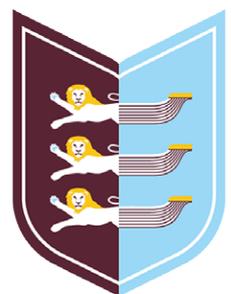




Prospectus

THE COLNE
COMMUNITY SCHOOL & COLLEGE





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HIGH QUALITY TEACHING & SUPERB ACADEMIC RESULTS

Our Aims:
Strengthen potential
Ensure academic development
Remove barriers to progress
Instil confidence
Encourage self-belief
Develop independence of thought
Promote empathy with others
Aspirations to be the very best



“ In the sixth form, students’ progress is very strong on academic courses and exceptional on vocational courses. ”

Ofsted 2018 - CCHS Sixth Form

Welcome to THE COLNE COMMUNITY SCHOOL SIXTH FORM COLLEGE

It is my great pleasure to welcome you to The Colne and to introduce you to some of the opportunities available at our sixth form college. I would like to thank you for expressing an interest in pursuing your further education with us.

We understand that moving from GCSE studies onto post-16 courses is quite a leap and, in order to fulfil future career aspirations, there are many important decisions to be made in regards to selecting the correct courses. Staff will be with you all the way; with the expertise to direct you towards the right pathway of study, tailored for you, so that by the end of year 13 you are ready and prepared to embark on the next stage of your life.

To improve the breadth of our post-16 offer we will be working in partnership with Clacton County High School who are relocating their sixth form onto a separate site in West Clacton from September 2020 to create Sigma Sixth (Tendring Campus). Working in collaboration with others and sharing expertise is vitally important and in September 2018, Ofsted inspectors judged the CCHS 16-19 programme of study as ‘outstanding’. In partnership, we aim to provide a range of courses to suit all students’ needs and abilities.

The sixth form collaboration means that some of our teachers from The Colne will be delivering courses at the Sigma Sixth site, as well as at the main school in Church Road. This balance will provide the care and personal touch valued by many of our students, but with access to a more adult setting in a new college.

Whilst offering a high quality in-college learning experience, our sixth form college also provides students with additional opportunities through a unique collaboration with the University of Essex called the VI6 Partnership. Each week, for some specialist minority subjects, our students travel to the university campus for their lessons. As a result of this collaboration, we are able to expand the range of courses available and these students can enjoy the full resources of the university, meet with likeminded students from other sixth forms and share the expertise of teachers from across the partnership as well as working alongside undergraduates from different university faculties.

Studying at our sixth form is a personal experience; staff take a keen interest in each student as an individual and are there to mentor and support you through your time with us. The pastoral and academic team are ready to listen to any concerns and are always very pro-active in dealing with any issues you may have. Our sixth form is not just about ensuring your

academic development, it is also about equipping you with essential life skills so that you have the self-belief, confidence, independence of thought and the aspirations to be the very best you can.

I hope that you enjoy reading through our prospectus. Please come along to our sixth form college annual open evening or visit our website. Additionally, if you require more information or have any further questions, please contact us and we can arrange for you to meet with a member of staff.



NEIL GALLAGHER
EXECUTIVE HEADTEACHER

“ Students are overwhelmingly positive about the sixth form, especially the support they receive from their teachers, both in and out of lessons. ”

Ofsted 2018 - CCHS Sixth Form

Student Support & Guidance

Students within the college have a personal mentor who works to bring out their best attributes and seeks to overcome any barriers to progress. We aim to strengthen the individual's potential to achieve in the highly competitive world they will be entering, whether it is remaining in education at university, progressing to employment or an apprenticeship.

We offer ongoing careers related support to our students, in a number of ways, including: one-to-one interviews, sessions run through collapsed timetable days, visits, taster days and mock interviews. Mentors also support and guide students to engage in enrichment activities, and help students to develop personal statements for UCAS or apprenticeships. Students can also drop into the Sixth Form Office to arrange a careers interview, or to ask for help with applications, CVs and student finance.

UCAS (Universities Central Admission Service)
Higher Learning / Degree Apprenticeships Support

We have an excellent supported UCAS and careers system, which starts in November with a Post 18 Progression Day for all year 12's. During February, we offer a collapsed timetable for Careers / Higher Education. At this point, there is also a parent consultation evening to discuss Post 18 options.

In the sixth form
99%
of Higher Education
Applicants
attained
university places

During March, we arrange taster days for year 12 students at universities. This is followed by 2 weeks in June, for students to have the opportunity to complete their applications for their future destinations; receive mock interviews with feedback and experience in a range of workshops.

All students attend the annual UCAS higher educational fair. Trained staff check all applications thoroughly and students have access to independent and impartial progression advice from a qualified careers advisor who visits the sixth form to see students by appointment.

Additional support for students wishing to apply to top universities :

- Nottingham Medsix
- Oxbridge summer school, Uniq & Sutton Trust summer schools
- Realising opportunities schemes
- Pathways to Law/Essex
- Cambridge taster days

For Higher Learning / Degree Apprenticeships :

- BT apprenticeship evening
- Promotion of higher learning apprenticeships.



“ Effective Personal, Social, Health & Economic learning is delivered through the REAL days programme, assemblies and a comprehensive mentoring programme. ”

Ofsted 2018 - CCHS Sixth Form

Enrichment

We believe that in addition to good grades, students need opportunities to develop the 'soft skills' such as a strong work ethic, positive attitude, good communication, good time management and good problem solving skills which are core competencies that employers and universities require.

“ Enrichment is a great opportunity to learn new skills, develop your self-confidence and help discover what you want to do. I have worked with Year 8 and found it a brilliant experience. ”

“ Being part of the Charity and Social Committee has been so much fun. It has also enabled me to develop new skills to add to my CV. ”

“ I really enjoy helping others and it gives me a great sense of achievement to feel that I am making a difference to others by volunteering. ”



Wider opportunities for involvement in voluntary activities are also made available, as part of the Enrichment programme tailored to student aspirations.

The activities enable year 12 and 13 students to work together and include; music, drama, sport, charity work, mentoring younger students and social committees.

We work closely with employers to offer excellent opportunities beyond the classroom.

Most recently, this has included working with Zurich Insurance to enhance students learning in preparation for their exams, via their training programme on general insurance and financial services.

Phelan Construction has provided lectures to students on starting up a business, resulting in students securing a higher learning apprenticeship with the company.

Karelia Network Solutions have presented and offered work experience, which included a project to create a manageable temperature monitor from a Raspberry Pi and temperature probe.

Additionally, they have supported in the development of the 'innovation hub', which enables students to simulate a job role within an organisation.

“Students in the sixth form are overwhelmingly positive about the school and the opportunities it provides” OFSTED 2018 - CCHS Sixth Form

“ We completed work experience at Hart Wilcox and found it to be a really enjoyable and valuable opportunity, working with people of all different ages and backgrounds, but all still having the same career goals. ”

Educational Visits

As part of their studies, students are given the opportunity to enrich their classroom activities through participating in a wide range of visits. These include short visits to local businesses, day visits to London as well as residentials.

