

# Subjects Available and Entry Requirements 2025 - 2026

## Academic (A-level)

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	Subject	Minimum entry requirements	Comments	Course	Body
1	Accounting	6 in Maths	Can be taken alongside Business (A-Level or BTEC) and Economics	A Level	AQA
2	Art: Design 3D	4 in Eng. Lang. and, 4 in Design Technology or other Art and Design GCSE course.	From September 2024 this course replaced Design and Technology Product Design. Design 3D is 60% coursework-based + 40% from a 15-hour practical exam. This course equally suits students wishing to pursue architecture and combining with Maths and Physics A-Levels, as it does students wishing to follow more creative disciplines and combining with other A-Level Arts subjects.	A Level	AQA
3	Art: Fine Art	4 in Art and Design.	Grade 4 in GCSE Art and Design required. (For exceptions see Head of Art for Portfolio submission).	A Level	EDUQAS / WJEC
4	Art: Graphic Communication	4 in Art and Design.	Grade 4 in GCSE Art and Design required.	A Level	EDUQAS / WJEC
5	Art: Photography	4 in Eng. Lang. and 4 in a creative subject.	A portfolio might cover the Creative GCSE requirement, discussion required at interview.	A Level	EDUQAS / WJEC
6	Art: Textile Design	4 in Art and Design.	Grade 4 in GCSE Art and Design required.	A Level	EDUQAS / WJEC
7	Biology	6 6 in Combined Science + Maths 6 OR Biology 6 + another science 6 + Maths 6.		A Level	OCR
8	Business	4 in Maths and 4 in Eng. Lang.		A Level	AQA
9	Chemistry	6 6 in Combined Science + Maths 6 OR Chemistry 6 + another science 6 + Maths 6.		A Level	OCR
10	Computer Science	6 in Maths and 6 in Computer Science.	If no Computer Science GCSE, student must have good programming skills (to be assessed) or will be required to complete a short online course over the summer before joining.	A Level	EDUQAS / WJEC
11	Dance	4 in Eng. Lang.		A Level	AQA
12	Drama and Theatre	4 in Eng. Lang.		A Level	OCR
13	Economics	5 in Maths and 5 in Eng. Lang.	Applicants should note the emphasis on written assessment in this course.	A Level	AQA
14	English Language and Literature	4 in Eng. Lang. and 4 in Eng. Lit.		A Level	AQA
15	English Literature	4 in Eng. Lang. and 4 in Eng. Lit.		A Level	AQA
16	Environmental Science	4 4 in Combined Science + Maths 4 OR 4 4 in two separate sciences + Maths 4.		A Level	AQA
17	Film Studies	4 in Eng. Lang.	Film Studies is to film, as English Literature is to literature i.e. an analytical discipline.	A Level	EDUQAS / WJEC
18	French	6 in French + 4 English Lang.		A Level	AQA
19	Geography	4 in Eng. Lang. and 5 in Maths. 4 in Geography (if taken).		A Level	Edexcel
20	Geology	5 5 in Combined Science + Maths 4 OR 5 5 in two separate sciences + Maths 4.		A Level	EDUQAS / WJEC
21	German	6 in German + 4 Eng. Lang.		A Level	AQA

	Subject	Minimum entry requirements	Comments	Course	Body
22	History	4 in Eng. Lang.		A Level	Edexcel
23	Law	5 in Eng. Lang. and 5 in Eng. Lit.		A Level	OCR
24	Mathematics	6 in Maths and 4 in Eng. Lang.		A Level	Edexcel
25	Mathematics (Further)	7 (ideally 8 or 9) in Maths and 4 in Eng. Lang.	Students complete the full Maths A-level in Year 1 taught over 2 blocks. Students progress to the Further Maths A level in Year 2 taught over 2 blocks. Students therefore achieve two A level grades.	A Level	Edexcel
26	Media Studies	4 in Eng. Lang.		A Level	EDUQAS / WJEC
27	Music	4 in Eng. Lang. plus Grade 5 Instrument and Grade 5 Theory (or equivalent).		A Level	EDUQAS / WJEC
28	Philosophy	5 in Maths and 5 in Eng. Lang.		A Level	AQA
29	Physical Education	4 in Eng. Lang. and 5 in at least one out of Science or PE	All students must be able to produce fully competitive video footage from one sport.	A Level	AQA
30	Physics	6 6 in Combined Science + Maths 6 OR Physics 6 + another science 6 + Maths 6.	It is strongly recommended that students additionally take Maths A-level	A Level	AQA
31	Politics	4 in Eng. Lang.		A Level	Edexcel
32	Psychology	4, 5 in Combined Science + Maths 5 OR 4 5 in two single sciences + Maths 5. 4 in Eng. Lang.	Students must have a 5 in Maths and a 5 in one Science at GCSE due to the Maths and Biology content.	A Level	AQA
33	Sociology	4 in Eng. Lang.		A Level	AQA
34	Spanish	6 in Spanish + 4 Eng. Lang.		A Level	AQA

## Vocational - BTEC, AAQs (Alternative Academic Qualifications) and Diplomas

- AAQs (Alternative Academic Qualifications) have replaced four single BTECs from September 2025 onwards. The replacement AAQs are very similar in content and assessment to the previous BTECs, carry the same UCAS points and offer the same progression routes. AAQs are essentially refreshed BTECs.
- Students may take **any combination** of BTECs, Diplomas, AAQs and A-Levels to make a 3 x A Level equivalent programme.

