



ULLSWATER
COMMUNITY
COLLEGE

PROSPECTUS

2025-26



UCCSIXTH

Ambitious | Caring | Equal

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OUR SENIOR STUDENTS

Welcome to our Sixth Form!

We are Ullswater Community College's senior students, you'll hear our voices when you phone the school and we look forward to welcoming you to our sixth form. Yes, there are lots of choices you can make at the end of Year 11 but we think starting in this sixth form is something you should consider seriously. You'll find exceptional teaching, wonderful support and so many opportunities for you to develop yourself as a person and to prepare yourself for the world out there.

Livvie

Studying: Maths, Physics, Sport

Sixth form is a great place for personal growth and endless opportunities. Leading and learning in a space so full of support has shaped my next steps and who I feel I'm meant to be.

Next year I plan to start an Interior Design degree course.

Frankie

Studying: History, Maths, PE

I've really enjoyed my time in the Sixth form. I've made many good friends and feel like I made the right decisions with the courses I chose to study. The workload is big, but there is always so much support to help you manage.

I'm hoping to take a gap year when I finish my A Levels and travel the world.



HEADTEACHER'S WELCOME

Welcome to Ullswater Community College.

Our goal is simple. We help every student reach their potential and to prepare for a successful future.

We are an ambitious school, dedicated to fostering both exceptional academic achievement and the development of personal character. We believe education opens every door. Our mission is to provide a rich, dynamic education that prepares our students for success in the most competitive universities, apprenticeships and career paths.

Excellence at UCC Sixth means more than grades. It means character, integrity, and resilience. Students learn to think for themselves, lead with purpose and contribute positively to their communities.

We are proud of our Cumbrian roots and proud of the reputation UCC has built for high standards and breadth of opportunity. Our students leave ready to compete nationally and succeed anywhere their ambitions take them.

I warmly invite you to explore all that UCC Sixth offers. Visit us, meet our staff, ask questions and see how we prepare students for life beyond education.

A portrait of Mr S Gilby, the Headteacher, standing in front of a green hedge. He is wearing a dark suit, a white shirt, and a purple tie.

MR S GILBY

HEADTEACHER

HEAD OF UCCSIXTH WELCOME

Welcome to UCC Sixth.

This is a place where you can explore who you are, what matters to you and where you want to go next.

Your time in UCC Sixth is about more than exams. It is about preparing for life. You will build confidence, independence and curiosity. Whether your next step is university, an apprenticeship, or out in the world of work, we're here to help you make informed decisions about your future.

Our teachers will challenge you to think deeply, connect ideas and see the bigger picture in every subject. You will be encouraged to question, to explore and to develop your own voice. In our close-knit Sixth Form and supportive community, you will be supported by people who know you, who'll push you when you need it and will cheer you on every step of the way.

When you leave UCC Sixth, you will be ready for whatever comes next: confident, capable and equipped to shape your own future.

Welcome to Ullswater Sixth Form. Your next chapter starts here.

A portrait of Mr R Jackson, a middle-aged man with a shaved head and a light beard, wearing a light blue button-down shirt and a dark blue tie. He is standing in front of a green leafy hedge.

MR R JACKSON

HEAD OF UCCSIXTH

OUR VISIONS & VALUES

At UCC Sixth, we expect focus, discipline and commitment. In return, we invest time in knowing our students as individuals and guiding them to achieve more than they thought possible. This shared effort builds a community defined by trust, respect and pride in progress.

Our ethos is underpinned by three core values, we are: **Ambitious**, **Caring** and **Equal**. These values shape how we teach, how we support and how we prepare every student for life beyond school.



Ambitious

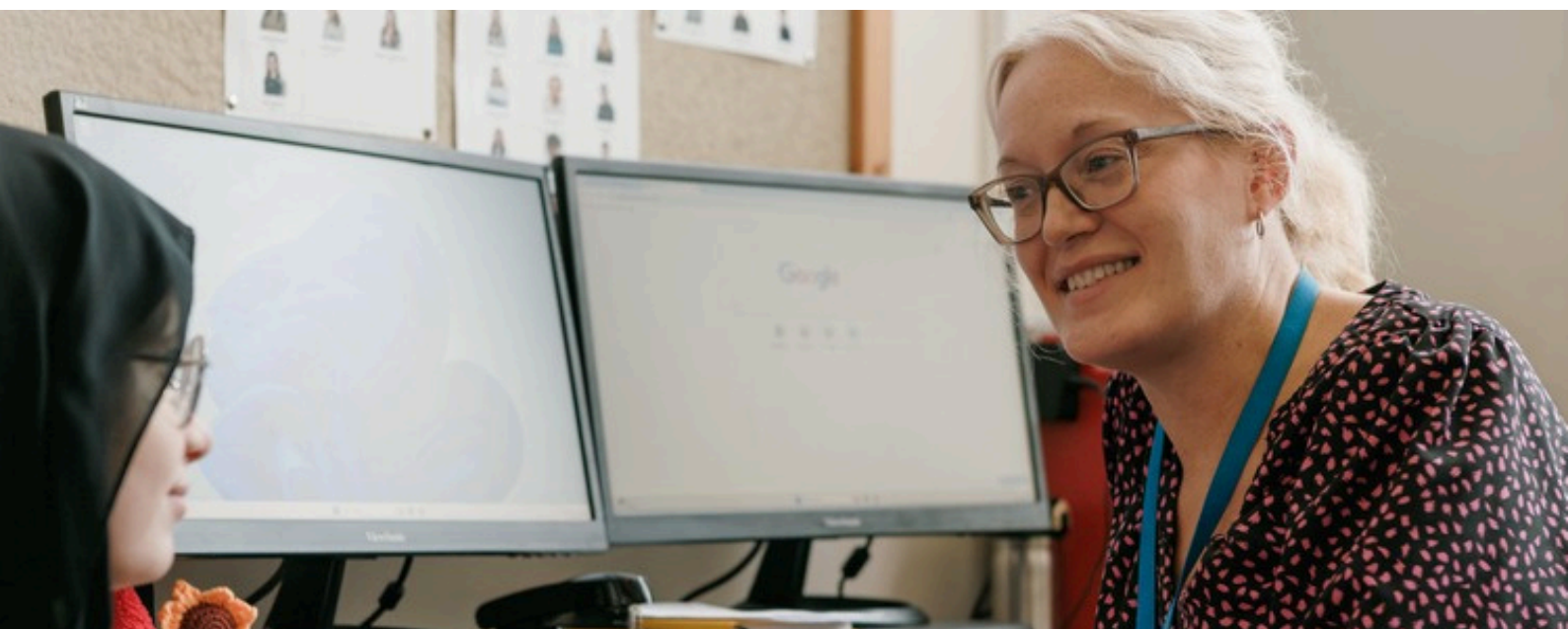
Our **ambition** is rooted in a commitment to academic excellence for every student. We foster a culture where intellectual curiosity is celebrated and high achievement is the expectation. Our staff will challenge you to think independently and work with purpose. Our curriculum stretches every student, enabling them to achieve outstanding outcomes and progress to any destination they choose. Success is earned through effort and focus.

Caring

We show we are **caring** every single day by providing excellence in teaching and support. We know every student. You will have the support of tutors, subject teachers, and a dedicated pastoral team. Our talented and dedicated staff deliver engaging, evidence-informed learning designed to inspire a lifelong passion for their subjects. Our environment is friendly, respectful and focused on wellbeing. We help you manage workload, balance priorities and build confidence along the way.

Equal

We believe being **equal** means offering excellence to all, regardless of their starting point. We reject the idea that potential is limited and are committed to ensuring every student has access to a rich, challenging and balanced curriculum. Every child is entitled to the same opportunities to achieve personal and academic greatness. We believe that talent is developed through commitment and support.



UCCSIXTH TAKES YOU PLACES



OUTCOMES

100%

of **Child Care** students
achieved **A* - B Grades**

100%

of **UPS** students
achieved **Grades D* - M**

100%

of **Sport** students
achieved **Grades D* - M**

100%

of **H & S Care** students
achieved **Grades D* - D**

88%

of **IT** students achieved
Grades D* - M

60%

of **Maths** students
achieved **A* - B Grades**

60%

of **Chemistry** students
achieved **A* - B Grades**

90%

of **Business** students
achieved **Grades D* - M**

LIFE AT UCCSIXTH

UCC Sixth is a sixth form that offers real choice, strong results and the support to achieve your next step whether that be university, apprenticeship or skilled employment.

Choosing where to study after GCSEs is one of the most important decisions you will make. At UCC Sixth, you will find an environment built on ambition, respect and opportunity.

We expect every student to aim high. You will be challenged through a demanding curriculum, supported by experienced staff and encouraged to take ownership of your progress. Our goal is simple: to help you leave confident, capable and ready for whatever comes next.

Students here don't just gain qualifications. They gain direction. They learn how to plan, lead and think for themselves. They leave ready to succeed at university, in apprenticeships or in skilled employment.

**“TEACHERS HERE
TAKE TIME TO
KNOW YOU. THEY
PUSH YOU TO DO
MORE, BUT THEY
ENSURE YOU FEEL
SUPPORTED TO
DO SO.”**



Life at UCC Sixth is about more than lessons. You will join a community where people know you, where effort is valued and where opportunities extend far beyond the classroom. You will gain independence, build friendships and develop the confidence to lead your own path.

