



**DISCOVER  
YOUR  
FUTURE  
*WITH*  
ALTON  
COLLEGE**



**ALTON  
COLLEGE**

**FULL TIME PROSPECTUS  
2023/2024**

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**“Leaders and managers have a clear rationale for the courses they offer. They have developed strong links with the local community that help them to understand local priorities”**

**OFSTED 2020**



# WELCOME TO ALTON COLLEGE

**Hello and welcome to HSDC Alton College, one of the three campuses which make up the HSDC family. Whatever your education goals, we have a course to fit your career aspirations.**

We provide an inspiring and outstanding bridge between school and Higher Education, Apprenticeships or employment. Students come to Alton because of our reputation for excellence. We are constantly exceeding the national average in qualifications and provide excellent preparation for our students' future ambitions.

We are very proud of our A Level Centre of Excellence at Alton as well as our extensive range of professional & technical courses and Apprenticeships. Our broad and inclusive curriculum means we are confident you will be able to fulfill your dreams and career aspirations by studying with us.

Our students go on to success in a variety of fields, including progression onto prestigious courses at high-ranking universities. We believe this success is down to our focus on industry insights, with HSDC Alton students learning from teaching staff who have first hand knowledge from their own industry experience. We are also investing in our facilities to make sure our students are ready for their future, including our fantastic £1.25m Gaming & Creative Digital Studios.

We are very proud to offer a range of T Levels, with new courses being added each academic year. These qualifications are the 'gold standard' for preparing the next generation of young professionals for truly outstanding careers.

Don't forget to take a look at our Aspire programme for gifted and talented students. It has been designed to ensure students maximise their potential and to get you ready to apply to competitive courses at university, including Oxbridge and other Russell Group universities.

We'll help and support you to achieve your goals, whatever they might be. We look forward to meeting you and to welcoming you to the Alton community.



**Mike Gaston**  
Principal and CEO  
HSDC



# COURSE TYPES AND ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

## **When picking a course you may want to think about:**

- What subjects do you enjoy?
- What subjects are you good at?
- Do you prefer hands-on or classroom-based learning?
- Are you happier doing exams or coursework?
- How much work experience do you want?
- What's your end goal?

## **DIFFERENT COURSE TYPES**

**A LEVELS**

**T LEVELS**

**VOCATIONAL**

**GCSE**

# A LEVELS

**These are ideal if you want to study more than one subject. You can pick three different subjects that are taught alongside each other over a two-year period.**

A Levels are taught in a classroom environment and are assessed through examination at the end of two years - ideal if you can work under pressure and enjoy wider reading and independent study to extend your learning in lessons. Some A Levels have a 20% coursework element such as an extended essay on a theme of your choice, or it could be a practical project with critical analysis supporting it. Science A Levels have a practical assessment conducted throughout the course in addition to the final examinations.

Lessons will build on what you learnt at GCSE, but there are lots of subjects beyond the school curriculum. Many of these new subjects such

as Law, Economics, Politics and Philosophy are popular choices to study at university. Traditional subjects such as the sciences, Maths and Geography open up so many opportunities - either for undergraduate study or employment. General entry requirements for A Levels are five GCSEs at grade 4 or above, including English Language and Mathematics. However, certain subjects may have specific entry requirements.



# T LEVELS

T Levels split learning between 80% in the classroom and 20% on placement. You'll have approximately 315 hours of industrial placement spread over the two years of your course. This gives you more time in a working environment than an A Level or Vocational course would, but more direct teaching time than you'd receive with an Apprenticeship.

We offer T Levels in the following pathways:

- **DESIGN SURVEYING & PLANNING FOR CONSTRUCTION**
- **BUSINESS & MANAGEMENT**
- **DESIGN, SURVEYING & PLANNING FOR CONSTRUCTION**
- **MANAGEMENT & ADMINISTRATION**
- **MEDIA CONTENT CREATION & PRODUCTION**
- **EDUCATION & CHILDCARE**
- **HEALTH & NURSING**
- **ANIMAL CARE & MANAGEMENT**
- **BIOMEDICAL & HEALTHCARE SCIENCE**
- **DIGITAL PRODUCTION, DESIGN & DEVELOPMENT**
- **ENGINEERING, DESIGN AND DEVELOPMENT (MECHANICAL & ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING)**
- **MAINTENANCE, INSTALLATION & REPAIR (LIGHT & ELECTRIC VEHICLES)**

T Level qualifications are equivalent to three A Levels, so they have the same entry requirements: five GCSEs at grade 4 or above including English Language and Mathematics.

**WELCOME  
TO THE NEXT LEVEL**

**80%  
CLASSROOM** **20%  
WORKPLACE**

# VOCATIONAL

**Vocational courses are not only great for hands-on learners, they're also highly respected by universities and employers.**

A Vocational course will allow you to specialise in one subject, concentrating on teaching you practical skills. If you already know what sector you'd like to work in, you can get used to using industry-standard equipment you may come across in the workplace.

Vocational courses are available at a range of levels so you can be confident that you'll find a course to suit your abilities.

## CHOOSING A COURSE PROGRAMME THAT IS RIGHT FOR YOU

At HSDC Alton you can choose a mixed programme of exam and coursework-based subjects to suit your particular learning style. Some students thrive with timed formal exams and others find success with coursework or assignment-based assessment.

# GCSE

**GCSE English and Mathematics are important qualifications. If you didn't manage to get a grade 4 in either of these subjects at GCSE you'll need to study these as part of your main study programme.**

## ENTRY LEVEL

An Entry Level Vocational course has no formal entry requirements and is ideal for you if you want to learn Vocational skills whilst developing your English and Mathematics.

## LEVEL 1

The Level 1 Vocational qualification is the equivalent to GCSE grades 3-1. Entry requirements for a Level 1 Vocational course is a pass at Entry Level, or GCSE grades 2 or above.

## LEVEL 2

A Merit at Level 2 is equivalent to four GCSEs at grade 4. In order to apply for one of our Level 2 Vocational courses you will need a minimum of five GCSEs at grade 3 or above, or a pass in a related subject with a grade 3 in English Language and Mathematics.

## LEVEL 3

Level 3 Diplomas are equivalent to A Levels. Extended Diplomas are the equivalent to three A Levels and Single Diplomas are the equivalent to one A Level. You can combine Single Diplomas with other Single Diplomas or A Levels. Entry requirements for our Level 3 Vocational courses are a minimum of five GCSEs at grade 4 or above or a Merit in a Level 2 Vocational qualification in a related subject alongside GCSEs at grade 4 or above in English Language and Mathematics.

# 5 REASONS TO CHOOSE ALTON COLLEGE

## ACCORDING TO OUR STUDENTS

### WHAT'S IT REALLY LIKE AT HSDC ALTON?

Students share their top five things about student life:

#### 1. TEACHERS

Not only do they have all the knowledge you'll need to get through your course, but they are also engaging, helpful, and willing to go the extra mile to help you succeed. From helping you apply to UCAS to just explaining something to you again, your teachers will honestly be the most academically valuable people you will encounter at College.

#### 2. FACILITIES

There are so many facilities for you to use. Make the most of an early start by grabbing a Starbucks or breakfast wrap and meeting friends before your first lesson, or use a long break to get your work done in the Learning Hub. Whatever you choose to do with your time at Alton, the facilities you need will be provided for you.

#### 3. SUPPORT

You will have the best support network, from teachers to friends, and the Health & Wellbeing team, you won't feel alone. Sixth form/ Further Education can be stressful sometimes, but any support you need will be given to you, which is just great!



## 4. LESSONS

Lessons are arguably the best thing about being at HSDC because it is your opportunity to gain insight into the subjects you have chosen to study. Teachers genuinely do their utmost to make lessons engaging, innovative and interesting, using several different methods to help get the main points across.

## 5. FRIENDS

You may think that starting College is a scary experience; you may even worry that you won't make friends – but this is far from the truth. If anything, the friends you make at College and the bonds you form are so much stronger than the ones you develop at school. You meet people who you have so much more in common with, either because they have a similar work ethic to you, because you have a related career goal, or just because you have the same interests. Spending time with your friends at College honestly makes your time there so much more worthwhile and enjoyable.

**“There are so many awesome things about being a student at HSDC; things that, after a few weeks (or after a year!) you tend to take for granted. College is such a great experience, regardless of the course you are on – so here are the five best things about being enrolled here.”**

**Kate Whetton**  
*Previous student*

# BUSINESS, LAW AND ECONOMICS

With the opportunity to study Business, Law and Economics you will be able to get to grips with some of the most important concepts and mechanisms that make our modern world what it is. As well as looking impressive on your CV, these highly respected qualifications can open doors to top universities and very well-paid careers. If you have a critical and enquiring mind, these courses are for you!

## SECTOR FACTS



**£42,100**  
**AVERAGE SALARY**  
IN THE LOCAL AREA



# BUSINESS

## A Level

### Venue:

Alton Campus

### Duration:

2 years

### Overview

Do you watch TV and social media adverts and question what they are trying to achieve? See young entrepreneurs worth millions and wonder how they did it? Do you marvel when your boss makes changes in your part time job which motivates the staff to work harder? And do you admire the great business leaders like James Dyson, Levi Roots and Deliciously Ella? Then you might enjoy Business A Level.

Business reaches into all our lives and we explore the not-for-profit organisations like the BBC and charities, as well as the successful (and not-so-successful) companies that you have heard of like Apple and Nike. We explore ethics and how businesses are adapting to environmental pressures and political and economic changes. You will also learn how businesses make a profit, of course.

### Structure:

All Business courses at college or university study the four main functional areas below which you will cover in Year 1:

- What makes a great leader? How do you motivate staff to work harder? (Human Resources)
- What is the best way to target customers to buy a product? (Marketing)
- What is the difference between cash flow and profit? (Finance)
- How do fast food restaurants maximise efficiency? (Operation)

In Year 2 we look at more strategic issues like if companies should launch new products and into which markets, how big a role should ethics and environmental concerns play in decisions and how do investors decide which companies are going to succeed?

### Teaching & Learning

Most lessons are classroom-based though we use laptops, IT suites and your mobile phones to do research tasks. You will look at case studies of popular companies to practise analysis and evaluation skills which are essential for answering exam questions. You will use Google Classroom to share work, interact with your fellow students and do online knowledge checks.

HSDC Alton has experienced staff who are familiar with exam board mark schemes; this allows a focus on essay techniques to maximise your marks.

### Assessment

- 100% exam.
- Three 2-hour exams taken in your final year; multiple choice questions, short answer questions and unseen case studies with essay-style questions.

### Progression

Past students on this course successfully progress into employment or onto degree courses such as Business Studies, Business Management, Marketing, Human Resources, Accounting, Business Enterprise and Management Studies, as well as a range of combined degree subjects.

### Entry Requirements

Five GCSEs at grade 9-4 (including English and Mathematics). It is not necessary to have studied Business at GCSE to take A Level.

## BUSINESS & MANAGEMENT

### T Level (=3 A Levels)

#### Venue:

Alton Campus

#### Duration:

2 years

#### Overview

Business & Management has a hand in running nearly everything you consume within your daily lives. This course will allow you to develop an understanding of Business & Management disciplines and prepares you for working in this exciting industry.

Your lessons will take place in our high spec Business classrooms with access to the latest industry software. You will spend time in the classroom, learning basic principles and theory, and in the process develop your professional and technical skills. You will also spend a minimum of 45 days on an Industrial Placement where you will work closely with a leading employer either every week or on a block placement to help you develop the right knowledge, technical skills and professional behaviours for working in this ever-evolving sector. This course ensures you can rival all students with a unique blend of both academic and industry experience with a work placement giving you the real-world skills you require for future employment.

#### Structure

This Business & Management T Level includes the following core units:

##### - Business Context

The different types of organisations (e.g. private, public and not-for-profit) and the environments in which they operate both nationally and globally.

##### - People

The ways in which different types of organisations ensure that they have the right people to meet their business aims including through deploying different recruitment channels and employment contracts.

##### - Quality and Compliance

The importance of maintaining and improving quality in all aspects of public and private sector organisations.



##### - Finance

Financial reporting such as turnover and profit and loss.

##### - Policies and procedures

How and why organisations develop Key Performance Indicators (KPIs), how they are measured and their impact on individuals' roles.

##### - Project and change management

Why organisations need to make continuous improvements and innovations.

