



Winner
Sixth form college
of the year



Hereford
SIXTH FORM COLLEGE



Prospectus Supplement 2017

sowing the seeds for your future



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Sixth form college
of the year

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A Message from the Principal Designate

Thank you for taking the time to read our main prospectus which shows the variety of courses available to you.

Since the publication of that prospectus our range of courses has extended even further and this supplement has been produced to notify you of changes and updates to our provision for 2017.

It is also a good opportunity to introduce myself. After 18 years as the College's Deputy Principal, I am honoured to be taking over as the next Principal, with the retirement of Jonathan Godfrey. Throughout this time we have worked together with our team of outstanding teachers and support staff to ensure that our students get the best possible experience and opportunities.

National Recognition

We have both a local and national reputation for excellence as one of the top sixth form colleges in the country, recognised in the educational sector when we received the *Times Educational Supplement's* Sixth Form College of the Year Award in 2016. In 2008 the College was graded as *Outstanding* by Ofsted and I am delighted that we have managed to maintain this rating over the years being the only sixth form college in the West Midlands to have achieved this.

High Achievements in All Areas

We achieve outstanding results and the performance of our top 100 students compares favourably with those students at any state or private school in the country. However, we are a College for all abilities and aptitudes and we are equally as proud of our students who retake GCSE exams and we have seen our success in this area become one of the best in the country.

Huge Range of Opportunities

In addition to academic A Levels the College offers you a range of vocational qualifications, which are highly valued by universities, employers and apprenticeships. Many of these are equivalent to A Levels and you can study any combination of A Levels and vocational subjects.

Whilst our results are excellent we are not an exam factory and all our students follow a general education programme which prepares you with essential skills and knowledge to maximise your career opportunities. A higher than average number of our students progress to Oxbridge/Russell Group universities and competitive apprenticeships/employment. We also encourage you to participate in an array of enrichment activities, unrivalled in the area, including sports, drama, music and student debates. There really is something for everyone and whether you are a seasoned performer in sport, music, drama or another activity or just a beginner we will encourage you.

How do we do it?

Our well qualified and dedicated staff specialise in teaching 16-18 year olds. Our students enjoy learning, socialising and exploring ideas with people of their own age. We have sufficient numbers to make worthwhile teams and groups which allow you to follow shared interests and help you to achieve your best.

Many of our students travel from neighbouring counties including Wales. We do not want the cost of transport to be a barrier to studying with us and travel is subsidised. There is also a nearby car park which enables students to park and walk easily to the College.

Find out more

This supplement and the main College prospectus will help you to find out about our courses and the College. We also have a series of open events but we are happy to help you make your choice in any way that we can.

I am delighted that you are considering applying to our College. We pride ourselves on providing an outstanding sixth form experience, whether studying A Levels or vocational/applied subjects. Our aim is to help you develop your interests, gain valuable life knowledge and skills and fully achieve your potential through your chosen subjects.

I look forward to welcoming you to our College.



Peter Cooper

Principal Designate



Our Courses

Advanced Level Academic and Vocational Courses

The College offers a wide variety of Level 3 subjects comprising A Levels and vocational courses (BTECs or Cambridge Technicals). Your programme of study can include a mixture of these courses, all to be completed over two years and assessed by a combination of exams and coursework.

Students generally study three subjects or their equivalent but those who achieve a higher GCSE profile with many A and A* grades are encouraged to take four subjects to provide breadth and to aid progression to competitive entry universities, companies or apprenticeships.

Advanced Level 3 courses give you the knowledge, skills and qualifications you need to apply for a higher education course at university, apprenticeship or employment. If you are unsure whether the courses you have chosen are the best route to your chosen career then look carefully at the subject pages in this supplement, in the prospectus or on the website, or speak to a careers adviser at a College open event, or feel free to contact the College.