“ The Old Bailey gave a real life insight into the criminal court and procedures. ”



Image: The Old Bailey

“ Auschwitz was a real eye opener and made me appreciate what I had. It also supported me with my Law and Morality essays. ”



Image above: Students visited Auschwitz.

“ Students in the sixth form behave outstandingly well and have very positive attitudes to learning. ”

OFSTED
2018 CCHS Sixth Form



VI6 Partnership

In order to ensure we have a broad offer, we collaborate with five other schools and the University of Essex, so that some subjects are taught from the university campus.

This unique opportunity allows our students to experience a university environment and encourage independence, fulfilling a key element of sixth form learning.

VI6 students can use the facilities on campus, ranging from coffee shops, restaurants and resource centres. We have outstanding links with the University of Essex, including access to an exclusive bursary scheme available for students who continue their higher education studies there.



Ben attended the University of Essex each week and was part of the Realising Opportunities programme and was invited to participate in a Nuffield Research project as a result of our STEM programme. Ben also gained a place on the Cambridge Shadowing Scheme and the Oxford 'Uniq' Summer School Programme.



Sixth forms in partnership with the University of Essex | University of Essex

“ Students are well aware of employment and apprenticeship opportunities, although most were seeking places at prestigious universities. ”

OFSTED 2018 - CCHS Sixth Form



Olivia studied three A Level subjects.

“ I studied Law on the VI6 scheme at Essex University which has given me the opportunity to meet new people and make new friends from other schools in the area. Additionally, through sixth form, I participated in Pathways to Law, which allowed me to gain new experiences and a work placement in a top London law firm. This helped me to make the firm decision to follow a Higher Learning Apprenticeship in this sector. ”

A Level Mathematics

A Level Mathematics is often a prerequisite for entry into many higher education courses such as medicine, accountancy, and STEM. Maths requires logical thinking skills and can be useful in all areas of employment; students who study this subject at university are extremely sought after.

This is a two-year course with compulsory core modules and students will also study Statistics and Mechanics. Students will be issued with individual textbooks; there is an expectation of a significant amount of independent study required to really make progress on this course and to be successful.

Assessment in this course: 100% external examination; two core tests, one applied.

Entry requirements:

Students need to have achieved a minimum of 6 grades 5-9 incl. English and Maths and should be aiming to achieve a minimum grade 6 in any subject chosen to study at A level

A Level Further Maths

A Level Mathematics is often a prerequisite for entry into higher education courses such as medicine, accountancy, and STEM.

Students follow a two-year Further Mathematics course running parallel to their A Level Mathematics studies; the course is 100% exam based. Students must complete two core units across Y12 and Y13, and must study two additional, optional units from Statistics, Mechanics and Decision. To be successful in this subject, students must invest considerable time revising and practising outside of lessons.

A good A Level result and either an AS or full A Level in Further Mathematics, will be necessary for students to access degree courses offered by Russell Group universities such as Oxford, Cambridge, University College London and Imperial College, to name only a few.

Degrees in Pure Mathematics can lead into a variety of careers, as students studying this degree are highly sought after for their wide range of problem solving skills.

Entry requirements:

Students need to have achieved a minimum of 6 grades 5-9 incl. English and Maths and should be aiming to achieve ideally a level 8 in their Maths GCSE.

A Level Economics

This course will suit students who have a good understanding of Mathematics and a high standard of English. The course looks at both Micro and Macro Economics and allows students to critically explore a range of economic issues, drawing on data from local, national and international sources as well as developing analytical and debating skills.

Students considering A level Economics need to enjoy Mathematics, be able to tackle problems pragmatically, and be able to write essay-style answers which provide logical reasoning.

Assessment in this course: 100% external examination.

Entry requirements:

Students need to have achieved a minimum of 6 grades 5-9 incl. English and Maths and should be aiming to achieve a minimum grade 6 in any subject chosen to study at A level.

A Level English Language

A Level English Language gives students the opportunity to study how one of the most widely used languages on the planet works, and how it is used in a vast array of both spoken and written mediums. Students will develop a detailed understanding of English through exploration of how language creates meanings in written, spoken and electronic modes. This course will suit students that have a passion for exploring the English language and the fundamentals of how it works.

Students have the opportunity to explore 'real life' language use in different social contexts and develop an understanding of how gender, power and technology affect language. The course also requires independent study involving reading, creative writing and research.

An essential subject if interested in a career path in journalism, publishing, advertising, public relations, law and teaching.

Assessment in the course: 80% External Examination and 20% Coursework.

Entry requirements:

Students need to have achieved a minimum of 6 grades 5-9 incl. English and Maths and should be aiming to achieve a minimum grade 6 in any subject chosen to study at A level.

A Level English Literature

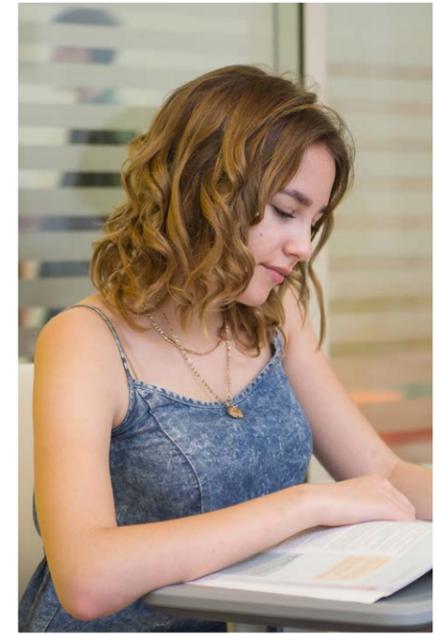
A Level English Literature provides the opportunity to read and study an exciting range of texts, from well-known classics to modern novels. It will enable you to study prose, poems and plays from different time periods and cultures and use analytical skills to demonstrate understanding. Students develop the ability to analyse how readers' responses are shaped by a text's context, explore writers' choices and intentions and study other readers' interpretations of the texts and think about critical approaches to them.

The course requires students to read widely and develop individual responses to an array of texts and literature. An essential subject if interested in a career path in journalism, publishing, advertising, public relations, law and teaching.

Assessment in the course: 80% External Examination and 20% Coursework.

Entry requirements:

Students need to have achieved a minimum of 6 grades 5-9 incl. English and Maths and should be aiming to achieve a minimum grade 6 in any subject chosen to study at A level.



A Level Biology

This course will involve looking at and exploring the structure and function of living organisms; from the building blocks of cells to whole organisms and how they interact in the environment within which they exist. Biology develops an essential knowledge and understanding of the different areas of science and how they relate to each other.

Studying A Level Biology will suit students who have a keen interest in any aspect of biology, including biochemistry, ecology, physiology, genetics, evolution and the environment. Many students studying A Level Biology go on to study courses at university such as Agriculture/Horticulture; Biological Sciences; Diagnostic Radiography; Forensic Analysis; Medicine; Nursing; Pharmaceutical Sciences; Physiotherapy; Science Journalism; Sport Science & Exercise; Zoology.

Assessment in the course: 100% External Examination. Practical endorsement reported separately.

