



NOTTINGHAM
ACADEMY

Sixth Form

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Course Guide
2021/2023



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Your guide to choosing the right course



At Nottingham Academy all Post-16 provision is 'Level 3' this means qualifications at an advanced level; it is the step up after GCSE. There are different qualifications at this level, they include:

- GCE A Level
- BTEC National Extended Certificate
- OCR Cambridge Diploma
- WDEC Applied Diploma
- LIBF (London Institute of Banking and Finance) Diploma

You will need to meet the academic entry requirements for each course. This is because the courses are challenging and we must be sure that you have the ability and skills to be successful.

In order to study in the Sixth Form you must have at least 5 GCSEs at level 4 or above including English Language, in addition some subjects will have specific requirements – see course guide.

Any student starting these courses without a grade 4 in mathematics will have to retake this in Year 12. We expect you to take three subjects and each course takes two years to reach the full qualification.

To help support your future pathway you will have the opportunity to study an extended project qualification, financial study or core maths alongside your studies.



ACADEMIC OR VOCATIONAL?

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Academic

These courses are traditional courses which deal with more theoretical ideas. You will need to process information and usually present ideas in written form, often as short or extended essays. These courses will be externally assessed in Year 13. If you want to go into a traditional career such as medicine or law, you will need academic subjects.

Vocational

These courses are work-related qualifications. They are designed to allow you to learn in a way that suits you, and give you the skills that employers are looking for. There will be more practical activities and you will produce a portfolio of coursework. These courses will have a combination of both internally and externally assessed units. Vocational qualifications can lead on to training, employment as well as university.



Academic Courses

Art	Photography
Biology	Physical Education
Chemistry	Physics
Core Mathematics	Politics
English Literature	Psychology
Environmental Science	Religious Studies
French	Sociology
Geography	Spanish
History	Statistics
Mathematics	Urdu
Media	

Vocational Courses

Applied Science
Business
Children's Play, Learning and Development
Criminology
Financial Studies
Health and Social Care
IT
Public Services
Sport and Physical Education
Travel & Tourism





ART

A
LEVEL

QUALIFICATION

A Level (AQA)

COURSE LENGTH

2 years

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

5 or more GCSE grades 9 to 4, including grade 4 or above in GCSE art or photography

Art is a challenging but enjoyable subject that helps you develop key skills in independent learning, problem solving and critical understanding. You will be introduced to a variety of experiences and will explore a range of Fine Art media and processes. Art is a very practical and creative subject that offers an alternative way of working, art can provide you with a wider awareness of social and cultural context. You will be encouraged to make independent use of the art workrooms and to visit art exhibitions.

BIOLOGY

A
LEVEL

QUALIFICATION

A Level (OCR)

COURSE LENGTH

2 years

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

5 or more GCSE grades 9 to 4, including grade 5 or above in English and 6 in biology and mathematics

Biology is a science at the forefront of some of the most exciting and sensitive issues in the news today. Are you intrigued when you hear about the medical developments in genetic engineering? Do you want to know why cells divide and what are the causes of cancer? Or are you concerned with the threat of global extinction and the devastation being caused by global warming? Studying biology A-level will enable you to learn more about these issues of interest.

A LEVEL

CHEMISTRY

QUALIFICATION

A Level (OCR)

COURSE LENGTH

2 years

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

5 or more GCSE grades 9 to 4, including grade 5 or above in English and 6 in chemistry and mathematics

Chemistry allows you to study and explore the world around you. If you are interested in problem solving, using logic and maths, and studying trends and patterns, chemistry is for you. You will find out the truth about the particles that make up atoms and build your knowledge of fuels and chemicals that we use every day. You will also find out how TNT is made and how drugs cheats are caught. It is a very practical subject and you will learn techniques that are a real asset for work in university or 'real-life' laboratories.

A LEVEL

CORE MATHEMATICS

QUALIFICATION

A Level (OCR)

COURSE LENGTH

1 or 2 Years

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

5 or more GCSEs at 4 and above including a 5 in mathematics

Core Mathematics helps students develop their quantitative and problem-solving skills. Helping you understand and apply mathematical reasoning. This course will give you confidence in understanding the mathematical content in other courses you are studying and offers valuable experience for many degree courses. This is one of our 4th Pathway options and can be completed alongside your other Level 3 subjects either over 1 or 2 years.