Course Requirements

Advanced Level courses and Level 3 vocational courses have similar requirements:

- 5 GCSEs at grade A*- C or grade 4-9 in the new measure
- A grade 4 or higher in English and ideally Mathematics
- In addition we also accept a Level 2 vocational qualification, if it is relevant to the area of study for a Level 3 vocational programme.
- Some subjects have additional entry requirements and these are explained fully in the course descriptions.

If you have not achieved a grade C or grade 4 or higher in either your English or Mathematics you will need to study GCSE or Functional Skills in these subjects as part of your programme.

GCSEs

If you want to improve your GCSE results prior to studying A Levels or vocational qualifications at Level 3, the College offers a range of GCSEs and Level 2 vocational courses which allow you to consolidate before progressing to the next level.

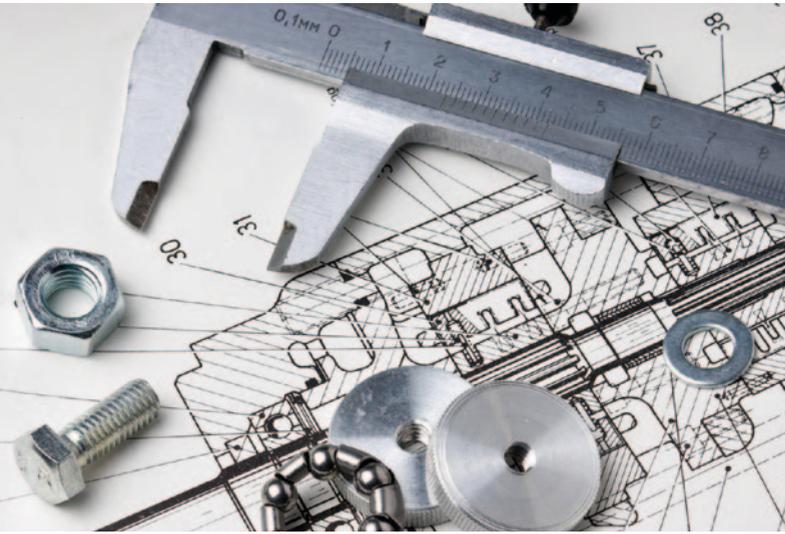
Complete List of Level 3 Courses

A Level Archaeology
A Level Art & Design (Fine Art)
A Level Art & Design (Photography)
A Level Biology
BTEC Level 3 National Extended Certificate in Business
[equivalent to one A Level]
A Level Business Studies
A Level Chemistry
A Level Computer Science
A Level Critical Thinking
BTEC Level 3 Subsidiary Diploma in Dance
[equivalent to one A Level]
A Level Drama & Theatre Studies
A Level Economics
Level 3 Cambridge Technical Extended Certificate in Engineering (New Course)
[equivalent to one A Level]
A Level English Language
A Level English Literature
A Level Environmental Science
A Level French
A Level Geography
A Level Geology
A Level German
A Level Government & Politics
BTEC Level 3 National Extended Certificate in Health & Social Care [equivalent to one A Level]
BTEC Level 3 National Diploma in Health & Social Care [equivalent to two A Levels]
A Level History - Medieval/Early Modern

A Level History - Modern World
BTEC Level 3 Subsidiary Diploma in IT
[equivalent to one A Level]
A Level Law
A Level Mathematics Courses
- Statistics
- Fast Track Mathematics/Further Mathematics
- Mathematics
A Level Media Studies (New Course)
A Level Music
BTEC Level 3 Subsidiary Diploma in Performing Arts (Musical Theatre) [equivalent to one A Level]
A Level Philosophy & Ethics
A Level Physical Education
A Level Physics
A Level Psychology
A Level Sociology
A Level Spanish
BTEC Level 3 National Extended Certificate in Sport (New Course)
[equivalent to one A Level]
BTEC Level 3 Extended Diploma in Sport & Exercise Science [equivalent to three A Levels]
A Level Travel & Tourism
BTEC Level 3 National Extended Certificate in Travel & Tourism (New Course)
[equivalent to one A Level]
BTEC Level 3 National Extended Diploma in Travel & Tourism (New Course)
[equivalent to three A Levels]

Level 3 Cambridge Technical Extended Certificate in Engineering

Examination Board: OCR



Do I need any particular subjects, skills or interests?

