

Abbey Community College

Sixth Form Prospectus





PRINCIPAL'S WELCOME

Welcome to our Sixth Form at Abbey Community College. I hope you enjoy reading this Prospectus and gain an insight into the excellent opportunities available to our students.

All of the courses on offer are designed to link with the future aspirations of our students and to our ever changing society and economy.

At Sixth Form our College motto 'Believe, Achieve, Succeed' continues to be at the heart of all we do and promotes:-

- Success for All
- The opportunity for every student to fulfil their potential
- The development of student self-confidence, independence, team-work, leadership and communication skills to support their studies and for the future
- A variety of enrichment activities enhances the curriculum and ensures that students are well prepared for University, Further Education or employment in this ever changing world.

I look forward to you joining us.

Mrs Maria Quinn
PRINCIPAL

Sixth Form at Abbey Community College Offers:

- A wide range of Level 3 courses including AS/A2, Applied A Levels and BTEC
- Supervised study to enable students to work quietly and with access to ICT
- A Head of Sixth Form and dedicated Class Tutor to provide support and guidance
- Careers lessons, support with UCAS and advice and guidance on future careers
- A tracking and monitoring system which ensures students are supported to fulfil their potential
- Regular communication with Parents/Guardians regarding student progress
- A range of opportunities including an Enrichment Programme, Student Leadership, Business Links, Student Mentoring and much more

BELIEVE, ACHIEVE, SUCCEED

Head Boy & Head Girl



"The school motto "**Believe, Achieve, Succeed**" is evident in Abbey Community College. The application process for Head Girl has given Nicola invaluable interview experience and she has grown in confidence through this role. I am delighted that Nicola will be starting university as a strong and independent young lady. Her family are very proud of her and would like to thank Mrs Quinn and all of the teaching staff who have supported her in Sixth Form."

Mother of Nicola Elliot Year 14

I am proud to say that I am the first Head Boy at Abbey Community College. My position as Head Boy allows me to be a role model and ambassador for the school. This year has provided many opportunities for me to improve my leadership skills. My duties include leading the Student Council along with other prefects and I coordinate the mentoring programme. I am planning to do an HND in Sports Coaching and Development. I have enjoyed my time as Head Boy and look forward to what the future holds.

Jordan McClure

I am honoured to be the first Head Girl of Abbey Community College. My time as Head Girl has provided many exciting opportunities. I attended the 'Four Corners Art Festival' where I got to meet with many students of different backgrounds and experience. My role has helped me to grow in confidence through public speaking at events such as Open Night. My time in Sixth Form has encouraged me to have the ambition and drive to succeed.

I have accepted an offer at John Moores University to study Biomedical Science in the autumn of 2016.

Nicola Elliot

"This first year of Abbey Community College has turned out to be a great one. The teachers are very helpful to pupils. My son is getting a good education and gaining confidence for his next move. He is enjoying his role as Head Boy and I am very proud of him. I am also very pleased with Abbey Community College"

Mother of Jordan McClure Yr 14

Student Leadership

Student Council

Student Council plays a key role in Abbey Community College. It is led by ten Sixth Form students. They help to run elections for the rest of the school and are assigned a year group to represent. The Sixth Form help set the agenda for Student Council meetings and are responsible for the communication of the outcomes to the relevant people including the Principal and Senior Leadership Team.

Prefects

Prefects are chosen from Sixth Form based on their conduct, work ethic and contribution to school life. They take on different responsibilities to help support students and staff and play an active role in key events such as Open Evening and Parent Teacher interviews.

Mentoring

One of the key roles of a Prefect is to mentor Junior School students. They received mentoring training through the Henderson Group and Business in the Community



Prefects 2015-2016

Leadership Events

Sixth Form students get many opportunities to develop their leadership skills and confidence through attending special events such as the 75th Anniversary of the UN Convention for Children and winning the Global Entrepreneur Trophy at a Travel and Tourism event at Mossley Mill.



Post-16 Supervised Study

Independent study is an important element of Sixth Form at Abbey Community College. A computer suite is available for the exclusive use of Sixth Form students. The Study Supervisor is available to support students throughout the day.

Enrichment

Sixth Form is not just about gaining qualifications but also provides an opportunity for students to develop skills that will help equip them for the next stage in life whether that means:

- Going to University
- Joining a Further Education College Course
- Entering employment.