A Typical Day

Your week will include independent study, timetabled lessons, enrichment and one-to-one guidance. You will learn how to manage your own time, balance priorities and stay organised. Study periods give you freedom and responsibility, while regular check-ins with staff help you stay on track. Every day feels different, but each one moves you closer to your goals.

Learning and Independence

You will be treated as a young adult. We will help you balance academic challenge with personal responsibility. You will have greater independence in how you manage your time, with clear structure and guidance to help you use it well. Staff and tutors will help you plan deadlines, balance study and make the most of your time here. Smaller class sizes mean more opportunity for discussion, feedback and time to explore ideas.

Beyond the Classroom

Life at UCC Sixth is busy and varied. Enrichment includes everything from Duke of Edinburgh and sports teams to music, drama, enterprise and volunteering. You can represent UCC Sixth at local events, join debating or STEM clubs, or help lead activities for younger students. Trips, guest speakers and work experience placements help you connect what you learn to the wider world.

Developing Future Leaders

We know that top universities and employers look for more than grades. Our enrichment and leadership opportunities help you build confidence, communication and problem-solving skills. You can mentor younger students, take on leadership roles or take part in community action projects that make a difference. These experiences develop the independence, resilience and character that help you stand out at any interview.

Community and Wellbeing

We care about every student's wellbeing. Tutors and pastoral staff are available for advice, guidance and support whenever needed. You will learn in an environment where respect and kindness are part of daily life, and where progress is recognised and celebrated.

**“I LOVED THE MIX OF
FREEDOM AND SUPPORT.
YOU’RE TREATED LIKE AN
ADULT, BUT YOU’RE NEVER
LEFT ON YOUR OWN.”**



WHY CHOOSE UCCSIXTH?



Our Reputation

Ullswater Community College is rated Good by Ofsted. Inspectors highlighted the strength of teaching, the ambition of leadership, and the supportive culture across the school.



Academic Excellence

High expectations and expert teaching drive achievement. You will be taught by subject specialists who care deeply about your progress. They will challenge you to think critically, ask questions and produce work that reflects real understanding.



Pathways to Excellence

Our Success Curriculum offers a balance of academic and applied qualifications, giving you the flexibility to build a programme that matches your goals. We offer an exceptional breadth of opportunities, from a rigorous English Baccalaureate curriculum to high-quality vocational and technical courses. Every route is designed to open doors, not close them.



A Proven Track-Record

Our students achieve exceptional outcomes. Each year, many progress to Oxbridge and Russell Group universities, while others secure higher and degree-level apprenticeships with leading employers including Sellafield, BAE Systems and Network Rail. We help you plan the right path and give you the tools to succeed.



Personal Support

You will be known and supported as an individual. Tutors and teachers work closely with you to guide academic progress, manage workload and prepare for the next step. Whether you need help with applications, interviews or personal goals, our team is there to support you.



Community and Belonging

UCC Sixth is a close-knit community where everyone matters. You will learn alongside motivated students who share your drive to succeed. You will take part in enrichment opportunities, trips and events that help you grow socially as well as academically.



Confident Futures

Our students leave UCC Sixth ready to compete nationally and succeed anywhere their ambitions take them. You will leave with strong results, real experience and the confidence to shape your own future.

FACILITIES & LEARNING ENVIRONMENT

UCC Sixth offers a professional learning environment that reflects life beyond school. Our facilities include quiet areas for independent study and shared spaces where you can work with others and exchange ideas.

Dedicated Sixth Form Centre

You will study in our dedicated Sixth Form area with access to quiet study rooms, group spaces and social areas. It's a place where you can focus, meet friends and balance work with downtime.

A Connected Campus

UCC Sixth benefits from being part of a large, well-resourced school community. You'll have access to the school's sports facilities, CrossFit gym, extensive library, canteen and outdoor spaces. The site's location in the heart of Penrith means excellent transport links and easy access from across the Eden Valley.

Technology and Digital Access

Every Sixth Form student has access to a Chromebook to support independent study, research and coursework.

Specialist Classrooms and Resources

Across the wider school site, you will have access to subject-specific facilities that match your courses. This includes fully equipped science laboratories, art and photography studios, design and technology workshops, performance spaces and modern ICT suites. Every area supports hands-on learning and creative exploration.



PASTORAL SUPPORT & WELLBEING

At UCC Sixth, support for students goes far beyond the classroom. Every student is known and valued as an individual. You will have a dedicated tutor who follows your progress, offers advice and helps you manage the balance between study and personal wellbeing.

Our pastoral team works closely with teachers and families to make sure you always have someone to turn to. Whether you need help with coursework, applications or personal challenges, support is easy to access and always confidential.

Wellbeing is built into daily life. Regular check-ins, mentoring and our open-door approach mean you are never left to manage alone. You will learn how to look after your mental health, manage workload and build resilience for the future.

BURSARIES AND FINANCIAL SUPPORT

We are committed to removing financial barriers to education. The 16–19 Bursary Fund offers crucial financial support for eligible students to help with essential study costs like transport, food, and equipment.

The fund is split into two main types:

1. **Vulnerable Bursaries** (up to £1,200): This is available for students in or leaving care, or those receiving specific state benefits in their own right, who demonstrate financial need.
2. **Discretionary Bursaries:** All other students can apply. Priority is given based on household income:
 - Band 1: Students eligible for Free School Meals.
 - Band 2: Gross annual household income below £80,000 OR individual income below £40,000.

Conditions: Bursary recipients must maintain high attendance and comply with the Sixth Form Contract. Full policy details are available on the school website:
<https://ullswatercc.co.uk/sixth-form/bursary>

PREPARING YOU FOR LIFE AFTER UCCSIXTH

Your time at UCC Sixth is about becoming confident, capable and ready for what comes next.

You will learn how to manage your time, make decisions and take responsibility for your future.

We believe education should prepare you for life, not just further study or work. That's why we focus on developing qualities such as resilience, independence, teamwork and communication. These skills will help you thrive at university, in employment and in everyday life.

Through enrichment, mentoring and leadership opportunities, you will gain experiences that build confidence and maturity.

You will leave UCC Sixth with a strong sense of direction and the practical skills to take the next step with confidence.

For more on how we help you prepare for further education and employment, see page 18.

“I CAME TO UCC SIXTH FROM ANOTHER SCHOOL AND FELT PART OF THE COMMUNITY STRAIGHT AWAY. THE TEACHERS ARE KIND AND WANT THE BEST FOR YOU.”



DRESS CODE & EXPECTATIONS

Dress Code

UCC Sixth has a smart, professional dress code that reflects the independence and responsibility expected at this stage. The standard is simple: dress appropriately for a learning and working environment.

Students are expected to wear clothing that is neat, practical and respectful. Footwear should be smart. Lanyards must be worn at all times for safeguarding purposes.

The focus is on self-presentation and readiness for the wider world. We trust students to make choices that reflect well on themselves and on UCC Sixth.





Expectations

Our Sixth Form is built on mutual respect, focus and high standards. We expect students to:

- Attend all lessons and arrive on time
- Engage fully in learning and enrichment
- Treat staff, students and facilities with respect
- Take responsibility for managing workload and deadlines
- Represent UCC Sixth positively in and beyond school

In return, you will be treated as a young adult, supported by staff who know you and invested in your success.

ENRICHMENT & EXTENDED CURRICULUM

At UCC Sixth, learning goes far beyond the classroom.

Enrichment is an important part of life here and a key reason our students leave as confident, capable and well-rounded young adults.

Every student takes part in enrichment each week. You can choose from more than 50 clubs and activities designed to build confidence, leadership and teamwork. Whether you want to explore new interests or develop existing strengths, there is something for everyone.

Opportunities include:

- Duke of Edinburgh Award
- Sports teams and fitness activities
- Music, drama and creative arts
- Debating, public speaking and enterprise clubs
- Volunteering and mentoring younger students
- Community and charity projects

These experiences help you gain practical skills that universities and employers value. You will learn to work with others, lead projects and manage your time effectively.

“ENRICHMENT HAS HELPED ME DISCOVER NEW INTERESTS AND GIVEN ME THE CONFIDENCE TO TAKE ON LEADERSHIP ROLES.”



CAREERS, WORK EXPERIENCE AND NEXT STEPS

Careers education at UCC Sixth is designed to open doors. Our programme combines expert advice, meaningful encounters with employers and opportunities to gain real experience in the workplace.

Through partnerships with organisations such as Inspira and Hello Future, you will access specialist support, workshops and mentoring. You will explore future pathways, understand what employers are looking for and gain confidence in presenting yourself professionally.

Careers Events and Employer Links

You will take part in the annual Careers Fair, which brings together universities, apprenticeship providers and major employers. Throughout the year, visiting speakers and alumni share their experiences of university life, apprenticeships and industry careers.

We are proud to offer 1:1 guidance interviews for all students in UCC Sixth as part of our careers offering. In addition, all students have the opportunity to take part in mock interviews and visit a range of different universities.

Work Experience

All students take part in work experience placements, giving you a chance to apply your skills and explore careers first-hand. Our dedicated careers team helps you find placements that match your interests, whether that's within local businesses or national employers.

Next Steps

We prepare every student for the transition beyond Sixth Form. You will receive support with CV writing, personal statements, interviews and applications. Whether your goal is higher education, an apprenticeship or employment, our guidance ensures you take your next step with confidence.

“MY WORK EXPERIENCE HELPED ME DECIDE ON MY DEGREE COURSE. IT MADE ME FEEL READY FOR WHAT COMES NEXT.”



LEADERSHIP & STUDENT VOICE

We believe students should play an active role in shaping their community and developing the confidence to influence others.