You need to be interested in Mathematics and Science.

What can I do after the course?

This course can lead into higher education, such as a degree or a foundation degree in Engineering, an apprenticeship or employment.

Please check the College website for the most up to date information.

What does the course involve?

Engineering is a vocational course that helps prepare you for either a degree in Engineering or moving straight into the workplace.

This is a two year, programme equivalent to one A Level.

It focuses on two areas of engineering: mechanical and electrical.

Machines are made up of components and mechanisms working in combination. Engineers need to understand the principles that govern the behaviour of these components and how they are applied. Electrical systems and electronic devices are present in almost every aspect of modern life

and it is engineers who design, test and produce these systems.

This course helps you develop your Mathematical and Scientific knowledge and skills so that you can begin to understand these processes.

You will study modules on:

- ▶ Mathematics
- ▶ Science
- ▶ Mechanical Engineering
- ▶ Electrical and Electronic Engineering

Approximately two thirds of the course is assessed by examination in January and June of the first and second year. The final third is internally assessed.

A Level Media Studies

Examination Board: Eduqas

The media plays a pivotal role in contemporary society, shaping our perceptions of people, issues and politics. Media Studies allows you the opportunity to reflect upon and analyse how these messages are constructed, the conventions and genres of different platforms from print media and TV through to music videos and social media. This course will also allow you the opportunity to develop your production skills through the coursework component.

What does the course involve?

The course breakdown is 30% coursework and 70% examination.

Examined Units:

Component 1 requires you to study a broad range of media platforms: six in total, including video games, music videos and radio. It requires you to develop your analytical skills and your understanding of how the media conveys messages about groups of people, the impact of how the industry works, technological issues and developments and how audiences are targeted.

Component 2 requires a much more in depth study of three further platforms: TV, magazines and online media. In this you'll also consider factors such as narrative and genre.

The A Level course requires you to develop a confident understanding of media theory and use it in your analysis of all media products. You will also get the opportunity to look at diverse products such as mainstream and independent television programmes, foreign



language television and products aimed at minority audiences to give you a real taste of our diverse media landscape.

Coursework:

Component 3, the coursework component, requires you to do a cross platform media production producing two products which need to be aimed at a specific target audience. So you might do a television extract and a supporting magazine article, or a music video and a supporting magazine article.

Do I need any particular subjects, skills or interests?

It's not necessary for you to have taken GCSE Media Studies, but it is beneficial. To be accepted onto A Level Media Studies we require literacy and analytical skills so a grade 4 or C in GCSE English is

required. We also expect you to have an interest in the media and media production.

Please check the College website for the most up to date information.

BTEC Level 3 National Extended Certificate in Sport

Examination Board: Edexcel



This is a new course and is awaiting approval from the examination board. Further details will be confirmed as soon as available.

The Extended Certificate is equivalent to one A Level.

The course consists of two units in the first year:

- ▶ Anatomy and Physiology
- ▶ Sport Performance

One of these will be assessed internally, one will be examined externally.

Units for the second year have yet to be confirmed.

Please check the College website for the most up to date information.

BTEC Level 3 National Extended Certificate in Travel & Tourism

Examination Board: Edexcel

What does the course involve?

This course is for those wishing to learn about the travel and tourism industry as part of a balanced programme of A Level and/or BTEC study.

It is a two year programme equivalent to one A Level.

The course consists of four units. The final choice of units is still under discussion so please check the College website for the most up to date information.

Four units are assessed externally and are likely to include:

- ▶ The World of Travel & Tourism
- ▶ Global Destinations

Two units are assessed internally and are likely to include:

- ▶ Managing the Customer Experience
- ▶ Events, Conferences and Exhibitions

Will I take part in any study visits/fieldwork?