##### - Business behaviours

The importance of good communication and adapting social communication styles to professional standards and according to purpose, medium and audience.

In Year 2 you will potentially have the choice of which Occupational Specialism you study, and these will be specialist units to develop specific knowledge and skills in either:

- Team Leadership/Management or Business Improvement

#### Teaching & Learning

You will be taught on campus four days a week with a full-time programme of lessons in our Business rooms. We provide the specialist knowledge and industry expertise to prepare you for employment with some of the best companies and employers. On the course you will also work with our partner employers, each one a leader in their field, who will help you apply the theory and skills learnt in college to real industry applications.

#### Assessment

You will be assessed through an exam, industrial placement, work-based project and synoptic assessment.

#### Progression

On completion of the Business and Management T Level, you could secure jobs such as team leader, supervisor or business improvement co-ordinator.

#### Entry Requirements

Grade 4 or above in English Language GCSE, grade 4 or above in Mathematics GCSE and three additional GCSEs at grade 4 or above.

## BUSINESS

### Level 2 Cambridge Technical Diploma

#### Venue:

Alton Campus

#### Duration:

1 year

#### Overview

On this course, you will follow a balanced programme of study that develops knowledge, skills and understanding in all areas of business. There will be opportunities for the development of transferable skills related to study and to the real business sector, aiming to give you the opportunity to progress to employment or progress within employment in a wide range of job roles across the business sector.

## PRE T-LEVEL

#### Structure

- Business Purposes
- Business Organisations
- Financial Forecasting for Business
- People in Organisations
- The Marketing Plan
- Verbal and Non-verbal Communication in Business Contexts
- Training and Employment in Business
- Personal Selling in Business
- Customer Relations in Business
- Business Online

#### Teaching & Learning

The teaching team will employ a variety of teaching and learning strategies, including teacher input, group discussions, visits, presentations and hands-on use of computers. Developing practical skills in customer service, problem-solving, leadership and teamwork. An entrepreneurial mindset is at the core of our courses.

#### Assessment

All units are assessed and graded internally by lecturers. The assessments include reports, events, role plays and the production of other written documents.

#### Progression

Completion of this course with a Merit grade will allow you to progress onto any relevant T Level, or other Level 3 course. This gives learners the potential opportunity to progress to employment, or progress within employment in a wide range of job roles across the business sector.

#### Entry Requirements

You will need to have attained a GCSE grade 3 profile or equivalent. A discussion will take place during interview to ensure that this course is appropriate to your needs. You must have a good level of English and Maths.



# DESIGN, SURVEYING & PLANNING FOR CONSTRUCTION T Level (=3 A Levels)

## Venue:

Alton Campus

## Duration:

2 years

## Overview

This two-year course has been developed in collaboration with employers and businesses to meet the needs of the industry and prepare you for the world of work. Employers involved in designing the T Level in Design, Surveying and Planning include the Morgan Sindall Group and Skanska UK.

## Structure

### Core Units

- Supporting knowledge including health and safety, information and data capture, scientific principles and their application in the built environment and standards for scientific measurement
- Principles of design in the built environment, roles of different disciplines, design process from conception to completion and life-cycle assessment
- Structure of the construction industry, integration of the supply chain, how projects are procured and managed and current/future factors impacting the industry
- Importance of sustainability, environmental legislation, policies and initiatives, principles of heritage and conservation, lean construction and waste management, energy production and use
- Building technology including construction methods, forms of construction, regulations and standards and manufacturers' instructions
- Relationship management including types of stakeholder, customer service principles, the importance of teamwork, equality, diversity and representation including related legislation, employment rights and responsibilities



- Digital technology including digital engineering techniques, opportunities for the use and adaptation of technology
- Business and commerce including business structures, values and objectives, corporate social responsibility, entrepreneurship and innovation, principles of project management, quantification and costing

## Specialist Units

You will complete one occupation-specific module, this part of the T Level ensures that you'll develop the knowledge and skills needed to work in specific occupations.

The specialism topic for Year 2: Surveying and Design for Construction and the Built Environment.

## Assessment

You will be assessed through two exams, industrial placement, employer-set project and an occupational specialism project.

## Progression

You could progress onto an Apprenticeship, study a university degree or start full time employment.

## Entry Requirements

You will need a grade 5 in Mathematics (higher paper), a grade 5 in Science (Physics or double award), a grade 4 in English Language and a grade 4 in two further subjects.

# ECONOMICS

## A Level

### Venue:

Alton Campus

### Duration:

2 years

### Overview

If you have a passionate interest in current news stories regarding economic issues and are interested in how they affect you, then Economics is the course for you.

You will study microeconomics; you will learn to understand the actions of governments, individual firms and consumers. For example, have you ever wondered why the price of an Apple iPhone has increased? Or why governments continue to increase the price of a packet of cigarettes and why consumers will continue to buy them? Have you ever watched the news and heard a story about the rate of inflation falling, or GDP rising and not understood? By studying macroeconomics, you will gain an insight into how the economy is managed.

This will include looking at how a change of inflation, national income, unemployment and international trade affect you. You will also gain knowledge in how to manage the economy by using monetary, fiscal and supply-side policies.

### Structure

- Microeconomics: this unit looks at the supply and demand of both goods and labour. Have you ever wondered why the price of a Freddo bar keeps increasing? Have you ever wondered why Gareth Bale earns in just seven days what many of his fans will earn in an entire decade?
- Macroeconomics: this unit looks at macroeconomic issues, such as inflation, unemployment, exports and imports and how these indicators affect the UK
- Do you want to know how much influence the financial sector has on the UK economy? What is the role of the Bank of England? Is the HS2 a waste of resources? How much does the country owe and who do we owe the money to?
- You will also play the role of the government. Should the NHS be privatised? Should the government put a minimum price on alcohol?

### Teaching & Learning:

You will encounter a variety of teaching techniques in class. There will be a certain amount of formal teaching plus opportunities for you to work individually or in groups. You will also develop your verbal skills by preparing presentations for the rest of the class. Videos and newspaper articles will be used as sources for research and class discussions, with the aim of linking economic theory to current issues.

### Assessment

100% exam - Paper one: Microeconomics, Paper two: Macroeconomics, Paper three: Theme paper.

### Entry Requirements

Five GCSEs at grade 9-4. You should have at least grade 5 in GCSE English. It is not necessary to have studied Economics at GCSE.





# FINANCIAL STUDIES

## Certificate/Diploma Level 3 (= 1 A Level)

### Venue:

Alton Campus

### Duration:

2 years

### Overview

This course will equip you with the knowledge and skills to make informed and sensible financial decisions and have an understanding of the role of larger financial organisations. Furthermore, your studies within this course will give you the tools to effectively plan your personal finances, as well as explore the socio-economic trends which impact on individual financial circumstances.

Your core skills will be developed over the duration of this course, focusing on improving independent thinking, critical analysis, evaluation and verbal and written communication. This course will set you up for careers in banking, insurance, administration, voluntary work and many others, as well as awarding you with A Level equivalent UCAS points for entry to university or an Apprenticeship.

This course will give you a Certificate or Diploma (depending on which units are taken).

### Structure:

You will cover the following units:

- Financial Capability for the Immediate and Short Term
- Financial Capability for the Medium and Long Term
- Sustainability of an Individual's Finances
- Sustainability of the Financial Services System

### Teaching & Learning:

Taught mainly in a classroom environment through the use of worksheets, booklets and past papers. Dynamic use of IT and appropriate visits and guest speakers.

### Assessment:

Each unit is examined externally through a multiple choice question exam and an exam based on a pre-release case study.

### Progression:

This course has equal status with other A Level courses for entry into Higher Education and is worth UCAS points. The course can also help with entry into careers such as insurance, banking, administration and the voluntary sector.

### Entry Requirements:

Five GCSEs at grade 4 or above including English and Mathematics. No prior knowledge of Financial Studies is required.





## LAW

### A Level

#### Venue:

Alton Campus

#### Duration:

2 years

#### Overview

Law has a significant influence on our daily lives and is a factor in many news items, films and TV programmes. When studying Law A Level, you'll learn how it's made and how the court system works.

We will consider the nature of justice, and whether law and morality are the same. You will be able to identify criminal offences, such as murder and robbery, and criminal defences, including self-defence. Also, you'll learn about the civil law topics of tort and contract, which will give you the opportunity to draft a legal agreement. We aim to develop your skills of analysis and evaluation in a variety of ways – through problem-solving, discussion and essay writing.

There are also opportunities to visit a Crown Court and the Houses of Parliament and to take part in a Bar Mock Trial competition. If you have a critical and enquiring mind, this course is for you!

#### Structure

On this full time A Level course, you will study the following:

- The Nature of the English Legal System: Understand how law is made and the role law plays in society, including how a case is taken to court. We will also consider the extent to which law achieves justice and whether law and morality are the same.
- Criminal Law: Includes analysis of the non-fatal offences like assault and grievous bodily harm, and the fatal offences of murder and manslaughter, plus property offences such as robbery.
- Tort: This is an area of Civil Law governing accidents and damage. You will be exploring the principles concerning negligence and other civil wrongs.

- Law of Contract: Understand what is required to make an agreement legally enforceable and what steps can be taken if someone fails to keep their side of a bargain. Could you write a contract on a dead fish?

#### Teaching & Learning

You will learn in lots of different ways: through problem-solving, teacher-led discussion, quizzes and other activities. Learning will involve you working individually in small and medium-sized groups, in which you will debate and share ideas. There will also be visits to courts and Parliament and talks from law professionals, plus the opportunity for you to take part in a mock trial and to access an extensive computer package offering lectures, cases and links to important legal resources. Through this approach you will gain valuable employability skills, which will help you with further studies in the future and in any chosen career.

#### Assessment

100% exam (three exam papers).

#### Entry Requirements

Five GCSEs at grade 9-4, including English at grade 5 or above and Mathematics at grade 4 or above



# CREATIVE INDUSTRIES



Everything we use has been designed and made by someone. Studying Creative Industries is all about nurturing your talent to produce something extraordinary. Within this practical and creative area you can benefit from all the help, support and facilities you need to grow and ultimately flourish alongside like-minded people. As a creative, this is an opportunity you won't want to miss.

## SECTOR FACTS

 **£40,609**  
AVERAGE SALARY  
IN THE LOCAL AREA

## 3D DESIGN

### A Level

#### Venue:

Alton Campus

#### Duration:

2 years

#### Overview

This course is intended to provide you with the skills and knowledge to be successful when applying for 'three dimensional' design-based employment or degree courses e.g. Product Design, Industrial Design, Modelmaking, Craft, Furniture etc. But because the course is creative, technical and both practical and academic, it has also proved to be an excellent foundation for students with artistic, architectural or engineering intentions.

Designing uses a highly diverse set of skills and on this course, you will: research, analyse, summarise, define, plan, develop, prove, calculate, communicate, process, fabricate, test, evaluate and modify. When you have completed this course, you will have a digital portfolio as evidence of your broad skill set and management capability.

#### Structure

##### Year 1

- Project: To design and prototype a 'unique yet appropriate' product for an identified group of users. In this project you will study how people interact with products, then you will draw up concepts, use CAD to communicate and simulate products, and model and prototype the parts of a proposal.
- Study: You will test material properties then learn about forming, joining and finishing processes for a range of materials e.g. casting, welding, plasma cutting, routing, milling, 3D printing etc.

##### Year 2

- Project: To design and prototype a product, or space, for an identified client or group of users. In this project, you will analyse situations and plan a project, generate and develop solutions, produce a one-off or prototype and then test its feasibility.
- Study: You will gain an understanding of the range of constraints, influences and opportunities that impact the work of designers e.g. culture and society, industrialisation, sustainability, new technologies, human characteristics etc.

#### Teaching & Learning

All lessons are undertaken in a large and modern purpose-built 'design and make' space, where you can move from designing to making when you are ready. Everything from a modern CAD suite, layout space, workbenches and traditional and modern machinery is all combined in the one space. This is successful because combined with integrated extraction are ceiling-mounted air filtration units and a downdraught (dust catching) workbench that retain high standards of air quality at all times.

You will be encouraged to develop independence in both thought and action, but staff are extensively available to support you with your work when you need more time or another opinion.

Learning is achieved through project work and topic-based activities. Projects help you to gain confidence, design capability and practical skills and allow you to focus on your interests.