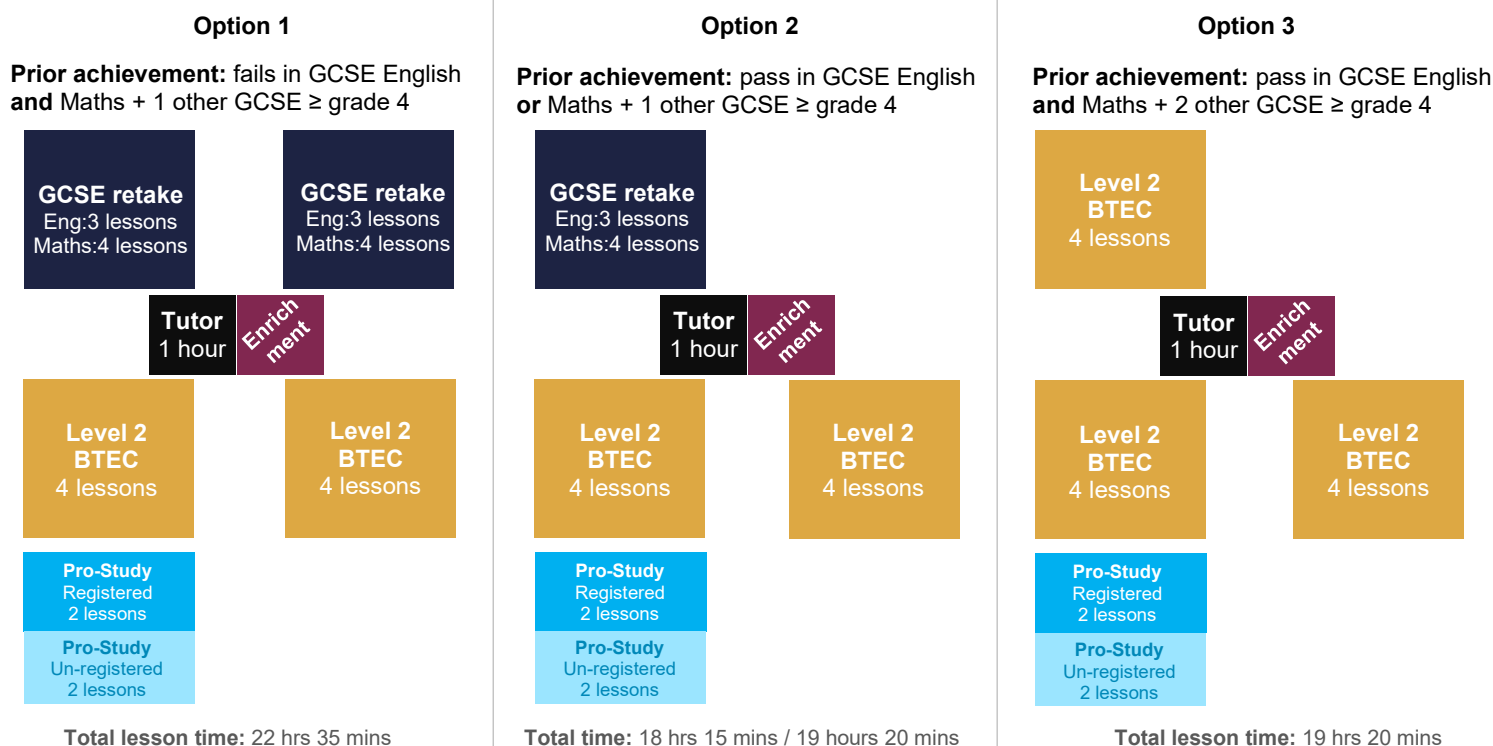
	Subject	Sgl	Dbl	Tpl	Minimum entry requirements	Comments	Course	Body
1	<b>New AAQ:</b> Applied Science	✓			4 in Maths + 4 in Eng. Lang. + either 4 4 in Combined Science 4 OR 4 4 in two separate sciences	Grade 5s for science and maths is a more secure basis for this course.	<b>New:</b> AAQ	OCR
2	Art and Design			✓	4 in Art and Design and 4 in Eng. Lang.	Grade 4 in alternative creative subject (e.g., Photography or Graphic Design) will be considered by Head of Subject at enrolment interview.	BTEC National	Pearson
3	Business	✓	✓		4 in Maths and 4 in Eng. Lang.		BTEC National	Pearson
4	Creative Digital Media Production	✓			4 in Eng. Lang.		BTEC National	Pearson
5	Criminology	✓			4 in Eng. Lang. and 4 in Eng. Lit.		Advanced Diploma	EDUQAS/ WJEC
6	<b>New AAQ:</b> Engineering	✓			4,4 in Combined Science OR 4,4 in two separate sciences + 5 in Maths + 4 in DT (if taken)		<b>New:</b> AAQ	Pearson
7	<b>New AAQ:</b> Health and Social Care <i>Sgl: new AAQ from Sept 2025</i> <i>Dbl: remains as a BTEC for final enrolments in Sept 2025</i>	✓	✓		4 in Maths and 4 in Eng. Lang.	Applicants should plan to undertake volunteering during the summer before starting.	<b>New:</b> Single AAQ  Double: BTEC National	Pearson
8	<b>New AAQ:</b> Information Technology	✓			4 in Maths and 4 in Eng. Lang.		<b>New:</b> AAQ	Pearson
9	Music Practitioners	✓			4 in Eng. Lang.		Subsidiary Diploma	RSL
10	Sport	✓	✓		4 in Eng. Lang. and a 4 in either a science or in Maths.		BTEC National	Pearson
11	Travel and Tourism	✓	✓		4 in Eng. Lang.		BTEC National	Pearson

