

Ashton Park Sixth Form

"The South West Bristol Post 16 Centre"



The south west Bristol
Post 16 Centre
Achieving Beyond Expectations

POST 16
COURSE INFORMATION AND ADMISSION
DIRECTORY

2012 - 2013

Welcome to The South West Bristol Post 16 Centre

This course booklet has been prepared to help you make your choice of Post 16 subjects. It is important that you read it very carefully and that you seek advice from as many people as possible. Students have learned through experience that they were far better prepared for academic life in our Post 16 Centre when their application was very carefully considered and written after seeking lots of advice.

Who to see for Application Advice

When making your choice of subjects you are advised to seek advice from

- Your subject teachers
- Your Form Tutor
- Mr Coates - Director of Post 16 Studies, L Howden and Mrs Lewis - Assistant Directors of Study - Year 12/13
- Partner Schools Link tutors
- Your School Connexions PA

You may also discuss your choice of subjects in your interview when making an application.

Continuing your Education and Training

Wherever you look you will see that "learning pays". Qualifications, training and experience are increasingly sought for employment in all walks of life. We have designed an exciting and broad Post 16 curriculum to enable you to equip yourself for employment, Higher Education and life. In choosing The South West Bristol Post 16 Centre to continue your education and training you will be choosing an environment that is equipped for learning, where *all staff* are enthusiastic, supportive and committed to a high quality education.

Broadening the choice of Post 16 Education

You will be able to choose a combination of

- A or AS Levels
- BTEC Level 3
- BTEC Level 2
- Foundation Learning
- Maths and English GCSE retakes

If you are studying at Advanced Level 3 you will also all study **Extended Project Qualification** (Year 12) and **General Studies AS Level** or **Level 3 BTEC short course in Work Skills** (Year 13). If you are studying at Intermediate Level 2 or Foundation Learning you will also all study a **Level 1 or 2 BTEC short course in Work Skills**

You will also take part in an exciting programme of "**extended studies**" in sport, recreation, community work, learning support or business initiatives. Together with your personal tutor you will set targets and action plan to achieve them.

I hope you decide to continue your education at The South West Bristol Post 16 Centre and that we can help you prepare for your career. Read on and remember information can also be found on our website www.ashtonparksixthform.co.uk or by emailing info@ashtonparksixthform.co.uk

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Route One - Advanced level 3 Courses

The South West Bristol Post 16 Centre offers a wide range of Advanced Level and Advanced Subsidiary Level courses. A and AS Levels and BTEC Level 3 are still one of the main routes to Higher Education.

AS Levels are one year courses giving the student an introduction into the knowledge and methods of the subject. The AS bridges the gap between GCSEs and A Levels (A2) by providing an introduction to Post 16 study. Students are able to study up to 4 AS Levels in their first year.

For A Level courses a second year is necessary in which to further develop knowledge and understanding gained from the AS course by a range of in-depth studies. These courses prepare students for the approaches used in Higher Education. Students are advised to specialise in at least 3 A Levels (A2) in their second year. In this way, students who wish to change courses after one year will still have achieved an AS Level qualification. An AS Level is worth half of the full A Level.

We also offer students the chance to mix and match BTEC Level 3 courses (Vocational A Levels) and traditional academic A Levels or to specialise in a BTEC Level 3 Qualification. Students have to commit themselves fully to their studies and use their private study time constructively in order to fulfil their potential.

We offer Advanced Level 3 courses in:

Art	Geography	Photography
Biology	Health and Social Care BTEC	Psychology
Business Studies	History	RE, Philosophy and Ethics
Chemistry	ICT BTEC	Sport BTEC
Dance BTEC	Law	Sociology
D & T Production/Graphics	Mathematics	Textiles
Drama/Theatre Studies	Media Studies	Travel and Tourism BTEC
English Language/Literature	Physical Education	
French	Physics	
General Studies		

Remember, Students study 'Core Studies' as part of their Post 16 learning. All students studying Advanced Level 3 courses will also study The Extended Project Qualification (Yr 12) and General Studies AS Level or Level 3 BTEC short course in Work Skills (Yr 13)

Courses at AS, A2 and BTEC National will only run with viable group sizes - this decision will be made by the Director of Post 16 after consultation with students and the Head Teacher

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Combining advanced level courses