#### Assessment

50% course work: Design project

30% exam: Materials and Manufacturing

20% exam: Social, Moral, Environmental and Economic Issues Associated with Design

#### Progression

Students who successfully complete this course can, and have, moved onto Higher Education or into employment along the following design-based routes: product designer, industrial designer, product engineer, model-maker, craft-worker, production designer, draughtsperson, CAD operator, interior architect, architect, technologist, ergonomist etc.

#### Entry Requirements

Five GCSEs at grade 9-4. In addition you must have a GCSE grade 5 or above in a creative or technical subject and a GCSE grade 4 or above in Mathematics.

# ART & DESIGN (PRE-DEGREE)

## UAL Foundation Diploma Level 3/Level 4

### Venue:

Alton Campus

### Duration:

1 year

### Overview

Our UAL Foundation Diploma in Art and Design is a practical, one-year full time course. It allows lots of freedom to develop personal style and creative direction. The course is recommended by many top universities prior to studying a degree within the Creative Industries. It is an invaluable bridge between A Level and Vocational courses and Higher Education.

You will find this course exciting, fast-paced, challenging and rewarding. It is a chance to really explore your own personal interests, before making a commitment to employment and Higher Education at university. You will gain the necessary skills that are required for success at a higher level that has not previously been explored within A Level or Vocational studies. If you are interested in a creative and commercial career in art and design, this is the course for you.

### Structure

On the Foundation Diploma in Art & Design at HSDC Alton you will study a range of challenging and creative projects that enable you to:

- Work in specialist areas from the start of the course
- Explore new specialisms
- Build a sophisticated and ambitious portfolio
- Develop analytical and evaluative communication skills
- Design for a better future - engage in sustainable and ethical design practice

Experienced tutors will support and guide you across different pathways to use a range of art and design materials and approaches. You have the opportunity to specialise in fine art, photography, graphic design, fashion, textiles, 3D design, animation, illustration, film set design, costume, fashion promotion, drawing or photography digital skills.

The course concludes with a Level 4 Final Major Project in which you choose and investigate a creative topic that fits in with your skills and progression ambitions, with a private view and public exhibition.

### Teaching & Learning:

You will take part in group discussions and analysis of your own work and that of others. Investigations into historical and contemporary artists and designers are integrated into practical project work. There will be opportunities to take part in day trips to visit exhibitions, as well as overseas locations. Previous destinations have included New York, Iceland, San Francisco, Beijing and St Petersburg.

### Assessment

100% coursework.

Unit 1: Diagnostic Investigation into Creative Practice (Level 3)

Unit 2: Developing Specialist Practice (Level 3)

Unit 4: Consolidating Practice (Level 4)

Units 1 and 2 are graded Pass only. The overall qualification grade is based on Unit 4 and is graded as Fail, Pass, Merit or Distinction.

### Progression

Whether you are aiming at competitive degree courses, seeking employment or Apprenticeships, this course will help you to develop your portfolio. Many artists and designers say that this was the most important year of their education.

### Entry Requirements

Five GCSEs at grade 9-4, including English and Mathematics, and two A Level, or equivalent level qualifications, one of which must be a relevant creative subject.





# ART & DESIGN

## A Level

### Venue:

Alton Campus

### Duration:

2 years

### Overview

This course focuses on Fine Art skills, but is directly relevant to careers in architecture, illustration, product design, graphic design and fashion. Creativity encourages and promotes independent thinking and can complement more academic studies. Visits to London galleries are offered on this course along with opportunities to experience cultural destinations abroad. Enthusiasm, good drawing ability and the resourcefulness to work independently are important qualities for students to be successful.

### Structure

You will study:

- A range of projects that follow a series of thematically based topics, to include "Journey", "City" and "Portrait".
- Workshop sessions will introduce you to a range of materials and techniques, allowing you the freedom to experiment with your own imagery and ideas.
- In year 2, you will undertake a Personal Investigation in a specialist area of your own choice where you explore an aspect of Art and Design that interests you, this will involve producing sketchbooks and outcomes. The Personal Investigation will be supported with an essay (maximum 3000 words).

Explorative sketchbook work will prepare you for the externally set task with a topic set by the exam board. This component is followed from February of your second year culminating in a 15-hour timed period to produce your outcome.

### Teaching & Learning

Lesson activities include plenty of time to develop your ideas and imagery with guidance from tutors, alongside workshop sessions where new skills are developed and critical discussion of students' and artists' work. You are encouraged to work in a range of media such as drawing, painting, collage, digital, 3D and printmaking. Art is directly relevant to a wide range of careers from architect to tattooist. The creative and independent way of thinking art encourages is valuable in all walks of life.

### Assessment

60% personal investigation and 40% externally set task.

The externally set task includes a 15-hour practical controlled exam.

### Entry Requirements

Five GCSEs at grade 9-4. We recommend a grade 5 in a creative or technical subject at GCSE, although in exceptional circumstances we do consider students without an Art qualification.



## ART & DESIGN

### UAL Diploma Level 2

#### Venue:

Alton Campus

#### Duration:

1 year

#### Overview

This one-year Vocational creative course will give you the opportunity to explore the various aspects of Art and Design: you will cover a wide range of units such as exploring the work of artists & designers, graphic design, photography, textile design and producing art or design work for sale and exhibition.

A highly practical course, ideal for you if you are aiming to progress toward Level 3 or a creative career. You will be guided by specialist staff and given the opportunity to experiment and expand your creative potential in our dedicated teaching rooms.

#### Structure

This course will provide students with an interest in art and design with the opportunity to explore the materials, methods and processes that support art and design activities, and to begin to develop some related technical skills.

#### Teaching & Learning

Lessons activities are wide-ranging and stimulating from theory-based to practical exploration. You will develop your own ideas by researching other artists and be encouraged to examine the world around you visually. You will work through a variety of techniques and learn to work with appropriate media, materials and processes. Art & Design students are expected to write about and annotate work, express personal and creative ideas and produce final outcomes using a range of approaches and methods derived in textiles, graphic design and photography.

#### Assessment

100% coursework.

#### Entry Requirements

You should have achieved a minimum of four GCSE's at grade 3. You should have an interest in art-related subjects.



# ART TEXTILES

## A Level

### Venue:

Alton Campus

### Duration:

2 years

### Overview

The Art Textiles A Level gives you the time to explore textiles, fashion and art to build your skills in fabric techniques, making and up-cycling outcomes, drawing skills and developing sketchbooks.

You will be able to work with a range of media to create your work and the course is relevant to careers in textiles, fashion, set and costume design, interior design, buyer, visual merchandising or surface design. It is a creative and stimulating course which encourages independent thinking. Visits to exhibitions are encouraged.

### Structure

Workshop sessions introduce you to a range of materials and techniques, allowing you the freedom to experiment with your own imagery and ideas. Projects encourage you to produce interesting sketchbooks, primary imagery and designs along with making outcomes ranging from fashion, accessories and interiors, to up-cycling furniture. Year 1 allows you to be experimental and develop a diverse range of work.

In Year 2, you will undertake a more focused Personal Investigation in an area of your choice where you explore aspects of fashion, textiles, accessories or interior design that interest you; this will involve producing sketchbooks and outcomes. The Personal Investigation will be supported with an essay (maximum 3000 words). Exploratory sketchbook work prepares you for the externally set project with a topic set by the exam board. This component is followed from February of Year 2, culminating in a 15-hour timed period to produce your outcome.

### Teaching & Learning

Lesson activities include plenty of time to develop your ideas and techniques with guidance from tutors, alongside workshop sessions where new skills are developed and with detailed discussion of your work. You are encouraged to work with a range of media and techniques such as silk screen printing, heat press, laser cutting, pattern cutting, using sewing machines, dressmaking skills, applique, felt making, drawing, collage and digital development. Time is also spent on research, design and making. Art Textiles is directly relevant to a wide range of careers from accessories designer to weaver and the creative and independent way of thinking is valuable in all walks of life.

### Assessment

60% personal investigation and 40% externally set task. The externally set task includes a 15-hour practical controlled exam.

### Progression

Direct entry to Higher Education courses. Entry to Foundation Art and Design. Employment in careers such as interior design and fashion design.

### Entry Requirements

Five GCSEs at grade 9-4. We recommend a grade 5 in a creative or technical subject at GCSE, although we do consider students without a Textiles or Art qualification.





# CREATIVE MEDIA PRODUCTION AND TECHNOLOGY - FILM & TV PRODUCTION

## UAL Level 3 Diploma (=3 A Levels)

### Venue:

Alton Campus

### Duration:

2 years

### Overview

The media industry is a vast and lucrative industry with many possible avenues for creative employment. On this course, you will work to create music videos, short films, radio dramas, magazine articles, live TV programmes and documentaries. Projects are based on realistic industry scenarios and you'll get the opportunity to try out a range of roles including director, producer, editor and camera operator.

You will work in our new Gaming & Creative Digital Studios, developing your technical and creative skills to create modern, engaging content. Good organisational skills, a keen imagination and an enjoyment of working with others are important qualities. By the end of the course, you will have compiled a portfolio of work which can be used to progress to a degree or HND at university or to seek employment directly in the media industry.

### Structure

You will study:

- Short Film - learn and then test out your filmmaking skills by creating a short film
- Music Videos - work with existing songs or find a band to make your own music videos (many top directors have started out this way)
- Multi-Camera Productions - work in our dedicated studio space to create a short live programme
- Video Art Installation - work to create an art piece that marries video and installation work into one cohesive piece
- TV Advertising - study professional examples and engage with the persuasive techniques used to sell products before making your own
- Radio Drama - learn the importance of sound by writing and producing your own original radio drama. Imagination and creativity are a must!

- Desktop Publishing - produce a double-page magazine spread that sells YOU as a media producer
- Website production - design your own website to show off your production skills and start building your careers portfolio
- Final Major Project - at the end of both years, your grades will depend on projects that YOU have chosen. Show what you have learned at HSDC Alton by creating an audio/visual piece that reflects your interests and ambitions

### Teaching & Learning

Learning happens in a variety of ways: through classroom-based lessons, workshop activities, independent study and, where possible, work placements. The course requires a very high level of commitment and flexibility. You will be encouraged to experience a wide range of roles and responsibilities. As well as creating TV programmes using professional-standard media equipment, you will also develop important life skills such as time management and effective teamwork.

### Assessment

100% coursework.

### Progression

Many of our students continue media/film production at university. We also coach students who are applying for jobs and Apprenticeships in the media industry.

### Entry Requirements

Five GCSEs at grade 9-4. Alternatively, if you have studied at Level 2, you should have achieved a Merit or above. You must have achieved at least a 4 in English or Mathematics (preferably both). To study this course, you should have an interest in creative subjects and technology.

# CREATIVE MEDIA PRODUCTION AND TECHNOLOGY - GAMES DESIGN & DEVELOPMENT

## UAL Extended Diploma Level 3 (=3 A Levels)

### Venue:

Alton Campus

### Duration:

2 years

### Overview

Housed in our new Gaming & Creative Design Studios, the multidisciplinary nature of this course will allow HSDC Alton to offer you the very best experience when working in this field. You will learn about the games industry; from devising a concept to developing a working prototype using industry-standard applications.

We have invested heavily in both new hardware and software, based on the input from industry experts to ensure you start off right on this exciting course. Over the two years, you will gain both technical and non-technical skills that are highly regarded by the industry. We will provide you with all the relevant software to enable you to develop and hone your skills outside of the classroom. This will be a fully digital course, utilising a range of different digital resources and submission of assignments.

### Structure

The course will be two years, where you will cover a mixture of specialist application and industry specific skills. During the first year, the focus is on the industry skills, Higher Education and industry visits.

On this Level 3 course you will be studying:

- Digital Media Skills
- Media Campaigns
- 3D Modelling
- Games Engine Scripting using Unreal
- 3D Digital Animation
- Sound Design
- Working in the Creative Media Industry

### Teaching & Learning

Using the latest hardware and software technology, aligned with industry practice in games development, you will have the opportunity to acquire real-world skills and experience in this emerging industry. You will be using software from Adobe Creative Cloud, Adobe Audition, Unreal Engine, Game Maker and Unity.

This course will include a variety of teaching methods using online digital resources, with you developing a range of portfolios in various different formats. Where appropriate, guest speakers and industry experts will be invited in to provide insight into games development.