Enrichment courses available include:

- Holiday Spanish
- Sign Language
- Survival Cookery
- Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme
- Careers
- CoPE (Certificate of Personal Effectiveness)
- Maths/English GCSE resit
- Games



Sign Language class receiving certificates

Careers at Abbey Community College



Careers Education, Information and Guidance (CEIAG) is a central component throughout all years at Abbey Community College. In Sixth Form students continue to have careers education each week and be informed of labour demands (LMI) and opportunities available to them.

Career lessons put great emphasis on getting students prepared for the next stage of their educational journey or the start of their chosen career path. Students receive individual support so they can make the decision that is right for them. Career interviews take place with the careers staff and the DEL Officer.

The Careers Department have relationships with local Employers, Universities, Further and Higher Education Colleges so that students can benefit from expert advice. The Careers Suite has up to date information to guide students so they can make informed decisions about their future career paths. Students have continual access to up-to-date careers information and opportunities both locally and beyond.

Key areas of Careers in Sixth Form:

- Personal Career Planning
- CV Writing
- Application Forms
- Interview Techniques
- Career Pathways
- UCAS—University Application Process
- Student Finance

Supported Learning

As an inclusive, caring and child centred school Abbey Community College enhances and supports personal social and academic development of each individual student in all aspects of college life.

All staff play an important role, both within and beyond the classroom, ensuring that all students are given every opportunity to reach their full potential regardless of ability or background.

An induction programme for Sixth Form students before they begin in September eases the transition from Year 12 and gives them the opportunity to build new friendships and develop their communication and team-work skills.

This continues through enrichment activities and Class Tutor time. Each student has a class tutor who meets them daily and is the first point of contact for parents. The Head of Sixth Form monitors and supports all aspects of student progress and development.

We value the relationship between Parents and Guardians and encourage both formal and informal contact should the need arise.

The health and well-being of students and staff is enhanced by the availability of a School Nurse on site each day.



Safeguarding

All member of Abbey Community College, students, staff and parents have a key role to play in the safeguarding of our students. A senior member of staff Mrs F.Cromie is the Designated Teacher responsible for Child Protection. She is supported by two Deputy Designated Teachers, Mr J.Black and Mr S.Smyth and the Principal, Mrs Quinn.

Uniform



Sixth Form Uniform

Black, Sixth Form blazer
White shirt
Sixth Form school tie
Mid-grey V-neck jumper or cardigan
Black knee length box-pleated skirt
Black trousers
Plain black leather shoes
Black socks (boys)
Black tights (girls)
School scarf
Black outdoor coat

The uniform suppliers for Abbey Community College are:

Rascals

1-3 Jennings Park, Monkstown,
Co. Antrim BT37 0NB

The Jeanery

2 Goland Buildings, Glengormley,
Co. Antrim BT36 5EN





RE class attends NBALC post-16 symposium



Travel and Tourism Students at Global Entrepreneur Competition



Welcoming guests from Price Waterhouse Coopers (PWC)

Entrance Criteria

To ensure that students return to Post - 16 education with the adequate minimum level of academic performance at Key Stage 4, the basic entry requirements for Level 3 are:

- GCSE English and Maths at Grade C or above (in *exceptional circumstances* a student with a D grade in one of the two subjects *may* be considered with an assurance of a re-sit course in that subject)
- A minimum points loading of 20, where;

Grade		Points
A*	Distinction *	8
A	Distinction	7
B	Merit	6
C	Pass	5
D		4
E		3
F		2



Where students have met the minimum entrance requirements, they must choose at least 3 appropriate courses. Prior to enrollment on a course:

- the student must meet with the relevant Head of Department and the relevant pastoral staff to ensure that he / she is fully informed regarding the demands and suitability of the course.
- Each Head of Department must agree to accept the student for enrolment on that course. (Students should be aware that there may be additional departmental criteria for enrolment)
- Pastoral staff will consider previous attendance and school engagement on the part of the student.

CCEA GCE AS & A LEVEL ART AND DESIGN

Subject Details:

The study of Art and Design nourishes, enhances and celebrates students' creative, intellectual and artistic abilities.

It stimulates and challenges students to realize their potential in a broad and relevant context. The overall educational development of the individual is central to the study of Art and Design.

The Art and Design AS specification requires students to engage in integrated critical, practical and theoretical study. The A2 specification builds on the AS course, allowing for greater depth of study. The four units for the specification are carefully structured to provide an appropriate balance of knowledge, skills and understanding at each stage of the course. The subsequent award should accurately reflect the student's ability and achievements in this subject.

