



Walthamstow Academy

The best in everyone™

Part of United Learning

Sixth Form Prospectus 2022



...best lesson, best day, best year, best future...

Welcome to Walthamstow Academy

Walthamstow Academy is a dynamic, thriving and successful academy at the centre of the local community. I believe that at the heart of our success are three key factors. The first is the dedication of our staff, who are all wholly determined to do whatever it takes to get the best possible outcomes for every single one of our students. This involves nurturing every child and tracking their progress to make sure that they are on track and that we are bringing out the best in them.

Second, we are committed to raising ambition through very high expectations and a belief that every child can achieve great things if they have the opportunity, the drive and the support that they need. As a result, our students have these expectations of themselves. They want to learn, they want to be successful and they want to be proud. Our attendance is outstanding: students want to be here, they describe being part of Walthamstow Academy as like being part of a family.

Third, at Walthamstow Academy we believe that there is no time to waste. We make the most of every day. For every minute of every lesson, we make sure that our students are happy, engaged and learning. They know they need to make the most of every opportunity they are offered and we want to be there to make sure they succeed. I want all our students to have hopes and dreams for the future that mean they are challenging themselves to be the best they can be. Come to Walthamstow Academy and see for yourself - I look forward to meeting you.



Ms Emma Skae, Principal BSc BEd MA NPQH

Chair of Governors



I would like to welcome you to the latest Prospectus from Walthamstow Academy; opened in 2006 as an Academy sponsored by the United Learning Trust.

United Learning is a group of schools and Academies whose sole aim is to provide outstanding education to children and young people across the country. We seek to improve the life chances of all the children and young people we serve and make it our mission to bring out 'the best in everyone' – students, staff, parents and the wider community. Since 2009 the Academy has been led by an outstanding Principal in Emma Skae. Emma brings vision, enthusiasm, experience and a great drive to bring out the very best in all at the Academy. She is well supported by dedicated teams of staff who always impress me by their efforts to enable our students to succeed and foster a can do attitude in our students.

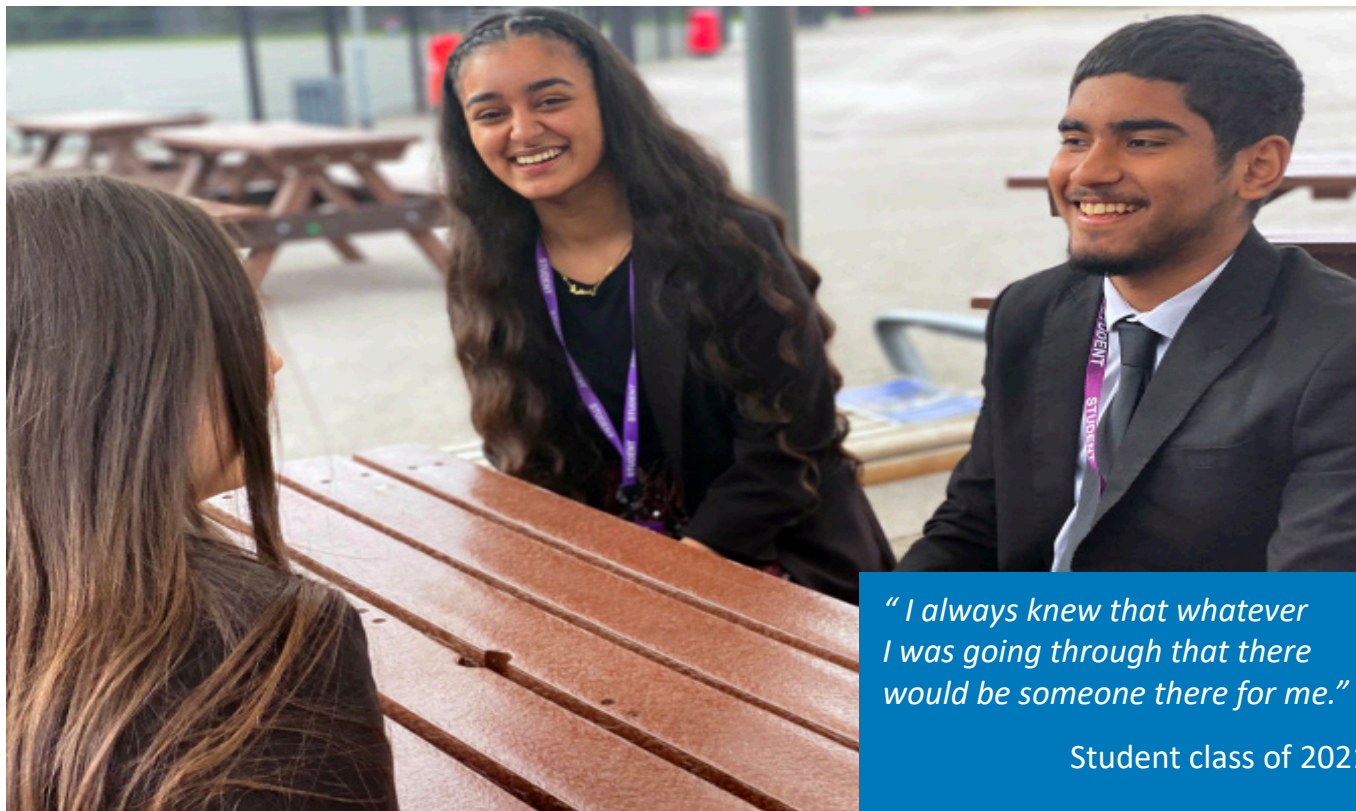
Ofsted. We now move forward with the aim of being outstanding in everything we do. Our sixth form continues to go from strength to strength with every sixth form student who chose to do so progressing to university in 2021; 49% went to the elite Russell Group of universities. Additionally I am impressed by the range of extra-curricular activities which enhance our students' experiences and help build confident young people.

While we continue to raise academic standards and want our students to achieve outstanding academic results, the Academy takes its pastoral responsibilities very seriously. We have a commitment to provide a supportive, happy and caring environment believing this will allow all of our students to develop their full potential. We aim to deliver United Learning's key aim and bring out "the best in everyone".

Please visit us to meet the staff and students and see our impressive facilities. I hope you will decide to become part of our future.

Geoff Skewes, Chair of Governors

The Academy has been rated as being Good by



"I always knew that whatever I was going through that there would be someone there for me."

Student class of 2021

Sixth Form

Walthamstow Academy Sixth Form continues to be one of the best sixth forms in the borough, consistently producing strong A Level and BTEC results over the last few years.

We offer a rigorous, inclusive and supportive environment where students are academically challenged and are role models for younger students within the Academy. We give these older students the freedom, respect and responsibility they have earned as young adults, within our framework of strong support, close monitoring and high expectations.

Our consistent results demonstrate that Walthamstow Academy Sixth Form enables progression to all university courses and careers, allowing students to study in an environment in which they are understood and cared for.

The Sixth Form offers:

- A wide ranging curriculum of A Level and BTEC National Vocational courses
- Experienced and well qualified teachers
- Myriad student leadership opportunities
- Opportunities for personal development outside the classroom through extra and super curricular activities
- Opportunities for personal development to understand careers and employment through networking, insight days and work experience opportunities
- Personal tutoring
- Preparation for university and adult life
- Free textbooks & revision guidelines in every subject.
- Free Chromebook for the duration of your studies.





General Advice

The key to success in the Sixth Form is studying the right courses at the right level.

At Walthamstow Academy Sixth Form students take the first steps towards a successful career, as they begin life as young adults.

When considering Post 16 courses, it is important for students to take into account their future intended career pathway. As most students seek to continue into higher education it is important to consider university course entry requirements when choosing Advanced Levels or vocational courses.

In addition to the academic entry criteria for Walthamstow Academy Sixth Form, a good record of behaviour, attitude to learning, punctuality and minimum 95% attendance is also expected.



The Best in Everyone

Our motto is ‘the best in everyone’ and we set high standards with clear expectations. We focus on ambition, underpinned by excellent teaching and learning. Staff, students and parents work together and uphold the same high standards to ensure that ‘the best in everyone’ means:

**...best lesson, best day,
best year, best future...**

Student Welfare

The Academy is committed to providing a supportive and caring learning environment that fosters academic success, where sixth form students can enjoy their time and study.

We have a team of professional staff dedicated to assisting with student welfare matters.

The Academy Day

- 08:30 - Form Time/Assembly
- 09:00 - Lesson 1
- 10:00 - Lesson 2
- 11:00 - Breaktime
- 11:20 - Lesson 3
- 12:20 - Lesson 4
- 13:20 - Lunchtime
- 14:10 - Lesson 5
- 15:10 - End of Day

Students are expected to attend school from 8.30am – 3.10pm each day.

Lesson time will consist of teacher taught subject lessons and independent study session in the Sixth Form area.



Sixth Form Leadership Team



Rob Evans
Head of Year 12



Stephen Bell-Brown
Head of Year 13

Student Leadership Team



Head Student



Deputy Head Student



Deputy Head Student



Deputy Head Student



Deputy Head Student



Deputy Head Student



Deputy Head Student

Sixth Form Work Experience and Careers Guidance Partners



ACCESSASPIRATION
LINKING YOUNG PEOPLE AND BUSINESS



We are partnered with Access Aspiration, a Mayor's Fund for London programme, to provide our sixth form students with a comprehensive work experience programme throughout their two years with us.