### Assessment

Assessments will largely be project-based, leading to a collaborative project at the end of each year.

### Progression

After successfully completing this course, you could progress onto a university degree, Level 4 Apprenticeship in Games Development or another relevant industry.

### Entry Requirements

Five GCSEs at grade 4 or above, including English Language and Mathematics.



# CREATIVE PRACTICE: ART, DESIGN & COMMUNICATION

## UAL Level 3 Diploma & Extended Diploma (=3 A Levels)

### Venue:

Alton Campus

### Duration:

2 years

### Overview

This highly practical course is ideal for direct progression into Higher Education or creative careers. Assignments cover a range of Art and Design pathways such as graphic design, fine art, fashion & textiles, 3d design, illustration, animation and photography.

Year 2 gives the opportunity to specialise in a particular field and will give you the opportunity to visit a major cultural venue abroad to help enrich your creative skills. You'll complement your work with research and visits to London galleries. The course is taught by experienced and enthusiastic tutors and develops creative skills through sustained project work. Teaching is largely one-to-one guidance with group discussion and reflection.

### Structure

On this course, you will study:

- A range of projects that explore different aspects of Art and Design such as graphic design, fashion design, textiles, illustration, photography, fine art, 3d and animation
- How to use a range of Art and Design materials and approaches effectively such as painting, printmaking, sculpture, digital media, photography, graphic layout, drawing, garment making and illustration
- A specialist creative pathway in Year 2 that allows you to explore your chosen way of working in depth
- The course concludes with a Final Major Project in which you choose and investigate a creative topic that fits in with your skills and progression ambitions

### Teaching & Learning

This course has been designed to provide the skills, knowledge and understanding necessary to progress to a refined level of working within degree-level study in Art & Design, or into employment or Apprenticeship.

It provides an opportunity for those who have an interest in the visual arts to explore, develop and test their creativity within a qualification structure which is stimulating, demanding and which provides a supportive transition from Further to Higher Education.

The full time course is highly practical and lesson activities include time to develop your project work with guidance from tutors, alongside workshop sessions where new skills are delivered, along with critical discussion of students' and artists' work. On the course, teachers give comprehensive support and guidance with creating student portfolios and statements for application to Higher Education.

This course has an excellent reputation with universities and many strong links have been formed with HSDC Alton, one of these includes our Thrive partnership with the University for the Creative Arts.

### Assessment

100% coursework.

### Progression

Typically, students go on to study subject areas such as illustration, fine art, graphic design, fashion design, textiles, 3D design, photography, textile design and animation.

### Entry Requirements

Five GCSEs at grade 9-4 including Maths, English and an art based subject. Alternatively, if you have studied at Level 2, you should have achieved a Merit or above, and will need to show evidence of your creative work or portfolio at interview.

# CREATIVE MEDIA PRODUCTION & TECHNOLOGY

## Level 2

### Venue:

Alton Campus

### Duration:

1 year

### Overview

The Level 2 Diploma in Creative Media Production & Technology has been designed to provide you with the skills, knowledge and understanding necessary to progress to further study and training in a range of media-related subjects, including games design, website design, film, TV, radio, sound engineering and others.

The qualification has been designed for those that have an interest in media, often a specific discipline such as games design, who wish to explore and extend this interest via a full time, immersive learning experience. You may have identified a specific career in the creative industries that you wish to progress to (e.g. games designer, app designer, broadcast technician, cameraman, director etc) and will be able to use this qualification as a starting point.

### Structure

The course covers introductory knowledge and the real life working skills relevant to you if you aspire to work in the media industry and includes:

- Unit 1 – Introduction to creative media methods and skills
- Unit 2 – Introduction to production techniques in creative media
- Unit 3 – Understanding an audience in creative media production
- Unit 4 – Contextual research for creative media production
- Unit 5 – Exploring audio production and technology
- Unit 6 – Exploring visual production and technology
- Unit 7 – Exploring interactive media production and technology
- Unit 8 – Personal project and presentation in creative media production

### Teaching & Learning

You will be taught by high-quality teaching and support staff, with specialist skills and industry experience. The course will be delivered through lectures and workshops, with a mixture of practical projects and written assessments for you to complete.

### Assessment

You will be expected to produce portfolios of evidence and a major final project which will be assessed and verified.

### Entry Requirements

Five GCSEs at grade 3 including English Language and Mathematics.



# DANCE

## A Level

### Venue:

Alton Campus

### Duration:

2 years

### Overview

This creative and challenging course specialises in British Contemporary Dance and American Jazz Dance and combines the practical and theoretical study of dance. Through technique classes, choreography workshops, rehearsals and theory sessions, you will develop your passion for dance as both a choreographer and performer, in addition to developing your critical analysis skills through dance theory.

This course not only develops your physical skills needed for a career in the dance industry, but it also enables you to develop a high degree of physical fitness, expands your creative outlet, and builds social and communication skills, confidence and resilience, all of which are transferrable and applicable to many career paths and walks of life.

### Structure

Component 1 – Performance and Choreography

Component 2 – Critical Engagement

The two main genres you will study are Contemporary and American Jazz Dance. You will take part in regular technique classes in both genres to improve your strength, stamina and flexibility. You will also develop your choreography skills by experimenting with movement material in response to a variety of stimuli. Additionally, you will have opportunities to perform to the public, including in the College's annual Spring Dance Showcase.

To develop your knowledge of dance theory, you will study Rambert Dance Company and related Contemporary Dance choreographers, for example; Christopher Bruce and the iconic masterpiece 'Rooster'. You will also study American Jazz Dance and expand your critical engagement skills by exploring significant

American Jazz works such as Gene Kelly's 'Singin' in the Rain', Bob Fosse's 'Sweet Charity' and Jerome Robbins' 'West Side Story'.

### Teaching & Learning

Lessons take place in a large purpose-built dance studio with mirrors and sprung flooring, which demonstrates safe practice and offers a fantastic creative space for you.

Practical lessons combine teacher-led technique sessions and student-led choreography, as well as opportunities to work with industry professionals. Theory lessons are interactive and incorporate a range of teaching and learning methods, such as group discussion, presentations, and workshops to enable students to study in a creative and holistic learning environment.

Another significant part of your learning experience is to watch dance performances in live settings at well-known venues such as; Sadler's Wells, The Place, The Point, and The Mayflower. These experiences aim to enhance your learning experience, as well as developing and expanding relevant knowledge.

### Assessment

Component 1: Performance and Choreography (50%) = Performance in a Quartet, Group choreography, Solo performance

Component 2: Critical Engagement (50%) = 2.5 hour written examination

### Progression

Many of our dancers go on to further their training at specialist conservatoires for dance such as Laines, Bird College, Trinity Laban or university. We have many past students performing on cruise ships, teaching in schools, performing in the West End and running independent dance schools.

### Entry Requirements

Grade 4 or above in GCSE Dance or dance experience at private dance school. Four further GCSEs at grade 4 or above.

# DIGITAL FILM & VIDEO PRODUCTION

## BTEC National Extended Certificate Level 3 (=1 A Level)

### Venue:

Alton Campus

### Duration:

2 years

### Overview

This course is for you if you are creative, imaginative and have an interest in filmmaking. You will learn to plan and create audio visual material in line with film industry practices.

You will cover the essentials of lighting, planning, filming and editing, and you will work both in teams and individually on a variety of projects. This course provides good preparation if you are considering an Apprenticeship in the creative and design industries. When taken alongside further Level 3 qualifications, it also supports access to a range of Higher Education courses in film and video production and the wider media industry.

### Structure

This course is made up of five units:

- Digital Media Skills
- Film Production
- Storyboarding for Digital Media or Scriptwriting
- Single Camera Technique
- Film Editing

### Teaching & Learning

Learning happens in a variety of ways: through classroom-based lessons, workshop activities, and independent study. The course requires a very high level of commitment and flexibility. You will be encouraged to experience a wide range of roles and responsibilities. As well as creating a film using professional-standard media equipment you will also develop important life skills such as time management and effective teamwork.

### Assessment

One unit (Digital Media Skills) is externally assessed, all other units are coursework and will be assessed by your teachers.

### Entry Requirements

Five GCSEs at grade 9-4. Alternatively, if you have studied at Level 2, you should have achieved a Merit or above.





# DRAMA

## A Level

### Venue:

Alton Campus

### Duration:

2 years

### Overview

This course provides an exciting opportunity to study and perform a wide range of theatrical styles, practitioners and texts, from Ibsen's 'Hedda Gabler' to contemporary plays such as 'That Face'.

You will work in specialist facilities to understand how playwrights are influenced by contextual factors such as society, economics, culture and politics. Design and staging techniques are also studied to gain the essential theatrical skills required to create your own dramatic work for an audience. Devising within your first year is student-generated and collaboratively directed, with teaching to support you creating a vibrant and original piece of theatre. You will be practically assessed on group and monologue or duologue scripted work, carefully selected by your teacher. You will experience live theatre and learn the essential skills to analyse and evaluate the techniques employed by professional theatre companies. Ultimately, you will assume the role of director and generate an overall concept for a modern production of a classical text.

### Structure

Year 1

- Study a variety of exciting theatrical practitioners; Stanislavski, Brecht, Berkoff, Frantic Assembly, Kneehigh, Katie Mitchell and Joan Littlewood
- Exploring genres, styles, playwrights, texts which inform the creation and staging of theatrical work
- Modern writers and theatre productions; 'That Face' by Polly Stenham, breaking barriers and reaching young audiences with exciting, engaging, contemporary themes and issues

- Devising; using an array of acting techniques, rehearsal and staging exercises to create an original piece of modern theatre

Year 2

- Group performances; teacher-directed within a group to stage an extract from a play in the College theatre
- Monologues/duologues; working with a partner and also individually, to produce a highly effective and dynamic piece of theatre
- Regular theatre visits as a group to analyse and evaluate critically acclaimed theatre productions
- Directing; drawing upon all the experience and knowledge gained over the course to direct your own modern production of a classical text

### Teaching & Learning

Lessons are varied and engaging with activities including practical exploration of rehearsal exercises, devising & acting techniques and stage design using our purpose-built theatre. Discussion, research, presentations, debate and collaboration is actively encouraged. Written work is intrinsically linked to your practical exploration and a strong personal response is nurtured.

### Assessment

40% coursework, 20% group performance, monologue or duologue, 40% written exam.

### Entry Requirements

Five GCSEs at grade 9-4, including English and Mathematics.





*In partnership with*





# ESPORTS

## BTEC Extended Diploma Level 3 (=3 A Levels)

### Venue:

Alton Campus

### Duration:

2 years

- Ethical and Current Issues in Esports
- Shoutcasting
- Video Production
- Skills Strategies and Analysis

### Overview

Housed in our new Gaming & Creative Digital Studios, this course will give you the skills you need for success within the fast-growing Esports industry. Esports offers a unique opportunity to study a sector that crosses over multiple subject areas such as sport, marketing, enterprise, IT and the creatives. It provides an opportunity for alignment of social, physical, mental and financial skills into one qualification to deepen and expand learning; these are skills that are highly valued in the changing and fluid workplace. You must apply strategy, skill and teamwork to be successful.

You will also have the opportunity to compete in the British Esports Association colleges competitions. The HSDC Storm team will compete in Rocket League, Overwatch, League of Legends and Valorant against other colleges. The matches run from October to May on Wednesday afternoons.

### Structure

On this Extended Diploma at HSDC Alton, you will study:

#### Core Units (mandatory)

- Unit 1: Introduction to Esports
- Unit 2: Esports Skills, Strategies and Analysis
- Unit 3: Enterprise and Entrepreneurship in the Esports Industry
- Unit 4: Health, Wellbeing and Fitness for Esports Players
- Unit 5: Esports Events

#### Other units include:

- Live-streamed Broadcasting
- Producing an Esports Brand
- Business Applications of Esports in Social Media
- Esports Coaching
- Psychology for Esports Performance

### Teaching & Learning

This is a career-focused qualification with industry endorsement that enables you to learn underpinning knowledge, develop technical and transferable skills and gain experience in a variety of different sections of the Esports industry.

### Assessment

All units are internally assessed and subject to external standards verification.