A variety of trips and visits will be organised, some of which will be compulsory. These include:

- ▶ Theme park
- ▶ Local tourism visits
- ▶ Bristol Zoo
- ▶ Big Pit
- ▶ PGL



- ▶ Blackpool
- ▶ A short haul destination - London or Europe
- ▶ A long haul trip - New York

What can I do after the course?

The skills gained during this course will help to prepare you for Further or Higher Education. It will be particularly relevant for progression to travel, business or management related degrees.

BTEC Level 3 National Extended Diploma in Travel & Tourism

Examination Board: Edexcel



What does the course involve?

This course is for those wishing to progress directly to employment in the travel and tourism industry or to Further or Higher Education courses in this field.

It is a two year, full time course equivalent to three A Levels.

The course consists of 13 units. The final choice of units is still under discussion so please check the College website for the most up to date information.

Four units are assessed externally and are likely to include:

- ▶ The World of Travel & Tourism
- ▶ Global Destinations

- ▶ The United Kingdom as a Tourist Destination
- ▶ Business Operations in Travel & Tourism

Nine units are assessed internally and are likely to include:

- ▶ Managing the Customer Experience
- ▶ Travel & Tourism Enterprises
- ▶ Researching Current Issues in Travel & Tourism
- ▶ The Airport Experience
- ▶ Recruitment and Selection in Travel & Tourism
- ▶ Visitor Attractions
- ▶ Working Overseas

- ▶ Events, Conferences and Exhibitions
- ▶ Work Experience in Travel & Tourism

Will I take part in any study visits/fieldwork?

A variety of trips and visits will be organised, some of which will be compulsory. These include:

- ▶ Theme park
- ▶ Local tourism visits
- ▶ Bristol Zoo
- ▶ Big Pit
- ▶ PGL
- ▶ Blackpool
- ▶ A short haul destination - London or Europe
- ▶ A long haul trip - New York

What can I do after the course?

This course is primarily aimed at those wishing to pursue a career in Travel & Tourism. A wide range of degree courses are available including Travel & Tourism, Tourism Management and Business Management.

GCSE Languages

You may study one of these courses in addition to your Level 3 programme of study. Both are one year courses.

Do I need any particular subjects, skills or interests?

These courses are for beginners who have a strong aptitude for languages and an interest in their grammatical structure.

As a minimum you will normally require a grade 5 or B in GCSE English Language.

To study Russian you will also need a Grade B in a Modern Language at GCSE and be highly committed in order to complete this course in one year.

What do the courses involve?

You will develop a good level of competence and understanding, by gradually building up your knowledge of the language, its structure and its vocabulary. To achieve this you will be expected to go over the material covered in class every day.

GCSE Latin

Latin encourages you to communicate clearly and effectively. You will develop a sensitive and analytical approach to language generally and an awareness of the relationship between Latin and modern languages. You will also learn about the civilisation of Ancient Rome and study Latin literature in its cultural context.

The terminology used in science and medicine is predominantly Latin so this is a useful course for those planning a career in these fields.

GCSE Latin is also useful for those wanting to go on to study Archaeology, Ancient or Medieval History, Modern Languages, Law and Theology.

GCSE Russian

You will have the opportunity to develop and practice your spoken Russian by conversing with other members of the class and through lessons in the language laboratory. In addition to learning to understand, write and speak Russian, you will study the culture and civilisation of Russia.

With more and more job opportunities opening up in Eastern Europe the ability to speak Russian is a valuable asset. Jobs including banking, finance, journalism, law, public relations, travel and the civil service.



Summary of Amendments to Propectus 2017

Page 3

The course title *AS Critical Thinking* should read **A Level Critical Thinking**

Page 30

A Level Archaeology has an uncertain future. It is currently under review by the examining body.