ENGLISH LITERATURE

A
LEVEL

QUALIFICATION

A Level (AQA)

COURSE LENGTH

2 years

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

5 or more GCSE grades 9 to 4, including grade 5 in English

From murderous lovers to pathetic protagonists, this course of English Literature will challenge your views on who are the true victims and villains in the stories that survive the times. Our experienced teachers will guide you to uncover your unique literary passion and equip you as a critical thinker, confident debater and proficient researcher. We explore Renaissance poetry to Post-Modern novels; classics to eccentric writers; familiar and hidden histories to better understand the world around us. To study English Literature is to study and push the boundaries of what makes us human, get ready to have one or two existential crises.

ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE

A
LEVEL

QUALIFICATION

A Level (AQA)

COURSE LENGTH

2 years

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

5 or more GCSE grades 9 to 4, including grade 5 or above in English, mathematics and biology

Environmental Science is very topical in the world today. You will learn about subjects like the bio-physical environment, energy resources, pollution, circular economy and sustainability. If you enjoy a multi-disciplinary approach to learning and have a keen interest in the sustainability of our planet then you will find this course engaging and thought provoking. With opportunities to learn about real life case studies in your lessons, this new and exciting qualification has never been more relevant.

A LEVEL

FRENCH

QUALIFICATION

A Level (AQA)

COURSE LENGTH

2 years

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

5 or more GCSE grades 9 to 4, including grade 4 in English and grade 6 and above in French

French A-level offers students the chance to not only enhance their language skills, but to learn about French speaking countries in depth - from its geography, food and culture, to its rich history and diverse politics. Learn how French-speaking society has been shaped, socially and culturally. In the first year, aspects of the social context are studied, together with the artistic life of French-speaking countries. In the second year, further aspects of the social background are covered, such as life for those on the margins of French-speaking society and the positive influences that diversity brings. Students also study the political landscape in a French-speaking country, looking at immigration and how political power is expressed through action such demonstrations. Students also study a piece of French literature and a French language film. This course fosters a range of transferable skills including communication, critical thinking, research skills and creativity. The content is suitable for students who wish to progress to employment or further study, including a modern languages degree.

A LEVEL

GEOGRAPHY

QUALIFICATION

A Level (AQA)

COURSE LENGTH

2 years

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

5 or more GCSE grades 9 to 4, including grade 5 or above in mathematics, English and geography

There has never been a better or more important time to study A level Geography. Dealing with vital issues such as climate change, migration, environmental degradation, social issues and natural hazards, A level Geography is one of the most relevant subjects you could choose to study. Geography is your window to the world. If the wider world and interactions between people and places interest you, then Geography A-level is for you.

HISTORY

A
LEVEL

QUALIFICATION

A Level (AQA)

COURSE LENGTH

2 years

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

5 or more GCSE grades 9 to 4, including grade 5 or above in English and history

If you have enjoyed history at GCSE, then A Level history is the natural next step for you. You will learn about significant events from the past and understand how they have helped shape the world we live in. History A-Level will inspire your curiosity to know more about the past. It will enable you to understand important historical concepts and allow you to make your own judgements about the past. A-Level history teaches you about the experiences of others from different times and places, the process of change over time and the diversity of societies and relationships between different groups of people. Through the study of history, you will gain a better understanding of your own identity and the world we live in today. History is one of the most fascinating subjects you could hope to study and a popular choice at the Nottingham Academy Sixth Form.

MATHEMATICS

A
LEVEL

QUALIFICATION

A Level (AQA)

COURSE LENGTH

2 years

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

5 or more GCSE grades 9 to 4, including grade 6 in mathematics

Mathematics encourages you to be open-minded and adaptable; to look for more than one method of approach to a problem; to make judgements on methods and techniques available in terms of appropriateness and accuracy; to interpret, evaluate and implement solutions and results.

A
LEVEL

MEDIA STUDIES

QUALIFICATION

A Level (Eduqas)

COURSE LENGTH

2 years

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

5 or more GCSE grades 9 to 4, including grade 4 in English

From television to the web, from newspapers to film, the mass media play an influential part in the world around us. Studying the media at A-level will develop your understanding of social, political, cultural and economic debates. You will get the chance to analyse media texts and to create your own media products.