A Level Chemistry

A Level Chemistry extends students' knowledge of the subjects studied at GCSE. Familiar topics such as atomic structure, bonding, rates of reaction, mole calculations and organic chemistry. You will also study new topics on energy changes, instrumental analysis and entropy.

The course is designed to be a practical experience with activities that will consolidate learning of the main aspects of Chemistry, equipping students with the skills required to study science at a higher level. It is suitable for students who like being able to explain how things work, why things occur and enjoy making the science happen, through creating new compounds in the practical work. Students will also need to enjoy maths, as there are many calculations in A Level Chemistry.

Assessment in the course: 100% External Examination. Practical endorsement reported separately.

A Level Physics

To study A Level Physics, you must have a real interest in the subject combined with an enjoyment of solving problems. There are some familiar topics such as electricity, waves and motion and forces, combined with new topics including electromagnetism, medical physics, nuclear physics, particle physics and cosmology.

This is a practical based course and you will have the chance to develop your practical skills way beyond anything studied at GCSE. You will also be able to use your developing knowledge of maths in useful, real-life contexts.

This is one of the most respected A Level subjects for any degree, including engineering, law, economics and medicine. It can open doors as an engineer, in research (such as into energy and sound), in medical applications (as a doctor or radiologist, for example), in sports science, forensics, as a reporter - the list is endless.

Assessment in this course: 100% external examination with practical endorsement reported separately.

Entry requirements:

Students need to have achieved a minimum of 6 grades 5-9 incl. English and Maths and should be aiming to achieve a minimum grade 6 in any subject chosen to study at A level.

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Applied Level 3 in Science

The qualification gives a basic introduction to the study of Applied Science. It is designed for students who are interested in learning about the sector alongside other fields of study, with a view to progressing to a wide range of higher education courses, not necessarily in the sciences.

This course can form part of a programme of study that includes other appropriate Applied Nationals or A Levels, and is equivalent to one full A Level.

Assessment in the course: A combination of internal and external assessment, where 58% of the assessment is external examination.

Entry requirements:

Students need to have achieved a minimum of 4 grades 4-9 incl. English and Maths.



Applied Level 3
Diploma in Financial Studies

A Level
Computing

Applied Level 3
in ICT

The course enables students to develop and enhance the knowledge and skills they gained in achieving the CeFS by applying them to the wider financial environment.

This level 3 qualification prepares students for further study and provides an in-depth exploration of the important concepts of financial capability and how to apply them in achieving longer-term financial stability. It extends these to include areas such as sustainability in the wider financial services system, and the long-term effect of debt.

The financially related content of this qualification serves as an excellent grounding for undergraduate study within finance and business-related disciplines, with many students going on to study accounting, business, finance and banking.

Assessment: DipFS is made up of four mandatory units, the first two of which are achieved through the Certificate in Financial Studies.

Technology is everywhere; computing is transforming the world and the way people work. This course is a subject for the future and covers the fundamentals of computer science and students develop a high level of programming skills. Almost half the course is practical where students will programme solutions to different problems as well as learning different computer algorithms. Students will also look at how computers work, the storage and processing of data and the understanding of different hardware components.

The aims of this qualification are to enable learners to develop an understanding and ability to apply the fundamental principles and concepts of computer science, analyse problems in computational terms, to think creatively, innovatively, analytically, logically and critically.

A national shortage of experts in this field means that those who have studied computing often have the highest employment rate.

Assessment in this course: 80% External Examination 20% Coursework Portfolio.

This course gives students the knowledge, understanding and skills needed in preparation for employment or university. Students will study four units of work covering a wide range of topics including: Information Technology Systems, creating systems to manage information, using social media in business and website development.

In this course, we explore the immense world of communication in ICT, considering how the world has become so 'small' and inter-connected through technological advances. The course also takes account of the constantly evolving nature of IT to ensure students are best prepared in whatever field of work they chose, given that IT increasingly influences all aspects of life.

Assessment in this course: A combination of internal and external assessment, where 58% of the assessment is external.

Entry requirements:

Students need to have achieved a minimum of 4 grades 4-9 incl. English and Maths.

Entry requirements:

Students need to have achieved a minimum of 6 grades 5-9 incl. English and Maths and should be aiming to achieve a minimum grade 6 in any subject chosen to study at A level.

Entry requirements:

Students need to have achieved a minimum of 4 grades 4-9 incl. English and Maths.

A Level
Geography

A Level
History

Geography is suited to students who are interested in the many factors affecting our planet and how we live. It develops an understanding of the impact of global changes and investigates how species need to adapt as a result. Geography students and graduates have one of the highest rates of employment of all degree holders.

Straddling the science and humanities disciplines, A Level Geography allows students to study scientific, environmental and economic principles and issues. This course gives the opportunity to undertake fieldwork investigations looking at a range of case studies and the issues that affect plants, people and cultures.

Geography shares common topics with science, and also combines successfully with almost all other A Level subjects. Geography is an academic subject and well received in university applications, leading to a wide range of opportunities for study at university and ultimately a career in a wide range of sectors.

Assessment in this course: The course is 100% exam based with two exams at both AS and A Level.

Students interested in studying A Level History develop a wide range of skills that stand them in good stead in many higher education degree courses and career paths, particularly those that require analysis of problems, attention to detail and the ability to research and present facts. As a result, A Level History complements many other subjects.

The course encourages students to progress their interest and enthusiasm for the subject, take a more in-depth and detailed look at significant historic events, making links and drawing comparisons within and/or across different periods and aspects of the past.

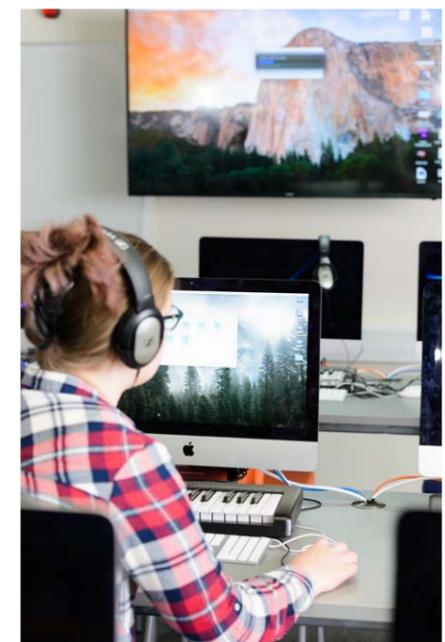
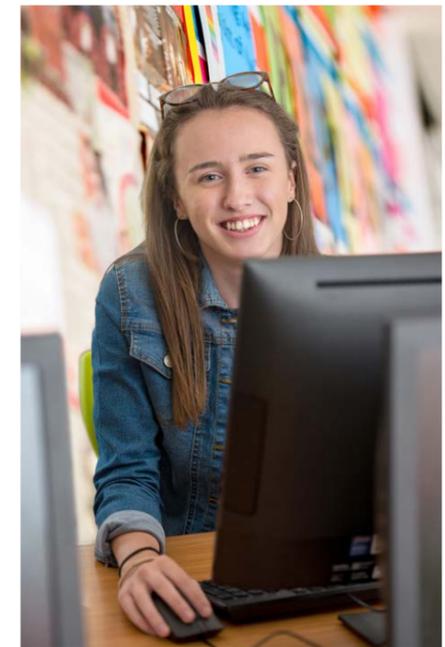
Assessment in the course: 20% Topic Essay and 80% exam. There are 3 papers to sit for the A2 qualification.

