

Academic Qualifications

Reformed A Levels

From September 2015 new A Level qualifications were introduced in some subjects. From September 2016 further new qualifications were introduced with other subjects finally being updated and introduced for first teaching in September 2017.

Nationally, the bulk of subjects have now been reformed by the DfE and Ofqual and some subjects were withdrawn.

Students will now study A Level programmes over two years so at the end of Year 13 they will be examined on all content and skills learnt over the two years.

Unlike the older-style AS Levels, students will not be formally examined at the end of Year 12, although they should expect to sit mock examinations, marked internally.

Reformed qualifications include all of the A Levels we currently offer: Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Mathematics, English, History, Geography, Fine Art, Art Photography, Design and Technology: Product Design and Media Studies.

Where can they lead?

A Levels are one of the main routes into higher education, but they are also useful if you want to go straight into a job, such as office administration or trainee accountancy, or an apprenticeship.

Please be aware that some apprenticeships for students age 18, do require certain A Level subjects and often specific grades/UCAS points.

How are they assessed?

A Level qualifications are made up of a number of units. The majority of assessment is by written exams, although in some subjects there is a small amount of coursework or non-examination assessment.

There is also assessment of practical skills in subjects like Science and Art; sometimes these practical skills can also be assessed within the written examinations.

Grades

A Levels are graded A*-E