Aims

Students should be encouraged to develop:

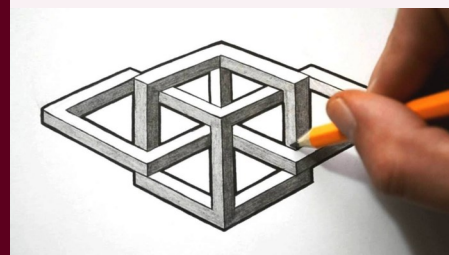
- Intellectual, imaginative, creative and intuitive powers;
- Investigative, analytical, experimental, practical, technical and expressive skills, aesthetic understanding and critical judgment;
- Independence of mind in relation to developing their ideas while refining their own intentions and personal outcomes;

- An interest in, enthusiasm for, and enjoyment of art, craft and design;
- Their observation and recording from primary sources;
- The experience of working with a broad range of media, including traditional and new media and technologies;
- An understanding of the interrelationships between art, craft and design processes and an awareness of the contexts in which they operate;
- Experience of working within relevant and real frameworks and where appropriate, make links to careers in the creative industries;
- Knowledge, understanding and application of art, craft, design and media and technologies in contemporary and past societies and cultures;
- And an awareness of different roles, functions and audiences and consumers of art, craft and design practice.

Careers:

Careers directly related to this course include:

- Animation
- Art Therapist
- Architect (architectural technician)
- Community Arts Worker
- Fashion Designer
- Fine Artist



BTEC LEVEL 3 SUBSIDIARY DIPLOMA IN BUSINESS (QCF) EDEXCEL

Subject Details:

This qualification aims to provide students with an in depth understanding of the operations and structures of business and also equip them with the skills required to succeed in employment or at university. The course will include business in the public, private and voluntary sectors.

This course will give you an excellent understanding of business practice and a broad knowledge of business-related skills. It is a vocational course which means it is based on practical content and real experiences of the business world.

This BTEC level 3 Subsidiary Diploma in Business has been designed to allow learners to develop the core specialist knowledge, understanding and skills required by the sector.

Topics Covered:

Edexcel BTEC Level 3 Subsidiary Diploma

in Business (60 credits)

Mandatory Units (10 credits each)

1. The Business Environment
2. Introduction to Marketing
3. Business Resources
- 4 .Business Communication

Optional Units (10 credits each)

13. Recruitment and Selection
29. Understanding Retail

Assessment Structure:

BTEC qualifications follow a continual assessment structure thus alleviating end of year exam pressure. Candidates complete 6 interesting teacher-led portfolio units which are designed to allow opportunities for research and visits to a range of business organisations to help understand how theory becomes reality.

BTEC Grade	A Level Equivalent	UCAS Points
Pass	E	40
Merit	C	80
Distinction	A	120

Careers:

Most students leaving education will take up employment in a business organisation and this qualification provides a solid foundation in a range of areas. Students can pursue careers in the following areas:

Human Resources, Sales and Marketing, Finance, and Accounts,

Customer Service, Management, Banking, Law, Retail, Administration, Civil Service and many more.

Completion of this course will prepare candidates for employment or suitably equip them with the skills and knowledge necessary to embark on a variety of HND and degree level courses.



Why choose this subject?

The UK economy is one of the largest in the world employing 29.7 million people. The CBI's education and skills survey revealed management, business and customer awareness as key attributes employers look for in potential employees. As the UK economy re-balances there are many opportunities for employees with sound business understanding.

As the qualification was designed in close collaboration with industry it is fully supported by the Sector Skills Council (SSC). A range of professional organisations/ employers have confirmed their support. This means it is a highly respected route for those wishing to move into the sector, either directly or following further study.

What do the students say?

"Teachers give all their time to help with questions and queries"

"Benefits you for the future and applies to most jobs"

"If you like to be challenged, it's a good subject"

"Appealing to employers and gives you an insight into the business world"

CCEA GCE AS & A LEVEL ENGLISH LITERATURE

Subject Details:

Q. What is AS and A Level English Literature?

The course of study followed is CCEA GCE A Level English Literature which is divided into AS (Year 13) and A2 (Year 14) levels. The AS Level can be taken as a final qualification or as the first half of the A Level qualification. If you wish to obtain a full A Level qualification, you must complete the second half of the course referred to as A2 in Year 14.

Q. What range of grades will be available for AS and A2?

AS Level qualifications will be awarded on a five-grade scale: A – E.

A2 Level qualifications will be awarded on a six-grade scale: A* – E.

To be awarded an A*, students will need to achieve a grade A on their full A Level qualification and an A* on the aggregate score of their A2 units. Students who fail to reach the minimum standard for a grade E will be recorded as U (unclassified) and will not receive a certificate.