Entry requirements:

Students need to have achieved a minimum of 6 grades 5-9 incl. English and Maths and should be aiming to achieve a minimum grade 6 in any subject chosen to study at A level.

Entry requirements:

Students need to have achieved a minimum of 6 grades 5-9 incl. English and Maths and should be aiming to achieve a minimum grade 6 in any subject chosen to study at A level.



A Level
Religion, Philosophy & Ethics

Religious Studies is a comprehensive, challenging and highly rewarding subject. It allows students to develop reflective skills, to gain an understanding of life, beliefs and views of other cultures, and to cultivate a critical and an analytical mind in response to moral philosophical issues. The valuable skills learned via this course are extremely adaptable and transferrable to wide range of career paths.

Religious Studies links well to a wide range of other A Level subjects including History, Sociology, English Language, Literature, Law, Politics, Citizenship, Economics, Geography, Maths and Sciences.

Assessment is via written examination only.

Entry requirements:

Students need to have achieved a minimum of 6 grades 5-9 incl. English and Maths and should be aiming to achieve a minimum grade 6 in any subject chosen to study at A level.

A Level
Sociology

Sociology is an exciting subject, ideal for a student open to questioning and challenging situations and events that occur in everyday life. Through studying this course students develop intellectual, investigative, discursive, and persuasive skills, together with utilising research skills including methodology common to a range of Social Science subjects, e.g. interviews, questionnaires, observations etc. Sociology encourages lateral thinking by analysing different viewpoints and arguments put forward by various political and sociological thinkers.

A good GCSE in a Humanities subject, e.g. History, Geography, Citizenship, Geography, Sociology or Psychology is an advantage if electing to take this course.

Assessment in this course: 100% exam based. There is no coursework, but you will be required to write regular essays in preparation for the exams.

Entry requirements:

Students need to have achieved a minimum of 6 grades 5-9 incl. English and Maths and should be aiming to achieve a minimum grade 6 in any subject chosen to study at A level.

A Level
Psychology

Psychology is a vast subject and looks at the most complex machine on earth: the human mind. It seeks explanations for the behaviour of some notorious individuals who have had a significant global impact (e.g. Hitler) to everyday phenomena like being unable to remember where you left your house keys. It also explores topics including different types of mental illness and the possible causes. Within A Level Psychology, there is a strong emphasis on learning scientific research methods and in the application of Psychological issues to real-world situations.

Psychology is a subject which opens many doors and imposes few limitations on those who study it. Many graduates, who are accepted into Law and Medical degrees, have Psychology as an A Level.

Assessment in the course: 100% external examination, following 2 years of study for A2.

Entry requirements:

Students need to have achieved a minimum of 6 grades 5-9 incl. English and Maths and should be aiming to achieve a minimum grade 6 in any subject chosen to study at A level.

A Level
Law

On this course, students explore a range of legal rules by which society and everyday life is governed, including criminal law and human rights law. They will learn about how the legal system operates, and explore legal concepts such as the meaning of 'justice' and whether it is achieved by the courts and in individual cases.

The study of Law is suitable for students who have an interest in people and related social issues. It develops their analytical, reasoning and problem-solving skills, alongside the ability to construct balanced arguments - a skill highly regarded by any future employer.

A qualification in Law can lead to higher education study in Law, Criminology, Sociology, Business Studies, or any of a number of other academic subjects. It can lead to a range of careers including the legal profession, local government, politics, research, management, or on graduate trainee programmes offered by employers..

Assessment in this course: written examination only, at the end of the course.

Entry requirements:

Students need to have achieved a minimum of 6 grades 5-9 incl. English and Maths and should be aiming to achieve a minimum grade 6 in any subject chosen to study at A level.

Applied Level 3
Criminology

Studying criminology develops students understanding of the social and personal aspects of crime, victimisation and responses to crime and deviance. The course involves either a one or two year programme of study dependent on whether students opt for either the Certificate or Diploma in Criminology.

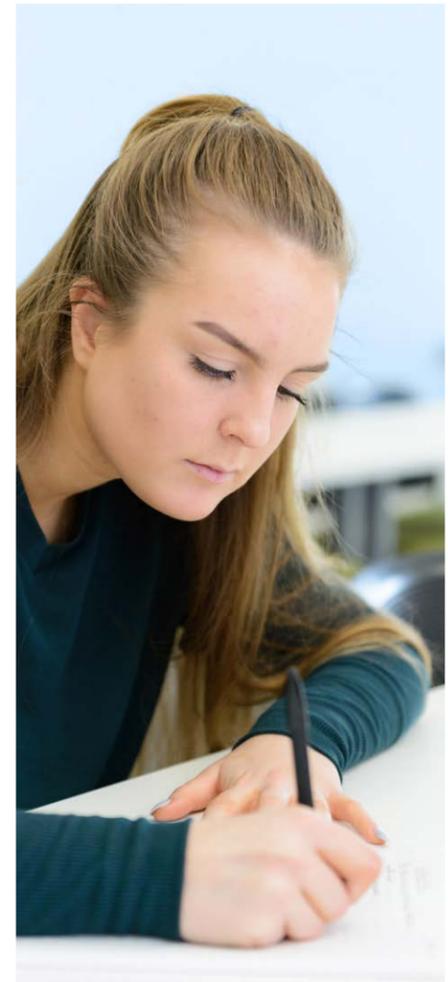
Students develop skills in communication, generating and evaluating evidence, making reasoned arguments and ethical judgments, critical thinking and problem solving and analysing and interpreting data. Many of these skills are extremely sought after by employers and lead to a range of degree courses available to study at university.

Assessment in the course: 50% Coursework and 50% External Examination.

For the Certificate students complete one year covering one internally assessed unit and an external examination. For the full Diploma students complete an additional year ending in one further internally assessed units and a final external examination.

Entry requirements:

Students need to have achieved a minimum of 4 grades 4-9 incl. English and Maths.



A Level Spanish

The ability to speak a foreign language not only develops our skills of communication, but also allows a deeper understanding, perspective and an immersion into different cultures. In an increasingly competitive global job market, having a language will stand students in good stead when deciding on a future career path, whether at home or abroad.

As well as acquiring new ideas and ways of looking at the world, foreign-language speakers also come to have a better command of the syntax and formation of languages and an understanding of linguistics in general. Research has shown that learning a language can help to improve problem solving and memory skills, as well as general mental agility.

Assessment in this course: 100% exam.

Entry requirements:

Students need to have achieved a minimum of 6 grades 5-9 incl. English and Maths and should be aiming to achieve a minimum grade 6 in any subject chosen to study at A level.

Applied Level 3 in Health and Social Care

This course is unique as it offers students practical and in-depth analysis of the health and social care system available in the UK. The pivotal element of the course is the exploration of practical skills of communication, team working and supporting clients in real life scenarios.