## Technical (T-Level equivalent to 3 A-levels)

	Subject	Minimum entry requirements	Comments	Course	Body
1	Digital Software Development	4 in Maths and 4 in Eng. Lang.	Triple (3 blocks = 3 A levels) 45 day / 315 hour Industry Placement	T Level (Generation 2)	Pearson
2	Education and Early Years	4 in Maths and 4 in Eng. Lang.	Triple (3 blocks = 3 A levels) 90+ day / 750 hour Industry Placement. Students must obtain a full and valid DBS on enrolment. This T Level include a 'licence to practice'.	T Level (Generation 2)	NCFE

## Foundation Programme

- The Foundation Programme is designed so that all students can add to their prior achievement to obtain at least 5 GCSEs/equivalents at grade 4 or above overall (i.e. as an aggregate of their prior achievement, topped up with their achievement during their Foundation Programme).
- General entry requirements are:
  - an average **GCSE score of between 3 – 4**
  - including **at least one GCSE at a grade 4 or above**
- All students must select **at least two or equivalent** Level 2 vocational courses from the **X** options below. These courses are in addition to their GCSE retakes.
- The Studentship component of the former Transition Programme has been subsumed into a bespoke tutorial programme for Foundation Programmes students.
- The following combinations of Level 2 vocational courses and GCSE retakes are:



- All Foundation Programme students who are successful in passing a November GCSE retake, will be placed on the Higher Project Qualification (a Level 2 version of the EPQ worth half a GCSE), from publication of the November GCSE retake results in early January. The HPQ will fill 4 lessons. Therefore, no student will drop below a minimum of three blocks of subject time at any point during their Foundation Programme year until May when placed on study leave.
- The above combinations will cover almost all Foundation Programme applicants, however, please see RJH, ASJ, or ASC if an applicant does not fit the above combinations. It may be possible in a very small minority of cases to offer a bespoke programme, on a case-by-case basis applying very strict thresholds. Students offered a bespoke programme still have to meet the same level of prior achievement as detailed at the top of this page.

