you to keep fit and healthy too.

BY CAR

While we would encourage you to choose more environmentally-friendly forms of transport, the college is in close proximity to pay and display car parks. Don't forget, car sharing with friends might be an ideal way to reduce the costs of fuel too.

**The college does not accept responsibility for damage or theft of any bicycles whilst left on college premises.*





WEST NOTTS COLLEGE TRAVEL SCHEME

We have partnered with local bus operators to provide students with a flexible and great value transport option. Whether it's travelling to sixth form college, a trip to catch up with friends or visiting family, the West Notts College Travel Scheme can help save you money on your bus journeys.

WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS?

UNLIMITED BUS TRAVEL

24 hours-a-day, seven days per week.

GREAT VALUE

Huge savings compared to pay-as-you-go travel.

FLEXIBLE PAYMENTS

Flexible payment options to suit your financial needs, with the choice to pay upfront or monthly.

MULTI-USE

Usable on Stagecoach and trentbarton buses across most of Nottinghamshire and parts of Derbyshire. So you have the flexibility to use the pass for studying, working and socialising.

EASY TO USE APP

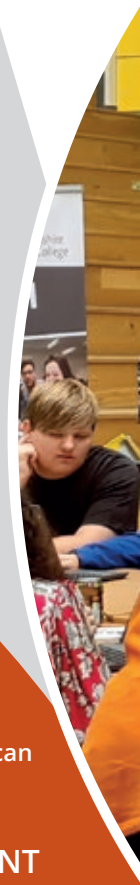
Your travel pass lives on your phone! Use the free my mango app (available for iOS and Android) to scan and ride, check journeys and manage everything in one place - quick, simple, and always with you.

HOW MUCH DOES IT COST?

You can sign-up to the scheme for FREE (if your household income is up to £50K and you are in receipt of a full bursary), £330 (if your household income is between £50K-£150K) or £660 (if your household income is over £150K)**, which provides unlimited bus travel for 11 months' (1 September to 31 July).

***Prices for academic year 2026/2027. This is subject to change for academic year 2027/2028. The final balance must be paid by the end of April. Payments will be split across the remaining months from when you joined the scheme.*

MAKE YOUR FUTURE HAPPEN



Every student has a different journey into college, but to give you an idea of what yours might look like, we've mapped out a few key stepping stones.

1 SAY HELLO

Our learner engagement team is always out and about in schools and the community. If you see us, pop over and ask any questions, book a tour, and find out what college has to offer.

2 RESEARCH YOUR OPTIONS

Learn more about your A Level subject options and university requirements.

3 ATTEND AN OPEN EVENT

Book a place on one of our open events where you can speak to our tutors and support teams. Visit **wnc.ac.uk/events**

4 TAKE A TOUR

Join us on a campus tour and go behind the scenes to see our facilities first-hand. Send an email to **learner.engagement@wnc.ac.uk** or give us a call on **01623 900990** to book a campus tour.

5 APPLY ONLINE

Places on our courses can fill up fast, so make sure you submit an application online and reserve yours! If you change your mind, don't worry, we can update your application up until your first few weeks as a sixth form student.

6 OFFERED A CONDITIONAL PLACE

If you meet the entry requirements you will be offered a conditional place.

7 ACCEPT YOUR OFFER

You must accept or decline your place. You can accept via text, email or online.

8 CURRICULUM INFORMATION EVENT

To help you prepare for sixth form, we will invite you to attend a mandatory Meet the tutor event. This is a great opportunity to meet your tutors and receive information on our support teams, getting to college, upcoming activities and more.

9 WE'LL KEEP IN TOUCH

We will continue to send you key information to make the transition to college as smooth as possible.

10 ENROLMENT

We will invite you on campus during late summer to enrol. This includes getting your details, checking your results, and providing your student ID and timetable. Don't worry if you do not meet the entry requirements, still come along to enrolment as an alternative course may be available to you.

11 YOUR FRESH START BEGINS

To make your transition to our sixth form college easier, there will be a one-week induction period. It will include fresher's fair, induction sessions, tutorials, and much more!



