



**Bluecoat Sixth Form**  
believe in yourself, in others, in God

## **Sixth Form FAQ's**

### **Where will I be based?**

For academic year 2020-2021, all of our courses will be taught at our Sixth Form Centre at Bluecoat Aspley Academy.

### **When should I apply?**

Applications open in September each year and remain open until June. Applications are completed online at <https://bluecoataspley.ulas.co.uk/>. This year the sixth form is likely to have to close applications early due to the limited number of places on offer. The courses you choose on your application are not a final choice, you can change them.

### **Can I change my courses?**

Once you have completed your application you can log back in at any time to change your choices. You don't make any final decision until you come to enrol, once you have received your GCSE results. At enrolment we will discuss with you your choice of courses and ensure you meet the course specific entry requirements. If you have any problem with logging back into your application please contact [BAAsixthformadmissions@bluecoat.uk.com](mailto:BAAsixthformadmissions@bluecoat.uk.com).

### **Am I guaranteed a place?**

Following the submission of your application, if you are offered a place this confirms your start with us in September. Your choice of courses will only be confirmed at enrolment, when we will review your GCSE results against the course specific entry criteria, as published in the [course guide](#). Places on specific courses is subject to available spaces. *Please refer to your offer email to confirm your enrolment date.*

### **How many hours of lessons will I have?**

Each A level subject receives 5 hours of teaching per week and each Level 3 BTEC subject has 10 hours per week, so most students will have between 15 and 20 hours of lesson per week, depending on depending on if they are studying 3 A levels or 2 Level 3 BTEC qualifications.

Those on Level 2 courses will take 1 Level 2 BTEC qualification with 12 hours of teaching per week, with 4 hours each dedicated to the retake of GCSE English and maths.

### **Can I choose 4 A levels?**

Most students will choose 3 A levels which they will study for two years. Frequent exceptions include students studying Further Maths, EPQ or Core Maths as a fourth subject. Exceptions may also be made for students with a very strong academic profile. The decision of which subjects to take is an important one and we recommend attendance to our taster days on 13-15 July to support this.

### **Will I have exams at the end of year 12?**

Yes, you will sit internally assessed examinations in the Summer term. We believe this provides valuable experience of A level examinations and gives a performance measure of student progress after the first year of their studies. This internal exam performance data will be used to advise students on their options for Year 13.

### **What else is on offer?**

As well as a weekly tutor programme in which we deliver PSHE topics, the sixth form offers a varied enrichment programme ranging from debate club to dance. We believe strongly in the value of

these extra and super-curricular activities in enhancing students' wider skill set and in preparing them for their future.

### **What are the entry requirements for the different courses?**

Individual course entry requirements are all detailed in the Sixth Form course guide which is available [online](#).

For entry onto Level 3 courses students must achieve 5 x GCSE grade 4 or above to include English Language and maths, in addition to any course specific entry requirements.

For entry onto Level 2 courses students must achieve 5 x GCSE grade 2 or above to include English and maths.

### **What combination of subjects should I take?**

To answer this question you need to think about what you want to do in the future. It may be worth researching the entry requirements for the particular degree or career path you wish to follow to ensure you're making the right choice.

### **What do I do in my free time?**

You will have either 16 or 21 hours of teacher contact time each week. Outside of these periods you will be expected to use your time to study independently, making use of the 4 study rooms and over 100 PCs available in the Sixth Form. There is the expectation you study for the same number of hours outside of your lessons as you have contact time with teacher each week.

### **Update on Level 2 Provision 2020-2021**

Bluecoat Academy Sixth Form are very proud to offer a level 2 curriculum for those students who would benefit from an additional year to work towards achieving their grade 4 in English and/or Maths.

As you may be aware our tenancy at the facility we are currently using to house our level 2 cohort is coming to an end, and while we continue to search for suitable premises for our level 2 learners, we have made the decision to accommodate our level 2 learners at our Sixth Form Centre based at Bluecoat Aspley Academy for academic year 2020-2021.

As our Sixth Form's strong reputation means we already educate large numbers of learners at our Sixth Form Centre on Aspley Lane, this means we will be able to offer Level 2 to a limited number of students. We will therefore be prioritising students who are within the Archway Learning Trust family and suggest that students from outside of the Trust who were applying for level 2 courses ensure they have applied to alternative Further Education providers in case we are unable to accommodate them.

Please note that we believe the above will only affect applications to enrol onto our level 2 courses. Level 3 applications should not be affected.

If you have any questions please contact [BAAsixthformadmissions@bluecoat.uk.com](mailto:BAAsixthformadmissions@bluecoat.uk.com)



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