As part of this partnership, all sixth form students receive a compulsory programme of in-school work related learning support:

- Access Aspiration introduction assembly, in which the programme is introduced and students are shown how to create their own Access Aspiration personal account
- Two industry speakers describing their career and route into their current career
 - A mock interview day
 - An employability workshop
- A speed networking day with industry professionals

All students will also receive the opportunity to sign up for Business Insight Days or Work Experience placements with the businesses in partnership with Access Aspiration across the course of their two year sixth form experience.

All students will also receive a Morrisby account login-for-life. Morrisby is a website which provides students with careers guidance, options at 18 and planning tools to support their career progression throughout their adult life.

Alongside the advice and guidance provided by staff at the Academy students can use this tool to help understand themselves, as well as, the options and career paths available to them.



We have invested in Unifrog which is a complete destinations platform. Unifrog helps students compare every opportunity, then apply successfully. The university apprenticeship research tool helps students to make the best choices and submit the strongest applications, while the Know-How library offers advice and guidance on all aspects of careers and progression into higher education or work. It empowers students through the 'Activities' record where they can keep a log of all extra and super curricular activities; this helps them highlight their competencies with a focus on the 12 most demanded competencies by employers and educators.

It also empower teachers and counsellors to manage the progression process effectively, as it can be used as a tool for progress and discussion with students in 121 sessions with tutors, teachers and Sixth Form leaders.

Admission Criteria 2022

Minimum Academic Entry

5 GCSEs at 5+ Grades (including English and Maths)

Subject	GCSE Entry requirements	Additional Information
Art, Craft and Design A Level	GCSE Grade 6 in Art, Photography, Three-dimensional design, Product design, Design technology	
Biology A Level	6 in Biology GCSE & 6 in Maths GCSE	7 in Combined Science & 6 in Maths
Business A Level	6 in English & Maths GCSE	
Business BTEC Level 3	5 in English & Maths GCSE	5 in Business GCSE (desirable)
Chemistry A Level	6 in Chemistry GCSE & 6 in Maths GCSE	7 in Combined Science & 6 in Maths
Computer Science A Level	6 in Computing GCSE & 6 in Maths GCSE	
Drama A Level	5 in Drama GCSE	
Economics A Level	6 in English & Maths GCSE	
English Literature A Level	6 in English Language and Literature GCSE	
French A Level	GCSE Grade 6 in French	
Maths A Level	7 in Maths GCSE	
Further Maths A Level	7 in Maths GCSE	
Geography A Level	6 in Geography GCSE	
Health and Social Care BTEC Level 3	5 in English & Maths GCSE	Merit in BTEC Level 2 Health and Social Care (desirable)
History A Level	5 in History GCSE & 6 in English GCSE	
Media Studies A Level	6 in English GCSE	6 in Media GCSE (desirable)
PE A Level	6 in PE GCSE	Must currently play in a competitive sport
Physics A Level	6 in Physics GCSE & 6 in Maths	7 in Combined Science & 6 in Maths
Politics A Level	6 in English & 6 in History	
Psychology A Level	6 in Maths & English GCSE	
Religion, Philosophy & Ethics A Level	6 in English Language and Literature	6 in Religious Education (desirable)
Sociology A Level	6 in English Language and Literature	
Spanish A Level	GCSE Grade 6 in Spanish	
Sport BTEC Level 3	5 in English & Maths GCSE	5 in GCSE PE or Merit in BTEC Sport Level 2





"I'm extremely grateful for all the support, encouragement and outstanding teaching that has helped me achieve my aspirations."

Student class of 2021

Advanced Level Programme (A Level)

The advanced level programmes are 2 year linear courses assessed via examinations or a combination of examinations and non-examined assessments (NEA), depending upon the specific subject.

Vocational Programmes (BTEC)

Vocational programmes are assessed via external examinations and internal assessments across the two years.

Both advanced level and vocational programmes will allow students to progress into undergraduate courses or apprenticeship schemes. However, numerous university and apprenticeship courses may require specific qualifications.

Tutoring and Mentoring

Sixth Form marks a key transition for young people and brings with it a changed status and acknowledgement that each student is now a young adult within our Academy and the wider community. At the Academy, each student benefits from one to one guidance and support from their individual tutor throughout the year.

Every student is provided with a diary which helps them to be organised and helps with communication between home and the Academy. Students and parents can also log into Google Classroom which is used as a teaching and communication tool by subject leads.

Any student who needs extra support will have access to mentoring and we have excellent links to multi-agency support where required.



"Teachers have demonstrated again and again that they aim for the best in us, instilling us with beliefs of success and achievement that fuelled our determination and ambition"

Year 12 student

Destinations (Year 13) 2019

University Destinations:

Russell Group* including Oxford and Cambridge Universities

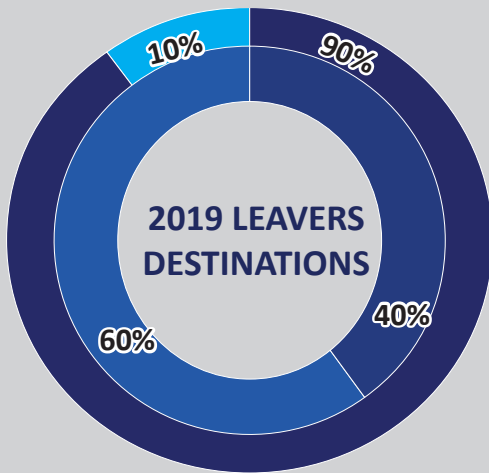
*Russell Group represents the top 24 UK universities which are committed to cutting edge research.

90% WENT TO UNIVERSITY

10% WENT TO FURTHER EDUCATION / EMPLOYMENT

40% WENT TO RUSSELL GROUP UNIVERSITIES

60% WENT TO OTHER UNIVERSITIES AROUND THE UK



Destinations (Year 13) 2020

University Destinations:

Russell Group* including Oxford and Cambridge Universities

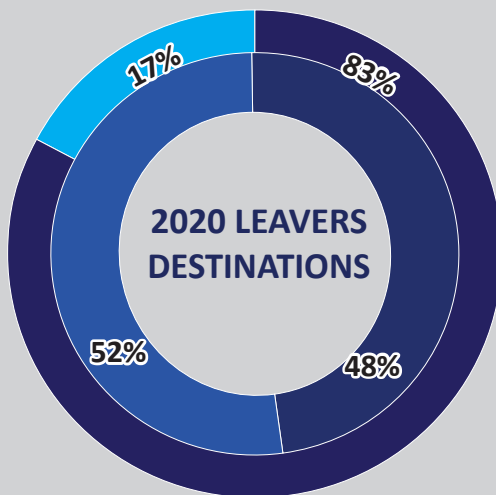
*Russell Group represents the top 24 UK universities which are committed to cutting edge research.

83% WENT TO UNIVERSITY

17% COMMENCED APPRENTICESHIPS / EMPLOYMENT

52% WENT TO RUSSELL GROUP UNIVERSITIES

48% WENT TO OTHER UNIVERSITIES AROUND THE UK



Destinations (Year 13) 2021

University Destinations:

Russell Group* including Oxford and Cambridge Universities

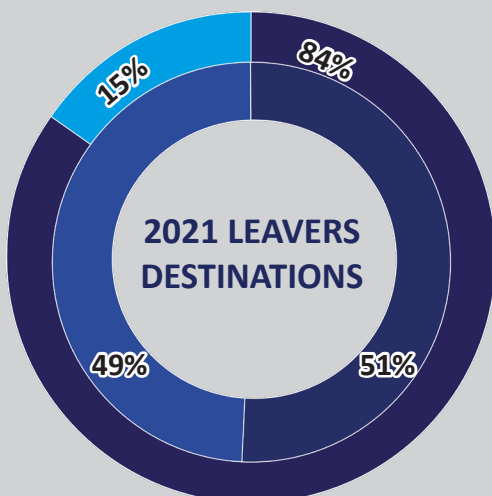
*Russell Group represents the top 24 UK universities which are committed to cutting edge research.

84% WENT TO UNIVERSITY

15% WENT TO FURTHER EDUCATION / EMPLOYMENT

49% WENT TO RUSSELL GROUP UNIVERSITIES

51% WENT TO OTHER UNIVERSITIES AROUND THE UK



TOP ACHIEVERS IN 2019

Adam Brown

is reading Law
University of Cambridge

A* A* A



Daisy Shelton

is reading Architecture
University of Cambridge

A* A B



Abdul Samad

is reading Accounting
LSE

A A B



Zaryab Khan

is reading
Aerospace Engineering
Queen Mary University

A A B



Yousra Haji

is reading
Aerospace Engineering
Queen Mary University

A B C



Nimra Pervaiz

is reading Nursing Studies
Kings College London
2x Distinction*, Distinction



TOP ACHIEVERS IN 2020

Amjad Butt

is reading Architecture
University of Westminster

A* A* A



Aadam Huda

is reading Computer Science
Queen Mary University

A* A* A



Anjali Munbodh

is reading Law
UCL

A* A* A



Folakemi Omoyinmi

is reading Psychology
University of Birmingham

A* A* A



Archin Karatastan

is reading
Media and Communications
University of Leeds

A* A* B



Natasha Morgan

is reading Midwifery
Surrey University
3x Distinction*



TOP ACHIEVERS IN 2021

Rahma Zaid

is reading
Middle Eastern Studies
University of Cambridge

A* A* A



Honor Byrne

is reading History & German
University of Nottingham

A* A* A*



Rio Aroun-Maxwell

is taking a degree apprenticeship
in Software Development at
ARUP

A* A* A



Curtis Watson

is reading
Computer Science
University of St. Andrews

A* A* A



Aisha Mukadam

is reading Medicine
at UCL

A* A* A



Ivy Walker

is reading
International Relations
Kings College London

A* AA



AMBITION

DETERMINATION

RESPECT



Expectations of Sixth Form Students

A Walthamstow Academy Sixth form student always:

- Immerses themselves within their academic studies by working hard in class, acting upon expert feedback from their teachers, completing homework and independent study tasks and reading wider academic literature to expand their knowledge.
- Acts in a respectful and courteous manner and as a role model to all students in years 7 – 11.
- Presents themselves immaculately and is punctual to the Academy and lessons.
- Maintains an attendance percentage of above 95%.