Each year, students can apply for leadership roles such as Head Boy and Head Girl. These roles help shape events, represent student views and support the wider school community.

You can also take part in mentoring younger students, supporting school events and contributing to key initiatives across the school. Every opportunity builds skills in communication, teamwork and responsibility.



TRIPS, EVENTS AND COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

Life at UCC Sixth extends well beyond lessons. Our calendar is full of trips, events and activities that compliment academic teachings, celebrate achievement and connect students with the wider community.

Each year, students take part in a range of experiences — from subject-specific visits and university open days to cultural trips and reward events that recognise attendance and achievement. These opportunities bring learning to life and build confidence outside the classroom.

Community involvement is also a key part of Sixth Form life. You can volunteer in local projects, support school events and help younger students as part of our mentoring and enrichment programmes. Giving back builds confidence and shows what it means to be a role model within and beyond UCC.

“THE TRIP WAS ONE OF THE BEST PARTS OF THE YEAR. IT HELPED ME CONNECT THE THEORY I’M LEARNING IN CLASS WITH REAL-LIFE SCENARIOS.”



We are all #proudtobeUCC

“Sixth form students aspire to the many leadership roles available to them. These include reading buddies, sports leaders and providing support for a small number of younger pupils to improve their behaviour through the school’s ‘Reset programme’.”

Ofsted, 2023

“Pupils in the sixth form, benefit from a comprehensive programme of careers education, information, advice and guidance. As a result, pupils are aspirational, and they are well informed about the opportunities available to them in the next stage of their education, employment or training.”

Ofsted, 2023

ALUMNI STORIES



Molly studied PE, Sport and Performing Arts

"I currently work full time in admin at A.W. Jenkinson, helping with invoices and organising driver paperwork. Before this, I spent 2 years working in the office at Ast Signs, this gave me great experiences getting started after sixth form. I am also qualified as a Level 1 Gymnastics Coach, and help coach at Penrith Gymnastics Club too which I love."



Stuart studied Media, Religious Studies and Sociology

"I'm a screenwriter and director whose work blends black comedy with emotionally grounded, character-driven drama, often told through a queer, distinctly regional lens. My latest short film, the BAFTA-qualifying Meat Raffle, recently premiered at Bolton International Film Festival, where it was nominated for Best Film Made Up North. It was also nominated for Film4 Best British Short at the Iris Prize 2025 and as such is now streaming on Channel 4. This is a picture of me receiving the Best Comedy Award from Johnny Vegas at the Tees Valley International Film Festival."



Megan studied PE, Geography and English Literature

"I am currently in a full time marketing position in Newcastle at the Great Run Company, who hold the Great North Run. Before this I held various work experience placements in the media sector including at The Times and the BBC, and volunteered in the events world as social media lead for the Netball Super League (NSL) team, Loughborough Lightning."

YOUR STUDY OPTIONS

	Block U	Block V	Block W	Block X
A Levels	- Maths - Spanish - French - Psychology - Media	- Biology - English Literature - Further Maths - Religious Studies - Music	- Physics - English Language - Geography - Fine Art - Physical Education	- Chemistry - History - Sociology - Drama
Level 3	- Business - Performing Arts (Dance)	- Medical Science - Music Performance - Mental Health: Individuals and Society	- Health and Social Care - Sport (Single)	- Information Technology - Sport (Double)
Level 3	Uniformed Services			
T Level	Education and Early Year			
	ASDAN			

Making Options

You will need to choose 3 subjects from blocks U-X. Please be aware that you cannot pick 2 subjects from the same block. Students must also be sure they have reserve subject choices.

Please note: The model above may be subject to change. Depending upon the demand for subjects, some subjects may not run. When thinking about your Sixth Form options, it is worth having 'reserve' subjects in mind. As such, pick 3 subjects and a reserve from blocks U - X.

Know what you wish to study?

Check out the entry requirements.

If you have a university course that you are keen on, have you checked the relevant university website or UCAS course search (www.ucas.ac.uk) to find out whether this course requires certain subjects at A Level or Level 3?

Not sure yet?

Keep your options open.

If you are not sure which course you wish to study at university, have you got a good balance to your options in terms of level and subjects? Facilitating subjects are the subjects most likely to be required or preferred for entry to degree courses and therefore considering at least one maybe beneficial to applications. A good starting point would be to visit the website: www.theuniguide.co.uk.

ENTRY TO UCCSIXTH

Subject	Entry Requirements	Page
A Level Biology	6+ in Biology / Trilogy	26
A Level Chemistry	6+ in Chemistry / Trilogy	27
A Level Drama	5+ in English / 5+ in Drama	28
A Level English Language	6+ in English Language/Literature	29
A Level English Literature	6+ in English Language/Literature	30
A Level Fine Art	5+ in Art / Other Art Centred Subject	31
A Level French	5+ in French	32
A Level Further Maths	6+ in Maths / Recommendation	33
A Level Geography	6+ in Geography	34
A Level History	6+ in History	35
A Level Mathematics	6+ in Maths	36
A Level Media Studies	5+ in English	37
A Level Music	5+ in English /6+ in Music or Instrument Grade 6	38
A Level Physical Education	5+ in Physical Education (Exam)	39
A Level Physics	6+ in Physics / Trilogy & Maths	40
A Level Psychology	5+ in English / 5+ in Maths	41
A Level Religious Education	5+ in English / RE	42
A Level Sociology	5+ in English / Humanities subject	43
A Level Spanish	5+ in Spanish	44
Level 3 Business	5+ in Business or Equivalent	45
Level 3 Mental Health: Individuals and Society	Five 9 - 4 / 5+ in English & Science	46
Level 3 Health & Social Care	5+ in English / Sciences	47
Level 3 ICT	P+ in Digital IT/ 5+ in Computer Science /English 5+	48
Level 3 Medical Science	5+ in English / 4+ Science	49
Level 3 Music	5+ in English / P+ BTEC Music or Instrument Grade 3	50
Level 3 Dance	5+ in English / 5+ in Dance	51
Level 3 Sport (Single)	4 in PE / P+ in BTEC Sport / 5 in English	52
Level 3 Sport (Double)	4 in PE / P+ in BTEC Sport / 5 in English	53
Level 3 Uniformed Services	Five qualifications at 9 - 4	54
T Level in Education and Early Years	Five 9 - 4 / 5+ in English & Maths	55
ASDAN	Recommendation / Interview	56

A Level Biology

BLOCK V

Edexcel A Level Biology isn't just a subject; it's your key to decoding the living world. This course plunges into the deepest mysteries of life, covering everything from the microscopic blueprint of DNA to the vast, interconnected complexity of global ecosystems. Whether you're passionate about pioneering medical breakthroughs, fighting climate change, or simply understanding the hidden mechanics of your own body, this sprawling discipline offers a pathway tailored to your ambition. Prepare for a course that is both stimulating and intensely challenging, demanding powerful analytical skills as you unlock a fundamental and incredibly useful understanding of life's critical systems—knowledge that is indispensable in any high-demand career of the future.

What will I study?

Year 12 Topics

- Topic 1: Lifestyle, health and risk
- Topic 2: Genes and health
- Topic 3: Voice of the genome
- Topic 4: Biodiversity and natural resources

Year 13 Topics

- Topic 5: On the wild side
- Topic 6: Immunity, infection and forensics
- Topic 7: Run for your life
- Topic 8: Grey matter

Within these 8 topics there are also 18 Core Practicals, which may be assessed within the exam papers and will help students to develop their practical skills. If the students successfully complete these practicals, they will attain a certificate in practical competency.

Student insights

"I find Biology fascinating because we study how the human body and all living things actually work, right down to the microscopic level."

How will I be assessed?

Paper 1: The natural environment and species survival; a two hour exam, examining content from topics 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 & 6. In this paper there is a maximum of 100 marks available and it is worth 33.3% of total qualification.

Paper 2: Energy, exercise and co-ordination; a two hour exam, examining content from topics 1, 2, 3, 4, 7 & 8. In this paper there is a maximum of 100 marks available and it is worth 33.3% of total qualification.

Paper 3: General and practical applications in biology; a two hour exam, examining content from all 8 topics and questions relating to a pre-release article which will be published on the exam board website 8 weeks before the exam. In this paper there is a maximum of 100 marks available and it is worth 33.3% of total qualification.

SEARCH



Edexcel A Level Biology

A Level Chemistry

BLOCK X

Chemistry is the central science. It borders on, and interacts with, the Biological, Medicinal, Physical and Earth sciences, and its contribution to everyday life is enormous. A study of Chemistry develops the knowledge and skills needed to succeed in other areas, such as Law and Engineering. Chemistry is an exciting and stimulating pathway to pursue at this level. The course itself provides a logical sequence from GCSE through to the specification A Level. Problems and questions raised at GCSE are solved and explained. Students will learn about sophisticated equipment and learn about analytical techniques such as infra-red Spectroscopy and Nuclear Magnetic Resonance. Chemistry is a rewarding and fascinating subject that requires good organisational skills and the ability to work both within a team and as an individual.

What will I study?

The A Level Chemistry qualification is linear (exams at the end of the two years). Three branches of chemistry are taught/examined, namely Physical, Inorganic & Organic.

