



Twyford
C of E
High School

Curriculum & Choosing the Right Programme

Entry 2023/24

1. General programme – 3 courses

This programme will prepare students for all university entrance including Russell Group entry which usually demands AAB as a minimum set of grades at A Level. The Russell group are the very competitive universities (such as Bristol, Edinburgh, Imperial College London, Warwick etc.).

The programme is designed to suit the needs of most students provided they are expected to achieve the minimum entrance requirements of at least 8 grade 9-5 passes at GCSE including Maths and English at a grade 5. Students also need to meet the individual entry requirements of each course they are applying for (see the Course Guide for details). However, to be really successful on this programme you would ideally want to have achieved 8 or more GCSE passes at 9-6, with a grade 7 in at least 5 courses, including the subjects you are going to study at A Level (with all of your other grades being a grade 6).

To make the most of this programme you would be expected to have worked out from an early stage what University course or subject you were most interested in so that you could take advantage of subject specific support from the relevant department to help your application. We often refer to this as 'Level 4' support because it bridges the gap between A Levels (which are 'Level 3' qualifications) and university (with undergraduate degrees being 'Level 5' qualifications). You would expect to engage 'in Level 4' activities in the courses you were doing best in year 12 & 13.

The Level 4 Programme in your subject of choice could include:

- Extension activities to help you achieve an A* grade in your chosen subject
- Additional reading materials
- Access to visiting speakers and opportunities to attend relevant lectures/ exhibitions
- University taster courses
- Work experience in a subject of interest

You will also be expected to take part in the wider sixth form offer, which includes:

- Sixth form community service
- Duke of Edinburgh's Award
- Work experience
- Residential/exchange trips

2. Twyford Additional Programme – 3 or 4 courses to A Level

This programme has been designed for the highest achieving 50+ students in the year group. It is aimed at fully preparing students with an application to Oxbridge, Medicine and Veterinary sciences. You would expect to top grade GCSE results in most (if not all) of your subjects to be considered for this programme. Most students on the course have an average GCSE score of 8.5

Students on this programme will take part in additional teaching that develops wider reading & independent research skills, as well as information and support in applying for mentoring schemes. Students have the opportunity to complete a Level 3 Extended Project Qualification (equivalent to a university style thesis/dissertation). Support for the extended project will be through a series of taught lessons as well as from an extended project supervisor. In year 13 each of the TAP students receive extra support for university interviews, extension awards, step paper preparation and the completion of the extended project.

The students will engage in the same Russell Group programme of activities in their subject areas and the same extra-curricular programme as all students aiming to achieve entry to top universities (see Russell Group Programme above).

Choosing a course which suits you

The school has designed these option blocks to achieve maximum flexibility and therefore accommodate the wide range of students who attend the Twyford Sixth Form and prepare them for the even wider range of potential routes which are available in Higher/Further Education.

Each course does have its own entry requirement and in some cases the same course is run at a higher and a lower level to allow our most able sixth formers to be in a group which moves at a faster pace allowing them to push themselves nearer to the expectations of top universities.

The subjects and option blocks are:

Option Block J	Option Block K	Option Block L	Option Block M	Option Block N
Art	Chemistry	Biology	Biology	Drama
Business Studies	Computer Science	Further Maths	Economics	Economics
Chemistry	German	Geography	English Literature	Further Maths
English Literature	Geography	Graphics	Film Studies	Mathematics
Music	History	History	French	Photography
Politics	Physics	Mathematics	Physics	Politics
Psychology	Psychology	Music Technology	Psychology	Psychology
Sociology	Sociology	Religious Studies		Spanish