Dress Code

- Sixth Form students are no longer required to wear the Walthamstow Academy school uniform, but they are expected to dress in business wear, this includes a blazer for all students.

- Students must also wear their ID card and Sixth Form lanyard at all times to conform to Health and Safety policies.

- Clothing considered business wear are suits, blazers, smart trousers/skirts, shirts/blouses, turtle neck's, ties, smart dresses and leather style shoes. Please do not wear jeans, leggings, trainers, hoodies, sweatshirts, polo shirts or sports/casual wear.

Our business wear policy is designed to help students feel professional while in a high level educational environment and encourage them to be the best version of themselves. It also helps to prepare students for the adult world by making them comfortable in business settings as well as ensuring they feel confident walking into interviews and professional settings representing the best version of themselves.



The Pupil Charter for Sixth Form Students

Walthamstow Academy aims to develop character, compassion and service. We want young people to look back on a joyful schooling which has inspired and challenged them, given them wide opportunities and prepared them for life's broad experiences. As such we are committed to 'The Pupil Charter', which sets out our expectations for the wider opportunities that each pupil will access during their careers at Walthamstow Academy. We aim to ensure that sixth form students have:

- Helped others by participating in a social action campaign or by volunteering their time
- Committed to two extra curricular activities by attending each for at least half a term (or equivalent)
- Attended two cultural, artistic or sporting events, with at least one outside their local area
- Represented their school/year group by taking part in a cultural, artistic, charitable or sporting event to an audience outside Walthamstow Academy
- Heard from an inspirational speaker
- Had a chance to share their views about school via the pupil leadership structure
- Been given the opportunity to attend a residential trip
- Had their talents and achievements celebrated and recognised
- Participated in at least three experiences that helped them make informed decisions about their future and how to get there





Spectacular Facilities

Walthamstow Academy offers students and staff state-of-the-art facilities and cutting-edge equipment across all learning areas providing students with a spectacular 21st Century learning environment. The facilities include:

- Over seventy light and airy classrooms, each with interactive whiteboards and internet access
- Ten fully equipped, custom-designed science laboratories
- Nine innovatively designed ICT suites including two Mac suites for media and music
- A library packed full of books and computers
- A large modern sports hall
- A fitness suite and dance studio
- Two all-weather sports courts
- A sports field with football pitches and an athletics track
- Outdoor multi gym
- A giant open plan art studio
- A spacious assembly hall
- Two fully equipped music suites with recording studios
- Technology workshop
- Media suites
- Dedicated Sixth Form independent study spaces and common room
- A modern dining hall, offering a wide range of healthy food options
- Covered outdoor dining area
- A locker for every student
- Chromebook for all students
- Free textbooks and revision guides.



AMBITION



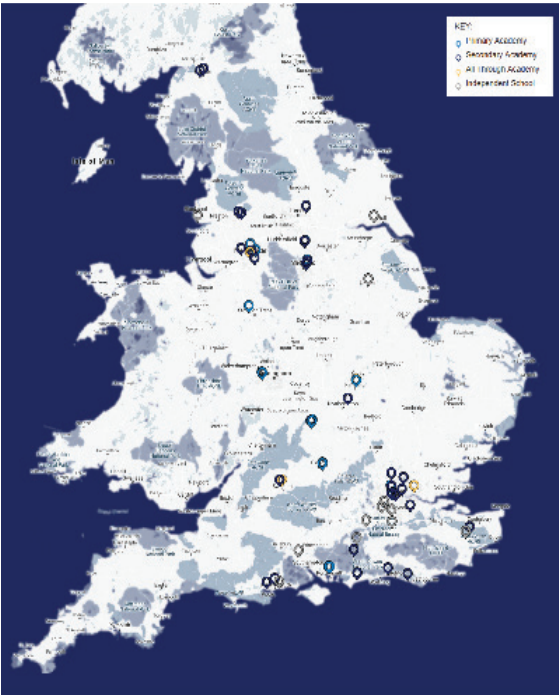
DETERMINATION



RESPECT

Our Schools

Walthamstow Academy is part of United Learning – a group of schools which aims to provide excellent education to children and young people across the country.



- Abbey Hey Primary Academy
Accrington Academy
AKS Lytham
Ashford School
Avonbourne Boys' Academy
Avonbourne Girls' Academy
Avonwood Primary School
Bacons College
Banstead Preparatory School
Barnsley Academy
Beacon View Primary Academy
Cambridge Academy for Science and Technology
Carter Community School
Castle View Academy
Coleridge Community College
Corgreaves Academy
Crowth Flexlands
Cravenwood Primary Academy
Dukesgate Academy
Dunottar School
Embley
Glenmoor and Winton Academies
Goresbrook School
Grange Primary Academy
Guildford High School
Ham Dingle Primary School
Hanwell Fields Community School
High Hazels Academy
Hill View Primary School
Hull Collegiate School
Hunningley Primary School
Irlam and Cadishead Academy
John Smeaton Academy
Kettering Buccleuch Academy
Lambeth Academy
Langford Primary
Lincoln Minster School
Longshaw Primary Academy
Manchester Academy
Marlborough Road Academy
Midhurst Rother College
Newstead Wood School
- North Oxfordshire Academy
Northampton Academy
Nova Hreod Academy
Orchard Meadow Primary School
Paddington Academy
Parkside Community College
Pegasus Primary School
PHC Hitchin
Richard Rose Central Academy
Richard Rose Morton Academy
Rowan Preparatory School
Salford City Academy
Salisbury Manor Primary School
Seahaven Academy
Sheffield Park Academy
Sheffield Springs Academy
Shoreham Academy
Silverdale Primary Academy
Southway Primary School
St Ives School
Stockport Academy
Surbiton High School
Swindon Academy
The Albion Academy
The Galfrid Academy
The Hurlingham Academy
The Hyndburn Academy
The John Roan School
The Regis School
The Totteridge Academy
The Victory Primary School
Timbertree Academy
Trumpington Community College
Walthamstow Academy
Walthamstow Primary Academy
Whittingham Primary Academy
Wilberforce Primary
William Hulme's Grammar School
Windale Primary School
Winston Way Primary Academy
Worsbrough Bank End Primary School
Wye School



Application and Admissions Procedures

All candidates will need to meet the minimum academic entry criteria of a minimum of five grade 5+ GCSEs, including English and Maths.

Walthamstow Academy Year 11 Applicants

Current Walthamstow Academy Year 11 students will be able to log in to walthamstow.applicaa.com and select the courses they would like to study at sixth form.



External Year 11 Applicants

We welcome applications from all external candidates to study at our sixth form. Once candidates have submitted their online application form at walthamstow.applicaa.com they will be contacted to attend an interview which provides an opportunity to find out what their future at the Academy will look like.

External applicants must complete and return the online application form as well a reference from their current school which includes their predicted grades. This must be submitted by Friday 25th February 2022.

Important Diary Dates

Online Sixth Form Applications Open

Monday 29 November 2021

Sixth Form Open Evening

5-6pm, Thursday 3 February 2022

Sixth Form in Action Mornings

9-10am, 16 March & 27 April 2022

...best lesson, best day, best year, best future...



Walthamstow Academy

The best in everyone™

Part of United Learning

**For further information, please contact our
Admissions Officer at:**

Walthamstow Academy
Billet Road
Walthamstow
London
E17 5DP

Telephone: 020 8527 3750

Email: info@walthamstow-academy.org

Website: www.walthamstow-academy.org

Walthamstow Academy / UL policies include those on admissions, anti-bullying, behaviour (rewards and sanctions), charging and remissions, child protection, complaints, education, ethos, health and safety, rights of withdrawal from religious education and worship and special educational needs are available on request.



Subject Information Pages



Art, Craft and Design A Level

Exam Board: AQA

Entry Requirements: GCSE Grade 6 in any of the following Art, Photography, Three dimensional design, Product design, Design technology.

Subject Content

Projects Studied in Year 12 & 13:

In Year 12, students have a foundation skills introduction to key processes and techniques before moving onto longer projects (personal investigations) set in conjunction with staff and students. In the February of Year 13, the externally set project is shared by the exam board concluding with a 15 hour exam in April.

Learners are required to work in two or more of the areas below:

Fine Art - areas of study such as painting, printmaking or sculpture.

Graphic Communication - areas of study such as illustration, packaging or advertising.

Photography - areas of study such as traditional, digital or moving image.

Three dimensional design - areas of study such as ceramics, design for theatre, product design, architectural design & interior design.

Textile Design - areas of study such as printed and digital textiles, fashion design or constructed textiles.

Critical and Contextual Studies - areas of study such as art theory, artistic movements or architecture.

Skills gained and enrichment opportunities:

This course provides skills and training across the realm of Art, Craft & Design. Students develop critical and analytical thinking alongside creativity, oral and visual presentation skills. We aim to foster independent enquiry, time management and resilience. We encourage students' experience of the art world through galleries and museums visits.