- Physical chemistry includes investigations of atomic structure and bonding, energetics, kinetics, chemical equilibria, electrochemistry and the study of acids & bases.
- Inorganic chemistry includes studies of periodic trends, the properties of Group 2 & 7 elements, transition metal chemistry and the reactions of ions in aqueous solution.
- Organic chemistry includes the study of hydrocarbons, halogenoalkanes, aldehydes, ketones & carboxylic acids as well as the synthesis of complex molecules such as proteins and aromatics; instrumental analytical techniques are also covered
- Practical work is at the heart of chemistry; a series of 12 core practicals over the two years will be supplemented with many opportunities to develop practical skills using new techniques and equipment required at this higher level. Practical chemistry will feature across each written examination rather than as a separate assessment.

Student insights

"Chemistry is great because it gets you hands-on in the lab, exploring all the reactions that make up everything around us."

How will I be assessed?

- **Paper 1** - Relevant topics from physical chemistry / Inorganic chemistry / relevant practical skills. This is a written exam of 2 hours duration with 105 marks available through a combination of short & long answer questions. It represents 35% of the total A-Level.
- **Paper 2** - This is a written exam of 2 hours duration with 105 marks available through a combination of short & long answer questions (organic chemistry and relevant practical skills). It represents 35% of the total A-Level.
- **Paper 3** - This is a written exam of 2 hours duration with 90 marks available. 40 marks will be relevant to practical techniques and data analysis; 20 marks will deal with any topic featured across the specification; the final 30 marks will be for multiple choice questions.

SEARCH



AQA A Level Chemistry

A Level Drama

BLOCK U

AQA A-Level Drama and Theatre Studies is a qualification worth one full A-Level. The course runs over 2 years, exploring practical and theoretical approaches to creating Drama and Theatre. This course compliments courses such as English Literature and Media Studies to develop well-rounded contextual knowledge of performance throughout history and in the modern day.

What will I study?

Component 1: Drama and Theatre

Component 1 focuses on the theoretical side of the course, studying 2 set plays spanning over contrasting historical periods. The focus of these texts is how, as a director, you would convey the contextual themes and from the text and analysing texts through performance skills. We will also study the components of theatre through Live Theatre Evaluation, giving students experience of watching and critiquing performance in a live setting.

Component 2: Creating Original Drama

This component requires students to devise their own original piece from a chosen stimulus, inspired by a chosen practitioner. Students have complete freedom to create a piece that reflects their interests within Drama and to choose a practitioner that compliments their piece. Students will have the opportunity to perform this to an audience, factoring in the value of the audience and the impact theatre can have on its audience.

Component 3: Making Theatre

This component is explored through workshopping extracts from 3 key texts, again, spanning different genres and time periods. This will then lead to one extract being performed as a “work in process” performance, evidencing the experimental nature of the workshopping task. Similar to Component 1, the texts used within the workshops will span across a wide range of time periods, themes and contexts to broaden students’ experience of Drama.

Student insights

"Drama has seriously helped my confidence, and getting to try out different scripts and performance styles with a proper group is so much fun."

How will I be assessed?

There will be one written exam at the end of Year 13 (Component 1), based on the written text studied throughout the course and a Live Theatre Evaluation from a live performance seen. Components 2 & 3 are assessed through performance; one recorded and submitted to the exam board and one assessed by a visiting examiner. The academic elements maintain and develop your writing, literacy and academic skills; essential attributes of any university applicant, employee or performer.

SEARCH



AQA A Level Drama

A Level English Language

Are you fascinated by the power of words? Have you ever wondered why we use the words we do, or how the English language has evolved over time? A Level Language will suit you if you love writing and reading, have an enquiring mind and a fascination with language. As critical readers, and writers, you will be taught to examine language like a detective, looking at a diverse range of written and spoken texts: from Old English, to text speak; from political speeches to children's language; from Standard English to local dialect. You will learn to use precise terminology, carry out research into living language, evaluate data and apply theories to interpret and compare texts and the contexts from which they evolve. There is also a strong original writing component, which draws on your own interests within the subject.

A Level English language is a very adaptable and respected subject, in terms of its relevance to a wide range of degree and employment opportunities.

What will I study?

- How to analyse language choices in a text, drawing on consideration of a range of contextual factors.
- Current topical issues around language use - for example, the rise of social media-generated language, the impact of technology on language etc.
- How to analyse and interpret different forms and genres of written and spoken language.
- How the English language varies between individuals, geographical areas, countries and social groups, as well as according to context.
- All the many factors which influence the way in which people speak and write.
- How language is used within the media to cater to particular purposes, audiences and contexts.
- A range of fascinating theories about how language use is affected and influenced by power, gender, class, situation, technology, intended audience and more.
- How children actually acquire language - the theories and processes behind how they become adept at speaking, reading and writing.
- How the English language originated, and how it has evolved up to the present day.
- How to analyse historical varieties of English and compare it to present day use.

Student insights

"English Language is really cool because we look at how people talk and write every day and understand why language is always changing."

How will I be assessed?

English Language is a linear course, which means that you will be assessed at the end of Year 13. Exams consist of a selection of analytical and evaluative tasks which test both your knowledge of linguistic concepts and your skills in exploring a text and constructing an argument. You will also complete a piece of coursework at the end of Year 12 / beginning of Year 13, which is worth 20% of your final grade.

SEARCH



OCR A Level English Lang

A Level English Literature

You do not have to be a bookworm to study A Level Literature; what you need is a willingness to debate, discuss and disagree and come armed with ideas. This is the one subject where your interpretation matters the most, where you can enjoy exploring how writers have created - and destroyed - their most infamous characters. We critically read around the texts too, asking not just what the author intended in production, but also about what it means right now and how those texts serve as part of the Literary Canon.

A Level English Literature is a highly respected and facilitating A Level linking to a range of degree and employment opportunities.

What will I study?

Over two years, you will study: two novels; two plays; two sets of poetry (17th C and 21st C); and two texts of your own choice for coursework - you even get to write your own question!

Year 12

- "A Streetcar Named Desire" by Tennessee Williams
- "The Handmaid's Tale" by Margaret Atwood
- "Frankenstein" by Mary Shelley
- A collection of modern poetry

Year 13

- "Hamlet" or "Othello" by William Shakespeare
- The poetry of John Donne
- One coursework essay (2500 words approx.) comparing two texts chosen by you

Student insights

"I love English Lit; we get to read and debate amazing stories and poems, exploring how writers challenge big ideas."

How will I be assessed?

- Paper 1 - 2 hrs 15 mins (30% of A level)
- Paper 2 - 1 hr (20% of A level)
- Paper 3 - 2 hrs 15 mins (30% of A level)
- Coursework essay of 2500 words on two texts (20% of A level)

SEARCH



A Level English Lit

A Level Fine Art

If you are considering pursuing further education or a career in art, design, architecture, film, fashion, photography, animation or other creative industries then art and design would be a crucial first step. We have an aspirational and high quality working environment combined with access to a wide range of materials and facilities. Students really enjoy the atmosphere within the studio, which is conducive to producing high quality mature work which in turn enables students to access higher grades.

We strive to encourage students to be creative, ambitious, sensitive, challenging, but all based on a solid grounding of the basics including observational drawing and the skills of using a wide range of media and materials. You will need to be committed, self-directed, hardworking and open-minded, with a genuine interest and engagement with the subject. Those who study art and design have found the course to be stimulating and demanding but ultimately a highly rewarding experience.

What will I study?

You will explore a range of media and processes such as drawing, painting, photography, printmaking, collage, mixed media and sculpture. Underpinning each project will be a series of workshop activities which are designed to broaden and increase skills, with an emphasis on conceptual thinking, experimentation and development of ideas. As you progress through the projects and the year you will be encouraged and expected to self-direct your work and to become increasingly independent.

Year 12

- Projects exploring drawing, painting, photography, printmaking, collage, mixed-media and sculpture (but not limited to).
- Towards the end of Year 12 students will be supported to identify their strengths and conceptual interests, leading to the generation of a starting point and line of inquiry for their Personal Investigation.

Year 13

- Component 1- Personal Investigation - 60%
- Component 2 - 40% - Externally Set Assignment which you work on for a term culminating in a 15 hour practical exam

Student insights

"Art is brilliant because I get total freedom to develop my own personal style and create ambitious projects in different media."

How will I be assessed?

Year 12 & 13 - Ongoing tutorial assessment of work as you progress and sketchbooks taken in for assessment by tutors, culminating in a final exhibition which is internally assessed and then externally moderated.

SEARCH



AQA A Level Fine Art

A Level French

BLOCK U

Studying French at A level builds on the language skills you have learnt at GCSE and will give you a fabulous insight into the culture and way of life throughout the Francophone world, giving you opportunities to discuss the way young people in France feel and behave. Developing good analytical and critical thinking skills is therefore important. You will begin to enjoy and study French media, television and music. By the end of the course, you should aim to be able to converse fluently in French.

The syllabus is designed to meet the needs and interests of young people in the 21st century. It provides an enjoyable, rewarding and manageable course of study and will equip you with the intellectual and subject-based skills needed to sustain success and prosperity in adult life and work.

What will I study?

The course focuses on aspects of French-speaking life and culture today. It encourages you to consider and develop your own points of view on many key questions and debates, and allows you to understand French popular culture.

You have the opportunity to do an in-depth study of a French-language book and a film.

Student insights

"Speaking French is awesome because it opens up the culture, makes travel better, and gives me so many more opportunities in the future."

SEARCH



AQA A Level French

How will I be assessed?

You will sit three papers at the end of Year 13.