Topics Covered:

In Year 13 there are two units of study -
AS Unit 1: The Study of Modern Poetry and Drama (1900-present)
AS Unit 2: The Study of Prose pre-1900

In Year 14 there are three units of study -
A2 Unit 1: Shakespearean Genres
A2 Unit 2: The Study of Poetry pre-1900 and Unseen Poetry
A2 Unit 3: Internal assessment—The Study of Prose

Assessment Structure:

AS Level English Literature has two exam papers taken at the end of Year 13.

AS Unit 1 2 hour exam paper worth 60% of AS Level (24% of A Level)

AS Unit 2 1 hour exam paper worth 40% of AS Level (16% of A Level)

A2 Level English Literature has two exam papers taken at the end of Year 14.

A2 Unit 1 - 1 hour 30 minutes exam paper worth 20% of A Level

A2 Unit 2 - 2 hour exam paper worth 20% of A Level

A2 Unit 3 - Internal assessment. Students will complete a 2500 word essay comparing two novels on a set theme.

Careers:

English Literature is a hugely popular A Level course which leads onto a wide range of opportunities for further and higher education as well as careers in a large variety of areas, including Journalism, Media, Teaching and Publishing. The study of English Literature develops critical thinking and independent study skills which are valued by employers in all sectors.

If you wish to continue with your study of English Literature at degree level, you will need to complete the full A Level course, comprising the two units at AS together with the two at A2.



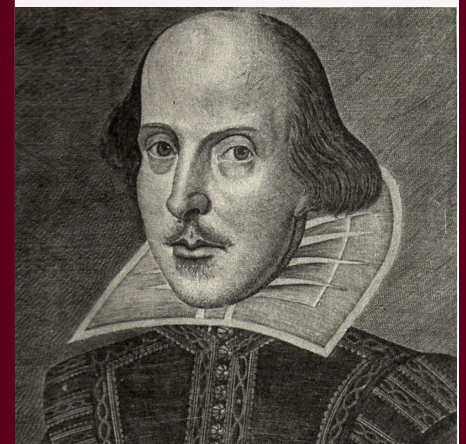
Why choose this subject?

You will have the opportunity to develop your skills in reading and interpreting meaning, critical thinking and analysis of technique. Students who choose English Literature learn about the influences which shape the texts they study and develop the ability to express their own opinions and responses to what they read. You will develop your writing skills to produce arguments in a coherent and convincing way. These are transferable skills which are highly desired by employers and will help you in further education, to succeed in your chosen career as well as in everyday life.



As Unit 1: The Study of Drama

A2 Unit 1: Shakespearean Genres



CCEA GCE AS & A LEVEL HISTORY

Subject Details:

Q. What is AS and A Level History?

The course of study followed is CCEA GCE A History Level which is divided into AS (Year 13) and A2 (Year 14) levels. The AS Level can be taken as a final qualification or as the first half of the A Level qualification. If you wish to obtain a full A Level qualification, you must complete the second half of the course referred to as A2 in Year 14.

Q. What range of grades will be available for AS and A2?

AS Level qualifications will be awarded on a five-grade scale: A – E.

A2 Level qualifications will be awarded on a six-grade scale: A* – E.

To be awarded an A*, students will need to achieve a grade A on their full A Level qualification and an A* on the aggregate score of their A2 units. Students who fail to reach the minimum standard for a grade E will be recorded as U (unclassified) and will not receive a certificate.

Topics Covered:

In Year 13 there are two units of study -
AS Unit 1 Historical Investigations and Interpretations - Option 5: Germany (1918-1945)

AS Unit 2 Conflict and Change in Europe - Option 5: Russia (1903-1941)

In Year 14 there are two units of study -
A2 Unit 1 - Change over Time - Option 4: Unionism & Nationalism (1800-1900)

A2 Unit 2 - Historical Investigations and Interpretations -

Option 4: The Partition of Ireland (1900-25)

Assessment Structure:

AS Level History has two exam papers taken at the end of Year 13.

AS Unit 1 1 hour 30 minutes exam paper

worth 50% of AS Level (25% of A Level)

AS Unit 2 1 hour 30 minutes exam paper

worth 50% of AS Level (25% of A Level)

A2 Level History has two exam papers taken at the end of Year 14.

A2 Unit 1 - 1 hour 15 minutes exam paper

worth 20% of A Level

A2 Unit 2 - 2 hour exam paper worth 30% of A Level

There is no coursework component for this course and assessment is entirely exam based.