A
LEVEL

PHOTOGRAPHY

QUALIFICATION

A Level (AQA)

COURSE LENGTH

2 years

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

5 or more GCSE grades 9 to 4, including a grade 4 in English and grade 4 or above in GCSE art or photography, or a portfolio

Studying photography A-level helps you develop new skills in a range of photographic media, techniques and processes. You will experience both traditional photography and new technologies. You will explore relevant images, artefacts and resources relating to photography and a wider range of art and design, from the past and from recent times, including European and non-European examples. You will be encouraged to work independently, problem solve, learn new skills and create an exhibition of your work.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

A
LEVEL

QUALIFICATION

A Level (OCR)

COURSE LENGTH

2 years

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

5 or more GCSE grades 9 to 6, including 5 in English, 4 in mathematics and science

The OCR A Level in Physical Education course develops knowledge, understanding and skills relevant to physical education. Students gain understanding of the scientific and socio-cultural factors that underpin sport and physical activity and demonstrate their ability as either performer or coach. This course is particularly useful for those students who wish to become a PE teacher, Sport Scientist, Sports Coach or a Physiotherapist.

PHYSICS

A
LEVEL

QUALIFICATION

A Level (OCR)

COURSE LENGTH

2 years

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

5 or more GCSE grades 9 to 4, including grade 5 or above in English and 6 in physics and mathematics

For students who like to solve problems and answer challenging questions about the physical world they live in. This is an essential course for anyone who is interested in finding out about the world around them from the smallest particle to the entire universe.

A LEVEL

POLITICS

QUALIFICATION

A Level (AQA)

COURSE LENGTH

2 years

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

5 or more GCSE grades 9 to 4, including grade 5 or above in English

Studying A-level Politics will provide insight into political beliefs central to an understanding of the modern world. It also develops analytical and evaluative skills in relation to interesting topics prevalent in the turbulent political climate of today. A-Level Politics provides you with an in depth understanding of political theory and the application of this theory in British and American Politics. It is an engaging and relevant subject that will cover news and current affairs whilst developing research, communication and debating skills.

A LEVEL

PSYCHOLOGY

QUALIFICATION

A Level (AQA)

COURSE LENGTH

2 years

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

5 or more GCSE grades 9 to 4, including grade 6 or above in English, grade 5 mathematics and grade 5 in science

Do you have a curious mind and a desire to learn about human behaviour? The A Level psychology course covers a wide range of topics. You will learn about the fundamental approaches within psychology and how our understanding of these impact on areas such as attachment, memory, relationships, psychopathology and forensic psychology. Alongside this, you will study how the use of research methods underpins all investigations conducted in psychology.

RELIGIOUS STUDIES

A
LEVEL

QUALIFICATION

A Level (Edexcel)

COURSE LENGTH

2 years

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

5 or more GCSE grades 9 to 4, including a grade 5 or above in English and 4 in mathematics

Religious Studies is an inclusive subject, designed for people of any faith and people who have no faith. It is an interesting and wide-ranging subject that offers students the opportunity to gain a deeper understanding of world religions and issues that are relevant to learners in the 21st century, in relation to beliefs, values, and morality. It will help you to develop a range of transferable and valuable skills, including critical thinking and reasoning. It shows universities and employers that you understand the world, life and people around you. It provides an excellent preparation for living in a multifaith and multicultural world.

SOCIOLOGY

A
LEVEL

QUALIFICATION

A Level (AQA)

COURSE LENGTH

2 years

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

5 or more GCSE grades 9 to 4, including a grade 5 or above in English

Sociology is a fascinating, exciting and enlightening subject to study. You will learn about societal structures, what role and purpose social institutions such as the family, education and the criminal justice system plays in society. You will explore topics that will develop your ability to think critically about the world around you and explore influences on social groups. If you are interested in societal norms and values, social structures and social groups then this subject is for you.