Paper 1: Listening, reading and writing (40%). This paper covers the following topics:

- Aspects of French-speaking society: current trends and current issues
- Artistic culture in the French-speaking world
- Aspects of political life in the French-speaking world
- Grammar

Paper 2: Writing (30%)

- You will sit a separate writing paper where you will write two essays. In them, you will discuss aspects of both a French-language book and a film that you have studied.

Paper 3: Speaking (30%)

- This will include a presentation and discussion of an individual area of interest that you have selected yourself. There will also be a broader discussion of the themes covered in Paper 1.

A Level Further Mathematics

Further Mathematics would be an excellent choice for anyone interested in studying either maths or a subject which relies heavily on maths (such as engineering) at university. It considers some of the topics studied in the maths course to a slightly higher level and aims to explain some of the key concepts in greater detail. Further Mathematics can only be studied by those who have chosen to study A Level Mathematics.

What will I study?

The further maths course is split into a core section which must be studied and a series of optional modules, two of which will be chosen at the start of the course. The core content includes work on complex numbers, differential equations, proof and matrices. The options include the chance to study further pure maths, decision maths or extend the study of mechanics or statistics beyond the A Level maths course.

Student insights

"Further Maths is tough but so rewarding because it pushes my logical thinking to the next level and keeps my brain sharp."

How will I be assessed?

Students will sit the A level papers in year 13, with separate papers for the Core and Applied sections of the course.

SEARCH



Edexcel Further Maths

A Level Geography

Geography is vital to our understanding of the world we live in. It provides an insight into the natural and human characteristics of our extraordinary planet. Geography explains how nature and humans interact. It helps us view our lives in the context of the challenges and changes facing humanity and provides us with the means to safeguard our own well-being and that of the natural environment.

The syllabus is designed to meet the needs and interests of people living in the 21st century. It provides an enjoyable, rewarding and manageable course of study which will give you a fantastic foundation of skills and knowledge for a wide range of higher education courses and careers.

You will attend a 3 night residential course (currently to the Isle of Arran) in the first half term of Year 12. This enables you to access key fieldwork skills needed for your investigation and consolidates some of this early learning at A level. We have access to a sixth form bursary to help cover some of these costs (means tested).

What will I study?

Component 1: Physical Geography

- Water and Carbon Cycles
- Coastal Systems and Landscapes
- Hazards

Component 2: Human Geography

- Global Systems and Global Governance
- Changing Places
- Contemporary Urban Environments

Component 3: Geographical Investigation

This component provides you with an opportunity to conduct your own piece of independent research into a theme from either physical or human geography, which is of specific interest to you.

Student insights

"Geography is important because it connects massive global issues like climate change with what's happening in our own communities."

How will I be assessed?

- This course is linear and therefore you will be assessed at the end of Year 13 only.
- Components 1 and 2 are assessed through a 2 ½ hour examination which includes short answers and extended writing. Each of these units are worth 40% of the final grade.
- Component 3 is assessed through a 3000-4000 word individual investigation. This is a centre assessed unit worth 20% of the final grade.

SEARCH



AQA A Level Geography

A Level History

Our choice of course reflects a desire to offer you history that is relevant to the world we live in, that is challenging and that allows you to develop skills that are of wide-ranging use in the modern employment market. These include knowledge and understanding, communication, evaluation, argument and investigation.

We see potential history students as being people who are prepared to read widely, follow current affairs, express their ideas clearly (on paper and orally) and, above all, prepared to challenge and question the evidence that they meet.

What will I study?

Paper 1

Breadth Study with interpretations: Britain 1625-1701: conflict, revolution and settlement - this paper is worth 30% of the overall grade.

Paper 2

Depth Study: Russia in Revolution 1894-1924 - this paper is worth 20% of the overall grade

Paper 3

Themes in breadth with aspects in depth: The British Experience of Warfare 1792- 1918 - this paper is worth 30% of the overall grade.

Coursework

This is worth 20% of the overall grade.

These courses will be delivered in combination across the two years of study.

Student insights

"History is powerful because we analyse original sources and figure out the real reasons why the modern world looks like it does."

How will I be assessed?

Assessment will be composed of three papers to be sat in the summer of the 2nd year of the course as there are no A/S components.

In addition there will be a piece of coursework which is submitted in the spring of year 13. This will be based on an area of the examined unit content.

SEARCH



Edexcel A Level History

A Level Mathematics

Maths is a highly regarded subject at both AS and A2 Level which is useful for many further courses and diverse types of employment. This course covers a wide range of mathematical topics, some of which will be familiar to you, but some of which will be brand new. Mathematics would be eminently suitable for anyone with a good GCSE result and a logical way of working. Over the course you will study core units which build on the work studied previously as well as units which show how maths can be applied to real world situations.

What will I study?

Year 12

The AS level syllabus will be covered in year 12 and is split into two thirds core maths and one third applied maths. The core maths section includes extending the work on topics such as surds, co-ordinate geometry, trigonometrical functions and function notation covered in the higher GCSE course. However a main part of the syllabus will be focused on the differentiation and integration of functions. The applied section will be split evenly between working on topics in statistics and mechanics.

Year 13 Topics

The parts of the A2 syllabus not covered as part of the AS syllabus will be covered in year 13. This means much of the work will be based on the skills and knowledge developed in year 12. The work will be split in a similar ratio as that described for year 12 between core maths and applied maths sections. The applied maths section will again focus on statistics and mechanics.

Student insights

"Maths is great because it seriously sharpens your problem-solving skills, and its logic is actually useful in every part of life."

How will I be assessed?

Students will sit the A level papers in year 13, with separate papers for the Core and Applied sections of the course

SEARCH



Edexcel A Level Maths

A Level Media Studies

Most A-level media students haven't taken GCSE media. What's needed is an interest in all the media, mostly digital, that surrounds us every day. Through a variety of approaches, you will develop a critical and analytical approach to a range of media including film, print media, television, music, online products and advertising. You will also construct your own media productions.

You will explore the kinds of relationships media products create with their audiences through a range of activities, including your own research and a consideration of how texts create representations of today's society. You will investigate the changes and debates surrounding the expansion and impact of media technologies such as the growth of digital media and also how media industries have a global impact through the production and distribution of their texts. We have an annual trip to London, visiting the BFI, west end shows and relevant media activities.

What will I study?

In **Component 1** we study a range of set products from various media platforms including music video, advertising, film marketing, newspapers and radio. In **Component 2** we study magazines, television and websites. With these media products we look at media language, representation, audience and industry. In **Component 3** we make our own media product which could be film posters, a music video or a magazine.

Student insights

"I really enjoy Media Studies; we learn to understand how the news and films influence us, and we get to create our own content."

How will I be assessed?

We study the Eduqas 2 year A-level specification.

Component 1 Media Products, Industries and Audiences (35%) – written exam;

Component 2 Media Forms & Products in depth (35%) – written exam;

Component 3 cross media production coursework (30%). It is not essential to have studied GCSE media but it does help. Essay skills are essential.

SEARCH



Eduqas A Level Media

A Level Music

BLOCK V

The Eduqas A Level Music course is an engaging and comprehensive program designed for students with a passion for music performance, composition, and the exploration of music theory and history. This course is ideal for those seeking to deepen their understanding of music across a variety of genres, enhance their practical skills and theory skills, and develop as well-rounded musicians. We welcome students with diverse musical backgrounds who are dedicated to pursuing music in an academic and creative environment.

What will I study?

There are two pathways; a performance pathway (Option A), and a composition pathway (Option B):

Performance (Option A 35% Option B 25%)

- Option A - Total duration of performance 10-12 minutes.
- Option B - Total duration of performance 6 - 8 minutes.

This component allows students to showcase their performing abilities as a soloist and/or as part of an ensemble.

Appraising Music (40%)

This component is assessed through an **external written exam** involving listening exercises, analysis questions, and essay writing.

In this component, students will study and analyse a wide range of music from different periods and genres. The course covers areas such as Western Classical Music, Musical Theatre, and Popular Music.

Composition (Option A 25% Option B 35%)

- Option A - Total duration of compositions 4-6 minutes
- Option B - Total duration of compositions 8-10 minutes.

This aspect of the course emphasises creativity, musical structures, harmonic writing, and stylistic awareness.

Student insights

"Music is brilliant because I get to improve my performing and composing skills while studying a huge variety of different genres."

How will I be assessed?

Your final performance and compositions will be sent to the exam board at the end of Year 13. You will sit the external exam at the end of Year 13.

SEARCH



Eduqas A Level Music

A Level Physical Education

An excellent platform

- Students receive a well-rounded and full introduction to the world of PE, sport and sports science. This complete grounding in the subject provides a fantastic base from which to build when they move on to higher education, employment or further training.

Skills for a modern world

- Students can develop a range of practical skills, including communication using appropriate language, dealing with pressure, split second decision-making, analysing and evaluating performance, and developing extended writing techniques.

What will I study?

Year 12 Topics (3 components)

- Physiological Factors Affecting Performance (35%)** Anatomy and Physiology, Biomechanics, Exercise Physiology.
- Psychological and Socio-cultural Themes (35%)** Skill Acquisition, Sports Psychology, Sport and Society.
- Performance within PE (30%)** You will study one practical activity as a performer or coach and have an oral examination related to evaluating and improving performance.

Year 13 (4 Components)

- Physiological Factors Affecting Performance (30%).** Anatomy and Physiology, Exercise Physiology, Biomechanics.
- Psychological Factors (20%).** Skill Acquisition, Sports Psychology.
- Socio-Cultural and Contemporary Issues. (20%).** Sport, society and technological Influences.
- Performance within Physical Education (30%).** You will study one sport either as a performer or a coach and have an oral examination related to that practical.