Students can opt for the Foundation Diploma or the Diploma, which offers work placements for 100 hours between two health and social care placements, expanding the practical elements of working within the sector.

Assessment in the course: two/three exam units, Unit 1 - Human Lifespan Development and Unit 2 - Working in the Health and Social Care sector and four/six coursework units.

Entry requirements:

Students need to have achieved a minimum of 4 grades 4-9 incl. English and Maths.

A Level Film Studies

The course will broaden students' knowledge and understanding of film. Production work is a crucial part of this subject and is integral to our work.

The course covers a diverse range of film, including documentary, film from the silent era, experimental film and short film. The significance of film and film practice in national, global and historical contexts, film and its key contexts (including social, cultural, political, historical and technological contexts), how films generate meanings and responses, film as an aesthetic medium, the different ways in which spectators respond to film.

Students learn to apply critical approaches to film and apply knowledge and understanding of film through either filmmaking or screenwriting.

Assessment in the course: 30% Coursework and 70% External Assessment.

Entry requirements:

Students need to have achieved a minimum of 6 grades 5-9 incl. English and Maths and should be aiming to achieve a minimum grade 6 in any subject chosen to study at A level.

Applied Level 3 in Business

The course provides an overview of the different elements that make up an organisation or business. Looking at all aspects from the working environment, resources, marketing, finance and human resources. Students need to be self-motivated, enjoy group work but also work independently.

The course is suitable for students who enjoy researching online and using a variety of sources, can work to deadlines and want to gain a wider knowledge of the business environment. Students also have the opportunity to apply knowledge and skills to a variety of real-life businesses.

Success in the course can lead to a higher education degree or a wide range of career opportunities.

Assessment in the course: The Extended Certificate covers four units of work, across the two years, while the Diploma covers eight units across the two years. 50% coursework, 25% controlled assessment, 25% examination.

Entry requirements:

Students need to have achieved a minimum of 4 grades 4-9 incl. English and Maths.



A Level
Government & Politics

Politics is the study of the current political landscape of both the UK and USA. From Trump to May, from Putin to Farage, you will study contemporary and controversial political issues that are similar to those discussed in university lectures. Skills required: be able to listen to the views of others and be able to critically analyse them and the ability to be perceptive of the world around you.

Success in this course could lead to a wide range of career opportunities and possible degree courses with excellent transferable skills such as problem solving, communication and thinking skills valued in many professions, for example, law, business and administration, the police service, journalism, teaching and the media.

Assessment in the course: 3 exams at the end of year 13; 2 hour exam on UK politics, 2 hour exam on US and comparative politics, 2 hour exam on political theories.

All exams are of the same skill set so students will find exam skills easier than in subjects where the exam style changes.

Applied Level 3
in Sport

This is a 10-hour per week option and is equivalent to 2 A Levels, making it a perfect-fit for those students who are passionate about sport and fitness. The course covers 10 units across a 2-year course, which incorporates practical and theoretical elements in a range of different topic areas, aimed to stretch each candidate and to look at sport in a more independent and analytical way.

Students should expect assignments on a regular basis and it is not unusual to have two to three, due per month. Although the majority of the course is assessed through coursework, there is an exam element and externally assessed piece of coursework.

The sports and health industry continues to grow and there are many careers available to those with a passion for sport. Successful students can also look at applying for university degrees which could typically include BSc Sport and Exercise Science courses.

Assessment in the course: 6 internally assessed units and 3 externally assessed units.

A Level
Drama & Theatre

An exciting and creative subject that builds confidence, independence and group work skills. The course develops a theoretical understanding and theatrical knowledge and looks at drama from all perspectives; director, designer, performer and critic. A wide-range of enrichment opportunities are available with exciting workshops and regular theatre visits to broaden drama techniques and experiences, giving students a greater depth and variation to their own performances.

Students undertake a creative approach to the written elements with practical exploration to develop understanding. Set text is explored through practical and theory to develop an understanding of how play scripts translate to the stage, whilst cultivating performance skills. Employers and higher education establishments value this qualification as it builds confidence, self-esteem, team work and dedication and can contribute towards acceptance onto any university degree course.

Assessment in the course: coursework 40% and both practical and theory based. The exam is 60%; a written exam (40%) and two practical exams (20%).

Entry requirements:

Students need to have achieved a minimum of 6 grades 5-9 incl. English and Maths and should be aiming to achieve a minimum grade 6 in any subject chosen to study at A level.

Entry requirements:

Students need to have achieved a minimum of 4 grades 4-9 incl. English and Maths.

Entry requirements:

Students need to have achieved a minimum of 6 grades 5-9 incl. English and Maths and aiming to achieve a minimum grade 6 in any subject chosen to study at A level.

Applied Level 3
in Performing Arts (Drama)

The Applied National in Performing Arts is an innovative course that allows students to study a dynamic and exciting combination of performing arts focusing on movement and acting.

The course comprises of a variety of practical classes that work towards students delivering a full performance each term. There will be one theory session per week, in which students watch and analyse professional work, investigate the creative methods of key practitioners and develop essay-writing skills. The course aims to develop students into excellent communicators, creative thinkers and team players, all essential skills to be successful in any career.

Assessment in the course: There is no final written exam, however, there are practical controlled assessments throughout the course and an essay-writing task, which is completed under controlled conditions and marked externally by the exam board. Students are also expected to evidence practical work through written coursework by way of reflective journals, skill development trackers, presenting and written portfolios.

Entry requirements:

Students need to have achieved a minimum of 4 grades 4-9 incl. English and Maths.

Applied Level 3
in Performing Arts (Dance)

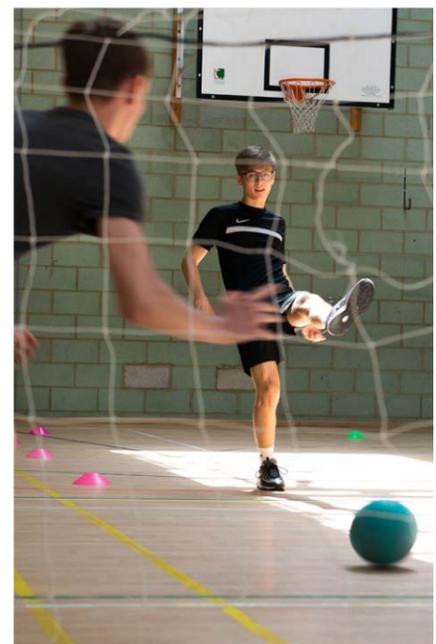
Students hoping to pursue a career within the performing arts industry should consider the Applied National in Performing Arts: Dance. An ideal course to complement other studies enabling students to develop a range of skills desirable with future employers and further education establishments including: creative thinking, problem solving, communicating, organising and working effectively within a team.

The course is delivered through a variety of practical classes looking at technique and choreography sessions and students work towards a termly performance. There is one theory session per week, to watch and analyse professional work and develop essay-writing skills.