Progression/career opportunities:

An A level in Art, Craft and Design opens the doors to many courses and career options. Students go on to specialise or work in graphic design, illustration, fine art, photography, textile design, fashion design, animation, three-dimensional interior design and architecture to name a few.

Why Walthamstow Academy?

The Art A level allows the student to engage in a wide variety of techniques and processes.

The Art Room is equipped with a PC suite with industry standard Adobe software, etching, screen printing, relief printing and ceramics facilities, as well as drawing, painting and 3D sculpture work. The Sixth Form have a dedicated studio area within our large open plan space, giving the immediate feel of studying in a specialised, professional environment.

Assessments

Year 12 and Year 13:

The projects are assessed according to AQA grading criteria. There are four areas students are graded in: development through investigation, refinement through experimentation, recording, personal response and outcomes.

The A Level grade is made up of 60% coursework - including a 1000-3000 word essay, and 40% exam project (externally set task).



Further information:

Ms Emma Cooper - Curriculum Leader: Art, Design Technology & Photography.

Biology A Level

Exam Board: AQA

Entry Requirements: Students require a GCSE Grade 6 in GCSE biology or grade 7-7 in combined science. Students also require at least a grade 6 in GCSE mathematics.

Subject Content

Year 1

1. Biological molecules
2. Cells
3. Organisms exchange substances with their environment
4. Genetic information, variation and relationships between organisms

Year 2

5. Energy transfers in and between organisms
6. Organisms respond to changes in their internal and external environment
7. Genetics, populations, evolution and ecosystems
8. The control of gene expression



Progression/career opportunities:

Completing a course in Biology opens up many university and career prospects. These range from courses within the medical field such as pharmacy, physiotherapy, optometry, as well as more general degrees in biology and chemistry. Also biology contributes to degrees and careers in zoology (study of animals) veterinarian studies (working with animals), botany and more.

Assessments

Paper 1

Any content from topics 1 to 4 including relevant practical skills.
2 hours written exam paper worth 35% of A-level.
Out of 91 marks-
76 marks: Mixture of short and long answer questions.
15 marks: Extended response questions.

Paper 2

Any content from topics 5 to 8, including relevant practical skills.
2 hours written exam paper worth 35% of A-level.
Out of 91 marks-
76 marks: Mixture of short and long answer questions.
15 marks: Comprehension questions.

Paper 3

Any content from topics 1 to 8, including relevant practical skills.
2 hours written exam paper worth 30% of A-level.
Out of 78 marks-
38 marks: Structured questions including practical techniques.
15 marks: Critical analysis of given experimental data.
25 marks: One essay from a choice of two titles.

Skills gained and enrichment opportunities:

The subject content is relevant to real work experiences and is fascinating to learn, giving students freedom to explore around topics. The specification allows students to be inspired and to nurture their passion for biology, laying the groundwork for further studies in courses like medicine and biological Sciences. Practical skills are embedded into the teaching to give students every opportunity to develop their independence and scientific skills to further support their development.

Further information:

M N Charman - Head of Science
Miss E Ray – Lead KS5 Biology Teacher

Business A Level

Exam Board: Edexcel

Entry requirements: GCSE grade 6 or higher in English and Maths

Subject Content

Units Studied in Year 12:

Theme 1: Marketing and people

This theme enables students to understand how businesses identify opportunities and develop a competitive advantage. Students develop an understanding of how businesses adapt their marketing to operate in a dynamic business environment. This theme also considers people, exploring how businesses recruit, train, organise and motivate employees, as well as the role of enterprising individuals and leaders.

Theme 2: Managing business activities

This theme enables students to develop an understanding of raising and managing finance, and measuring business performance. The theme outlines the importance of using resources efficiently within a business to ensure that goods or services can be delivered effectively and efficiently, and to a high quality. Students also consider the external influences that have an impact on businesses.

Units Studied in Year 13:

Theme 3: Business decisions and strategy

This theme moves from functions to strategy, enabling students to develop their understanding of the core concepts and to take a strategic view of business opportunities and issues. Students analyse corporate objectives and strategy against financial and non-financial performance measures. The theme covers the causes and effects of change and how businesses mitigate risk and uncertainty.

Theme 4: Global business

Students investigate businesses that trade on a global scale and explore their reasons for doing so. Students develop an understanding of the globally competitive environment and consider the ethical and moral dimensions of global business activities.

Assessments

Year 12:

N/A

Year 13:

Three two hour A level examinations. Papers 1 & 2, each contributing 35% of the total qualification, and Paper 3 contributing 30%.



Skills gained and enrichment opportunities:

Students on this course will develop a wide range of skills that will improve their future employability. They will be able to generate enterprising and creative approaches to business opportunities, problems and issues. Approximately 10% of the overall marks in this qualification will test students' quantitative skills.

Progression/career opportunities:

Studying A level Business can be a stepping-stone to a wide range of popular undergraduate courses at university including; Accounting and Finance, Business Management or Marketing. Career opportunities are endless but often include; banking, insurance, retail management, business development and marketing.

Further information:

Mr T Ogbe – Head of Business

Business BTEC Level 3

Exam Board: Edexcel

Entry Requirements: GCSE Grade 5 in Business or BTEC Level 2 Merit in Business (if studied)
Diploma (Double award) or Extended Diploma (Triple award)

Subject Content

Units Studied in Year 12:

Unit 1 Exploring Business
Unit 2 Developing a Marketing Campaign
Unit 3 Personal and Business Finance
Unit 4 Managing an Event
Unit 5 International Business

Units Studied in Year 13:

Unit 6 Principles of Management
Unit 8 The Recruitment and Selection Process
Unit 19 Pitching for a New Business



Skills gained and enrichment opportunities:

Students undertaking this course will develop an excellent range of skills. These include developing management, investigative, group work and presentation skills. Students also improve their independent learning skills as they develop their personal portfolios of work. The course involves real life businesses and, as well as visits to these companies, outside speakers will be invited to the Academy. Students also undertake a work experience placement.

Assessments

Year 12 and 13:

The course is both internally and externally assessed.
5 Units are internally assessed through coursework
2 Units are externally assessed through controlled assessments on a pre-released case study.
1 Unit is externally assessed through a 2 hour written exam.

The final grades are the equivalent of two A level grades in terms of UCAS points.
(I.e Distinction*/Distinction* = 112 UCAS points which is the same as 2 A*s at A Level).

For the triple award the grades are the equivalent of three A level grades in terms of UCAS points (i.e Distinction*/Distinction*/ Distinction = 160 UCAS points, which is the same as 2 A*s and an A at A Level).

Assessment – Diploma (Double award) 6 mandatory units and 2 optional units. Extended Diploma (Triple award) 7 mandatory units and 6 optional units.

Progression/career opportunities:

Business is a completely work-related subject and as a result students have an extremely wide ranging career choice. Students could manage/work in any organisation from advertising agencies to construction companies. The subjects covered are also suitable for careers in law, accountancy and many management positions. Business is also a very popular university subject. This course can lead to starting a degree in many aspects of business including European business, business and the environment, finance, management and many other specialist degrees.

Further information:

Mr T Ogbe – Head of Business

Chemistry A Level

Exam Board: AQA

Entry Requirements: Students require a GCSE Grade 6 in GCSE chemistry or grade 7-7 in combined

Subject Content

1. Physical Chemistry in more depth; e.g. thermodynamics and electrochemical cells.
2. Inorganic Chemistry in more depth; e.g. transition metals.
3. Organic Chemistry in more depth; e.g. aldehydes and ketones, polymers and organic synthesis.



Skills gained and enrichment opportunities:

Chemistry is fundamentally an experimental subject. The specification provides numerous opportunities to use practical experiences to link theory to reality and equip students with the essential practical skills they need, allowing students to scope real life applications in our world. Chemistry is an excellent stepping stone to future studies, ensuring that students are able to develop their scientific skills and lay the foundations in courses such as medicine and pharmacy.

Assessments

Paper 1: Physical Chemistry and Inorganic Chemistry topics, including relevant practical skills.

2 hours written exam paper worth 35% of A level course.

Out of 105 marks: Mixture of short and long answer questions.

Paper 2: Physical Chemistry and Organic Chemistry topics, including relevant practical skills.

2 hours written exam paper worth 35% of A level course.

Out of 105 marks: Mixture of short and long answer questions.

Paper 3: Any content, including any relevant practical skills.

2 hours written exam paper worth 30% of A level course.

Out of 90 marks:

40 marks: Questions on practical techniques and data analysis.

20 marks: Questions testing across the specification.

30 marks: Multiple choice questions.

Progression/career opportunities:

Chemistry is required to study the following courses in higher education; medicine, dentistry, pharmacy and veterinary science. Other career opportunities include research and development, chemical engineering, biochemistry and other scientific-related subjects.

Further information:

Mr N Charman - Head of Science

Mr D Seed - Vice Principal

Computer Science A Level

Exam Board: OCR

Entry Requirements: GCSE Grade 6 in Computer Science. GCSE Grade 6 in Maths.

Subject Content

Component 1: Computer systems

Students are introduced to the internal workings of the (CPU), data exchange, software development, data types and legal and ethical issues. The resulting knowledge and understanding will underpin their work in component 03.

It covers:

- The characteristics of contemporary processors, input, output and storage devices
- Types of software and the different methodologies used to develop software
- Data exchange between different systems
- Data types, data structures and algorithms
- Legal, moral, cultural and ethical issues.

Component 2: Algorithms and programming

This builds on component 1 to include computational thinking and problem-solving.

It covers:

- What is meant by computational thinking (thinking abstractly, thinking ahead, thinking procedurally etc.)
- Problem solving and programming – how computers and programs can be used to solve problems
- Algorithms and how they can be used to describe and solve problems.

