



Writhlington Sixth Form Course Choice Handbook

**Inspiring
Futures**



Introduction

This handbook has been created to help give you some ideas of what qualifications are needed for a wide range of different careers. It is designed to be used in conjunction with the prospectus and the course outline booklet. You have worked really hard to get to this point and we want to make sure that your experience at Sixth Form allows you to progress Post-18 and secure your future ambitions.

This guide aims to give you clear advice and also help to dispel some of the myths surrounding progress into university and the world of work. The advice we give here cannot cover every pathway, but ask and we can help you look to see how to achieve your dream goal in the future.

The routes indicated here follow advice offered by universities and employers, and is also based on our experience. As a rule of thumb, we advise that you choose a balanced range of subjects which you enjoy, especially if you do not yet know what you want to do in the future, as this helps to keep your options open.

This guide also contains the entry requirements for the courses we offer and details on how to apply using the online application form.

As part of a successful Federation (Midsomer Norton Schools Partnership) working alongside a number of high performing schools, we are pleased to be able to offer some courses in partnership with Midsomer Norton Sixth Form. This allows us to take advantage of the high quality teaching across the schools.

If you are unsure of what options to pick then we are happy to meet with you to give some additional guidance. Please contact Mrs Haysom (Sixth Form Administrator) on hhaysom@writhlington.org.uk to arrange an appointment.

Career	Courses Required
<p><u>IT Related</u></p> <p>This covers a huge range of potential pathways.</p> <p>Careers include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Database Administrator - Information Systems Manager - IT consultant - IT sales professional - IT support officer 	<p>BTEC IT with other Business related subjects</p>
<p><u>Computer Science</u></p> <p>This pathway can lead to the more technical aspects of IT and computing.</p> <p>Careers include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Programming - Computer Design - Networking - Telecommunications 	<p>A Level Maths is required.</p> <p>Computing at A level is not required to study this at university.</p> <p>Physics is also recommended. Further Maths could be helpful.</p>
<p><u>Economics</u></p> <p>Careers include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Investment and Private banking - Mergers and Acquisitions - Careers in government at a local and national level related to economics 	<p>Many combinations of subjects can be taken however either Maths or Economics is required.</p>
<p><u>Accountancy</u></p> <p>Careers include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Chartered Accountant - Management Accountant - Auditor 	<p>No specific subject routes however Maths, Economics or Business Management are popular choices.</p>
<p><u>Business Administration</u></p>	<p>BTEC Business Enterprise recommended</p>

Popular Career Paths

Archaeology	A Level or Pre-U certificate in History, English and a Science subject.
Architecture	A Level Maths and Physics and either Graphics or Art.
Art related courses/ 3D Design	Any Art/ design courses
Biochemist	A Level Chemistry and Biology and some require Maths.
Biologist	A Level Chemistry and Biology.
Biotechnology/ Medical engineering	2 or 3 from A Level Chemistry, Biology, Physics, Maths
Business	No specific requirements - International Business courses will require a language at A level and some with a Financial element will require A level Maths.
Chemistry	A Level Chemistry and another science subject.
Computer science courses	A Level Maths and a science subject required for some courses.
Childcare/ Early Years teaching	Children's play, learning and development (BTEC) & Health and Social Care BTEC are both highly recommended
Dance	Practical experience required, but no specific A Levels.
Dentistry	GCSE grades need to be mainly A* & A grades. A Level Chemistry and Biology required.
Dietician	A Level Biology and/ or chemistry
Drama	English and Drama may be required.
Economics	A Level or Pre-U Certificate in Maths, Economics or Business Management.
Education/ Teacher Training	For secondary teaching a course in subject you would like to teach is required. For Primary school teaching there are no specific course requirements.
Engineering	A Level Physics and Maths. Some courses recommend Further Maths.

English (including Creative Writing and journalism)	A Level English Lit / Lang or Pre-U English Literature
Environmental Related careers	One or two science A Levels required – Geography often accepted. Some require Maths A Level.
European studies and Languages	An A Level in a modern language is required. Some courses will require a second Language A Level.
Law	No specific requirements, however English Literature, History, Philosophy, Politics and GPR are all viewed favourably.
Maths	A Level Maths and Further Maths
Media	Any creative arts or humanities/social science can be useful.
Medicine	A Levels in Biology and Chemistry.
Music	Subjects relating to performance or Music – either A level Music.
Nursing/ Medical related careers	Two A Level or BTEC Science subjects required - Applied Science, BTEC Health and Social Care or Psychology are generally accepted. A Level Biology generally required for Paramedic Science.
Physiotherapy	A Level Biology required
Psychology/Counselling	Psychology, Sociology is viewed favourably. Chemistry is required for some Psychology courses.
Sports Coaching	BTEC Sport recommended
Sports Science	An A Level Science subject required
Travel and Tourism	Business courses and Travel & Tourism BTEC would be viewed favourably.
Uniformed Services	No specific requirements
Veterinary Science	A Level Biology and Chemistry are required

Entry Requirements for the Sixth Form 2020/2021

To take A Level courses you will need to achieve 6 x 9-4 grades at GCSE.

To take BTEC courses and the Extended Project you will need to achieve 5 x 9-4 grades or equivalent at GCSE.