Assessment in the course: No final written exam, however, there are practical controlled assessments throughout the course and an essay-writing task completed under controlled conditions and marked externally by the exam board. Evidence to support practical work is expected through written coursework including reflective journals, skill development trackers, presenting and written portfolios.

Entry requirements:

Students need to have achieved a minimum of 4 grades 4-9 incl. English and Maths.



Applied Level 3 in Music

Students who have a love of music, play an instrument, enjoy composing and exploring creativity through the medium of music will be ideally suited to this course. The music facilities include a large Mac suite, state of the art music studio and several well-equipped rehearsal rooms. The environment enables the students to craft their own musical journey, developing and training specifically in their preferred musical field.

The music course has many options within the unit choices and this allows the student to build a portfolio that will evidence a strong work ethic and specialist skillset that employers and further educational establishments interview panels are looking for.

Assessment in the course: the course is made up of 90 credits in total.

30 units are a core externally assessed unit and the remaining 60 credits are assessed internally and moderated by the exam board.

Entry requirements:

Students need to have achieved a minimum of 4 grades 4-9 incl. English and Maths.

A Level Art

This course allows students to develop their ability to appreciate the visual world and respond in a personal and creative way. Students are encouraged to develop their own personal interests, whilst having the opportunity to develop their experiences and knowledge of materials, practices and technologies in a variety of Fine Art disciplines.

Students with a particular interest in art history and contemporary art are suited to this course. To be successful in this subject students require: an aesthetic eye; the ability to work independently and as part of a team; organisational, imaginative and creative skills and strong presentation ability. The course naturally leads to the possibility of study at a higher level at college or university and opens the door to many creative career pathways.

Assessment in the course: AS Art, the one-year course, equates to 60% coursework portfolio and 40% externally set assignment. A2 Art, taught over 2 years, is examined by 60% personal investigation with a 2000-3000 word critical analysis and 40% externally set assignment.

Entry requirements:

Students need to have achieved a minimum of 6 grades 5-9 incl. English and Maths and should be aiming to achieve a minimum grade 6 in any subject chosen to study at A level.

Applied Level 3 in Art & Design

For students interested in learning about art and design alongside other fields of study. An appropriate course to progress onto a wide range of higher education courses, not necessarily in Art related subjects. The qualification provides an introduction to the study of art and design at this level. Learners develop projects, gain understanding of the creative process and study visual recording and communication, critical analysis and production skills.

This qualification is equivalent to one A Level.

Students produce a portfolio of coursework for assessment as well as external assessments. A grading of Pass, Merit or Distinction is applied to all units.

Unit 1 Visual Recording and Communication, Unit 2 Critical and Contextual studies in Art and Design, Unit 3 The Creative Process, Unit 13 - 3D Design materials, Techniques and Processes.

Assessment: Coursework based units require a portfolio of evidence ensuring all objectives have been met (practical assignments, oral presentations, written reports and project work).

Entry requirements:

Students need to have achieved a minimum of 4 grades 4-9 incl. English and Maths.

A Level Textiles

Textiles offers an alternative route to study design and art in an unusual context. This course will suit students who are creative and artistic, and like exploring new techniques. Students will be able to experiment with unusual materials and processes and embrace unexpected results. Radical thinkers with energy and enthusiasm who appreciate art beyond the realms of textiles are ideal candidates for this course.

During the first year, students will focus on smaller units of study, covering diverse topics such as costume design, 3-D and architecture. The second year consists of one topic selected by the student, with a written unit to support the project.

This two-year combined course ends with a practical exam lasting three days. Exam titles can be selected from a list of over 20 options; students have three months preparation time to explore their topic in detail and plan what they have decided to make over a longer period of time.

Assessment: 60% coursework, 40% practical exam.

Entry requirements:

Students need to have achieved a minimum of 6 grades 5-9 incl. English and Maths and should be aiming to achieve a minimum grade 6 in any subject chosen to study at A level.



Applied Level 3 in Food Science

This course allows students to gain a wealth of knowledge about Food Science and Nutrition. Looking at the relationship between the human body and food, developing practical skills linked to experimental work and cooking and food preparation. Practical work is the focus of the course and ideal for students who prefer a more 'hands-on' experience.

A variety of assessments for each unit, including coursework and practical tasks.

Students will gain knowledge to be able to consider and seek employment within all areas of the food production, hospitality, catering or the food retail industry. The qualification also supports entry to many higher/further education courses, e.g. BSc Food and Nutrition, BSc Human Nutrition, BSc (Hons) Public Health Nutrition, BSc (Hons) Food Science and Technology.

Assessment: 75% coursework in the form of a 3-hour practical exam. 25% 1 hour, 45mins written nutritional exam. These are assessed internally and externally verified.

Entry requirements:

Students need to have achieved a minimum of 4 grades 4-9 incl. English and Maths.

A Level Photography

The Photography A Level course suits students who are creative and imaginative, able to think aesthetically, work independently and as part of a team, are organised and confident with presentation skills.

Photography allows exploration of both traditional and digital photography and the more technical aspects of work in a darkroom and the use of digital technology. Enrichment opportunities complements this course, including working on location, visiting lecturers, gallery trips and entering competitions.

Although a very practical subject there is also a written element; students are required to analyse and evaluate their own work. During the first year students will work on a range of different projects based on a variety of themes developing skills and knowledge. The second year comprises of a personal investigation and a 2000-3000 word critical, illustrated essay.

Assessment: 60% personal investigation and 2000-3000 word critical analysis, 40% externally set assignment.

Entry requirements:

Students need to have achieved a minimum of 6 grades 5-9 incl. English and Maths and should be aiming to achieve a minimum grade 6 in any subject chosen to study at A level.



S.T.E.M. @ Sigma Sixth (Science • Technology • Engineering • Maths)

Whether interested in building a skyscraper, curing cancer, playing the stock market or unfolding the mysteries of the universe, STEM provides the perfect platform towards achieving an inspirational career.

Our STEM programme is recognised as one of the best in the country and as a result our students have been invited to participate in many fantastic opportunities throughout the UK. These have included; residential at some of the most prestigious universities, marine exploration in the Solent supported by Southampton University, building a Formula 24 racing car and racing at the Rockingham Circuit, building our own ROV and testing in the waters offshore of Brighton, working with scientists from the European Space Agency on projects such as techniques for mining on asteroids, extracting water from the moon, and involvement in many, many more exciting projects.