Careers:

History is one of the most popular A Level courses in the U.K. It can open up a wide range of opportunities for further and higher education as well as interesting and rewarding careers. If you wish to continue with your study of History at degree level, you will need to complete the full A Level course comprising the two units at AS together with the two at A2. Many History students go on to have interesting and challenging careers, for example in the Media, Politics, Research, Library or Information work, Writing or Editorial work, Law – Police, Solicitor or Barrister, Teaching, Lecturing, Business or Civil Service.



Why choose this subject?

You will have the opportunity to develop your skills and increase your self confidence through researching, organising information, having a questioning approach to the evidence before you, arguing a case, reaching balanced conclusions based on the evidence and writing in a clear and coherent way. These are transferable skills which are highly desired by employers and will help you in further education to succeed in your chosen career as well as in everyday life.



AS Unit 2 Russia



A2 Unit 2 The Partition of Ireland

ADVANCED GCE IN APPLIED INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY

Subject Details:

This Applied GCE is a highly practical course examining the application of new technology and how it is used in a wide range of organisations. The practical work focuses on PC based systems and common application packages used in work-related contexts and covers a broad range of IT and Business related topics. The course consists of 6 units, each assessed separately through coursework and examinations.

Topics Covered:

ADVANCED GCE IN APPLIED INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY

In year 13 students will study 3 Units to make up a single award AS:

Unit 1 Using ICT to communicate

Unit 2 Software Applications and Tools

Unit 3 Organisations and Information Systems

In year 14 students will study an additional 3 units.

Unit 7 Investigating Systems

Unit 9 Website Design and Management

Unit 10 Multimedia Technology

Assessment Structure:

4 units will be assessed internally through a teacher-assessed portfolio and 2 units will be assessed externally in an exam. These 6 units will be equally sized and equally weighted. This gives the student 6 Applied GCE units. Equivalent to 1 'A' level at grades A-E.

A satisfactory standard must be achieved in year 13 before acceptance to year 14.

Careers:

The six-unit course is appropriate either as further vocational study in the area of ICT or as a vocational A Level for students taking two other A level subjects.

This course has been designed to provide a broad educational basis for further training or for moving into appropriate employment mainly within the ICT sector.

Employment opportunities include Computer Technician, IT, Computer Design, Electronics and Engineering.



Why choose this subject?

In today's technological world, ICT is an important and worthwhile qualification. No matter what you decide to do when you leave school, the chances are you will end up working with ICT.

This qualification will help you to understand more about how and why ICT operates in the way it does.

Studying Applied ICT will give you an insight into how technology is used within Business and other professions. It provides a practical based learning programme, using a range of industry standard software. The aim is that you will become an effective, discerning ICT user and that you will extend your knowledge and skills in the use of information technology and computers.

Students who study ICT usually progress onto higher education to study a related course or into Business, Economics and Media.

CCEA GCE AS & A LEVEL RELIGIOUS STUDIES

Subject Details:

Q. What is AS and A Level Religious Studies?

The course of study followed is CCEA GCE A Level Religious Studies which is divided into AS (Year 13) and A2 (Year 14) levels. The AS Level can be taken as a final qualification or as the first half of the A Level qualification. If you wish to obtain a full A Level qualification, you must complete the second half of the course referred to as A2 in Year 14.

Q. What range of grades will be available for AS and A2?

AS Level qualifications will be awarded on a five-grade scale: A – E.

A2 Level qualifications will be awarded on a six-grade scale: A* – E.

To be awarded an A*, students will need to achieve a grade A on their full A Level qualification and an A* on the aggregate score of their A2 units. Students who fail to reach the minimum standard for a grade E will be recorded as U (unclassified).

Topics Covered:

In Year 13 there are two units of study -

AS Unit 1 An Introduction to the Gospel of Luke

AS Unit 4 The Christian Church in the Roman Empire : Beginnings, Expansion and External Pressure.

In Year 14 there are two units of study -

A2 Unit 1 - The Theology of the Gospel of Luke

A2 Unit 4 - The Continued Development of the Christian Church in the Roman Empire to AD 325

Assessment Structure:

AS Religious Studies has two exam papers taken at the end of Year 13.

AS Unit 1 1 hour 20 minutes exam paper worth 50% of AS Level (25%)

AS Unit 4 1 hour 20 minutes exam paper worth 50% of AS Level (25%)

A2 Level Religious Studies has two exam papers taken at the end of Year 14.

A2 Unit 1 - 2 hour exam paper worth 50% of A2 Level (25%)

A2 Unit 4 - 2 hour exam paper worth 50% of A2 Level (25%)

There is no coursework component for this course and assessment is entirely exam based.