You will be given opportunities to:

- present findings of your own research
- use case studies to explore complex or unfamiliar situations
- carry out projects for which you have a choice over the direction and outcomes
- demonstrate practical and technical skills using appropriate processes

Your course culminates in a synoptic assessment that enables you to demonstrate you can identify and use effectively, in an integrated way, an appropriate selection of skills, techniques, concepts, theories and knowledge in realistic contexts, scenarios and activities.

### Progression

Studying this course could lead you into employment across a range of roles within Esports either individually or in teams. Alternatively, you could progress onto a relevant degree such as the Esports degree offered by our partners at the University of Chichester.

### Entry Requirements

You will need five GCSEs at grade 4 or above including Maths and English.

# GRAPHIC DESIGN

## A Level

### Venue:

Alton Campus

### Duration:

2 years

### Overview

The Graphic Design A Level provides the opportunity for you to develop your creative potential as a graphic designer or graphic illustrator through a wide area of study.

Be it advertising, campaigns or branding, graphic communication is integral to everyday life. Focusing on the use of text and image to communicate ideas, you'll produce practical explorations alongside critical analysis in areas including illustration, typography, advertising, packaging design and design for print.

### Structure

Coursework portfolio - In your first year, you will complete several guided projects and design workshops. Recent live projects have included a children's vector animal illustration book with illustrations displayed in a children's ward at QA Hospital and hand-drawn expressive typography formulating unique 'alphabets', exploring letter construction.

During your second year, you will have the opportunity to develop a personal investigation within a subject area and specialism of your choice, developing an extensive and personal portfolio of work.

Externally set assignment - You will select from starting points issued by the exam board. During this period you will complete preparatory work and culminate the assignment with 15 hours of supervised time where the focus is on developing ideas and completing final outcome(s) independently.

### Assessment

This course is assessed through a coursework portfolio and an externally set assignment.

### Progression

Many students wishing to pursue art & design further progress onto Higher Education or Apprenticeships within creative sectors. You will be able to develop a portfolio fit for direct entry to degree, HND or pre-degree Foundation courses. This course has prepared past students for pathways including graphic design, illustration, typography, digital media, computer animation, computer games design, advertising, fine art and architecture.

### Entry Requirements

Five GCSEs at grade 4 including English Language and Mathematics. You should also have studied a related subject such as graphic design, art and design, photography or textiles at GCSE level. Evidence of creative ability must be shown at your interview in the form of a portfolio of art and design work. It may be possible to gain entry to the qualification without GCSE in an art-related subject by submitting a portfolio showcasing your practical work at your interview.





# MEDIA CONTENT CREATION & PRODUCTION

## T Level (=3 A Levels)

### Venue:

Alton Campus

### Duration:

2 years

### Overview

This two-year course has been developed in collaboration with leading employers, practitioners and providers from across the sector to develop the technical qualification that will underpin the media, broadcast and production skills you will develop. Their input is vital to ensuring the technical qualification reflects the needs of the sector. Your lessons will take place in our high spec Media classrooms with access to the latest industry software. You will spend time in the classroom, learning core principles of the Media industry and essential theory, and in the process develop your professional and technical skills. This will be balanced with practical work in our studio and creative spaces to build your technical skills. You will get the chance to work in two forms of Media including but not exclusive to moving/still image, audio and written word.

The industrial placement is a really fantastic part of the course, and unique to T Levels. You will spend the equivalent of 9 weeks over the 2 years actually working alongside industry professionals in the areas you are considering for your future careers. The College has employers who fully support T Levels and have committed to hosting placements. We support you to make contact, introduce yourself, and secure your placement.

This course ensures you can rival all students with a unique blend of both academic and industry experience with a work placement giving you the real-world skills you require for future employment.

### Structure

You will develop an understanding of a broad range of issues relevant to the Media sector, this will support all of your creative practical work and will include:

- The creative Media economy
- The individual in the creative industries
- Cultural context and vocabulary
- Audience and consumer needs for the Media
- Legal and regulatory requirements in the Media
- Professional standards and conduct in the workplace
- Equality, diversity and inclusion requirements
- Research skills to support practical creative work
- Project management, methodology and administration
- Continued professional development

### Assessment

You will be assessed by an exam, industrial placement, work-based project, and synoptic assessments.

### Progression

On successful completion of this course, you could progress directly into employment, begin further study with media-related degree programmes or move onto a Higher Apprenticeship. The college has partnerships with a large range of employers as well as universities.

### Entry Requirements

You will need five GCSEs at grade 4 or above including English Language and Mathematics.



# MEDIA STUDIES

## A Level

### Venue:

Alton Campus

### Duration:

2 years

### Overview

Media Studies explores how the media impacts us as individuals and as a society. You'll learn how media industries operate and explore issues such as representation, audience and genre.

You will learn about a wide range of media forms including television, magazines, video games and online media. The emphasis of this course will be on developing your analytical skills through discussion and essay writing. There is a practical element to the course and you will have the opportunity to create your own music video, TV sequence or advertising campaign.

### Structure

You will study:

- A wide range of media including advertising, music videos, film marketing, video games, radio and newspapers
- Television in the global age, mainstream and alternative magazines, and media in the online age.
- You will explore how different media industries operate, and how fans and consumers interact with media 'texts'
- A variety of theories which can be applied to concepts such as genre, narrative and audience
- Coursework: a practical production in response to a choice of briefs (e.g. creating a TV sequence, magazine or music video)

### Teaching & Learning

Lessons involve discussion, viewing, reading and note-making. You will learn to analyse media texts through a combination of teacher-led presentations, individual research, essay-writing and group work.

For the coursework production you will have the opportunity to develop your creative and technical skills such as camera work and editing.

### Assessment

30% coursework, 70% exams (two exam papers).

Exam papers:

- Media Products, Industries and Audiences
- Media Forms and Products in Depth

### Entry Requirements

Five GCSEs at grade 9-4.





# MUSIC

## A Level

### Venue:

Alton Campus

### Duration:

2 years

### Overview

Do you enjoy singing or playing an instrument? Perhaps you are a composer and want to create an amazing piece for orchestra, a theme for a musical theatre show, or try song-writing? A Level Music is a truly exciting subject, which enables you to discover a large range of musical genres through creative work and collaboration with others.

Our facilities are outstanding, and so is the expertise of our staff – all of them are active as professional musicians. Our students go on to further study at prestigious conservatoires across the UK.

Be a part of our enrichment activities as part of our Be Involved programme including Choir, Chamber Orchestra, String Ensemble, Jazz Band and Live Music Performance (Rock and Pop) workshops. Collaborations with external organisations have brought a number of high-profile musicians to the College, leading various workshops. We also organise visits to first-class venues and events, in order to see top-class musicians in action, and broaden the understanding of possible music-related careers in today's world.

### Structure

Studying Music A Level enables you to pursue your own musical interests whilst developing skills in performing, composing and appraising. The course has the flexibility for you to specialise in either performing or composing. During lessons you will study three components:

Component 1: Performing - You will have the chance to perform throughout the year at concerts in our ensembles and as a soloist as well as smaller recitals.

Component 2: Composing - You will learn composition techniques in lessons including structure, genre, orchestration and harmony.

Component 3: Appraising - Students will learn about three areas of study through listening and analysing:

- The Western Classical Tradition - The development of the Symphony
- A choice between Rock and Pop, Musical Theatre and Jazz
- A choice between 20th and 21st Century Music

### Teaching & Learning

You will compose in our dedicated Apple Mac suite using Sibelius or Logic. Every week you will have a lesson session with our college accompanist to work through solo repertoire in preparation for your performance exam at the end of Year 2.

### Assessment

Component 1: Performing (25-35%) Externally Assessed

You will be required to perform for 6-12 minutes on your main instrument as a soloist or ensemble or a mixture of both. This is examined by a visiting examiner at the end of the second year.

Component 2: Composing (25-35%) Externally Assessed

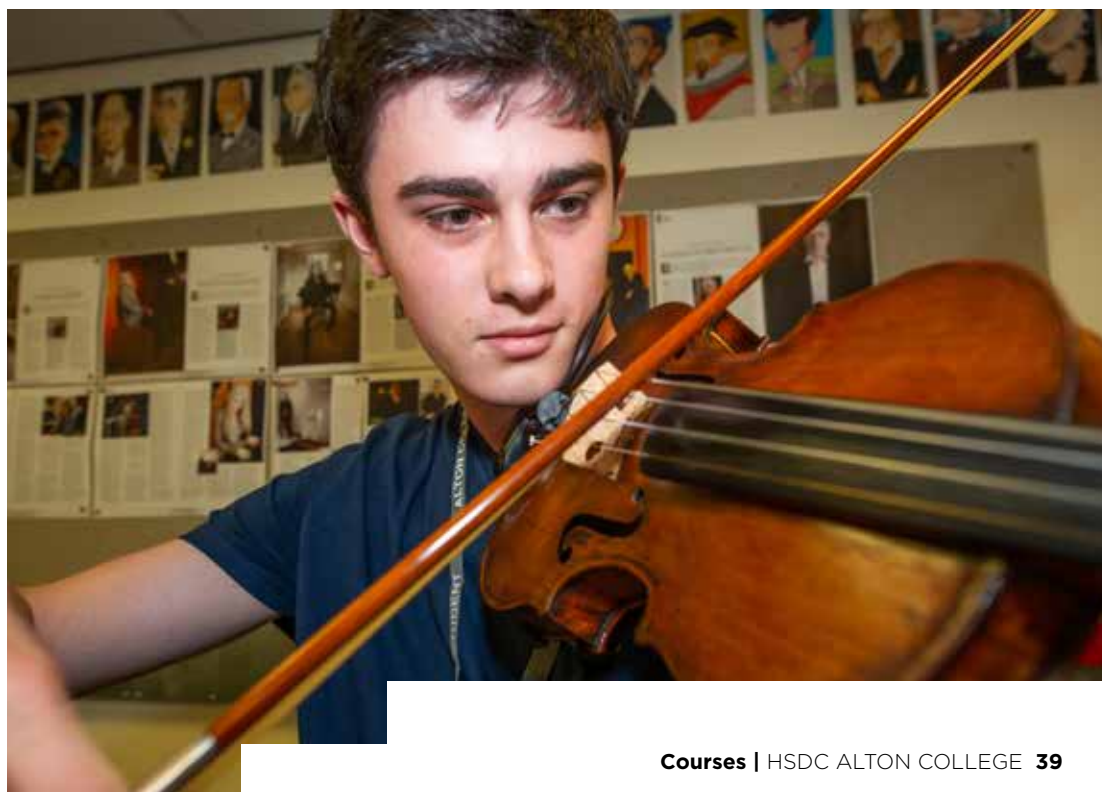
You will be required to compose two to three compositions which last a total of 4-10 minutes. One composition is set to a brief from the exam board, the others are free composition.

Component 3: Appraising (40%) Externally Assessed exam

### Entry Requirements

Five GCSEs at grade 9-4. We would normally expect you to have gained at least grade 5 in GCSE Music and/or Grade V Theory plus Grade V on an instrument.





# MUSIC PERFORMANCE AND PRODUCTION

## UAL Extended Diploma Level 3 (=3 A Levels)

### Venue:

Alton Campus

### Duration:

2 years

### Overview

The UK music industry is huge, contributing over £5billion to the economy with the live performance sector alone contributing over £1billion.

This course has been designed to provide you with the necessary skills to enable you to work professionally as a performer in the music industry. There are a vast number of different roles and this course will equip you with the knowledge and understanding necessary to access many of these, as well as supporting progression to Higher Education courses including degree-level study.

Students are encouraged to study and perform a wide range of musical styles and collaborate on original compositions and project work.

During the course, you will form bands with your fellow students. There will be a number of gig opportunities both in college and outside at professional venues. There are also opportunities for solo artists to perform. As well as developing your performance skills, you will also gain an understanding of the commercial considerations of live music. You will use this knowledge to put on and promote your own gigs at a venue outside of college. Even if you only have an interest in performing and are not interested in a music career, many of the skills you learn are extremely useful and are applicable to other industries.

### Structure

This two-year course is made up of a total of 13 Units. During the first year, you will study Units 1 to 8 which gives you the Level 3 Diploma in Music Performance and Production. During the second year, Units 9 to 13 are studied and these extra units, when added to the Diploma, make up the Extended Diploma in Music Performance and

Production.