Component 03: Programming project

Students are expected to apply the principles of computational thinking to a practical coding programming project. They will analyse, design, develop, test, evaluate and document a program written in a suitable programming language. The project is designed to be independently chosen by the student and provides them with the flexibility to investigate projects within the diverse field of computer science. We support a wide and diverse range of languages.

Assessments

Paper 1:

Computer Systems - written paper (40% of final grade)

Paper 2:

Algorithms and programming - written paper (40% of final grade)

Programming Project:

Non-examined assessment (20% of final grade)



Skills gained and enrichment opportunities:

The capacity to think creatively, innovatively, analytically, logically and critically. The ability to apply skills, knowledge and understanding of computing, including programming, in a range of contexts to solve problems. An understanding of the consequences of using computers, an awareness of emerging technologies and an appreciation of their potential.

Progression/career opportunities:

It is excellent preparation for students looking to take computing studies at degree level, or for anyone considering any kind of career in computing.

Further information:

Mr M Miah– Head of Computing

Economics A Level

Exam Board: AQA

Entry Requirements: GCSE Grade 6 in English and maths.

Units studied in Year 12

Unit 1: The operation of markets and market failure

Including the economic problem and economic methodology, price determination in a competitive market, determinants of the demand for goods and services, price and income elasticities of demand, production costs and revenues, supply, specialisation, division of labour, economies of scale, meaning of market failure, public goods, positive and negative externalities, competitive and concentrated markets and market mechanism, market failure and methods of government interventions.

Unit 2: The national economy in a global context

Including the measurement of macroeconomic performance, macroeconomic indicators, how macroeconomy works, circular flow of income, AD/AS analysis and related concepts, economic performance, growth, inflation, employment and unemployment, balance of payments, and macroeconomic policies: fiscal, monetary and supply-side policies.

Units studied in Year 13

Unit 3: Individuals, firms, markets and market failure

Economic problem and economic methodology, individual economic decision making, price determination in a competitive market, behavioural economics, production costs and revenue, perfect competition, imperfectly competitive markets and monopoly, labour market, the distribution of income and wealth: poverty and inequality and market mechanism, market failure and government interventions in markets.

Unit 4: The national and international economy

Measurement of macroeconomic performance, how the macroeconomy works, the circular flow of income, AD/AS analysis and related concepts, economic performance, financial markets and monetary policy, fiscal and supply side policies, international economy and behavioural economics.

Assessments

Year 12: N/A

Year 13: Three 2 hour examinations. Each examination contributes to 33% of the A Level. Throughout the course a variety of assessment techniques will be used: supported multiple-choice questions, data response questions and essay questions to assess progress.



Skills gained and enrichment opportunities:

Students following this course will have the opportunities to develop and generate evidence of attainment in key skills of communication, application of numeracy, information technology, working with others, improving own learning and performance, as well as having opportunities to take part in discussions and attend conferences, university lectures and business forums.

Progression/career opportunities:

A Level economics will open up many opportunities to study for prestigious degrees at university such as economics, development economics, banking and finance, history, anthropology and law. Other career opportunities include; potential employment prospects in research and development, government, journalism, finance, investment banking or insurance.

Further information:

Mr R Evans - Teacher in Charge of Economics

English Literature A Level

Exam Board: OCR

Entry Requirements: GCSE Grade 6 in English Literature and Language

Units Studied in Year 12

Component 3: Coursework – Modern and Contemporary Fiction

For their coursework unit students are required to independently produce two tasks. Task one is a detailed close analysis of a short section of poetry (up to 45 lines) from a small selection of poems by a contemporary poet. Task two is an independently researched critical comparison of two thematically linked contemporary texts, one prose, one drama. In preparation for this unit, students are given detailed instruction on how to improve the quality of their own writing to A Level standard.

Component 2: Chosen Topic Area (Year 12 & 13)

Students will study at least two texts, one set text and one free choice text, from a chosen topic area, including American Literature, Dystopian Fiction and Women in Literature. This unit will be assessed in a two part closed text written examination. Part one will test analysis skills on a short unseen passage from their chosen topic area, whilst part two will involve a comparative and contextual study of both texts informed by different critical interpretations. The majority of texts in this component are 20th Century.

Units Studied in Year 13

Component 1: Section A – Shakespeare

Students will study a single Shakespeare text in detail exploring a range of different interpretations, analysing the ways in which language shapes meaning and articulating their own personal and creative responses. This unit will be assessed in a closed text written examination.

Skills gained and enrichment opportunities:

This course develops an interest in English Literature. You will be encouraged to read widely, critically and independently, across literary movements, genres and form, alongside developing detailed analytical, discursive and evaluative transferable skills. The focus of the course is on Modern Literature, with the majority of texts studied written after 1950, and includes scope for students to independently choose and research texts for individual study.

Component 1: Section B – Drama & Poetry pre-1900

In this comparative study, students will explore connections between chosen set texts from the genres of drama and poetry written before 1900, as well as demonstrating their appreciation of the significance of cultural and contextual influences. This unit will be assessed in a closed text written examination.

Assessments

Component 1: Two and a half hour exam - 40% of A Level – Assessed at the end of Year 13

Component 2: Two and a half hour exam - 40% of A Level - Assessed at the end of Year 13

Component 3: Non-examined Assessment - 20% of A Level – Submitted for moderation in Year 13



Progression/career opportunities

The rigorously analytical and academic nature of this course, together with its strong focus on independent research skills, provides a solid foundation for careers in law, media and journalism, whilst also being a well-respected route into a whole range of consultancy based careers, including politics, the civil service and medicine.

Further information:

Mr L Tweed - Head of English

Mr Bell-Brown - KS5 English Lead & Head of Year 13

French A Level

Exam Board: AQA

Entry Requirements: GCSE Grade 6 in French

Units studied in Year 12

AS & A Level Compulsory Topics

1. Aspects of French-speaking society:
Current trends
The changing nature of family
The "cyber- society"
The place of voluntary work
2. Artistic culture in the French-speaking world:
A culture proud of its heritage
Contemporary francophone music
Cinema : The 7th art form

Units Studied in Year 13

A Level Only

1. Aspects of French-speaking society:
Current issues
Positive features of a diverse society
Life for the marginalised
How criminals are treated
2. Aspects of political life in the French-speaking world:
Teenagers, the right to vote and political commitment
Demonstrations, strikes- who holds power?
Politics and immigration
3. Optional content:
Students study two books or one book and film from the lists in the specification.

Individual research topic:
Students conduct individual research on a subject of personal interest, relating to the country where the language of study is spoken.

Assessments

A Level Examinations - What's assessed

Listening, Reading and Writing: 2 hours 30 minutes
100 marks
50% of A-level

Written exam: 2 hours
80 marks in total
20% of A-level

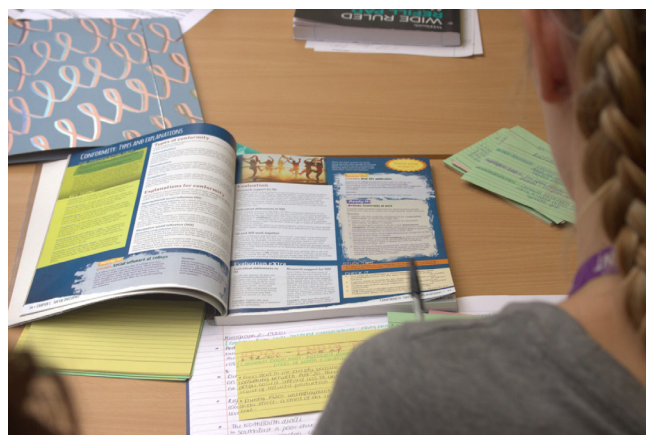
Oral exam: 21–23 minutes (including 5 minutes preparation time)
60 marks in total
30% of A-level

Skills gained and enrichment opportunities:

Studying this course will enable students to develop highly effective communication, public speaking and translation skills, preparing them for the world of work.

Progression/career opportunities:

This course will enable students to progress on to higher education courses at university in a variety of subjects and would enable students to become translators, teachers, lawyers amongst other professions.



Further information:

Miss S Alexis - Head of Modern Foreign Languages
Serena.Alexis@walthamstow-academy.org

Geography A Level

Exam Board: AQA

Entry Requirements: GCSE Grade 6 in Geography

All entry requirements are excluding coursework components.

Subject Content

Year 1

Physical Geography

1. Water and carbon cycle
2. Coastal processes
3. Hazards

Year 2

Human Geography

4. Global systems and global governance
5. Changing places
6. Population and the Environment

7. Geography Fieldwork Investigation (coursework)

Progression/career opportunities:

- Climate change assessment & planning
- Climatology & meteorology
- Coastal, marine & hydrographic analysis
- Community development
- Conservation, heritage & land management
- Consulting & project management
- Education
- Environmental & social impact assessment
- Environmental monitoring & management
- Environmental science
- Geographic Information Systems (GIS)
- Geomorphology
- Hazard assessment, mitigation & disaster management
- International development & aid
- Local & regional development
- Mapping & cartography
- Market research
- Natural resource management & agriculture
- Planning (urban, regional, environmental, social & transport planning)
- Population analysis
- Public policy
- Public safety, defence & national security
- Real estate & land development
- Remote sensing
- Research
- Social services & welfare
- Surveying & geomatics
- Sustainability
- Tourism management

Assessments

Paper 1

Any content from topics 1 to 3

2 hours and 30 minutes written exam paper worth 120 marks for 40% of A-level.