	Subject	Minimum entry requirements	Number of lessons	Comments	Course	Body
1	Business BTEC	Av. GCSE score of 3, including at least one GCSE at grade 4 or above	4	Students must achieve passes in their GCSE English and/ or GCSE Maths retakes at a grade 4 or higher, and achieve at least a Merit in their Level 2 BTECs during their Foundation Programme to progress to Level 3 study the following year.	BTEC First Award	Pearson
2	Health and Social Care BTEC (equivalent to 2 Level 2 BTECs)		8		BTEC First Certificate	Pearson
3	Information Technology BTEC		4	Progression to Level 3 study would normally be to a mixed or full BTEC/AAQ Level 3 or a T-Level programme	BTEC First Award	Pearson
4	Sport BTEC		4		BTEC First Award	Pearson
5	Travel and Tourism Cert		4		L2 Certificate	NCFE
1	English Language GCSE	3 or below in Eng. Lang.		<p>For all students who do not have a 4 or above in English <b>Language</b> GCSE prior to joining Collyer's or at any stage whilst a Collyer's student.</p> <p>Students can achieve all grades: 1-9 when retaking English Language GCSE.</p> <p>Students may sit a November and/or June sitting.</p> <p>Students who have already achieved a grade 4 or above in English Literature, but not in English Language will still need to resit English Language.</p>	GCSE	AQA
2	Mathematics GCSE	3 or below in Mathematics.		<p>For all students who have not achieved a grade 4 in GCSE Maths either prior to joining Collyer's or at any stage whilst a Collyer's student.</p> <p>Foundation syllabus covered. Students can achieve a grade 1-5.</p> <p>Students may sit a November and/or June sitting.</p> <p>Students who have already achieved a grade 4 in Maths do not qualify for this course.</p> <p>Required grades for students wishing to progress to Level 3 study after a Foundation year (grade required in brackets): <b>BTECs/AAQs:</b> Applied Science (4), Engineering (4); <b>A-levels:</b> Economics (5), Environmental Science (4), Geography (5), Geology (4), Philosophy (5), Psychology (5).</p>	GCSE	Edexcel
1	Higher Project Qualification (HPQ)	Achieving at least a grade 4 in one November GCSE retake during the Foundation Programme		<p>Where a student achieves a pass at grade 4 or above in one / two November GCSE retakes they will automatically and compulsorily begin the HPQ qualification on publication of the November GCSE retakes results in early January. HPQ is a robust foundation for the research skills and report writing required for Level 3 study.</p> <p>The HPQ is essentially a Level 2 version of EPQ.</p> <p>The HPQ is <b>equivalent to half of a GCSE</b> with grades from A*-C</p>	HPQ	AQA

### Enhancement qualification courses (for 2A students only in addition to the students 3 x A Level or equivalent)

	Subject	Minimum entry requirements	Comments	UCAS Points	Course	Body
1	HSLA (Higher Sports Leader Award)	CSLA preferred	2 lessons per week. This course is only available to 2A students. Students preferably have completed the CSLA (Community Sports Leader Award), however students with relevant skills and experience will also be considered.	Yes: a pass or fail course. Pass = 16 pts	Level 3	Sports Leaders UK
2	Certificate in Introduction to Cabin Crew	none	2 lessons per week. This course is only available to 2A students.	No	Level 2	NCFE
3	TASS: Talented Athlete Scholarship Scheme	Identified as a talented athlete	2 lessons per week. This course is only available to 2A students.	No	n/a	n/a
4	Extended Project Qualification	Preferably on target with 3 x Level 3 courses and good studenthip scores during 1A year.	1 lesson per week. This course runs from June during the 1A year to Easter in the 2A year. Primarily EPQ is provided to students in addition to their 3 x A-Level equivalent programme. However, students on reduced programmes may also be offered EPQ where they possess sufficient studenthip skills for success.	Yes: up to 24 pts	Level 3 (AS-equivalent)	AQA
5	Core Maths (AS equivalent)	5 in GCSE Maths 4 in GCSE English Language	1 full block per week. Limited number of spaces for students selecting this in addition to 3 A-Levels or equivalent.	Yes: up to 20 pts	Level 3 (AS equivalent)	OCR
6	AS Further Maths	"A" in Transfer exam for 1A Maths Single students	This course is only available to 2A students.	Yes: up to 20 pts	AS Level	Edexcel

### Substitute qualification courses (for 2A students only where the student has not passed a Transfer Exam in one subject)

	Subject	Minimum entry requirements	Comments	UCAS Points	Course	Body
1	AS English Language	4 in GCSE English Language	1 full block per week	Yes: up to 20 pts	AS Level	AQA
2	Core Maths (AS equivalent)	5 in GCSE Maths 4 in GCSE English Language	1 full block per week	Yes: up to 20 pts	Level 3 (AS equivalent)	OCR
3	Work Skills (Level 2 BTEC)	4 in GCSE English Language	2 lessons per week	No	Level 2 BTEC	Pearson
4	Extended Project Qualification	4 in GCSE English Language	1 lesson per week This course runs from June during the 1A year to Easter in the 2A year. Primarily EPQ is provided to students in addition to their 3 x A-Level equivalent programme. However, students on reduced programmes may also be offered EPQ where they possess sufficient studenthip skills for success. Please refer to ASC.	Yes: up to 24 pts	Level 3 (AS equivalent)	AQA

### UCAS points quick guide

Grade	A-Level	AS-Level	EPQ	Criminology
A*	56	-	28	56
A	48	20	24	48
B	40	16	20	40
C	32	12	16	32
D	24	10	12	24
E	16	6	8	16

Grade	Level 3 BTEC / AAQ	Music Pract.
D*	56	56
D	48	48
M	32	32
P	16	16

Overall Grade (core component grades in brackets)	T-Level
D*	168
D	144
M	120
P (and C or above)	96
P (and D or E)	72