Page 37

The course *A Level Communication & Culture* has changed to **A Level Media Studies**

Page 46

The course *A Level Film Studies* will not be offered in 2017

Page 57

The course title *AS Level Law* should read **A Level Law**

**Please note the addition of the following new courses
(details of which can be found in this supplement):**

Page 6

Level 3 Cambridge Technical Extended Certificate in Engineering

[equivalent to one A Level]

Page 7

A Level Media Studies

Page 8

BTEC Level 3 Extended Certificate in Sport

[equivalent to one A Level]

Page 9

BTEC Level 3 National Extended Certificate in Travel & Tourism

[equivalent to one A Level]

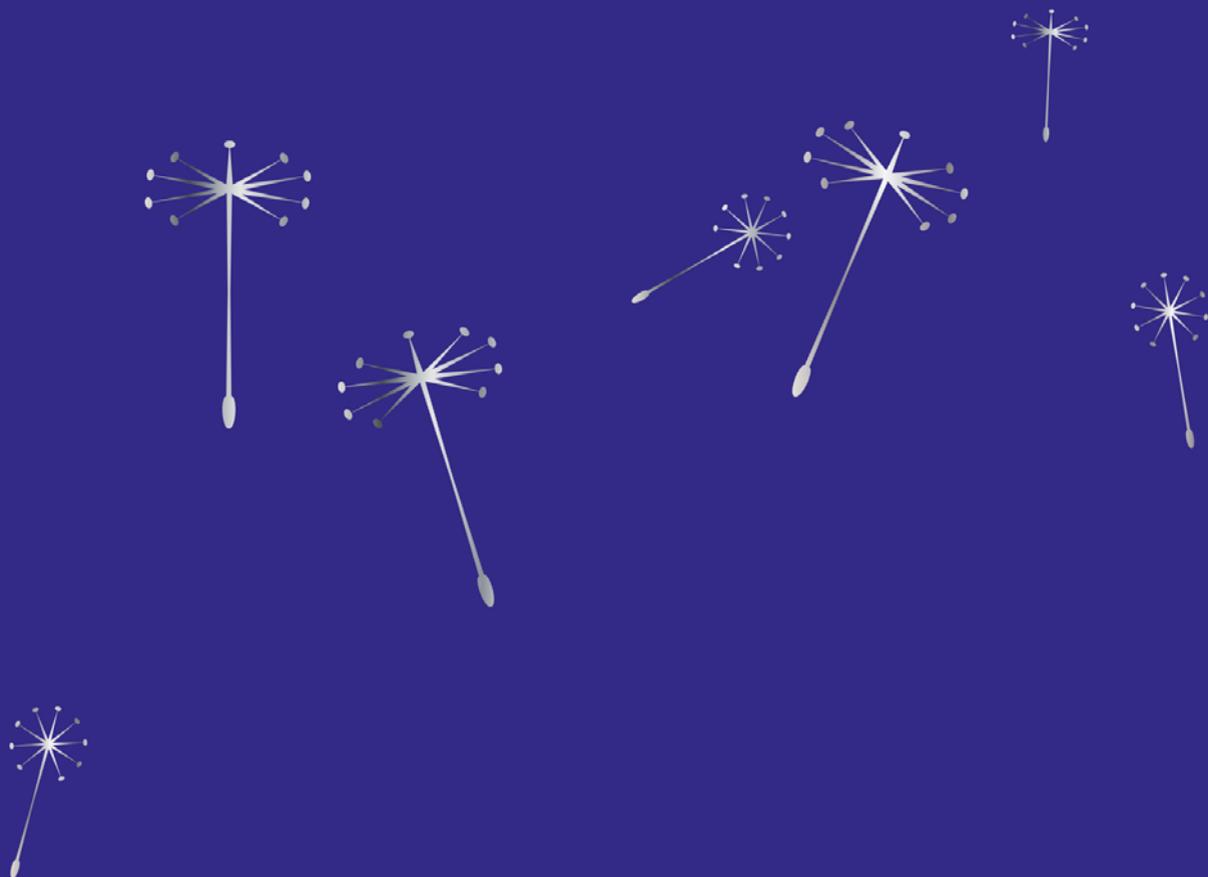
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BTEC Level 3 National Extended Diploma in Travel & Tourism

[equivalent to three A Levels]



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