Paper 2

Any content from topics 4 to 6

2 hours and 30 minutes written exam paper worth 120 marks for 40% of A-level.

Geography Fieldwork Investigation

Students complete an individual investigation which must include data collected in the field. The individual investigation must be based on a question or issue defined and developed by the student relating to any part of the specification content.

3,000 - 4,000 word essay worth 60 marks for 20% of A-level, marked by teachers and moderated by AQA.

Skills gained and enrichment opportunities:

According to the Royal Geographical Society, 13% more students took the subject at A-level this year than last, up to 37,100 – the biggest jump of any of the major subjects.

Geographers get to learn data analysis, and to read Robert Macfarlane. They learn geographic information systems. They can turn maps from a two-dimensional representation of a country's physical contours into a tool that illustrates social attributes or attitudes: not just where people live, but how, what they think and how they vote. They learn about the physics of climate change, or the interaction of weather events and flood risk, or the way people's behaviour is influenced by the space around them.

According to the latest information from the Higher Education Careers Services Unit, only 5.8% of geography graduates were still job-hunting six months after they graduated, against an average of 7.3% of graduates with other degrees.

Further information contact

Mr L Smith Curriculum Leader: Geography

Health & Social Care BTEC Level 3

Exam Board: Edexcel

Entry Requirements: 5 GCSE Grade 9 - 4 and/or BTEC Level 2 Merit/Distinction in Health and Social Care. Some voluntary experience in the care sector is preferable

Units Studied

Unit 1: Human Lifespan Development
Unit 2: Working in Health and Social Care
Unit 4: Enquiries into current research in Health and Social Care
Unit 5: Meeting individual care and support needs
Unit 7: Principles of safe practice in Health and Social Care
Unit 8: Promoting public health
Unit 12: Additional support and needs.
Unit 14: Physiological disorders
Unit 19: Nutritional health

Assessments

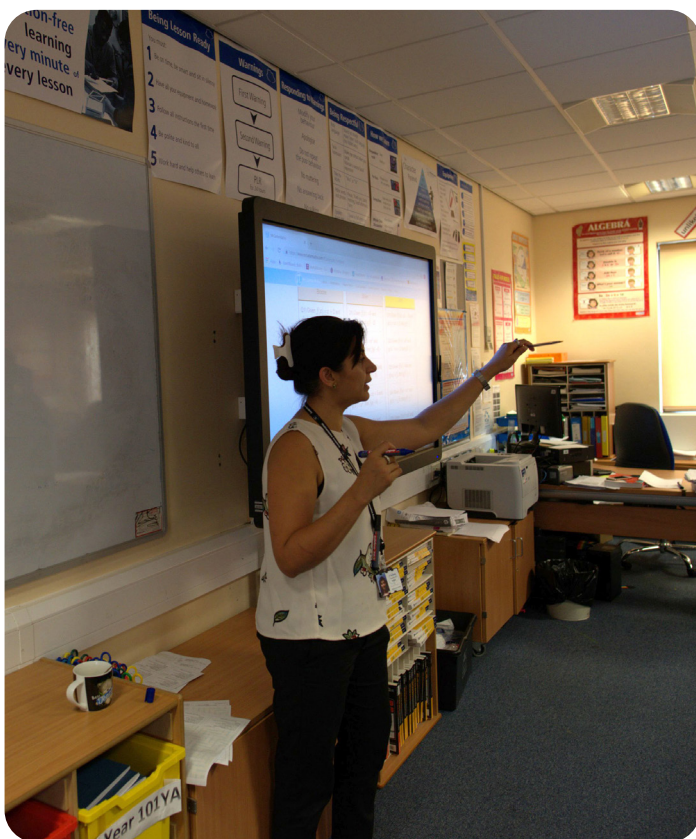
Year 12 & 13: Three out of 9 units will be externally assessed (exams) and the remaining five units will be assessed internally (coursework) - this will consist of written assignments but will also include practical tasks such as presentations, role-plays and tasks to be completed whilst on work experience.

Skills gained and enrichment opportunities:

Students undertaking this course will develop an excellent range of vocational skills and personal qualities associated with caring for others. The course involves real life application to a working environment as well as trips and internal visits from guest speakers who will provide a personal insight into different areas of work associated with health and social care. All students will undertake work experience which will enable them to develop their personal and professional skills as they build their personal portfolios of work. In addition, there are opportunities to develop personal presentation skills as well as team work and networking with health and social care professionals.

Progression/career opportunities:

Health and social care is a completely work-related subject and as a result students have an extremely wide ranging career choice. Students could work in and eventually manage organisations that support young children, adults and elderly people. Students could work in a nursery, education or care home settings as well as for the National Health Service. The topics covered are also suitable for progression on to higher education courses such as nursing, social work, early years teaching and working with youths as well as many more degrees.



Further information:

Ms Y Cunningham - Teacher of Health & Social Care

History A Level

Exam Board: Edexcel

Entry Requirements: GCSE Grade 5 in History or in English Language or Literature

Subject Content

Democracies in Change: Britain and the USA in the 20th century

Paper 1: Britain transformed, 1918-79

Paper 2: The USA, 1955-92: Conformity & Challenge

Paper 3: Protest, agitation and Parliamentary reform in Britain, 1780-1928

Coursework: Enquiry on historical interpretations: The origins of WW1 (3,000 - 4,000 word essay)

Paper 1: Breadth study with interpretations (30% A level/ 60% AS).

This option comprises a study in breadth, in which students will learn about the extent to which Britain was transformed politically, socially, economically and culturally in the years 1918–79. They will consider responses to the challenges of war, fluctuations in the economy, technological advancement and the desire for greater social equality.

Paper 2: Depth study (20% A level | 40% AS).

This option comprises a study in depth of the USA in the years 1955–92, from post-1945 affluence, through racial and political protests in the 1960s, to the rise of right-wing groups in the 1980s and the development of bitter divisions between Democrats and Republicans.

Paper 3: Themes in breadth with aspects in depth (30% A level).

This option comprises two parts: the aspects in breadth focus on long-term changes and contextualise the aspects in depth, which focus in detail on key episodes. Together, the breadth and depth topics explore the relationship between authority and mass agitation in England, the struggle for greater representation in England, and the ways in which the interests and concerns of individuals in society could make themselves known.

Coursework (20% A level). The purpose of this coursework is to enable students to develop skills in the analysis and evaluation of interpretations of history in a chosen question as part of an independently researched assignment. The focus is on understanding the nature and purpose of the work of the historian. Students will be specifically required to analyse, explain and evaluate the interpretations of three historians.

Assessments

Paper 1: Breadth study with interpretations

30% A level | 60% AS 2 hours 15 minutes:

Section A: One breadth essay

Section B: One breadth essay

Section C: One interpretations question

Paper 2: Depth study 20% A level | 40% AS

1 hour 30 minutes;

Section A: One source question

Section B: One depth essay

Paper 3: Themes in breadth with aspects in depth

30% A level 2 hours 15 minutes:

Section A: One source question

Section B: One depth essay

Section C: One breadth essay

Coursework 20% A level: 3000-4000 word essay

Skills gained and enrichment opportunities:

Students can progress from this qualification to higher education courses, such as degrees in history or in related subjects such as politics, English literature, law, philosophy, economics or geography.

Past students have taken degree courses at the LSE, Exeter University and SOAS, University of London.

Progression/career opportunities:

A wide range of careers in areas such as journalism and media, education, libraries, national and local government and the civil service.

Further information:

Mr V Pandya - Head of History

Mathematics A Level

Exam Board: Edexcel

Entry Requirements: GCSE Grade 6 in maths.

Course Summary

This course very much carries on from where GCSE leaves off in terms of the algebra, trigonometry and graphs work. Some of the topics in the first year will be familiar to you. We will seek to deepen your understanding of these ideas as well as move on to new problems. This will include a methodical study of certain families of curves and developing strategies to solve harder equations. Rather than remembering a long list of different techniques for different problems the challenge is to get a sense of the big ideas that can be applied to numerous scenarios.

The course encourages you to develop your thinking and problem solving skills, look for connections between ideas and get to grips with some quite abstract concepts. In many ways Mathematics can be thought of as a life skill. By the end of the first year you will have met and used Calculus, the mathematics that Newton and Leibniz used to describe the motion of the planets and the world around us.

A Level Maths is an academic course that demands a lot of hard work. It is well respected and will give you the great satisfaction of dealing with some advanced concepts; it should not be undertaken unless you enjoy the subject.

What kind of topics will I be studying?

A Level Maths now incorporates concepts from pure mathematics, statistics and mechanics into one seamless whole. There is no longer a modular approach - the end of course exams will test you across these three disparate areas of maths.

What will my final qualification be?

You will achieve an A Level in Mathematics after two years of study. You will achieve an AS Level after one year, but this no longer forms part of the A Level.

Assessments

The course is assessed fully by terminal examination. This consists of three exam papers, which are 2 hours long each.

Fact File

Aimed at students who have enjoyed GCSE mathematics and who feel comfortable working with algebra and graphs. Course content is prescribed so that regardless of exam board, all A Level mathematics students study the same content. This is a course that provides plenty of challenge and rewards. You will need to have an organised approach and use the available support to clarify your understanding.

Progression/career opportunities:

What other subjects combine well with this course?

Mathematics directly supports many subjects—the sciences, computer science, economics—and combines well with the social sciences, business studies and ICT. Maths also stands alone and many students take it as a contrast to Modern Foreign Languages, English and art. The analytical nature of the course means that it can be beneficial for all subjects.

Where might it lead?