You can choose to study up to 4 of the following courses

Art (OCR)	AS/A2	The course is designed to explore traditional and contemporary forms of art. You will be expected to provide a variety of creative responses through a wide range of materials, processes and techniques. The course has the flexibility to allow you to focus on a particular area of interest.	A*-B grade GCSE Art and 4 other A*-C grades at GCSE
Biology (OCR)	AS/A2	The course offers the opportunity for you to devise and plan experiments and investigate and interpret and evaluate your findings. You will gain an awareness of ethical, technological and economic aspects of biology.	A*-B grade in two GCSE Sciences and 3 other A*-C grades at GCSE
Business Studies (AQA)	AS/A2	The course will introduce you to the challenges and issues of starting a new business; enabling you to explore the key internal functions of business and understand how management can assist improvements in effectiveness and performance	A*-C grade GCSE in 5 subjects
Chemistry (OCR)	AS/A2	The course offers the opportunity for you to devise and plan experiments and investigate and interpret and evaluate your findings. You will study many aspects of chemistry which are directly relevant to today's world and for research.	A*-B grade in two GCSE Sciences and 3 other A*-C grades at GCSE
Dance BTEC	Level 3	The BTEC National Award in Dance will give you an understanding of the performing arts with a specific focus on the essential skills, techniques and disciplines needed for a career in the dancing profession. It provides you with an insight into the employment opportunities available.	A*C grades at GCSE in 5 subjects or Dance qualification
DT Product Design- Graphic Materials (Edexcel)	AS/A2	The course focuses on product design with graphic, as well as materials technology. You will develop innovative design ideas and analytical skills through coursework. You will have 3 assignments to complete at AS and a project of your own choice at A2.	A*-C grade GCSE DT and 4 other A*-C grades at GCSE
Drama and Theatre Studies (Edexcel)	AS/A2	You are expected to explore a range of productions through drama and also written work. You will devise an original piece of drama for performance to an audience. You will be expected to record, reflect and analyse the drama process.	A*-C grade GCSE in 5 subjects. English and Drama desirable
English Literature/ Language (AQA)	AS/A2	During the course you will analyse the language and structure of a range of literary and non literary texts and also produce your own original writing in a variety of forms and genres.	A*-B grade GCSE English and 4 other A*-C grades at GCSE
French (Edexcel)	AS/A2	You will consolidate and improve your skills in French in the context of contemporary issues including the media, culture and society, employment and the environment. You will extend your listening, speaking, reading and writing skills.	A*-B grade GCSE French and 4 other A*-C grades at GCSE
General Studies (AQA)	AS only	General Studies complements and reinforces other studies using multidisciplinary approach; its main focus is on contemporary and relevant issues: science and technology, society and politics, arts and the media, business and industry and beliefs and values.	All Yr 13 students cover course as part of wider studies
Geography (AQA)	AS/A2	You will develop your geographical skills. The course is divided equally into physical and human geography topics. A great emphasis is on man's interaction with the environment, use of case studies and fieldwork. All students will take part in 3 fieldwork study visits.	A*-C grade GCSE Geography and 4 other A*-C grades at GCSE
Health and Social Care BTEC	Level 3	The course will build on essential practical skills and understanding in Health and Social Care enabling progression into employment or Higher Education. Work experience and links to the workplace form a central part of the course. This course could be studied full time worth 3 A levels.	A*-C grade GCSE in 5 subjects. BTEC H&SC Merit
History (Edexcel)	AS/A2	You will develop your understanding of historical concepts and interpretations. You will develop an understanding of a range of 20 th Century history including political changes in Russia and America and the development of women's rights in the UK.	A*-C grade GCSE History and 4 other A*-C grades at GCSE
IT BTEC	Level 3	The course looks closely at employment in IT, computer systems and networks, databases and dynamic web scripting. You will undertake a long term programming project.	A*-C grade GCSE in 5 subjects. ICT GCSE C or BTEC Merit