Student insights

"PE is awesome because we mix practical sport with serious study of the body's performance and the psychology of athletes."

How will I be assessed?

In Year 13 you will sit three exams. One 2 hour exam and two one hour exams in June. Your practical assessment final mark is sent to the board in March and moderated in May.

SEARCH



OCR A Level PE

A Level Physics

If you're curious about how the world works and where we fit in the Universe, then this subject is for you. Get ready to explore a mind blowing journey that takes you from the tiniest subatomic particles to the physics of supermassive black holes.

Physics is a highly respected qualification that opens doors to exciting careers and further study. It's the perfect choice if you're looking to study subjects like; Physics, Maths, Medicine, Biomedical Sciences and Engineering.

A-Level Physics doesn't just teach science; it builds invaluable skills that are critical for success in any future career; from engineering to finance.

In short, Physics equips you with the tools to analyse, innovate, and lead in a technology-driven world!

What will I study?

Year 12 Topics

- Working as a Physicist
- Mechanics, Forces & Energy
- Electricity & Circuits
- Materials & their Properties
- Wave Behaviour, Light & Optics
- Wave-Particle Duality

Year 13 Topics

- Working as a Physicist
- Electric, Magnetic & Gravitational Fields
- Astro-physics & Cosmology
- Particle Physics & Nuclear Processes

At UCC we offer an A level Physics trip to the Large Hadron Collider in CERN, Geneva. This is a once in a lifetime opportunity to visit one of the best international centres for science research and see first hand cutting edge science and engineering in action.

Student insights

"Physics is amazing because you get to learn the fundamental laws that literally govern everything, from tiny particles to the whole universe."

How will I be assessed?

We'll test your knowledge and skills with a mix of assessment styles:

- Exams include multiple-choice, short, and long-answer questions.
- 15% of your assessment focuses on practical planning and analysis skills
- In year 13 you'll have three exams: two papers are 1 hour 45 minutes, and a final synoptic paper is 2 hours 30 minutes.
- Practical Endorsement; This is an ongoing, informal assessment of your manual practical skills throughout the course. It's a simple Pass or Fail; show us you can use the equipment safely and follow a method and you will be ready for university labs.

SEARCH



Edexcel A Level Physics

A Level Psychology

Psychology is the study of people, the mind and human behaviour. It gives you a fascinating insight into the research that has been developed in relation to a range of topics including: memory, mental illness, aggression, forensic psychology and how we are affected by groups, leaders and other authority figures. In this sense psychology offers you a very practical understanding of the world around you.

Studying Psychology gives you a broader understanding of how science works. You will use scientific research methods to help you gain a deeper awareness of human and animal behaviour. Psychology is continually developing and is at the cutting edge of research. For you at A-level this understanding of theory and methods will inevitably be a really valuable asset to you in all walks of life.

What will I study?

Year 12

An introduction to Psychology that considers how the mind works and how our behaviour is affected by social influences, memory, attachment, and psychopathologies.

Year 13

This builds onto the first year and continues with an in depth exploration into specialised areas of study consisting of relationships/forensic psychology and schizophrenia.

Paper 1 - Introductory topics in psychology (33.3% of A level)

Paper 2 - Psychology in context (33.3% of A level)

Paper 3 - Issues and options in psychology (33.3% of A level)

Student insights

"Psychology is super interesting because we learn the science behind human behaviour, memory, and why we think the way we do."

How will I be assessed?

- In Year 12 you will not have an external assessment but you will have two 1 hour and 30 minute examinations that will be marked internally. In these exams you will have some multiple choice questions, some short answer questions, some application questions and some 12 mark extended writing questions.
- In Year 13 you will be assessed on the entire two year course by three 2 hour exams: These exams will test your knowledge of research and your skills of analysis and evaluation in essays along with multiple choice and short answer questions.

SEARCH



AQA A Level Psychology

A Level Religious Studies

You have been studying RE, Philosophy and Ethics, PSHE or Personal Development throughout your time at Ullswater Community College. Perhaps you enjoyed the discussion and debates on issues such as abortion, euthanasia, IVF, scientific discoveries, good and evil, war and animal rights and questions about the existence of God. A Level in Religion, Philosophy and Ethics is about inspiring you to explore the 'big questions' in life and will equip you with the skills to examine these areas in greater analytical depth. This will be particularly valuable to you whether you enter Further Education or the world of employment; examples of occupations that this qualification can lead to include: medicine, politics and law, therapy, business, management, journalism, police force, stock broking, retailing, social work, librarian, nursing, radio and TV, acting... to name a few, and don't forget teaching and religious leadership. You will develop your ability to analyse and assess philosophical writings and to reason, form your own judgements, express yourself coherently and contribute to the process of debate.

What will I study?

Year 12

Module 1: An introduction to the Study of Philosophy - The study of the fundamental nature of knowledge, reality, and existence. A deep exploration of ancient philosophers, Socrates, Plato and Aristotle.

Module 2: An Introduction to Philosophy of Religion - Cosmological arguments for the existence of God; teleological arguments for the existence of God; the non-existence of God - the problem of evil; and religious experience.

Module 3: An Introduction to Religion and Ethics - Aquinas' Natural Law, Fletcher's Situation Ethics, Utilitarianism and Kantian Ethics applied to Euthanasia and Business Ethics.

Module 4: Developments in Christian Thought - Exploring human nature; death and the afterlife; knowledge of God's existence; Jesus Christ; Christian moral principles and moral action.

Year 13

Module 5: Study of Religion - Religious figures and sacred texts, significant historical development in religious thought, significant social development in religious thought and religious practices that shape religious identity.

Module 6: Religion and Ethics - Ethical language and thought; Aquinas and Freud applied to the conscience; Sexual Ethics.

Module 7: Philosophy of Religion - Ontological arguments for the existence of God, challenges to religious belief, religious experience and religious language.

Module 8: Developments in Christian Thought - gender studies and society; challenges of secularism; Liberation Theology and Karl Marx.)

Student insights

"RE is a massive eye-opener; we get into brilliant philosophical debates about life, morality, and different belief systems."

How will I be assessed?

- You will be assessed throughout your two years of study by your teacher.
- There is no coursework.
- Your final assessment will be three exams in Year 13.

SEARCH



OCR A Level RS

A Level Sociology

Sociology provides you with a real opportunity to improve your social awareness by encouraging you to question what, at first, may seem to be common sense. You will investigate areas that have a direct impact on your life such as the role of education, why crime in society is committed, the distribution of power in families and the impact that beliefs in society have on the development of your ideas. The underlying themes running through the entire course are how power and control is maintained in society, inequality between different social groups and whether we have free will to be self determined or are determined by forces beyond our control.

The course is designed to make sociology relevant to your own understanding of the world around you. It teaches you that there are no right or wrong answers but a whole range of perspectives as to how we understand our world. Sociology is a broad ranging subject that considers the impact of gender, race, and social class on our behaviour and life choices. It introduces you to a range of theories and research methods to help you understand how society shapes individuals and how individuals shape society by acting upon their interpretations of the world around them

What will I study?

Year 12

An introduction to Sociology that considers how society may have an impact on our behaviour in relation to our roles in the family and in school.

Year 13

This builds onto the first year and continues with a detailed exploration into issues that affect us all: the impact belief systems have on our values and the role that crime plays in society; along with a detailed consideration of sociological theory.

- Paper 1: Education with Theory and Methods in Context - (33.3% of the A level)
- Paper 2: Families and Households and Beliefs - (33.3% of the A level)
- Paper 3: Crime and Deviance with Theory and Methods - (33.3% of the A level)

Student insights

"Sociology is my favourite because it clearly explains all the big issues, like inequality and social trends, that shape our modern world."

How will I be assessed?

- In Year 12 you will not have an external assessment but you will have two 1 hour and 30 minute examinations that will be marked internally. In these exams you will have some short answer questions and an opportunity to write in more detail in the essay questions.
- In Year 13 you will be assessed on the entire two year course by three 2 hour exams. These exams will give you the opportunity to discuss your sociological understanding and to critically assess sociological theory and research in essays along with some short answer questions.

SEARCH



AQA A Level Sociology

A Level Spanish

Studying Spanish at A level builds on the language skills you have learnt at GCSE and will give you a fabulous insight into the culture and way of life throughout the Hispanic world, giving you opportunities to discuss the way young people in Spain and Latin America feel and behave. Developing good analytical and critical thinking skills is therefore important. You will begin to enjoy Spanish media, television and music. By the end of the course, you should aim to be a fluent Spanish speaker who can converse fluently in Spanish.

Developing good analytical and critical thinking skills is therefore important. You will begin to enjoy and study Spanish media, television and music. By the end of the course, you should aim to be able to converse fluently in Spanish.

The syllabus is designed to meet the needs and interests of young people in the 21st century. It provides an enjoyable, rewarding and manageable course of study and will equip you with the intellectual and subject-based skills needed to sustain success and prosperity in adult life and work.

What will I study?

The course focuses on aspects of Hispanic life and culture today. It encourages you to consider and develop your own points of view on many key questions and debates, and allows you to understand Spanish popular culture.

You have the opportunity to do an in-depth study of a Spanish-language book and a film. We will also look at Spanish music, television and media.

Student insights

"Learning Spanish is the best because it opens up the culture, makes travel better, and gives me so many more opportunities in the future."

SEARCH



AQA A Level Spanish

How will I be assessed?

You will sit three papers at the end of Year 13.