Hopefully to a lifelong appreciation of how elegant and useful maths is. It is vital for maths, engineering, physics, computer science, some economics courses and an increasing number of medicine courses at university. It is also very useful for social sciences and all analytical subjects.

Will I need any specialist materials or equipment?

A scientific calculator will be required.

Further information:

Mr M Aubdool - Teacher in charge of KS5 Mathematics
Mohammed.Aubdool@walthamstow-academy.org

Ms P Malhotra - Head of Mathematics
Pooja.Malhotra@Walthamstow-Academy.Org

Further Maths A Level

Exam Board: Edexcel

Entry Requirements: GCSE Grade 7 in Mathematics.

Subject Content

Core Pure Mathematics 1 & 2
Further Mathematics 1 & 2

This Pearson Edexcel Level 3 Advanced GCE in Further Mathematics builds on the skills, knowledge and understanding set out in the whole GCSE subject content for mathematics and the subject content for the Pearson Edexcel Level 3 Advanced Subsidiary and Advanced GCE Mathematics qualifications. Problem solving, proof and mathematical modelling will be assessed in further mathematics in the context of the wider knowledge which students taking A level further mathematics will have studied.

Assessments

The course is assessed through four externally examined papers.

Progression/career opportunities:

Learners will be looking to progress into STEM careers, such Theoretical Physics, Computer Science, or Engineering.

Successful earners will be able to progress into higher education to study degrees, such as:

- Physics (BSc)
- Astrophysics (BSc)
- Aeronautical Engineering (BSc)
- Chemical Engineering (BSc)
- Electronic Engineering (BSc)

Skills gained and enrichment opportunities:

The aims and objectives of this qualification are to enable students to:

- understand mathematics and mathematical processes in ways that promote confidence, foster enjoyment and provide a strong foundation for progress to further study
- extend their range of mathematical skills and techniques
- understand coherence and progression in mathematics and how different areas of mathematics are connected
- apply mathematics in other fields of study and be aware of the relevance of mathematics to the world of work and to situations in society in general
- use their mathematical knowledge to make logical and reasoned decisions in solving problems both within pure mathematics and in a variety of contexts, and communicate the mathematical rationale for these decisions clearly
- reason logically and recognise incorrect reasoning
- generalise mathematically
- construct mathematical proofs
- use their mathematical skills and techniques to solve challenging problems which require them to decide on the solution strategy
- recognise when mathematics can be used to analyse and solve a problem in context
- represent situations mathematically and understand the relationship between problems in context and mathematical models that may be applied to solve them
- make deductions and inferences and draw conclusions by using mathematical reasoning
- interpret solutions and communicate their interpretation effectively in the context of the problem.

Further information:

Mr M Aubdool - Teacher in charge of KS5 Mathematics
Mohammed.Aubdool@walthamstow-academy.org

Ms P Malhotra - Head of Mathematics
Pooja.Malhotra@Walthamstow-Academy.Org

Media Studies A Level

Exam Board: Eduqas

Entry Requirements: GCSE 6/7 in English. If you have studied media before it is an advantage, but not essential - Grade 6/7 GCSE or BTEC Level 2 Distinction in Media.

Units of Study

Over the course of the 2 year A Level, students will complete three major assessments to gain the A Level qualification:

Component 1:

Media Products, Industries and Audiences

Written examination, 35% of qualification. The examination assesses media language, representation, media industries, audiences and media contexts. It consists of two sections:

Section A: Analysing Media Language and Representation

This section assesses media language and representation in relation to two of the following media forms: advertising, marketing, music video or newspapers.

Section B: Understanding Media Industries and Audiences

This section assesses two of the following media forms – advertising, marketing, film, newspapers, radio, video games - and media contexts.

Component 2:

Media Forms and Products in Depth

Written examination, 35% of qualification. The examination assesses media language, representation, media industries, audiences and media contexts. It consists of three sections:

Section A – Television in the Global Age

Section B – Magazines: Mainstream and Alternative Media

Section C – Media in the Online Age

Component 3:

Cross-Media Production

Non exam assessment, 30% of qualification. An individual cross-media production based on two forms in response to a choice of briefs set by WJEC, applying knowledge and understanding of the theoretical framework and digital convergence.

Assessments:

Component 1: Two hours and fifteen minutes examination, 35% of A Level – Assessed at the end of Year 13

Component 2: Two and a half hour exam - 35% of A Level - Assessed at the end of Year 13

Component 3: Non-examined Assessment - 30% of A Level – Submitted for moderation in Year 13

Skills gained and enrichment opportunities:

Throughout the course students will enhance their enjoyment and appreciation of the media and its role in their daily lives. They will develop critical understanding of the media through engagement with media products and concepts. While completing the A Level students will gain both analytical and technical skills which they will use to critically analyse the media. They will need to research and consider concepts, theoretical approaches and discourse. In addition, they will need to apply this knowledge and understanding to their exam answers and through creative application of the production processes, technologies and relevant contexts.

The Media Studies A Level also allows students to gain transferable skills required by many industries or higher education courses. Students learn and gain skills in analytical writing, academic research methods, project management, time management and working both as a team or autonomously.



Progression/career opportunities

Completing a course in media studies provides a suitable foundation for the study of media studies, or a related area, through a range of higher education degree courses. Alternatively direct entry into employment in areas such as: business engagement, journalism, marketing, film and television, and advertising. In addition, the course provides coherent, satisfying and worthwhile study for students who simply have an interest in the world of media.

Further information:

Ms A Bains - Assistant Principal

A Level Physical Education

Exam Board: AQA

Entry Requirements: GCSE Grade 6 in PE

Units Studied in Year 12

Section A: Anatomy and Physiology

Section B: Skill Acquisition

Section C: Sport and Society

Practical Performance

Units Studied in Year 13

Section A: Physiology and Biomechanics

Section B: Sport Psychology

Section C: Sport, Society and Technology

Practical Performance

Assessments

Paper 1 – Factors Affecting Participation, 35% of grade, 2 hour exam. Section A: Anatomy and Physiology; Section B: Skill Acquisition; Section C: Sport and Society

Paper 2 – Factors Affecting Optimal Performance, 35% of grade, 2 hour exam. Section A: Physiology and Biomechanics; Section B: Sport Psychology; Section C: Sport, Society and Technology

Practical Performance – 30% of grade

- Assessed as a performer or coach in a full sided version of one activity
- Written analysis of performance



Skills gained and enrichment opportunities:

Students will gain a broader knowledge of sport and exercise as well as the factors affecting both. This is the perfect step up from GCSE PE and BTEC Sport to stretch and expand awareness of every day sporting issues

Progression/career opportunities:

This course will enable students to progress to higher education courses at university as well as jobs in a range of areas including sport science, sport psychology, physiotherapy, sports journalism, sports analysis amongst others.

Further information:

Mr R Gibson - Head of Physical Education

Physics A Level

Exam Board: AQA

Entry Requirements: Students require a GCSE Grade 6 in GCSE Physics or grade 7-7 in combined science. Students also require at least a grade 6 in GCSE mathematics

Subject Content

1. Measurements and their errors
 2. Particles and radiation
 3. Waves
 4. Mechanics and materials
 5. Electricity
 6. Further mechanics and thermal physics
 7. Fields and their consequences
 8. Nuclear physics
- Options from:
9. Astrophysics, Medical physics, Engineering physics, Turning points in physics or Electronics



Skills gained and enrichment opportunities:

The A Level specification should encourage candidates to develop essential knowledge and understanding of the concepts relating to physics. This will encourage and develop the students' thought and problem-solving strategies, aid in the search for solutions to complex problems and issues. Students will develop skills such as working independently and as part of a team, strengthen their independent learning skills and will have opportunities to take part in discussions and attend conferences, university lectures and visit museums.

Assessments

Paper 1: Any content in sections 1 to 5 and 6.1 (Periodic motion)

2 hours written exam paper worth 34% of A-level course.

Out of 85 marks:

60 marks: Mixture of short and long answer questions.

25 multiple choice questions on content.

Paper 2: Sections 6.2 Thermal Physics, 7 and 8.

2 hours written exam paper worth 34% of A-level course.

Out of 85 marks:

60 marks: Mixture of short and long answer questions.

25 multiple choice questions on content.

Paper 3: Section A compulsory section on practical skills and data analysis & section B from optional list.

2 hours written exam paper worth 32% of A-level course.

Out of 80 marks:

45 marks: Mixture of short and long answer questions

on practical experiments and data analysis.

35 marks of short and long answer questions on optional topic.

Progression/career opportunities:

There are many opportunities to study the following in higher education: Medicine, Pharmacy, Engineering, Electronic/Civil Engineering and Aeronautics. Other career opportunities include: Research and Development, Teaching and fields related to Science.

Further information:

Mr N Charman - Head of Science
Nick.Charman@Walthamstow-Academy.Org

Government and Politics A Level

Exam Board: Edexcel

Entry Requirements: GCSE Grade 6 in History, Geography or in English Language or Literature

Subject Content

Component 1: UK Politics

Component 2: UK Government

Component 3: Comparative Politics

Component 1: UK Politics:

Content overview

1. Political Participation, students will study:

- democracy and participation, political parties, electoral systems, voting behaviour and the media.

2. Core Political Ideas, students will study:

- conservatism, liberalism, socialism.

Component 2: UK Government:

1. UK Government, students will study:

- the constitution, parliament, Prime Minister and executive, relationships between the branches.

2. Non-core political ideas, students will study:

- one idea from the following: anarchism, ecologism, feminism, multiculturalism, nationalism.