A LEVEL

SPANISH

QUALIFICATION

A Level (AQA)

COURSE LENGTH

2 years

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

5 or more GCSE grades 9 to 4, including grade 5 in English and grade 6 and above in Spanish

Spanish A-level offers students the chance to not only enhance their language skills, but to learn about Spain and Latin America in depth - from its music, food and culture, to its rich history and diverse politics. Students will study technological and social change, looking at the multicultural nature of Hispanic society. They will study highlights of Hispanic artistic culture, including a focus on Spanish regional identity and the cultural heritage of past civilisations. They will learn about aspects of the diverse political landscape of the Hispanic world. The course explores the influence of the past on present-day Hispanic communities. Throughout the two years of study, students will study Spanish literature and film and will have the opportunity to carry out independent research on an area of their choice. This course fosters a range of transferable skills including communication, critical thinking, research skills and creativity. The content is suitable for students who wish to progress to employment or further study, including a modern languages degree.

A LEVEL

STATISTICS

QUALIFICATION

A Level (Pearson)

COURSE LENGTH

2 years

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

5 or more GCSE grades 9 to 4 including grade 5 or above in mathematics.

A Level statistics is an application of mathematics, relating to the analysis and interpretation of data. Our lives are influenced by statistics and knowing how they fit must be an advantage. Statistics are used widely by employers and to gain this qualification would be a distinct benefit in whatever career you choose.

URDU

A
LEVEL

QUALIFICATION

A Level (Edexcel)

COURSE LENGTH

2 years

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

5 or more GCSE grades 9 to 4, including grade 4 in English and grade 4 or above in Urdu

Urdu A-level offers students the chance to not only enhance their language skills, but to learn about Urdu speaking countries in depth - from history and culture to food and religion. Learn how Urdu-speaking society has been shaped, socially and culturally, and how it continues to change. The course will enhance students' linguistic skills and promote an understanding of culture and society of Pakistan and areas of India where Urdu is an official language. This course fosters a range of transferable skills including communication, critical thinking, research skills and creativity, which are valuable to the individual and society. The content is suitable for students who wish to progress to employment or further study, including a modern languages degree.





VOCATIONAL

APPLIED SCIENCE

VOCATIONAL

QUALIFICATION

Cambridge Technical Level 3 Qualification

COURSE LENGTH

2 years Extended Certificate

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

5 or more GCSEs at grades 9 to 4, including a grade 4 or above in English, Science and mathematics

Applied Science offers specialist pathways in environmental science, food science and human science. Designed in collaboration with experts spanning the breadth of the sector, this qualification focuses on the skills, knowledge and understanding that today's universities and employers demand. The course is split into 2 units; Science Fundamentals and Laboratory Techniques. Applied science extended certificate requires an additional 3 units, Control of hazards in the laboratory, Microbiology and Product testing techniques.

BUSINESS

VOCATIONAL

QUALIFICATION

OCR Level 3 Cambridge Technical Extended Certificate in Business or the opportunity to study the extended diploma in business

COURSE LENGTH

2 years

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

5 or more GCSE grades 9 to 4, including grade 4 in English and mathematics

Ever wondered how businesses work, why some brands are so successful, and how some companies make it to number 1 in their field? Or have you had ideas about a business of your own you want to start? Studying a diploma in Business gives you the scope to develop a broader understanding of business organisations and practices, providing subject-specific skills and knowledge about markets, customers, finance, marketing, operations, communication, information technology and business strategy. Practical assignments set in real-life business scenarios help you learn, build skills and develop behaviours which you'll use whatever career you choose in the future.

CHILDREN'S PLAY, LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT

QUALIFICATION

BTEC Level 3 National Extended Certificate in Children's Play, Learning and Development

COURSE LENGTH

2 years

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

5 or more GCSE grades 9 to 4, including grade 4 or above in English

If you are excited by the prospect of working with children, gaining skills and qualifications along the way, with great prospects for your career, this is the course for you. You will gain an understanding of children's developmental progress, how children develop literacy, language, numeracy and communication skills, the benefits of play and how to support children's physical development.

CRIMINOLOGY

QUALIFICATION

WJEC Applied Diploma in Criminology

COURSE LENGTH

2 years

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

5 or more GCSE grades 9 to 4, including grade 4 or above in English

This subject explores why people commit crime, drawing on explanations from psychology and sociology, along with how society tackles crime through the law, policy and punishment. Over the two years you will learn about different types of crimes, how peoples' perceptions of crimes are shaped and how crimes are investigated.