MEET THE LEARNER ENGAGEMENT TEAM

Got a question? Want to book a tour? Unsure about your next steps? Then why not speak to our friendly learner engagement team. They're here to ensure your transition to college is easy and stress-free.

learner.engagement@wnc.ac.uk

01623 900990

WHAT OUR STUDENTS SAY

*"I'm really **proud to be one** of only a handful of students from **West Notts to make it to Oxford**. I hope my story shows other **students that even if it feels like a far-off dream**, with the right mindset, **dedication and encouragement**, you can **achieve something truly life-changing**."*

Isabella

History, Politics, Law



"It's definitely been a nicer environment than staying on at secondary school. Having a separate A Level campus makes it easier to focus, and everyone here is working towards the same goal. Even if you're not in the same classes, there's always that common ground with other students.

"The jump from GCSE to A Level was noticeable. It takes a lot more consistent effort and active thought, but my tutors have been brilliant. Having the same teachers for both years really helped with continuity and understanding."

Jake

Physics, Maths, Further Maths, Biology

"By choosing subjects I was genuinely interested in, I discovered that I could actually enjoy learning at college. The tutors treated us with respect, which allowed us to build better relationships with them and even have some fun - a refreshing change from school. College allowed me the freedom to explore my interests, practice building new relationships away from the school environment, and begin to feel more grown up – all of which was really useful when I started university."

Leif

English, Psychology, Law

"It's such a nice, quieter environment compared to a big school site. I really liked all my teachers because they were so friendly and supportive. It felt so different from school in the best way possible – no uniforms, calling teachers by their first names – it made it feel much more grown-up and independent.

"Doing four A Levels meant I had more contact hours and homework, but I managed it alongside my part-time job at Sports Direct, which was flexible enough to fit around my studies."

Natalia

Maths, Further Maths, Chemistry, Psychology

"The teachers here are incredible, especially my politics teacher, Meg, who has been so supportive. And my achievement coach, Julie, was the one who really pushed me to apply to Oxford when she saw I was getting good grades in my first assessments. Without her encouragement, I probably wouldn't have applied – so I'm really grateful for that.

"I'm really proud to be one of only a handful of students from West Notts to make it to Oxford. I hope my story shows other students that even if it feels like a far-off dream, with the right mindset, dedication and encouragement, you can achieve something truly life-changing."

Isabella

History, Politics, Law

OPEN EVENTS

Interested and want to find out more?

A LEVEL OPEN EVENTS

Come along to an **A Level Open Event** at our Mansfield and Ashfield Sixth Form College, Chesterfield Road, where you can meet our tutors, tour our campus and ask any questions.

Thursday 24 September 2026 – 5.30-7.30pm ■ Wednesday 4 November 2026 – 5.30-7.30pm ■ Wednesday 13 January 2027 – 5.30-7.30pm

COLLEGE OPEN EVENTS

Unsure if A Levels are the best option for you? Why not come along to a **College Open Event** at our Derby Road campus where you can find out more about A Levels, V Levels, T Levels, apprenticeships and vocational courses all at once. It will be the perfect opportunity to weigh up your options and decide what will work best for you.

Saturday 10 October 2026 - 9am-1pm ■ Saturday 28 November 2026 – 9am-1pm ■ Saturday 27 February 2027 - 9am-1pm ■ Thursday 29 April 2027 – 5.30-7.30pm ■ Wednesday 16 June 2027 – 5.30-7.30pm

Book your place today **wnc.ac.uk/events**

Follow us on social media

Get an insight into what life is like as a student and get the latest updates on courses, events and much more.

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Mansfield and Ashfield
SIXTH FORM COLLEGE

CONTACT US:

Chesterfield Road South
Mansfield
Nottinghamshire
NG19 7BB

01623 413013
enquiries@wnc.ac.uk
wnc.ac.uk/a-levels



The information in this guide is correct at the time of print – for the latest information, please check the college website **wnc.ac.uk** or call **0808 100 3626**.