Component 3: Comparative Politics:

For USA (3A), students will study:

- the US Constitution and federalism, US Congress, US presidency, US Supreme Court and civil rights, democracy and participation, comparative theories.

OR

For Global (3B) students will study:

- sovereignty and globalisation, global governance: political and economic, global governance

Assessments

Component 1: UK Politics:

Written examination: 2 hours

33.33% of the qualification. 84 marks

Component 1: UK Politics:

Written examination: 2 hours

33.33% of the qualification. 84 marks

Component 3: Comparative Politics:

Written examination: 2 hours

33.33% of the qualification 84 marks

33.33% of the qualification. 84 marks

Students study either USA Politics or Global Politics

Skills gained and enrichment opportunities:

Students will have the opportunity to visit Parliament, attend conferences and meet with political figures and journalists.

Students can progress from this qualification to:

- University courses that relate directly to government and politics
- University courses that will benefit from the skills acquired from this GCE, for example law, economics, philosophy.

Progression/career opportunities:

Employment where analytical skills are essential, for example management, finance, government, industry and business environments.

Further information:

Mr V Pandya - Head of History
Vimal.Pandya@Walthamstow-Academy.Org

Psychology A Level

Exam Board: AQA

Entry Requirements: GCSE grade 6 in English, Grade 6 in maths

Subject Content

Psychology will help you understand yourself and other people by learning about different aspects of human behaviour that will help you in daily life, including your interactions with others, your learning and memory performance, your ability to cope with pressure and your understanding of the causes of psychological disorders.

Paper 1: Introductory Topics in Psychology

This unit includes learning about social influence (why we obey, conform and change the majority's point of view), memory (how it works, why we forget and how memory works with crime), attachment (how our relationships with caregivers as children affect us as adults) and psychopathology (how mental health disorders affect people and how they are treated).

Paper 2: Psychology in Context:

This unit includes learning about the different schools of psychology from behaviourist to biopsychology, how stress is registered and how human behaviour is studied as a psychological science.

Paper 3: Issues and Options in Psychology:

This unit includes learning about psychological debates (such as is it nature or nurture that is more important), gender (differences in male and female brains and stereotypes), schizophrenia (what it is, the different causes and treatment), and aggression (how

Assessments

A level Psychology is a linear subject, assessed at the end of two years of study. The AQA examination board uses three examinations to assess you. Each of these exams comprises a number of short questions, essay questions and scenarios to which you are required to apply your knowledge.

Skills gained and enrichment opportunities:

A level Psychology involves studying a wide range of topics, so there is a lot of information to absorb, and importantly, you will need to learn how to apply and evaluate (weight up the strengths and weaknesses) of these studies and theories. Psychology develops a range of valuable skills, including critical analysis, independent thinking and research. These skills are particularly relevant to young people and are transferable to further study and the workplace. There will be opportunity to go on trips to conferences, museums in addition to hearing from speakers invited into the academy (i.e. psychologists and hypnotists).

Progression/career opportunities:

A degree in Psychology does not require you to have studied Psychology A level. However, many courses ask for a science subject, of which Psychology is one. A level Psychology will provide you with the skills required of an undergraduate - an inquiring mind and the ability to use scientific research findings to support and challenge various claims about why people behave the way that they do.

The A level course demonstrates a broad range of skills from essay writing and critical thinking to data handling and statistics. Achieving an A level in Psychology indicates that you are numerate and literate as well as being able to engage in scientific enquiry.



Further information:

Ms M. OBrien - Head of psychology
Melanie.Obrien@walthamstow-academy.org

Sociology A Level

Exam Board: AQA

Entry Requirements: GCSE Grade 6 in English Literature and Language

Subject Content

The A Level Sociology syllabus includes a variety of topics which will be studied over the two year course:

Paper 1 Education with Theory and Methods:

Education- What role does education play in our society? Why do some social groups do better than others?

Methods in Context- What research methods are appropriate for researching education?

Theory and Methods- How can Sociologists make sense of the world around them? What methods can they use to research their ideas?

Paper 2 Topics in Sociology:

Families and Households- How does society affect family relationships and why have these relationships changed over time?

Beliefs in Society- Is religion important in modern society?

Paper 3 Crime and Deviance with Theory and Methods:

Crime and Deviance- What affects whether people commit crime and how are criminals treated by the state?

Theory and Methods- What methods should Sociologists use to research crime and other social issues in society?

Assessments

Year 13: There will be 3 exam papers in the summer of Year 13. Each exam paper will be two hours long and is worth a third of the final grade. Paper 1 and Paper 3 will contain a mixture of short and long answer questions, while Paper 2 will contain extended writing tasks.



Skills gained and enrichment opportunities:

Students will be able to develop writing and analytical skills which are required when progressing to university. Students will also have the opportunity to develop their independent learning skills as well as working with others and developing their communication skills by taking part in group discussions. Students will be able to take part in conferences and visits applicable to

Progression/career opportunities:

Students will be able to progress onto a number of university courses and career opportunities including: social work, teaching and research, the Police Force.

Further information:

Ms M Sulehman - Teacher of Sociology

Spanish A Level

Exam Board: AQA

Entry Requirements: GCSE Grade 6 in Spanish

A Level Compulsory Topics

Units studied in Year 12

1. Aspects of Spanish-speaking society:

The changing nature of family

The "cyber- society"

Gender Equality

2. Artistic culture in the Hispanic-speaking world:

Influence of idols

Regional identity in Spain

Cultural heritage

Units Studied in Year 13

1. Multiculturalism in Hispanic society:

Advantages and disadvantages of immigration

Immigration in the Hispanic world

Racism

Racist and xenophobic tendencies

Measures to fight racism

Anti-racism law

Integration

Co-existence of different cultures

Education

Religion

2. Aspects of political life in the Hispanic world:

Today's youth, tomorrow's citizens

Popular movements

Monarchies and dictatorships

3. Optional Content:

Students study two books/ or one book and a film from the lists in the specification.

Individual research topic:

Students conduct individual research on a subject of personal interest relating to the country where the language of study is spoken.

Assessments

AS Examinations - What's assessed

Listening and Reading

How it's assessed -

Written exam (1 hour 45 minutes), 90 marks, 45% of AS

Writing:

How it's assessed

Written exam (1 hour 30 minutes), 50 marks, 25% of AS

Speaking:

How it's assessed

Oral exam (12-14 minutes), 60 marks, 30% of AS

A Level - Examinations - What's assessed

Listening, Reading and Writing: 2 hours 30 minutes

100 marks

50% of A-level

Written exam: 2 hours

80 marks in total

20% of A-level

Oral exam: 21–23 minutes (including 5 minutes preparation time)

60 marks in total

30% of A-level

Skills gained and enrichment opportunities:

Studying this course will enable students to develop highly effective communication, public speaking and translation skills, preparing them for the world of work.

Progression/career opportunities:

This course will enable students to progress on to higher education courses at university in journalism or tourism and would enable students to become translators, teachers, lawyers amongst other professions.

Further information:

Miss S Alexis Head of Modern Foreign Languages
Serena.Alexis@walthamstow-academy.org

Sports BTEC Level 3

Exam board: Edexcel

Entry requirements: 5 in English GCSE, 5 in Maths GCSE. A grade 6 in PE GCSE or Merit in BTEC Sport level 2 is desired

Subject Content

All triple award units; D = Double award unit

Unit 1: Anatomy and Physiology (D)

Unit 2: Fitness Training and Programming for Health, Sport and Well-being (D)

Unit 3: Professional Development in the Sports Industry (D)

Unit 4: Sports Leadership (D)

Unit 7: Practical Sports Performance

Unit 8: Coaching for Performance

Unit 9: Research Methods in Sport

Unit 19: Development and Provision of Sport and Physical Activity

Unit 22: Investigating Business in the Sport and Active Leisure Industry (D)

Unit 23: Skill Acquisition in Sport. (D)

Optional units – (Triple award = 6 units; Double award = 4 units)

Unit 6: Sports Psychology

Unit 10: Sports event organisation

Unit 24: Sports performance analysis

Unit 25: Rules, regulations and officiating in sport

Unit 26: Technical and tactical demands of sport

Unit 30: Exercise, health and leisure

Progression/career opportunities:

Learners looking to study BTEC Diploma (Double award) or Extended Diploma (Triple award) should be looking to progress into careers in the sport, leisure or fitness industries.

Learners can progress to higher education on full degree single or combined courses, for example:

- BA (Hons) in Sports Development and Management
- BSc (Hons) in Sports Management
- BSc (Hons) Sports Business Management
- BSc (Hons) Sport and Leisure Management
- BSc (Hons) Sports Science (Outdoor Activities)
- BSc (Hons) in Exercise, Health and Fitness
- BSc (Hons) in Sport and Exercise Psychology.

Learners should always check the entry requirements for degree programmes with the specific higher education providers

Assessments

The course is both internally and externally assessed through coursework and examinations.

For the double award the grades are the equivalent of two A level grades in terms of UCAS points (i.e Distinction*/Distinction* = 112 UCAS points, which is the same as 2 A*s at A Level).

For the triple award the grades are the equivalent of three A level grades in terms of UCAS points (i.e Distinction*/Distinction*/ Distinction = 160 UCAS points, which is the same as 2 A*s and an A at A Level).

Skills gained and enrichment opportunities:

BTEC Nationals provide a vocational context in which learners can develop the knowledge and skills required for particular degree courses, including:

- reading technical texts
- effective writing
- analytical skills
- creative development
- preparation for assessment methods used in degrees

Further information:

Mr R Gibson – Head of PE
Ruel.gibson@Walthamstow-Academy.Org