#### Year 1 Diploma

- Unit 1 - Principles of music performance and production
- Unit 2 - Critical listening and music composition
- Unit 3 - Music industry and professional practice
- Unit 4 - Critical and contextual awareness for music performance and production
- Unit 5 - Music production in context
- Unit 6 - Music performance in context
- Unit 7 - Preparation for specialist study in music performance and production
- Unit 8 - Collaborative music performance project

#### Year 2 Extended Diploma

(Students must complete Units 1-8 of the Diploma in Music Performance & Production, in addition to Units 9-13)

- Unit 9 - Developing music performance and production skills
- Unit 10 - Exploration of specialist study in music performance and production
- Unit 11 - Preparing for progression in music performance and production
- Unit 12 - Project proposal for the extended project in music performance and production
- Unit 13 - Extended project in music performance and production

### Teaching & Learning

The Extended Diploma is a full time immersive course that offers a variety of learning and teaching approaches to nurture the talents of the creative student. This includes lectures, guest lectures, rehearsals, tutorials, studios recording sessions, live performance workshops, presentations and group discussions. The facilities on our campus feature the latest music industry-standard equipment. They include:

- Two Apple Mac production suites consisting of more than 20 individual workstations with audio keyboard and Logic X
- Main recording studio consists of Apple Mac Pro, and Logic Pro X
- Live music venue with a variety of live audio equipment: industry-standard microphones and DI boxes, PA and monitor speakers and outboard equipment

Our rehearsal rooms are equipped with all the kit required to rehearse and perform your favourite music:

- PA Systems
- Mics
- Amps
- Keyboards
- Drums
- Grand Piano
- Double Bass

You will bring your own instrument and make music in a range of ensembles, from solo acts to full bands.

Also, our fantastic Ormond Room is a fully equipped performance space for recording or performing. Writing and performing music is at the heart of what we do throughout the courses here.

## Assessment

This course is assessed through 100% coursework and continual assessment. There are no examinations.

For the first year Diploma, you will be continually assessed on a Pass or Fail basis on Units 1-7. The final Unit 8 will be graded on a Pass, Merit, Distinction level.

During the second year Extended Diploma, Units 9, 10 and 11 are assessed on a Pass and Fail basis, whilst Units 12 and 13 are assessed as Pass, Merit or Distinction and will produce your overall grade.

Much of the work over the two years is practical in nature, but written assignments and presentations are required to support this. There is a big emphasis on research and this is excellent preparation for university, as the qualification is assessed more like a degree than an A Level.

## Progression

On completion of this course, you could go on to university, conservatoire, become a performer, technician, promoter, venue manager, live sound engineer, songwriter, composer, music producer, studio engineer, musicologist, music therapist.

## Entry Requirements

Five GCSEs at grade 4 or above including English Language and Mathematics, as well as an audition that requires you to demonstrate that you are advanced enough on your instrument/voice to start rehearsing with a band.



# MUSIC PERFORMANCE AND PRODUCTION

## UAL Level 3 Diploma (=1 A Level)

### Venue:

Alton Campus

### Duration:

2 years

### Overview

The UK music industry is huge, contributing over £5 billion to the economy with the live performance sector alone contributing over £1 billion. This course provides the opportunity to develop your skills and to specialise in either Rock and Pop or Jazz, but there is crossover between the two.

This course has been designed to provide you with the necessary skills to enable you to work professionally as a performer in the music industry. There are a vast number of different roles and this course will equip you with the knowledge and understanding necessary to access many of these, as well as supporting progression to Higher Education courses including degree-level study.

During the course, you will form bands with your fellow students and there will be a number of gig opportunities both in college and outside at professional venues. There are also opportunities for solo artists to perform. The repertoire both for bands and solo performers may be covers or original material. As well as developing your performance skills, you will also gain an understanding of the commercial considerations of live music. You will use this knowledge to put on and promote your own gigs at a venue outside of college. Even if you only have an interest in performing and are not interested in a music career, many of the skills learned are extremely useful and are applicable to other industries.

### Structure

On this course, you will have the opportunity to study a variety of music performance-related areas.

The UAL Diploma consists of eight units.

Units 1 - 7 are skill-building units that prepare you for Unit 8, which is your final major project (FMP).

Units 1 - 7 cover:

- A range of elements in the development and delivery of a music performance
- Roles and responsibilities in the production of a music performance
- Listening skills to identify the different musical elements of musical performances





## Teaching & Learning

The facilities on our campus feature the latest music industry-standard equipment. They include:

- Two Apple Mac (2017 iMac) production suites consisting of more than 20 individual workstations with audio keyboard and Logic X
- Main recording studio consisting of Apple Mac Pro (2017)
- Live music venue with a variety of live audio equipment: industry-standard microphones and DI boxes, PA and monitor speakers and outboard equipment - e.g. dbx compressors, lexicon FX

Our rehearsal room is equipped with all the kit required to rehearse and perform your favourite music:

- PA Systems
- Mics
- Amps
- Keyboards
- Drums

Just rock up and start to learn tracks in a range of ensembles, from solo acts to full bands.

Also, our fantastic Ormond Room is a fully equipped performance space for recording or performing original songs or covers. Writing and performing music is at the heart of what we do throughout the courses here.

## Assessment

You will be continually assessed on a Pass or Fail basis on Units 1 - 7. The final Unit 8 will be graded on a Pass, Merit, Distinction level. The work towards your final unit will begin towards the end of term 1 in your second year. Much of the work is practical in nature but written assignments and presentations are required to support this. There is a big emphasis on research and this is excellent preparation for university, as the qualification is assessed more like a degree than an A Level. There is no final examination.

## Progression

On completion of this course, you could go onto university to study music further. You could also progress to become a performer, technician, promoter, venue manager, live sound engineer, songwriter, composer, music producer, studio engineer, musicologist, music therapist, or classroom teacher.

## Entry Requirements

Five GCSEs at grade 4 or above including English Language and Mathematics, as well as an audition that requires you to demonstrate that you are advanced enough on your instrument/voice to start rehearsing with a band.



# MUSIC PERFORMANCE & PRODUCTION

## UAL Diploma Level 2

### Venue:

Alton Campus

### Duration:

1 year

### Overview

If you are keen to establish yourself as a singer, songwriter, performer, musician, digital composer, producer, rapper or DJ, then this is the course for you to explore your talent.

A foundation course that will teach you how to play as part of a band, compose music for digital platforms on Logic Pro, mix tracks and perform to audiences, as well as business skills to start making it happen. As the Music Industry changes, artists develop a range of skills to meet these demands and this course brings you right up to date. From composing ballads to digital scores, getting a band together and your first recording and mixing session, to promoting to your fanbase, this is the way to get noticed!

### Structure

On this course, you will have the opportunity to study a variety of music performance-related areas.

The UAL Diploma consists of eight units. Units 1 - 7 are skill-building units that prepare you for Unit 8, which is your final major project (FMP).

Units 1 - 7 cover:

- A range of elements in the development and delivery of a music performance
- Roles and responsibilities in the production of a music performance
- Listening skills to identify the different musical elements of musical performances.

### Teaching & Learning

The facilities on our campus feature the latest music industry-standard equipment. They include:

- Two Apple Mac (2017 iMac) production suites consisting of more than 20 individual workstations running Logic Pro- X/Reason/Sibelius and Avid mini boxes.

- Main recording studio with Control and live room, featuring Logic Pro X, Waves, Reason, and high spec Microphones.
- Live music venue with a variety of live audio equipment: Industry-standard microphones and DI boxes, PA and monitor speakers and outboard equipment. Our rehearsal rooms are equipped with all the kit required to rehearse and perform your favourite music such as - PA Systems, Mics, Amps, Guitars, Keyboards, Drums, Marimba, Grand Piano and Yamaha Upright Pianos.

Just rock up and start to learn tracks in a range of ensembles, from solo acts to full bands. Also, our fantastic Ormond room is a fully equipped performance space for recording or performing original songs or covers. Writing and performing music is at the heart of what we do throughout your courses here.

### Assessment

You will be continually assessed on a Pass or Fail basis on Units 1 - 7. The final Unit 8 will be graded on a Pass, Merit, Distinction level. The work towards your final unit will begin towards the end of term 1 in your first year. Much of the work is practical in nature but written assignments and presentations are required to support this. There is a big emphasis on research and this is excellent preparation for university, as the qualification is assessed more like a degree than an A Level. There is no final examination.

### Progression

On completion of this Level 2 course, you could progress on to the Level 3 Music and Production Course. You could also go on to be a performer, technician, promoter, venue manager, live sound engineer, songwriter, music producer or studio engineer.

### Entry Requirements

Five GCSEs at grade 3 including English Language or Mathematics. Entry is by audition and interview to demonstrate that you are advanced enough with your instrument/voice/digital compositions to start composing and rehearsing with a band.



# MUSIC TECHNOLOGY

## A Level

### Venue:

Alton Campus

### Duration:

2 years

### Overview

If you want to learn how to record, produce and mix music, this contemporary A Level will help you achieve a foundation towards university and entry into the music industry. Using platforms such as Logic Pro & Reason, you will learn to record and mix bands as well as composing music for the digital age.

The course combines theoretical and practical aspects and features guest speakers and industry trips, as well as developing your own portfolio.

### Structure

A Level Music Technology is the ideal course for you if you enjoy making and recording music. You will study producing, styles, composing for the digital age and sound engineering, making use of our professional-standard equipment.

In Year 1 you will look at Foundation Skills in Recording/Programming & Portfolio Preparation and in Year 2 you will move onto Advanced Skills in Recording/Programming.

There are three main areas of study for this A Level Music Technology course, encouraging both breadth and depth of knowledge and understanding:

- Recording and Production Techniques for both corrective and creative purpose
- Principles of Sound and Audio Technology
- The Development of Recording and Production

Units studied on this course:

- Recording
- Technology-Based Composition
- Listening & Analysing
- Producing & Analysing

### Teaching & Learning

You will learn how to record and produce bands, singers and musicians in the studio using high specification equipment, as well as Logic Pro X. This will foster an understanding of how sound travels and can be captured. Through workshops, tutorials, lessons and student-led activities, you will gain a foundation and advanced skills in how to track, edit, mix and master your music using our control room and iMac suites. To prepare you for digital platforms, you will compose for media as well as songs and elements of sound design. Being a self-starter in the industry is vital, so self-directed learning, research, planning, as well as your own presentations will be vital for your learning.

### Assessment

Portfolio of coursework (externally marked).

Final exams in Year 2:

- Listening & Analysing
- Producing & Analysing

### Progression

Students from this course have progressed to Russell Group Universities to attend the prestigious Tonmeister Course or studied Music Technology at York University, as well as Southampton University. Others have progressed to Sound Engineering or Music Production at Birmingham, Westminster, Bath Spa, Kingston universities as well as ACM, BIMM and WaterBear. Performance and Production Students have also progressed to the Royal College and Academy of Music, as well as Guildhall and Trinity Conservatoires and Leeds College of Music. Some have started their own record labels or production careers, as well as two being nominated for the Mercury Prize.

### Entry Requirements

Five GCSEs at 9-4 including GCSE Mathematics and English to grade 4-5. Ability and enthusiasm to play an instrument, sing, play keyboards or program music, DJ etc. Music grades are an advantage but we will assess each application on merit.

# PERFORMING ARTS

## BTEC National Extended Certificate Level 3 (=1 A Level)

### Venue:

Alton Campus

### Duration:

2 years

### Overview

Do you see exciting work on a professional stage and aspire to that level of brilliance? As a BTEC Performing Arts student, you'll be part of a 'theatrical company' and be passionate in developing your own performing arts skills. You'll develop technique, performance skills, creativity, the ability to critically comment and a working understanding of how the performing arts industry operates.

This course enables you to investigate influential professionals within the industry, develop and use skills as an actor, dancer and singer, create a portfolio of performances and learn about job roles within the industry. Developing your skills in musical theatre, jazz dance, singing techniques, screen acting, the course culminates in a final performance to a live audience.

### Structure

On the BTEC Performing Arts course, you will develop your skills in drama, dance and singing for staging theatre performances and musicals. You will investigate successful practitioners' work; describing, analysing and evaluating dances, plays and songs by influential choreographers, playwrights, drama practitioners, composers and lyricists. The course and the performances you help stage will develop your skills as an actor, dancer and singer. You will work as part of a group to create performances in response to a specific stimulus. You will also study one specialist unit. These can include musical theatre, storytelling, jazz dance, singing techniques, acting styles, choreography, children's theatre, improvisation or screen acting.