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Law (AQA)	AS/A2	The course is designed to produce a broad understanding of the basis of law within the UK Legal system, particularly criminal law. You will carry out extensive study of real cases and legal dilemmas and explore the relationship between law and justice.	A*-C grade GCSE in 5 subjects
Mathematics (Edexcel)	AS/A2	The course will cover a range of mathematical topics under the headings statistics, pure maths and mechanics with an emphasis on problem solving. <i>Provision is made for those students wishing to take Further Maths</i>	A*-B grade GCSE Maths (higher level) and 4 other A*-C grades at GCSE
Media Studies (AQA)	AS/A2	The media course is a mixture of theoretical study and practical work. The course is designed to develop your critical awareness of the range and diversity of today's media. .	A*-C grade GCSE in 5 subjects
Physical Education (OCR)	AS/A2	You will study the application of physiological and psychological knowledge to improve performance, as well as to develop your own skills in a range of disciplines. You will also study the place of sport in society and culture.	A*-C grade GCSE in 5 subjects
Physics (OCR)	AS/A2	The emphasis in this course is on applying the principles of physics to everyday contexts and application. You study aspects of physics including mechanics, electronics, waves, quantum physics and modern physics.	A*-B grade in two GCSE Sciences and 3 other A*-C grades at GCSE
Photography (OCR)	AS/A2	The course is divided into two halves. The first uses the specialist dark room to create students own images and the second focuses on digital photography and and manipulating images using ICT.	A*-C grade GCSE in 5 subjects - Art an advantage
Psychology (AQA)	AS/A2	This course explains what psychology is about and examines the different theories put forward by psychologists to explain how the mind works and how individuals relate to others and to the wider society.	A*-C grade GCSE in 5 subjects including B grade in maths or science
Religious Studies Philosophy and Ethics (Edexcel)	AS/A2	You will be presented with different ideas and beliefs. You must be prepared to think and question ideas both on your own and in groups.	A*-C grade GCSE in 5 subjects
Sports Development and Fitness BTEC	Level 3	This is a practical course worth 2 A levels. You will study health and fitness, coaching and training, sports performance and sports development. It will prepare you well for a career in the sports industry or on to university. This course could be studied full time worth 3 A levels	A*-C grade GCSE in 5 subjects
Sociology (AQA)	AS/A2	This course is about the way we live. It examines the different theories put forward by sociologists to try and explain how and why society is organised in the way it is and how sociological research can be carried out	A*-C grade GCSE in 5 subjects
Textiles (OCR)	AS/A2	The course explores practical ways of creating fabrics using experimental techniques as well as fashion based project from students own ideas	A*-C grade GCSE in 5 subjects - Art or DT an advantage
Travel and Tourism BTEC	Level 3	The course will build on your understanding of the Travel and Tourism industry and provide you with an in-depth understanding of marketing, customer service, tourism development and travel destinations. Progression can be into employment or Higher Education.	A*-C grade GCSE in 5 subjects

Specialist advanced level courses

You may wish to specialise in a chosen vocational area. We offer full time courses in

- **Sport**
- **Health and Social care**

These are BTEC courses that extend your learning and training. The course is equivalent to three A Levels

Route two - Intermediate level 2 Courses

BTEC Level 2 Courses

BTECs are work related qualifications and are different from academic qualifications. BTECs allow you to gain experience of an area of industry. You spend time working on assignments learning about different aspects of work. You will develop the skills needed in all jobs in areas such as communication, numeracy and IT. A BTEC gives you a good start to your career, whether you want to go onto higher qualifications or get a job straight away. When you do start work you will find your BTEC helps from day one.

Your BTEC will involve you planning your own learning activities, which will include working alone and in groups, spending time out of the classroom, on work experience, visiting employers and other organisations, problem solving and meeting deadlines. A great deal of your time will be spent working on assignments and projects and you will learn how to research and write reports, make presentations and use IT packages.

A BTEC level 2 is made up of 6 Units of work equivalent to 4 GCSE A-C Grade Passes or 3 Units of work equivalent to 2 GCSE A-C Grade Passes. Each qualification is graded Pass, Merit or Distinction.

We offer BTEC Level 2 qualifications in **Business, Children's Care, learning and Development and Public Services**

Business	BTEC	The course will give you a good understanding of the business world and will help you to develop the skills you will need for employment. You will study business activities such as marketing, business pressures, finance and budgeting and business communications	You will need evidence of previous GCSE/BTEC studies
Children's Care, learning and Development	BTEC	The qualification will give you the knowledge, understanding and competency needed for employment in the children's care. You will learn about supporting for children with disabilities or special educational needs, supporting children's play and learning and understanding children's development.	You will need evidence of previous GCSE/BTEC studies
Public Services	BTEC	Through this course you will develop an understanding of working in the Public Services (Army, Navy, Air Force, & Police, Fire and Ambulance Service) and develop the necessary skills such as fitness training, navigation, expedition planning and outdoor activities.	You will need evidence of previous GCSE/BTEC studies

All students studying an intermediate course will also study a BTEC level 2 short course in Work Skills

Students who wish to study Retake Maths or English GCSE in addition to their other courses will need to have achieved a GCSE grade D

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