FINANCIAL STUDIES

VOCATIONAL

QUALIFICATION

LIBF Diploma

COURSE LENGTH

2 years

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

5 or more GCSE grades 9 to 4, including English and mathematics

This London Institute of Banking and Finance qualification has been developed with the input of leading firms from across the financial sector to ensure it gives you the essential and most up to date knowledge. You will look at a range of topics such as short term to long term financial needs and investigating the personal financial life cycle recommending suitable financial products to meet individual needs.

You will learn about the impact of the Economy and the Bank of England on personal finances in both the short and long term considering changes in interest rates and inflation and how they influence financial decisions. Studying the course you will learn about financial regulation covering savings, investments, insurance and borrowing and apply this in real life context scenarios. You will consider the ethical and sustainability issues in the financial services industry and be able to apply your learning to case studies providing financial planning advice. You will learn about the UK taxation system and how it impacts on savings, insurance and income. You will also produce personal budgets and cash flows and make recommendations on how to solve liquidity problems.

HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE

VOCATIONAL

QUALIFICATION

Cambridge Technical Extended Certificate in Health & Social Care (OCR)

COURSE LENGTH

2 years

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

5 or more GCSE grades 9 to 4, including grade 4 or above in English

If you are interested in working in a Health and Social Care environment, then this course is an excellent starting point. You will study topics including: Equality, Diversity and Rights in Health and Social Care; Building Positive Relationships in Health and Social care and Anatomy and Physiology. You will gain transferable skills such as teamwork, communication and presentation skills, which are highly valued in employment and university.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

QUALIFICATION

PEARSON BTEC Level 3 National Extended Certificate in Information Technology

COURSE LENGTH

2 years

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

5 or more GCSE grades 9 to 4, including grade 4 in English and grade 5 in mathematics

This new specification provides the ideal foundation for those students who wish to pursue ICT at degree level or as a career. The emphasis is now focused on the use of ICT in a business context so students can gain develop a wide range of ICT skills together with an in-depth knowledge and understanding of ICT that can be transferred into the business world.

PUBLIC SERVICES

QUALIFICATION

Level 3 BTEC Public Services

COURSE LENGTH

2 years

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

5 or more GCSE grades 9 to 4, including grade 4 or above in English

This course will help you to develop your knowledge and understanding of the jobs available in the Public Service sector.

If a career working for the Police, Fire, Ambulance, Prison Service, the RAF, British Army or Navy interests you; this course is ideal. It aims to develop the essential employability skills and personal qualities, needed for a successful entry to Public Services through a wide range of theoretical, fitness-based and practical activities. Throughout the course, learners will be provided with opportunities to apply all these skills and qualities in real or simulated work contexts. By the end of the course, you will be better prepared both physically and mentally for a successful entry to your chosen Uniformed Protective Service.

The course is assessed continuously; to gain the qualification, you need to be well organised, self-disciplined, motivated and sustain an excellent attendance and punctuality record throughout the academic year.

SPORT AND PHYSICAL ACTIVITY

VOCATIONAL

QUALIFICATION

Cambridge Technical Diploma and Extended Diploma

COURSE LENGTH

2 years

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

5 or more GCSE grades 9 to 4, including grade 4 in English and mathematics and grade 4 and above in GCSE science and sport (preferably)

For students who have an interest in sport. If you seek a career in sport in areas such as talent identification, physiotherapy, teaching or coaching, you will benefit from studying this course. This is available as a double or triple option.

TRAVEL AND TOURISM

VOCATIONAL

QUALIFICATION

Pearson BTEC Level 3 National Extended Certificate in Travel and Tourism

COURSE LENGTH

2 years

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

5 or more GCSE grades 9 to 4, including grade 4 or above in English

The travel and tourism industry is one of the fastest growing global industries, contributing over £209 billion to the UK economy and employing over 4 million people. This course is perfect for students who aim to progress to higher education and ultimately to employment, possibly in the travel and tourism sector. This qualification gives a broad introduction to the travel and tourism industry, with an emphasis on core knowledge and fundamental skills that are transferable across other sectors. 50% is externally assessed by examination and 50% internally by coursework.



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Contacting Sixth Form

To apply to Nottingham Academy Sixth Form go to
www.nottinghamacademy.org/applysixth

To discuss any issues regarding Sixth Form please call the main
academy number (0115) 7483380

Alternatively if you unable to get through via phone please
email using the following address;

sixthformadmin@nottinghamacademy.org

Leave your name, the student's name and a contact number.

www.nottinghamacademy.org



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