### Teaching & Learning

Lesson activities are varied, from practical technique classes to creative workshops to written analysis tasks. We also organise a huge range of trips to theatres, visiting workshops, alongside many opportunities to perform at College. This is a really exciting course for anyone who wishes to pursue a career within the performing arts industry.

### Assessment

100% coursework and controlled assessment.

### Entry Requirements

Five GCSEs at grade 9-4, including a 4 in English. Alternatively, if you have studied at Level 2, you should have achieved a Merit or above. To study this course, you should have formal experience of two of the disciplines such as BTEC/GCSE in a Performing Arts subject, external dance, acting or singing grades (I.S.T.D, LAMDA, Trinity etc.) or regular experience via a youth theatre, school musicals, Rock Challenge or similar.





# PHOTOGRAPHY

## A Level

### Venue:

Alton Campus

### Duration:

2 years

### Overview

If you want to discover the thrill of expressing yourself through still images, exploring traditional skills and being creative with digital technology, come and be inspired by our enthusiastic staff. Lessons take place in our specialist photographic department with its superb darkroom, three fully professional-standard studios and computer suite with Adobe Creative Cloud software.

You'll be encouraged to explore and engage in different ideas and practices, developing the person behind the camera and producing work that reflects you and the changing world we live in. Visits to galleries and exhibitions are encouraged on this course and each year there is the opportunity to travel overseas to experience a different culture to enhance your studies.

### Structure

You will study:

- Traditional darkroom techniques, which will enable you to fully appreciate how photography has evolved into the 21st century. It will be a hands-on practical history lesson!
- How to think about visual communication and how imagery is used to communicate an idea or viewpoint of an individual
- Research into a variety of worldwide photographic artists, to help and influence your own creative image-making
- Digital workflow & editing as an extension of the darkroom using Adobe Creative Cloud
- A personal investigation in Year 2 of this course, exploring artists, photographers and technique to gain an in-depth practical understanding of the process you apply within your photographic practice, supported by a related written study
- Independently and be encouraged to take responsibility for directing much of your own practical projects and research work

### Teaching & Learning

Lesson activities are wide-ranging and stimulating from theory-based to practical exploration. You will develop your own ideas by researching other artists and be encouraged to examine the world around you visually. You will work through a variety of techniques and learn to work with appropriate media, materials and processes. Photography students are expected to annotate work, to express personal and creative ideas and produce final outcomes using a range of approaches and methods from the darkroom to digital.

### Assessment

60% personal investigation, 40% externally set task.

Externally set task includes a 15-hour controlled element.

### Entry Requirements

Five GCSEs at grade 4 or above including English Language and Mathematics and a grade 5 or above in an art-related GCSE. If you do not have an art-related GCSE then we ask to see a portfolio of artwork before being accepted onto the course.







# ENGLISH AND LANGUAGES



The study of English involves literary and linguistic study as well as opportunity for creative writing. If you're a linguist with the desire to harness more power through speaking, listening and writing, then this is your chance to excel. Linguistic abilities are lifelong transferable skills that have important applications across the full spectrum of trade and industry. Don't miss this opportunity to sharpen your skills for a successful future.



## ENGLISH LANGUAGE

### GCSE

#### Venue:

Alton Campus

#### Duration:

1 year

#### Overview

If you would like to improve on a GCSE Grade 3 in English Language then this course is for you. Most employers and universities ask for at least Grade 4 or above. This one-year course develops your reading and writing skills in preparation for the exams when you will be asked to show understanding of a range of texts including newspaper articles, biography and extracts of novels. During lessons, we encourage you to interact with discussions and debates to help you prepare for the speaking and listening skills needed for the end of course assessment. Students who speak English as a second or other language and are wishing to improve these skills are advised to undertake ESOL lessons. Successful completion of the GCSE requires a reasonable standard of written and spoken English as a starting point.

#### Structure

In lessons, you will read and discuss media, non-fiction and literary texts. You will develop your skills of comprehension, analysis and comparison.

- You will produce pieces of creative writing such as descriptions and stories.
- You will also practise practical writing tasks in various forms such as essays, articles, letters and reports.
- You will be encouraged to identify any errors in your technique and helped to correct them.
- There will be many opportunities to develop oral skills in a variety of class situations, including plenty of discussion work in small or larger groups.
- Overall, the lessons will prepare you for the two examinations in the summer and you will also receive an additional qualification in spoken language.
- Everything you learn will not only prepare you for getting the qualification but also be transferable - you will be learning life-long skills for use in the real world.

#### Teaching & Learning

English Language GCSE is a qualification that proves you have achieved a certain standard in speaking, reading and writing the English language.

A grade 4 (formerly grade C) or above is required for most advanced or higher-level courses in all subjects and many jobs.

#### Assessment

The qualification has two exams which will be in June each year.

In addition, there is a "spoken language" component which is assessed separately and given the markers: Pass, Merit, Distinction. Although this part of the qualification does not count towards your GCSE it does appear on the final certificate and the preparation for it will be a useful life skill.

There will be timed assessments and mock examinations throughout the year, mostly carried out in class time. Homework will consist largely of reading a range of texts, both literary and non-literary.

#### Entry Requirements

To qualify for this course, you will normally have achieved a grade 3 in English GCSE.

### ENGLISH FUNCTIONAL SKILLS LEVEL 1 AND LEVEL 2 ASSESSMENT:

100% exam. If you would like to improve on a GCSE Grade 1 or 2 in English Language, then this is the course for you. You will learn how to find information quickly in non-fiction texts, how to decide whether something is a fact or an opinion and how to explain the techniques a writer has used to persuade the reader or gain their trust. You will practice writing emails, letters, reports and reviews and will be shown ways to improve your spelling and punctuation. You will learn how to hold a successful discussion and how to give a persuasive presentation.

# ENGLISH LANGUAGE

## A Level

### Venue:

Alton Campus

### Duration:

2 years

### Overview

English Language is a fascinating subject. You'll study grammar, how children learn to speak and write, how language varies and develops over time and other issues such as the effect of language on our perception of the world.

The foundation of the English Language A Level course is the analysis of both written and spoken language, which will enable you to understand how texts work and to effectively write your own.

The coursework offers you free choice to develop your own original writing, so whether you are interested in sports journalism or creative writing – you choose.

### Structure

You will study:

- Language & Individual Variation. Have you ever wondered why people use language so differently? Is it true that females 'gossip' males 'swear' and all teenagers use 'like'? This section is where you find out what's really going on when we use language.
- Language Variation over time. This section studies how and why language changes. Why do we no longer use 'thee' and 'thou'? Is English really getting worse? And what exactly is a "hopper arsed hoddody doddy"?
- Child Language. This section covers how humans are able to acquire speech so quickly and to such a high level. It also covers how children are taught to read and write.
- Language Investigation. You will investigate a range of language issues around Language & Gender, and Language & Journalism. You will develop your own skills as a researcher and find data.
- Coursework – this is where you get to choose. You will produce two pieces of original writing and a commentary.

### Teaching & Learning

Lessons activities are wide-ranging, from debates to data analysis, research to individual writing. We also organise a range of trips to help your learning and understanding of context.

### Assessment

20% coursework

80% exams - made up of three exam papers; Variation, Child Language and Investigating Language.

### Entry Requirements

Five GCSEs at grade 9-4. You must have achieved at least a grade 5 in English Language or English Literature.



# ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE

## A Level

### Venue:

Alton Campus

### Duration:

2 years

### Overview

This course combines the analytical study of literature, non-fiction and spoken texts. It is the perfect choice for you if you have an interest in literature but would also like to study aspects of language in more depth.

You will have the opportunity to develop skills in the analysis of language, literary concepts and your own creative writing in a variety of forms. This course involves reading and analysing a range of texts, including F. Scott Fitzgerald's novel 'The Great Gatsby', Shakespeare's 'Othello' and Tennessee Williams' 'A Streetcar Named Desire'. You will also explore a range of non-fiction texts in a 'Voices' Anthology, developing your linguistic skills. This A Level also includes a creative writing element for the 'non-examined assessment' unit where you produce fiction and non-fiction texts based on Alice Walker's novel 'The Color Purple' and Maya Angelou's autobiography 'I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings', with an accompanying commentary.

### Structure

The course is taught over two years and comprises the following units:

- Component One: 'Voices' Anthology and 'A Streetcar Named Desire' (40% - assessed via exam)
- Component Two: 'The Great Gatsby' and 'Othello' (40% - assessed via exam)
- Component Three: Creative writing coursework (20% assessed via non-examined assessment)

### Teaching & Learning

Lesson activities are wide-ranging from debates to drama-based interpretations to detailed analysis and feedback, using Google Classroom, to student-based presentations on extracts and context, through to creative responses like wall displays and of course creative writing, required for the coursework unit. We also organise where possible a range of trips to see performances and to develop an understanding of context.

### Assessment

By examination (80%) at the end of the course and submission of coursework in the second year (20%).

### Progression

English Language and Literature is excellent preparation for any degree course that involves extensive analysis, essay writing and independent research, and will particularly prepare you for any English or linguistic degree.

### Entry Requirements

Five GCSES at grade 9-4, including at least a grade 5 in English Language or Literature.



# ENGLISH LITERATURE

## A Level

### Venue:

Alton Campus

### Duration:

2 years

### Overview

Do you love reading? If so, English Literature is for you.

The course enables you to study a broad range of literary texts from modern poetry, to Shakespeare's drama, Romantic poetry and contemporary novels. You will cover all aspects of how texts are influenced by contexts ranging from the 1300s to the 21st century. In lessons, you will learn how to analyse all aspects of text in depth as well as engaging in creative, drama and visual responses to literature. All classroom work involves discussion and debate whether in teams, groups or pairs. Throughout your studies, you will have the opportunity to watch live drama productions and hear authors discuss their own work at A Level conferences.

### Structure

You will study:

- Poetry written since 2000; really modern, exciting poems. Some are funny, some tragic, some experimental and all are thought provoking.
- Classic poetry by John Keats; a Romantic poet who writes beautifully about love, loss and the concept of beauty.
- Shakespeare; one play from a choice of eight.
- 20th Century drama; the modern classic play 'A Streetcar Named Desire' by Tennessee Williams set in 1950s New Orleans.
- Novels: 'The Picture of Dorian Gray' by Oscar Wilde, written and set in 1890s London following the story of a debauched party-goer who remains supernaturally youthful, compared with 'Beloved' by Toni Morrison. This second novel about the supernatural explores the trauma of slavery.
- Coursework: a comparison of Jez Butterworth's 2009 play 'Jerusalem' and Simon Armitage's 2007 version of 'Sir Gawain and the Green Knight'.

### Teaching & Learning

Lesson activities are wide-ranging, from debates to drama-based interpretations to detailed analysis and feedback. Lessons include creative responses to texts like painting, collage, or 'found-poetry', as well as mini-lectures and research on context or theory. We also organise a huge range of trips to theatres and poetry competitions to develop your understanding of the text and context.

### Assessment

20% coursework, 80% exams.

### Entry Requirements

Five GCSEs at grade 9-4. You must have achieved at least a grade 5 in English Language or English Literature.



## FRENCH

### A Level

#### Venue:

Alton Campus

#### Duration:

2 years

#### Overview

You will study technological and social change, looking at diversity and the benefits it brings. You will study highlights of French speaking artistic culture, including francophone music and cinema, and learn about political engagement and who wields political power in the French-speaking world.

You also explore the influence of the past on present day French-speaking communities. Throughout your studies, you will learn the language in the context of French-speaking countries and the issues and influences which have shaped them. You will study texts and film and have the opportunity to carry out independent research on an area of your choice.

#### Structure

If you choose to study French A Level, the focus is on French speaking society – not just France but French speaking Canada (Quebec), Belgium, and French-speaking African countries such as Senegal and Mali. We listen to music from these countries and study the song lyrics. We learn about the architecture and make judgements on old and modern styles in the French speaking world. What is the food like and how can we make use of our grammar to understand a recipe?