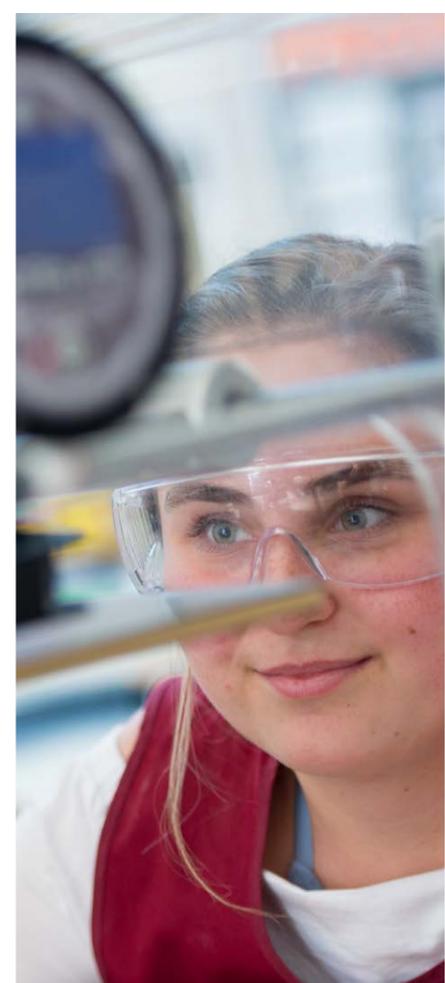
Many top companies have also worked with our students including; Rolls Royce, British Aerospace Systems, Network Rail, Glaxo Smith Kline and Bentley to name just a few. We have secured scholarships for our students via the Arkwright Scholarships (the most prestigious scholarship scheme of its type in the UK) and also the Nuffield University Scholarship Scheme (students studying first year of a post-16 in science, technology, engineering and maths courses offering placements across the UK within universities, commercial companies, voluntary organisations and research institutions).

We are very lucky to also receive ongoing sponsorship from the Smallpeice Trust; an independent charity providing exciting programmes to promote engineering careers to young people aged 10 -18 through residential courses, Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths (STEM) Days and STEM Clubs.

The sixth form has a fantastic and enthusiastic team of experienced STEM teachers, recognised as STEM Team of the Year in the regional awards and a member of the team awarded a Fellowship at the Royal Academy of Engineers for recognition as STEM Educator of the Year in 2016.

Some Tempting Educational Matter!

Motor racing, robotics, ROV remotely operated underwater vehicle), high altitude near space balloons, app development, gaming, coding, computer programming, web design, BBC microbits, eco systems, animal protection (with Colchester Zoo), participation in national engineering challenges (Faraday Challenge), Jaguar Maths in Motion virtual car racing, Games Workshop club, peer mentoring opportunities, developing industrial links with local companies.





Nikolay studied Applied Level 3 Production and ICT and is studying Computer Systems Engineering (including placement year) at the University of Essex.

Rory studied A level Graphics, Art, Media and the Extended Project Qualification and is studying Architecture at the Norwich University of Arts.

Olivia is reading Drama and Theatre Studies at Royal Holloway. She studied A level Maths, Drama, Textiles and the Extended Project Qualification.

Ryan has gained a Leadership and Management degree apprenticeship with Barclays and studied Applied Level 3 Business and Science.

“ I studied A level Further Maths, Chemistry, Maths and I am reading, Chemistry, Green Principles & Sustainable Processes (with a year in industry) at UEA to study. **Alex.** ”

“ I studied Philosophy and Ethics, History, English Literature and I am now reading Philosophy at Kings College London. **John.** ”

Matthew studied A level History, Psychology and Philosophy and Ethics and is reading History at the University of St Andrews.

Natalie is reading Political Science at the University of Birmingham and studied Applied Level 3 Production, Criminology and A level Media.



Antony is reading Nuclear Science and Materials at the University of Birmingham. He studied A level Maths, Physics, Chemistry and Biology.

Scott is reading Software Engineering at the University of Sussex. He studied A level Further Maths, Maths and Physics.

Sixth Form Facilities

Outstanding Learning Environment

At Sigma Sixth, students will study in an outstanding learning environment. Our study facilities help students make the most of their chosen subjects, including specialist art and design studios to inspire creativity, fully-equipped laboratories to explore the sciences, plus access to a dance studio and theatre for drama and performance. Teaching rooms are well equipped and students have access to paper based materials, online materials and e-resources, periodicals, journals, DVD and audio materials. Our Careers Hub provides information on further and higher education, employment, occupations, gap years and voluntary work. Students have access to group revision sessions, quiet learning areas for private study and dedicated computer rooms. Lockers are available for students if they wish to store their resources.

ICT Facilities

We have a host of modern PCs – all internet-enabled and running the latest software. Every student has access to cloud based office solutions including the Google and Microsoft. There is free Wi-Fi access so students can bring their laptop or device in and connect to the internet anywhere on campus. Sigma Sixth also offers students free photocopying and printing to support their learning.