Careers:

Religious Studies is a very popular A Level and opens up a wide range of opportunities for further and higher education and interesting and rewarding careers. Students will engage with great debates and will have the opportunity to improve their skills in 'arguing a case on the basis of evidence' - this is a skill which is absolutely central to progress in the world of work. Students who have furthered their studies in Religious Studies have gone on to have successful careers in Education, Social Care, Public Services, within the Charity Sector, Youth Work and many more.



Why choose this subject?

You will have the opportunity to learn about, discuss, evaluate and learn from religious beliefs, practices and values. It allows students to engage with challenging questions about the meaning and purpose of life, peoples' place in society and the world around them, Through the study of human experience, you will have the opportunity to shed light upon the viewpoint and practices of others. You will challenge and be challenged by differing competing claims and have something to say about global changes and developments in the light of religious teachings. Through the study of this subject you will be given a tool kit of concepts and ideas which will allow you to evaluate information and arrive at reasoned conclusions and judgements.

SINGLE AWARD LIFE AND HEALTH SCIENCE A LEVEL

Subject Details:

This course aims to encourage students to:

- Develop their interest in and enthusiasm for science, including developing an interest in further study and in research science;
- Appreciate how society makes decisions about scientific issues and how the sciences contribute to the success of the economy and society;
- Develop competence in a range of practical, mathematical and problem solving skills;
- Develop and demonstrate a deeper appreciation of the skills, knowledge and understanding of how science works;
- Develop essential knowledge and understanding of different areas of the subject and how they relate to each other; and
- Develop advanced study skills that help them prepare for third level education.

Topics Covered:

At AS level, students must complete:

- Unit AS 1: Experimental Techniques;
- Unit AS 2: Human Body Systems; and
- Unit AS 3: Aspects of Physical Chemistry in Industrial Processes.

At A2 level, students must complete:

- Unit A2 1: Scientific Method, Investigation, Analysis and Evaluation;
- Unit A2 2: Organic Chemistry.
- One other optional unit

Assessment Structure:

Unit AS 1: Internal assessment through portfolio evidence. 33% AS / 13% of A Level.

Unit AS 2: External written examination. 33% AS/13% A Level.

Unit AS 3: External written examination. 33% AS/ 13% A Level.

Unit A2 1: Internal assessment through portfolio evidence. 20% of A Level.

Unit A2 2: External written exam. 20% of A Level.

Optional Unit: External written exam. 20% of A Level.

A satisfactory standard must be reached at in Year 13 before entrance into Year 14.

Grades available:

AS qualifications will be awarded on a five grade scale: A - E.

A Level qualifications will be awarded on a six grade scale: A* - E.

To be awarded an A*, candidates need to achieve a grade A on their full A level qualification and an A* on the aggregate of their A2 units. If candidates fail to attain a grade E we report their results as unclassified (U).

Careers:

Possible careers available after studying Single Award A Level in Life and Health Science **may** include Nursing, Engineering, Laboratory Technician, Forensic Scientist, Drug Researcher and many more. Students should be eligible for courses at university that require one Science A-Level.



Why choose this subject?

In 2015 there were 37500 people employed in the Professional Scientific and Technical sector. This has been forecast to rise by over 15000 in the next 10 years -the highest of all sectors. Currently there are 130000 people employed in the Health sector. This has also been forecast to rise over the next 10 years.

The Life and Health Sciences sector is one of Northern Ireland's most important sectors. The sector combines all elements of Science and Technology that contribute to the discovery and development of products for the healthcare and wellbeing of humans and animals. Key fields in the life and health sciences sector include biology, biomedical, pharmacy, audiology and optometry.

One of the most popular aspects of the course is the practical work. In this course pupils may be given several opportunities to complete practical work at Belfast Metropolitan College and Queen's University Belfast. This partnerships gives the pupils access to equipment and experiments that can not normally be carried out in schools.

DOUBLE AWARD LIFE AND HEALTH SCIENCE

A LEVEL

Subject Details:

This course aims to encourage students to:

- Develop their interest in and enthusiasm for science, including developing an interest in further study and careers in research science;
- Appreciate how society makes decisions about scientific issues and how the sciences contribute to the success of the economy and society;
- Develop competence in a range of practical, mathematical and problem solving skills;
- Develop and demonstrate a deeper appreciation of the skills, knowledge and understanding of how science works;
- Develop essential knowledge and understanding of different areas of the subject and how they relate to each other; and
- Develop advanced study skills that help them prepare for third level education.