Paper 1: Listening, reading and writing (40%). This paper covers the following topics:

- Aspects of Hispanic society: current trends and current issues
- Artistic culture in the Hispanic world
- Aspects of political life in the Hispanic world
- Grammar

Paper 2: Writing (30%).

- You will sit a separate writing paper where you will write two essays. In them, you will discuss aspects of both a Spanish-language book and a film that you have studied.

Paper 3: Speaking (30%).

- This will include a presentation and discussion of an individual area of interest that you have selected yourself. There will also be a broader discussion of the themes covered in Paper 1.

BTEC Level 3 Business

BLOCK U

Business is a highly relevant and interesting subject, both for progression to university or directly into employment. Business students learn knowledge and skills that allow their understanding to be directly relevant to future roles in different functional areas of a business in either a domestic or international context. Potential routes of employment include, management, retail, accountancy, sales and many more.

What will I study?

Year 12:

Unit 1- Exploring Business - Learn how to analyse real world businesses and evaluate their reasons for success. (**Coursework**).

Unit 3- Personal and Business Finance - Learn all about the financial world of business and gain an understanding of decisions that affect your future finances. (**Exam Written**).

Year 13:

Unit 2- Developing a Marketing Campaign- Understand the complexities of marketing and how businesses use this multi billion pound industry to utilise their own success. (**Exam -Digital Research and Application**).

Unit 27 - Work Experience in Business - Learn practical, on-the-job knowledge and skills to improve your own future employability. (**Coursework**).

Student insights

"The Business course is super practical, teaching me real-life stuff about marketing and finance that I can use to launch a career or my own company."

How will I be assessed?

Assessment will be through a mixture of coursework and examination methods.

You will be graded for each completed unit as and when they happen. This means that you can be in total control of your outcomes. Each unit will have an additional resit opportunity for you to improve your overall outcome.

SEARCH



BTEC Level 3 Business

OCR Level 3

Mental Health: Individuals and Society

The Mental Health: Individuals and Society course is equivalent to one A Level and is directly relevant to today's critical issues, such as rising anxiety rates and the impact of digital life on well-being, helping students address the societal challenge of mental health stigma. This course provides an excellent foundation for future studies in Psychology, Mental Health Nursing, Counselling, and Social Work, leading to careers in the NHS, charitable services, and health promotion. Combining this option with Health and Social Care is highly recommended as it provides a comprehensive, holistic understanding of an individual's needs, blending practical care knowledge with in-depth psychological specialisation. The course develops crucial skills like empathy, critical thinking, and communication, making students desirable applicants for both university degrees and the rapidly expanding health and care workforce.

What will I study?

Year 12

- Unit F400: Fundamentals of mental health and the individual (external exam)
- F403: Community-based support for mental health and wellbeing (internal assessment)
- F405: Supporting mental health and wellbeing with outdoor /physical activities (internal assessment)

Year 13

- Unit F401: Mental health, wellbeing and society (external exam)
- Unit F402: Supporting and promoting mental health and wellbeing in organisations (internal assessment)

Student insights

"This course is really relevant because it gives you the proper knowledge to understand big issues like anxiety and stigma, which prepares you for a career helping people."

How will I be assessed?

You will be assessed through:

- Internally set and marked assignments
- Written exams

SEARCH



OCR AAQ Mental Health

BTEC Level 3 Health & Social Care

The health and social care industry is rapidly changing, with new Government initiatives giving it a higher profile. These developments mean that it is more important than ever that well-qualified, experienced people enter the industry to meet these demands. This course is equivalent to an A Level and gives you the skills you need to work in a care setting or go on to a degree programme in health and social care. The health and social care sector is the largest employer in the UK and will continue to grow as the population increases over the next few decades. The range of careers in the sector is broad and covers professions in nursing and health care, social work, teaching and child care. You will learn about roles and responsibilities, maintaining safety, and development through the life stages. The course is demanding with a strong theoretical base. You will need to undertake a placement one afternoon a week in a range of different health and social care settings.

What will I study?

Year 12

- **Human Lifespan and Development** (exam)
- **Principles of Health and Social Care Practice** (coursework)

Year 13

- **Human Biology and Health** (exam)
- **Promoting Health Education** (coursework)

Student insights

"This course is really valuable because I'm gaining the essential, hands-on knowledge and practical skills for a rewarding career helping people."

How will I be assessed?

You will be assessed through:

- Internally set and marked assignments
- Written exams

SEARCH



BTEC AAQ Health and Social Care

BTEC Level 3 Digital Information (IT)

BLOCK X

The BTEC Level 3 Alternative Academic Qualification (AAQ) in Digital Information is a practical, future-focused course that shows how technology underpins the way organisations communicate, make decisions and innovate. It suits students who enjoy solving problems, thinking creatively and applying learning to real scenarios. Across the qualification, learners build confident digital literacy, analytical thinking and professional project habits—skills prized by universities and employers alike.

What will I study?

Over two years, you will complete four mandatory units that provide a comprehensive and essential grounding in core IT principles. Unlike the previous course, all content is mandatory, ensuring you gain deep knowledge in the most in-demand areas of the digital sector. Course units include:

Information Technology Systems (External Exam): You'll explore how hardware, software and networks combine to support communication, data management and decision-making. You'll also consider ethical, legal and sustainability issues, and how emerging technologies like cloud services and AI change what organisations can do.

Cyber Security and Incident Management (External Exam): You'll investigate threats such as malware, phishing and social engineering, then plan prevention and response. You'll learn how organisations assess risk, create policies and handle incidents—vital knowledge for any business that handles data.

Website Development (Coursework): Working to a client brief, you will plan, design, build and test an interactive website. You'll develop practical skills in layout, accessibility, usability and iteration—skills linked directly to roles in web design, digital content and UX.

Relational Database Development Coursework: You'll design and develop a relational database to manage data accurately and efficiently, learning to structure tables, relationships and queries to answer real business questions—perfect grounding for data, analytics and finance pathways.

Student insights

"ICT is essential for the future because it teaches you core technical skills, like coding and managing data, that every job needs now."

How will I be assessed?

Two external written exams (Units 1 and 2) test secure knowledge and applied understanding; two internally assessed projects (Units 3 and 4) assess your ability to produce professional-quality solutions. This balanced model emphasises application over rote learning and mirrors how digital work happens in industry.

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BTEC AAQ Digital Information

BTEC Level 3 Medical Science

BLOCK V

This course focuses on human anatomy, disease, and diagnosis, helping you understand how the body works, why we get sick, and how science fights to keep us healthy. You'll gain crucial hands-on experience in areas like microbiology and biomedical science, directly preparing you for careers in research, healthcare, or medicine.

What will I study?

Year 12:

Unit 1 - Principles of Human Physiology, Anatomy and Pathology – Learn more about human body systems you were introduced to at GCSE such as the nervous system, cardiovascular, musculoskeletal, respiratory, renal and digestive systems

Unit 3 - Practical Microbiology and Infectious Diseases - Understand more about the microbes that cause issues for humans, methods to diagnose and treat pathogens and how the immune system responds to (what it thinks...) are threats.

Year 13:

Unit 2 - Health Issues and Scientific Reporting - Gain a better insight to health issues faced by humans by looking at diagnostic techniques and health initiatives as well as how to interpret this information (as well as the reliability of it...).

Unit 2 - A chance to create an essay around the topic of either 'diseases, disorders and treatments', human reproduction and fertility or further look at diagnostic techniques including haematology and cytology.

Student insights

"This subject is brilliant because we get hands-on experience in the lab and learn all the important things about the human body, health, and diseases."

How will I be assessed?

A total of 2 exams and 2 internally assessed projects.

Each year will have one unit which is externally assessed (exams) and a component which will be assessed through coursework (which is moderated internally). Both of which have an opportunity for a resit/ resubmission.

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BTEC AAQ Medical Science

BTEC Level 3 Music Performance

- I enjoy singing or performing on a musical instrument.
- I aspire to perform professionally or work in the music industry.
- I want to develop my skills as a musician.
- I prefer a practical approach to studying.
- I want to stand out from the crowd when seeking employment or further study.

What will I study?

Year 12:

Unit 1: Practical Music Theory and Harmony This is a mandatory unit which is internally assessed. This unit explores all the signs, symbols and theoretical knowledge required to perform music in a variety of styles and genres. Melody, chords, keys and scales are practically explored in this unit.

Unit 2: Professional Practice in the Music Industry This is a compulsory unit which is externally assessed. This unit looks at all of the skills and requirements to make it in the music industry by looking at rights, working regulations and practicalities in the music world.

Year 13:

Unit 3: Ensemble Music Performance

This is a mandatory unit which is externally assessed. This unit looks at performing as a group and the skills and requirements to succeed in this area. Lots of different styles and genres are covered from a practical perspective.

Optional units: Unit 4 Composition Music; Unit 5 Music Performance Session Styles; Unit 6 Solo Performance or Unit 7 Improvising Music.

BTEC Music is based on the practical skills of performance and a knowledge and understanding of the musical profession. The course allows a great deal of freedom, particularly in the music you choose to perform.

Student insights

"The Level 3 Music course is amazing because I get so many chances to perform live and really push my skills as a musician."

How will I be assessed?

The BTEC Level 3 Extended National Certificate extends and deepens the specialist work-related focus from the Edexcel GCSE Music qualification. The work is assessed through mainly portfolio coursework with only unit 2 being an external examination.