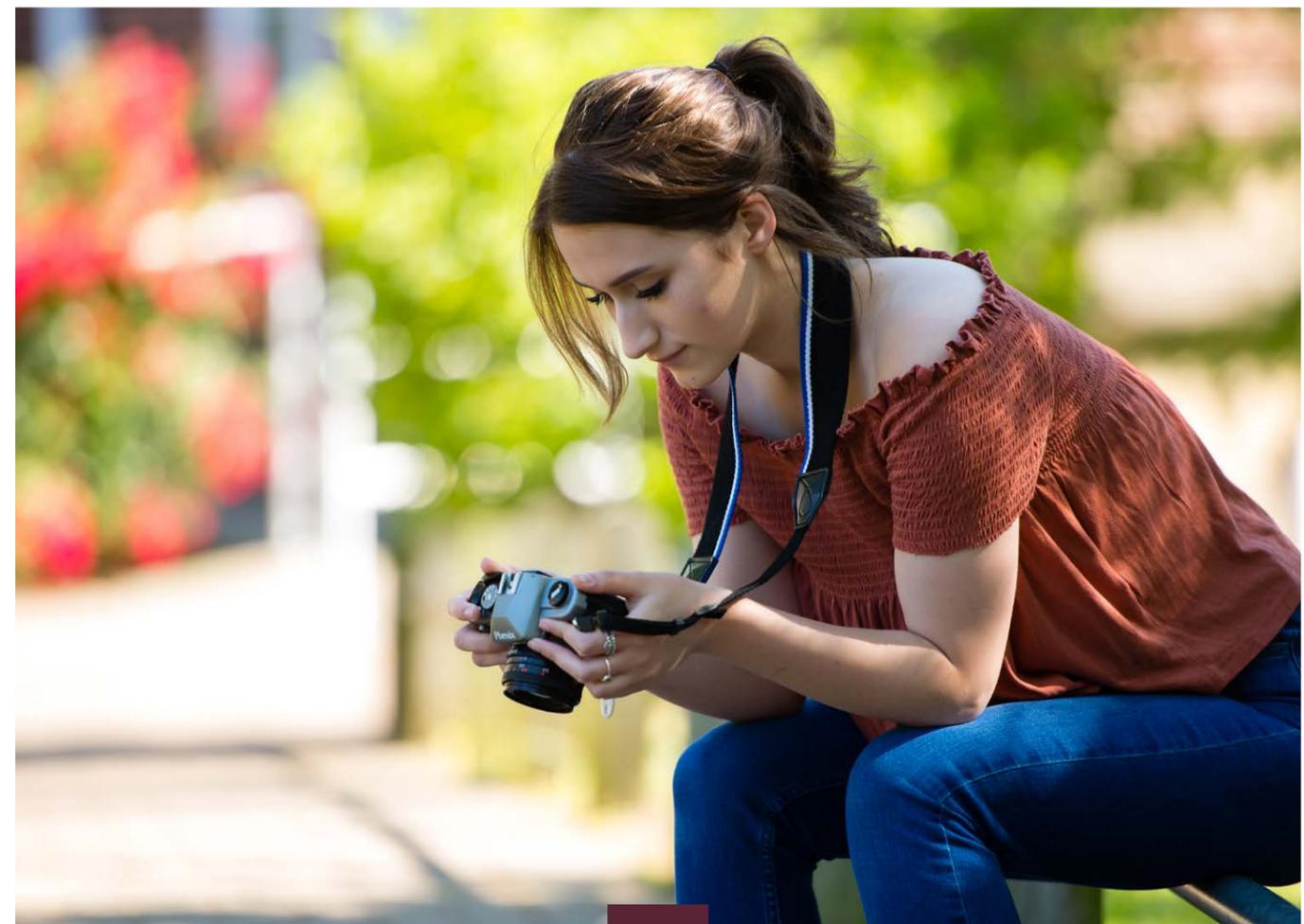
Student Social Areas

The sixth form social area is an important hub where students can meet and relax in a comfortable yet informal space before school, at break time, lunchtime and after school. Sigma Sixth has its own café, internal and external seating areas and access to a range of sporting activities.

Our campus café is open throughout the day. The café offers a range of high quality food and drink, with a lively yet relaxed atmosphere. Options include pre-packed items for takeaway, pizza, paninis and sandwiches and a regularly changing lunchtime menu of hot meals.

Sports Facilities

Students have access to a range of stunning facilities including a large sports hall, all-weather pitch, basketball courts, tennis courts, dance studios, fitness room, table tennis and extensive playing fields. There is an established sports leadership programme, coaching academy and bespoke after school clubs.



THE COLNE COMMUNITY SCHOOL

Sixth Form College Time Line

Year 11 students considering Sigma Sixth:

Ongoing throughout the year
October - November of year 11:

January of year 11
July of year 11
August of year 11

Course advice and external independent professional advice.
Taster Days for Sigma Sixth and VI6 Partnership Open Evening.
1:1 interviews and application process begins.
Application submission for Sigma Sixth.
induction for new year 12's.
GCSE results and final enrolment.

Year 12

November of year 12
February of year 12
March of year 12
June of year 12
July of year 12
August of year 12

Post-18 Progression Day.
Careers Higher Education Day.
University Taster Days .
Mock Interviews/ UCAS Higher Education Fair/Post-18 applications.
Career Workshops.
Review of mock exams and assessments/ action plan for year 13.

Year 13

September of year 13
October of year 13
March of year 13
August of year 13

University Open Days.
UCAS Higher Education application process.
Higher Degree Apprenticeship Day.
Results Day – UCAS advice/careers support.

We welcome applications from internal and external applicants.
You can download the application form at www.colne.essex.sch.uk
or email us at mail@colne.essex.sch.uk



Sixth forms in partnership with the University of Essex

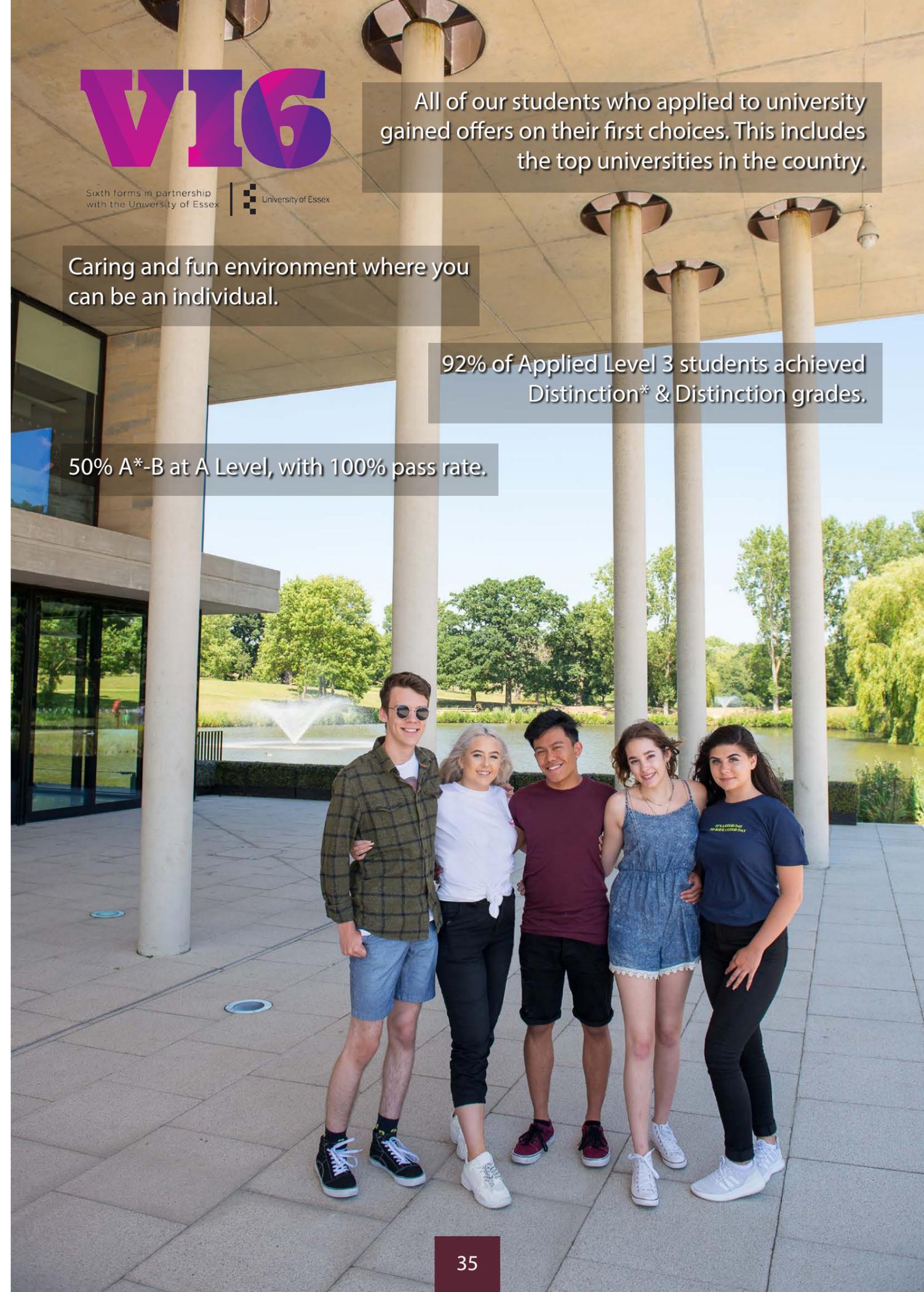


All of our students who applied to university gained offers on their first choices. This includes the top universities in the country.

Caring and fun environment where you can be an individual.

92% of Applied Level 3 students achieved Distinction* & Distinction grades.

50% A*-B at A Level, with 100% pass rate.



Discover Yourself, Define Your Future

Executive Headteacher: Neil Gallagher

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COMMUNITY SCHOOL & COLLEGE