Topics Covered:

At AS level, students must complete:

- Unit AS 1: Experimental Techniques;
- Unit AS 2: Human Body Systems; and
- Unit AS 3: Aspects of Physical Chemistry in Industrial Processes.

- Unit AS 4: Brain Science.
- Unit AS 6: Material Science.
- Unit AS 7: Medicine, Drugs and Clinical Trials.

At A2 level, students must complete:

- Unit A2 1: Scientific Method, Investigation, Analysis and Evaluation;
- Unit A2 2: Organic Chemistry.
- Three other optional units.

Careers

Possible careers may include: Science Teacher, Biomedical Scientist, Nurse, Chemical Engineer, Science Technician and Forensic Scientist. Students should be eligible for courses requiring two A-Level Sciences.

Assessment Structure:

Unit AS 1: Internal assessment through portfolio evidence. 17% AS / 7% of A Level.

Unit AS 2: External written examination. 17% AS / 7% A Level.

Unit AS 3: External written examination. 17% AS / 7% A Level.

Unit AS 4: Internal assessment through portfolio evidence. 17% AS / 7% A Level.

Unit AS 5: External written examination. 17% AS / 7% A Level.

Unit AS 6: Internal assessment through portfolio evidence. 17% AS / 7% A Level.

Unit A2 1: Internal assessment through portfolio evidence. 10% of A Level.

Unit A2 2: External written exam. 10% of A Level.

Two Optional Units: External written exam. 10% of A Level each.

Two Optional Units: Internal assessment through portfolio evidence. 10% of A Level each.

A satisfactory standard must be reached at in Year 13 before entrance into Year 14.

Grades available:

AS qualifications will be awarded on a five grade scale: A - E.

A Level qualifications will be awarded on a six grade scale: A* - E.

To be awarded an A*, candidates need to achieve a grade A on their full A level qualification and an A* on the aggregate of their A2 units. If candidates fail to attain a grade E we report their results as unclassified (U).



Why choose this subject?

In 2015 there were 37500 people employed in the Professional Scientific and Technical sector. This has been forecast to rise by over 15000 in the next 10 years -the highest of all sectors. Currently there are 130000 people employed in the Health sector. This has also been forecast to rise over the next 10 years.

The Life and Health Sciences sector is one of Northern Ireland's most important sectors. The sector combines all elements of Science and Technology that contribute to the discovery and development of products for the healthcare and wellbeing of humans and animals. Key fields in the life and health sciences sector include biology, biomedical, pharmacy, audiology and optometry.

One of the most popular aspects of the course is the practical work. In this course pupils may be given several opportunities to complete practical work at Belfast Metropolitan College and Queen's University Belfast. This partnerships gives the pupils access to equipment and experiments that can not normally be carried out in schools.

BTEC LEVEL 3 SUBSIDIARY DIPLOMA IN SPORT

(QCF) EDEXCEL

Subject Details:

A BTEC Subsidiary Diploma is a 2 year vocational course. The full Subsidiary Diploma is equivalent to one A Level, and carries a maximum of 120 UCAS points. This is a more practical, work-related course however, you should realise that written assignments form the vast majority of assessment.

You will learn by completing projects and assignments that are based on realistic workplace situations, activities and demands. You will focus on a particular subject area and develop a range of specialist skills and knowledge.

The course consists of numerous Units which cover a range of topics to be as broad as possible across the sporting industry.

Topics Covered:

The course covers seven units over two years. The assessment for the course is 100% coursework which encompasses a range of methods including; investigations, presentations, practical performances, observational analysis, group based projects, written accounts and poster campaigns.

Units studied are:

Principles of Anatomy and Physiology in sport
The Physiology of Fitness
Assessing Risk in Sport
Fitness Testing and Training
Sports Coaching
Practical Team Sports
Fitness Testing for Sport and Exercise

Assessment Structure:

The BTEC Subsidiary Diploma is 100% coursework assessed and includes portfolio work. Projects are submitted for marking on a regular basis throughout the course. They are assessed internally by your teachers and then moderated by the Examination board. Work is graded and written feedback provided enabling students to gauge how well they are doing on the course. Feedback will help you to see the strengths of your work as well as allowing you to reflect on areas which can be developed further. Your work will be graded Pass, Merit or Distinction and carries a maximum of 120 UCAS points. The BTEC Certificate, awarded after successful completion of one year, is equivalent to an AS Level and carries a maximum of 60 UCAS points.

Careers:

Sport in Northern Ireland is rapidly growing as a result of recent global events such as the Irish Open Golf, Giro d'Italia and the World Police and Fire Games. In addition, the leisure industry is booming due to many of the population becoming passionate about fitness and increasing physical activity levels.