Subject	Essential including GCSE grades
Applied Law (BTEC)	5 9-4 Grades at GCSE or equivalent, including a grade 4 or higher in English Language and a grade 4 or higher in either History, Geography, English Literature or Philosophy and Belief
Applied Science (BTEC)	Minimum of 5 grade 4s at GCSE including English and Maths. In addition a minimum of a grade 44 in GCSE Science.
Art – Fine Art (A Level)	Grade 5 in GCSE Art.
Biology (A Level)	Grade 55 in GCSE Combined Science or Grade 5 in GCSE Biology in the higher paper, and a Grade 5 in Maths and English. Grade 66 in Combined Science or Grade 6 in Biology is desirable.
Business (BTEC)	5 9-4 grades at GCSE or equivalent including a 4 grade in GCSE Mathematics
Business (A Level)	Grade 5 in GCSE English Language or Business and a grade 5 in GCSE Mathematics in addition to 6 GCSE at grade 9-5
Chemistry (A Level)	Grade 55 in GCSE Combined Science or Grade 5 in GCSE Chemistry in the higher paper, and a Grade 5 in Maths and English. Grade 66 in Combined Science or Grade 6 in Chemistry is desirable. The continuation of Maths at Post-16 is an advantage.
Core Maths (Level 3)	Grade 5 in GCSE Mathematics or at the discretion of the Head of Mathematics
Criminology (Level 3 Diploma)	5 9-4 grades at GCSE or equivalent, including a grade 4 in English Language or English Literature.
Design & Technology (A Level)	A 4 or equivalent in GCSE DT or NCFE Engineering (L2P)
Digital Film & TV Production – Creative Media (BTEC)	No previous qualification in Media Studies is necessary, but candidates must have a Grade 4 in GCSE English Language or English Literature and have an interest in the media.
Economics	Grade 5 in both GCSE Maths and GCSE English Language or English Literature, in addition to 6 GCSEs at grades 9-5.
English Language and Literature (A Level)	Students must achieve a Grade 5 or above in English Language and/or English Literature.
English Literature (A Level)	Students must achieve a Grade 5 or above in English Language and/or English Literature.
Extended Project (EPQ)	5 9-4 grades at GCSE or equivalent.
Food Science & Nutrition (Level 3 Diploma)	Grade 4 in Hospitality & Catering (Level 2 Pass) or a Grade 4 in Science if no Hospitality & Catering qualification.

Further Mathematics (A Level)	Grade 8 in GCSE Mathematics
Geography (A Level)	Grade 5 in GCSE Geography or through discussion with Head of Geography if not studied Geography at GCSE.
Government & Politics (A Level)	GCSE Grade 5 in History or if History was not taken at GCSE a 5 in English Language or a similar subject.
Graphic Design & Digital Photography (BTEC)	No previous qualification in Media Studies is necessary, but candidates must have a Grade 4 in GCSE English Language or English Literature and have an interest in the media and photography.
Health and Social Care (BTEC)	5 9-4 grades at GCSE or equivalent.
History (A Level)	Grade 5 in GCSE History. If History not taken at GCSE then a Grade 5 in English Language or English Literature.
IT (BTEC)	5 9-4 at GCSE or equivalent. No previous IT qualification required.
Mathematics (A Level)	Grade 6 in GCSE Mathematics. Entry is at the discretion of the Head of Mathematics.
Modern Languages – French (A Level)	GCSE Grade 5 or higher in GCSE French.
Music Technology (BTEC)	5 GCSEs at Grade 4 or above GCSE Music, BTEC Music or a Level 2 Music Technology qualification is desirable.
Performing Arts (BTEC)	Grade 4 in GCSE Drama or a Grade 4 in English with extra-curricular experience in Performing Arts.
Philosophy & Ethics (A Level)	GCSE Grade 5 in Philosophy & Belief and a GCSE Grade 5 in English Language.
Physical Education (A Level)	Grade 5 in GCSE PE and 55 in GCSE Combined Science.
Physics (A Level)	Grade 55 in GCSE Combined Science or Grade 5 in GCSE Physics in the higher paper, and a Grade 5 in Maths and English. Grade 66 in Combined Science or Grade 6 in Physics is desirable. The continuation of Maths at Post-16 is an advantage.
Psychology (A Level)	Grade 5 or above in English Language. Grade 5 or above in Mathematics. Grade 55 or above in Combined Science.
Psychology (BTEC)	Grade 4 or above in English Language. Grade 4 or above in Mathematics. Grade 44 or above in Combined Science.
Sociology (A Level)	Grade 5 or above in English Language GCSE. Grade 5 or above in Mathematics GCSE. Grade 4 or above in Science GCSE
Sport (BTEC)	Grade 4 in GCSE PE and a grade 44 in GCSE Science.

How to apply to the Sixth Form

The application form for the Sixth Form is electronic and is accessed via the link on the Sixth Form website. Applications will be open from Friday 8 November 2019.

You need to choose three courses you would like to take. You can also choose an additional Enrichment option. Students normally only take three options and may also take an enrichment option. However in some exceptional cases students do take more than the three core options. If you wish to do so you can pick more than three on the application form.

The subjects are organised in blocks so you can have a clear view of which subject combinations are possible. These have been designed to allow for all the main career pathways to be followed. However if your desired combination does not fit then you can indicate this on the application form and we will see what we can do to assist with this.

Subjects shaded in grey will be delivered in partnership with Midsomer Norton Sixth Form.

Subject Blocks

A	B	C	D	E	Enrichment
English Language & Literature	Economics	Biology	Geography	Business Studies	Core Maths
English Literature	Politics	History	Food and Nutrition	Chemistry	Further Maths
Physics	French	Maths	Design and Technology A Level	Health and Social Care BTEC	Extended Project
Psychology	Philosophy and Ethics	IT BTEC	Psychology A Level	PE	
Sociology	Psychology BTEC	Music Technology BTEC	Performing Arts BTEC	Art	
Digital Film & TV production BTEC	Applied Science BTEC			Graphic Design & Digital Photography BTEC	
Business BTEC	Applied Law BTEC				
	Sport BTEC				
	Criminology Level 3 Diploma				