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BTEC Level 3 Music Performance

BTEC Level 3 Performing Arts (Dance)

This course is ideal if you have intermediate level dance skills and a particular interest in developing both your practical and theoretical understanding of dance. The course is practical in nature and suitable for students considering pathways into higher education dance training or employment within the performing arts industry as well as other creative areas of employment. Alongside this the course provides students with valuable transferable skills

What will I study?

Core Mandatory Units

You will complete three mandatory units, building both your academic and practical foundations:

- **Investigating Practitioners (External Exam):** You'll become a critic and historian, investigating the work of influential performers and directors, analysing their creative intentions, and judging the impact of their work.
- **Developing Skills for Live Performance (Internal):** This is your practical induction. You'll master the essential technical and interpretative skills in your chosen discipline (acting, dance, musical theatre, etc.) through regular workshops and classes.
- **Group Performance Workshop (External Practical):** Working collaboratively, you will explore a given stimulus to devise, rehearse, and refine an original group performance, culminating in a final presentation to an audience.

Optional Units

Unit 8: Classical Ballet Technique • Unit 9: Tap Dance Technique • Unit 10: Jazz Dance Technique • Unit 11: Street Dance Technique • Unit 12: Contemporary Dance Technique • Unit 14: Choreography for Live Performance • Unit 27: Musical Theatre Techniques • Unit 28: Variety Performance.

Student insights

"I love the Dance course; it's a great space to get super creative with choreography and push my performance technique alongside my friends."

How will I be assessed?

Over the two years assessments will be consistent throughout. Assessments are generally carried out during performances and practical tasks, which are combined with research and written coursework tasks. Some assessments are internal and are marked by tutors and other assessments are external and are moderated and assessed by BTEC examiners.

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BTEC Level 3 Dance

BTEC Level 3 Sport (Single)

The Level 3 BTEC Sport course will give you an opportunity to develop your knowledge of sport in not just a practical way, but you will also be able to improve your performance analysis skills and look into the development of the sports industry. If you are interested in any of the following careers this course is for you:- Sports coach, fitness instructor, PE teacher, leisure industry, sports nutritionist, sports psychologist, sports therapist, outdoor education instructor.

You do not need to have studied BTEC Sport at level two to follow this course.

What will I study?

The BTEC Sport Level 3 extended certificate, equivalent to one A Level. You will study the following units:

- Principles of anatomy and physiology in sport
- Fitness training and programming for sport and well-being
- Professional development in the sports industry
- Application of fitness testing

Student insights

"I love that the Sport course goes right into the science of coaching, fitness, and how the massive sports industry actually operates."

How will I be assessed?

- You will be assessed on two external exams
- You will also be assessed through coursework handed in throughout the course

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BTEC Level 3 Sport

BTEC Level 3 Sport (Double)

The Level 3 BTEC Sport course will give you an opportunity to develop your knowledge of sport in not just a practical way, but you will also be able to improve your performance analysis skills and look into the development of the sports industry. If you are interested in any of the following careers this course is for you:- Sports coach, fitness instructor, PE teacher, leisure industry, sports nutritionist, sports psychologist, sports therapist, outdoor education instructor.

You do not need to have studied BTEC Sport at level two to follow this course, however it is an advantage if you have or have studied GCSE PE.

What will I study?

The BTEC Sport Level 3 National Diploma, is equivalent to two A Levels. The units you will study are:

- Principles of anatomy and physiology in sport
- Fitness training and programming for sport and well-being
- Professional Development in the sports industry
- Application of Fitness Testing
- Skill Acquisition
- Practical sports performance
- Sports Injury Management
- Business in Sport
- Sports Leadership

Student insights

"I love that the Sport course goes right into the science of coaching, fitness, and how the massive sports industry actually operates."

How will I be assessed?

- You will be assessed by one external exam, and two exams in supervised conditions where scenarios have been released two weeks before
- You will also be assessed through six different units (coursework) handed in throughout the course.
- Total of 9 units

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BTEC Level 3 Sport

T Level Education & Early Years

This exciting course will provide you with the core knowledge and skills that are relevant to moving onto higher education to complete degrees for example in teaching, social work, paediatric nursing, play therapy, and education, as well as providing a direct employment pathway to the Childcare and Education sector. You will gain up to date professional knowledge of working with children and their families as well as occupational specialism that is an important aspect of becoming a successful professional in this field. English, maths and digital skills are embedded within this qualification.

T-Levels are an alternative to A levels, apprenticeships and other 16 to 19 courses. Equivalent to 3 A levels, a T-Level focuses on vocational skills and can help students into skilled employment, higher study or apprenticeships. You will also gain a licence to practice which will enable you to move directly into employment as an Early Years Practitioner if you wish to go down this route rather than to university.

T-Level students spend 80% of the course in the classroom, learning the skills that employers need. The other 20% is a meaningful industry/ placement, where they put these skills into action.

Placement experience provides students with valuable experience in the workplace to support your journey in developing professional competencies; employers get early sight of the new talent in their industry.

You will spend 3 days in school (Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday) and 2 days in placement (Thursday and Friday).

What will I study?

On this course you will learn about:

Supporting education; Safeguarding; Health and safety and wellbeing; Behaviour; Parents, families and carers; Child development; Observation and assessment; Reflective practice; Equality and diversity; Special educational needs and disability; English as an additional language; Early years educator OR Assisting teaching specialism

In this qualification you will develop practical skills and techniques in:

- teamwork and partnership building
- professional and personal development
- communication
- evaluation
- research
- analysis
- reflection

Student insights

"The T Level is amazing because I get long, professional placements, so I'm actually learning the job and getting proper experience with young children."

How will I be assessed?

You will be assessed by the completion of one externally set exam at the end of year 12 and an Employer Set Project which will enable you to evidence the skills you have developed on placement. In the second year of the course you will complete synoptic assessments and be observed in placement which enable you to evidence skills you have developed throughout the whole course

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NCFE T Level Early Years

Level 3

Uniformed Services

This course is an Extended Diploma and is equivalent to three A Levels, providing 168 UCAS points. The course, with no exams, gives you the skills you need to work in a uniformed service setting or go on to a study degree programme. This qualification aims to provide learners with:

- an understanding of the uniformed public services sector
- the opportunity to investigate career opportunities in the uniformed services
- the ability to prepare for a recruitment interview
- an understanding of the personal commitment and fitness requirements needed to be employed in a uniformed service role
- an understanding of the external organisations that impact on and influence the work of the uniformed services
- an understanding of how uniformed services organisations respond in emergency situations
- the opportunity to understand and develop the skills and qualities needed to work in a range of uniformed services e.g. leadership skills, coaching skills, conflict management, personal protection, teamwork, communication, navigation, drill.

What will I study?

Compulsory units within this qualification include:

- Prepare for a career in a chosen uniformed service
- Develop aspects of physical fitness for entry to the uniformed services
- Develop leadership skills
- Equality, diversity and inclusion

There are a 14 optional units you must choose. These include:

- Navigation across open country
- Telecommunications and ICT in the uniformed services
- Emergency planning and response in the uniformed services
- Sports coaching
- Skills for land-based outdoor and adventurous activities
- Outdoor and adventurous expeditions
- Crime scene investigation
- Security procedures

Student insights

"This course is tough but great for learning true leadership, being disciplined, and working together as a serious team."

How will I be assessed?

- Internally set and marked assignments
- Observation of practical skills

Note – There are NO EXAMS on this course.

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NCFE Level 3 Uniformed Service

This course is only suitable for students who have a strategically resourced EHCP.

The ASDAN course works towards two qualifications; Employability and PSD (Personal and Social Development). In addition, we have put together a suite of subjects to prepare students for adult life, these include performing arts, animal care, food technology and ICT.

All students will continue with maths and English.

What will I study?

The ASDAN course follows a three-year rolling programme, as the course is followed by students in different sixth form year groups.

Employability modules include:

The aim of the employability course is to provide students with the skills and knowledge that they need to prepare for the world of work. Topics include:

- Exploring job opportunities
- Participating in an Enterprise activity
- Maintaining work standards
- Learning through work experience
- Rights and responsibilities in the workplace

PSD modules include:

The aim of the PSD course is to provide students with the skills and knowledge they need to become good citizens, aiming to be as independent as possible. Topics include:

- Environmental Awareness
- Personal safety in the community
- Making the most of leisure time
- Community Action
- Individual rights and responsibilities
- Healthy Living.

Student insights

"ASDAN is good because you get to pick projects that you actually care about while learning important life skills that help you later on."

How will I be assessed?

There are no exams for the ASDAN course, however, the students prepare a portfolio of evidence following externally set criteria, this is then internally moderated before being submitted for external moderation at the end of the course. Learning takes place in both the classroom and where possible in practical situations. Evidence is a combination of photos and short pieces of writing.

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ASDAN

HOW TO APPLY FOR UCCSIXTH

We welcome initial applications to **UCCSIXTH** through our website: www.ullswatercc.co.uk. Once on our website, click the link in the pop-up box on the home page. This will redirect to the form.

Please remember the following **important information**:

Most students choose 3 subjects from blocks U-X. Please be aware that you cannot pick 2 subjects from the same block. Some students choose to study 4 subjects. When you apply, there will be a free text box for you to tell us about any clashes you have and also any subjects you would like to study, that aren't on this curriculum model.

Please note: The model advertised in this prospectus may be subject to change. Depending upon the demand for subjects, some subjects may not run. When thinking about your **UCCSIXTH** options, it is worth having 'reserve' subjects in mind.

YOUR NEXT STEP
STARTS
HERE



NOTES

NOTES



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