BTEC National Awards and Certificates are valued by employers and higher education (universities and colleges). If you want to get a job straight away you could work in:

Sports Centres, Leisure Centres, Outdoor Activities Centres, Sports Coaching, Sport Development.

If you decide to go to university or college you could take a degree or a BTEC Higher National in subjects such as:

Sports Studies, Sports Science, Leisure Management, Recreation Management, Teacher Training.



Why choose this subject?

If you are the type of student who is enthusiastic about all areas of sport and its industry then this course could be for you. You need to be willing to use /improve a number of different skills in order to pass this course. These include: organisational, investigational and motivational skills. If you are a person who is fully committed to achieve then this will be the course for you provided you have proven you have a good command of written English demonstrated by a grade C or above at GCSE.

It is essential that you have completed BTEC L2 Sport or GSCE PE to transfer your skills and knowledge to the Level 3 course. It is also important that you are currently involved in individual or team sports at a competitive level in or outside school. This will help facilitate your understanding of the theoretical component of the course.

BTEC LEVEL 3 SUBSIDIARY DIPLOMA IN TRAVEL & TOURISM (QCF) EDEXCEL

Subject Details:

The 60-credit BTEC Level 3 Subsidiary Diploma is broadly equivalent to one GCE A Level.

The BTEC qualifications have been developed in the Travel and Tourism sector to:

1 provide education and training for Travel and Tourism employees

2 give full-time learners the opportunity to enter employment in the Travel and Tourism sector or to progress to vocational qualifications such as the Edexcel BTEC Higher Nationals in Travel and Tourism

3 give learners the opportunity to develop a range of skills and techniques, personal skills and attributes essential for successful performance in working life.

Topics Covered:

Edexcel BTEC Level 3 Subsidiary Diploma in Travel and Tourism (60 credits)

Mandatory Units (10 credits each)

- 1 Investigating the Travel and Tourism Sector
- 2 The Business of Travel and Tourism
- 3 The UK as a Destination
- 4 Customer Service in Travel and Tourism

Optional Units (10 credits each)

- 7 European Destinations
- 8 Long-haul Travel Destinations

Assessment Structure:

1 Qualification credit value: a minimum of 60 credits.

2 Minimum credit to be achieved at, or above, the level of the qualification: 45 credits.

3 Mandatory unit credit: 40 credits & Optional unit credit: 20 credits.

4. Students must complete a number of assignments and can be awarded Pass, Merit & Distinction on each.

5. Grading criteria and feedback will allow for one revision of assigned work

Careers:

The Travel and Tourism sector continues to grow at a rapid pace within Northern Ireland, with the amount of travel undertaken by individuals for both leisure and business purposes continuing to increase.

An expansion in the short-break market has led to a growth of regional airports in the UK and across Europe and a rise in the number of new hospitality enterprises including health spas and boutique hotels.

This rapid expansion has led to huge demand for a more flexibly skilled workforce.



Why choose this subject?

Specific skills gaps identified in the emerging Sector Qualification Strategy (SQS) for Travel and Tourism include customer service skills, destination geography, knowledge of working with children, and business skills.

These BTEC level 3 qualifications in Travel and Tourism seek to address these areas. They have been structured to encourage the acquisition and development of these competencies prior to, or while in, employment in the Travel and Tourism sector

They give learners the knowledge, understanding and skills that they need to prepare for employment. These qualifications accredit the achievement for courses and programmes of study for full-time or part-time learners in schools, colleges and other training provider organisations. The qualifications provide career development opportunities for those already in work, and progression opportunities to higher education, degree and professional development programmes within the same or related areas of study, within universities and other institutions.

Learners are allowed to receive feedback on their progress throughout the course as they provide evidence towards the grading criteria. Evidence for assessment may be generated through a range of diverse activities including role play and oral assessment.

NEWTOWNABBEY LEARNING COMMUNITY (NLC)

As part of the NLC we are able to offer the following courses*:

Northern Regional College

- Environmental Technology (A Level)
- Health and Social Care (BTEC)
- Engineering (BTEC)
- Applied ICT (A-Level)
- Construction

Belfast High School

- French (A Level)
- Mathematics (A Level)
- Religious Studies (A-Level)



Course Equivalence

** Curriculum offer at NRC
subject to change*

BTEC Sub Diploma	Points	GCE A Level	Points
D*	140	A*	140
D	120	A	120
		B	100
M	80	C	80
		D	60
P	40	E	40