In the second year we get our teeth into current affairs with topics such as immigration and multiculturalism in French speaking countries. How does politics motivate young people in France, Quebec, Belgium, Senegal or Mali? You study a film in the first year and a novel in the second year. You will research a topic of your choice related to the French speaking world. You will be given total freedom to research with guidance from your teacher. You will have weekly one-to-one French conversation lessons which you prepare in advance in order to gain fluency and confidence.

#### Teaching & Learning

You are trained to listen to longer passages. You study the grammar so that you are able to form complex sentences and write essays, translate and summarise. You work in pairs and groups and work at your own pace using audio, video, text and internet-based resources.

#### Assessment

100% exam. Exam papers in:

- Listening, reading and writing
- Writing
- Oral

#### Entry Requirements

Five GCSEs at grade 9-4. You should have achieved at least grade 6 in French at GCSE.





# GERMAN

## A Level

### Venue:

Alton Campus

### Duration:

2 years

### Overview

German is the most widely spoken first language in the European Union and studying it at an advanced level opens opportunities in many careers.

You'll continue to develop your speaking, listening, reading and writing skills to a higher level, with a greater emphasis on German grammar to help you to understand and use more sophisticated language. You'll be encouraged to express your own opinions spontaneously on topics such as lifestyle choices or popular culture in the first year, moving to issues in culture and society in year two.

### Structure:

You will study:

- Year 1 topics: aspects of German-speaking society and artistic culture in the German-speaking world. You will look at the everyday life of young people, in terms of family, youth culture and the digital world, plus a wide range of topics such as different traditions, art and architecture, and the cultural life of Berlin past and present.
- Year 2 topics: Multiculturalism in German-speaking society and aspects of political life in the German-speaking world. You will have the opportunity to learn about and discuss current affairs affecting German-speaking countries and to look at the changing role of Germany in Europe, Germany since Reunification and issues in modern society. You will also revise and reinforce the first year topics.
- One German film and one novel or play over the two years.
- An individual research project, investigating a topic related to the German-speaking world. You have total freedom to choose your topic and carry out your research, with guidance from your teacher.
- Language work: you will develop and expand your knowledge and understanding of German grammar and vocabulary with constant re-enforcement over the two years.

- Speaking: You will practise your spoken German in class with your peers and one-to-one with your teacher, a native speaker of German, to gain fluency and confidence.

### Teaching & Learning:

You work in small groups, pairs or individually at your own pace using audio, video, text, and internet-based resources in the multimedia language laboratory and via virtual learning environments such as Moodle and Google Classroom. A wide range of class activities will help you develop your German language skills - taking part in group discussions, listening to longer passages, understanding grammar to form complex sentences, translate and summarise texts and write essays.

### Assessment:

100% exam (three exam papers)

Paper 1: Listening, Reading and Writing

Paper 2: Writing (two essays - one on film, one on a literary text)

Paper 3: Speaking (discussion of a stimulus card plus individual research project)

### Entry Requirements

Five GCSEs at grade 9-4. You will need to have achieved a grade 6 in German GCSE.





# SPANISH

## A Level

### Venue:

Alton Campus

### Duration:

2 years

### Overview

Fluency in Spanish opens up educational, employment and travel opportunities, especially in Europe, Latin America and the US where Spanish is the most widely spoken language after English.

Studying Spanish at A Level will give you the knowledge and the skills to be able to express your opinions spontaneously in both speaking and writing regarding Spanish-speaking society, from popular culture to how technology is shaping our lives. If you dream of speaking and writing a foreign language accurately and confidently and perhaps even working abroad, this course will help meet this ambition.

### Structure

You will study:

- Aspects of Hispanic society and artistic culture in the Hispanic world. In this section, we study a wide range of topics such as different celebrations, food, traditions, painting and architecture, celebrities, law and history of the Spanish speaking world.
- Multiculturalism in Hispanic society and aspects of political life in Hispanic society. You will have the opportunity to learn about and discuss current affairs affecting Spanish speaking countries such as immigration, racism, integration and young people as well as monarchies, republics and dictatorships and social movements in Spain and Latin America.
- One Spanish film and one play.
- Individual research project - this is where you get to choose. You will research a topic of your choice related to the Hispanic world. You will be given total freedom to research with guidance from your teacher.
- Grammar.
- In addition, in Year 1 you will practise your spoken Spanish in class with your peers in small groups and also with your Spanish tutor (a native speaker of the language) on a one-to-one basis at the end of each textbook chapter in order to gain fluency and confidence. In Year 2 you will have increased one-to-one speaking practice with your tutor in the months leading up to the examination.

### Teaching & Learning

Class activities are wide-ranging, from debates to pair work for discussions, working at your own pace using audio, video, text and internet-based resources in the multimedia language laboratory and via Google Classroom. We also use Virtual Reality (VR) technology to bring the topics closer to you.

### Assessment

100% exam (three examination papers).

- Paper one: Listening, Reading and Writing (Translation)
- Paper two: Writing (two essays: one on a play and one on a film from a set list)
- Paper three: Speaking (discussion of a stimulus card plus individual research project)

### Entry Requirements

Five GCSEs at grade 9-4. A grade 6 in GCSE Spanish is required.



# HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE, EARLY YEARS AND TEACHING



Are you an individual who is committed to helping others? If your compassion and interpersonal skills have the power to enrich lives, then this is your opportunity to discover your true vocation. Your teachers will spur you on to be the best you can be in all situations, enabling you to achieve your ambitions for learning success.

## \*VACCINATION NOTE:

For placement at a healthcare setting you will require a COVID vaccination to fully participate. If you do not wish to have the vaccination you can still study these courses, however finding a placement may be more challenging and you will not be placed in a hospital setting, also future career choices may be slightly limited.

Please see the Royal College of Nursing website for more information: [rcn.org.uk/Get-Help/RCN-advice/covid-19-and-mandatory-vaccination](https://www.rcn.org.uk/Get-Help/RCN-advice/covid-19-and-mandatory-vaccination)



## SECTOR FACTS



**£31,700**  
AVERAGE SALARY  
IN THE LOCAL AREA

## EDUCATION & CHILDCARE

### T Level (=3 A Levels)

#### Venue:

Alton Campus

#### Duration:

2 years

#### Overview

This two-year course has been developed in collaboration with employers and businesses to meet the needs of industry and prepare you for the world of work or to progress into Higher Education. Employers involved in designing this T Level include Action for Children and representatives from schools and colleges.

#### Structure

##### Core Units

- Education context: an overview of childcare and education 0-19; working in the sector, roles and responsibilities plus career opportunities
- Child development: expected patterns of development from 0-19 including language, social interaction, wellbeing, transitions and significant events
- Supporting education: different key stages, skills and characteristics that support education, pedagogical approaches, the role of metacognition, using technology and factors affecting the development of literacy and mathematics
- Safeguarding, health and wellbeing: statutory guidance, legal requirements, children at risk and in need, signs of danger or abuse and impacts
- Behaviour: the stages of development and factors that impact behaviour and therefore the implications for managing behaviour
- Observation and assessment: purposes and importance of assessment
- Equality and diversity: legislation, regulation and codes of practice
- Special educational needs and disability (SEND): principles of inclusion, relevant laws, codes of practice and professionals/organisations
- English as an Additional Language (EAL): stages of acquiring language and factors affecting it, strategies to support those learning EAL
- Parents, families and carers: working effectively with these people



- Working with others: agencies and services that support children, families and carers, developing professional boundaries and relationships
- Reflective practice: current priorities and debates in education, continuing professional development, development feedback and strategies

#### Specialist Units

Students will complete at least one module of occupation-specific content depending on the capacity of the local learning provider. This part of the T Level ensures students develop the knowledge and skills for specific occupations.

The specialism available in the Education & Childcare T Level is:

##### - Early years education and childcare

This specialism focuses on developing positive relationships with young children, supporting and promoting play, development and early education, safeguarding and promoting health, safety and wellbeing to enable children to progress. Establishing professional relationships and working in partnership with colleagues, parents, carers and other professionals involved in supporting children's development.

#### Assessment

Exam, industrial placement, work-based project, synoptic assessment.

#### Entry Requirements

Grade 5 or above in English Language GCSE, grade 4 or above in Mathematics GCSE and three additional GCSEs at grade 4 or above.

or

Grade 4 or above in English Language and Mathematics. NCFE CACHE level 2 certificate in Working with Children in Early Years and Primary Settings at Merit or above. (T Level Transition Programme).

## HEALTH & NURSING

### T Level (=3 A Levels)

#### Venue:

Alton Campus

#### Duration:

2 years

#### Overview

It's hard to imagine a more dynamic, fast-changing sector than nursing and healthcare in the UK. Nurses act as leaders, carers and clinicians, taking responsibility for the care they provide to patients.

This new T Level qualification is an exciting full time course which has been designed in partnership with businesses and employers. It is aimed at giving you the knowledge and skills to move into a career in nursing or nursing-related careers. It is designed to enable you to progress to employment or Apprenticeships in hospitals or healthcare settings or to move on to studying in Higher Education.

HSDC Alton opened its brand new facilities including a community room and ward simulation area in Sept 2021 and these are used to support the development of your skills.

#### This course covers:

- Learning about the range of clinical assessments and tasks undertaken by a nurse and how to conduct these tasks
- Learning about appropriate techniques used to move and handle patients relevant to their condition
- Learning about care plans and how to support patients to complete activities of daily living, such as maintaining good nutrition and hydration

The core knowledge and understanding will be assessed through an examination and core skills through a practical employer-set project. In addition to this, maths, English and general digital skills will be integrated within the qualification in occupationally relevant contexts.

#### Structure

In Year 1 you will cover all of the underpinning knowledge required to work in the healthcare



sector. You will learn about providing person-centred care and care values, health and wellbeing including recognising the signs and symptoms of health deterioration and infection control and prevention.

The units studied are:

- Working within the Health and Science Sector
- Health, Safety and Environmental regulations in the Health and Science sector
- Managing information and data within the Health and Science sector
- Good Scientific and Clinical Practice
- Core Science concepts (Including Anatomy and Physiology and Diseases and Disorders)
- The Healthcare sector
- Providing person-centred care
- Health and wellbeing
- Health and Safety regulations applicable in the Healthcare sector
- Infection prevention and control in health specific settings

In Year 2 you can choose to specialise in one of two Occupational Specialisms:

#### Adult Nursing

- You will learn about clinical tasks carried out on adults including taking physiological measurements, applying wound dressings, collecting specimens and monitoring hydration levels. You will learn about the different types of monitoring and emergency equipment used in healthcare settings and how to use and maintain this equipment. You will learn how to support adults in activities of daily life such as nutrition, hydration and hygiene and you will learn about the different roles of carers including supporting adults with dementia and end of life care. Many of these lessons will take place in our new classrooms set up as hospital-style wards and these sessions will be supplemented by visits to local universities that offer nursing degrees so that you can access state-of-the-art nurse training equipment.

#### Therapy Teams

- There are 14 distinct professions which make up the Allied Health professional team, from art and drama therapists to occupational and speech and language therapy. This occupational specialism will give you the opportunity to gain an insight into how the therapy teams work, the types of equipment and assessments

they use and also how this works in practice on your industry placements

### Teaching & Learning

This course will be taught in a combination of learning environments. Some lectures will take place in science laboratories whilst others will take place in state-of-the-art facilities set up as hospital wards and healthcare settings. High-tech medical and clinical equipment will be used to enable you to understand the range of equipment used by nurses and other healthcare professionals and you will learn how to use this equipment yourself.

### Industry Placement

You will need to complete a minimum of 315 hours of industry placement over the two-year duration of the course. This unique experience will provide you with the opportunity to develop the right skills, knowledge and behaviours in the workplace which will prepare you to move directly into employment in your chosen sector.

### Assessment

Externally assessed exams, industrial placement (315 hours), employer set project and synoptic assessment in a healthcare setting.

One exam assesses the health-related content and the other assesses the science content of the course.

### Progression

On completion of this course, you will be able to go directly into employment as a nursing associate or healthcare assistant. You could also undertake a nursing degree Apprenticeship. Alternatively, you could go on to study in Higher Education in degrees such as adult or paediatric nursing, midwifery or mental health nursing.

### Entry Requirements

Five GCSEs at grade 4 or above, including Mathematics and a grade 5 in English Language and Double or Triple Science or Level 2 in Science with a Distinction, alongside GCSE grade 4 or above in English Language and Mathematics. Alternatively Level 2 in Health and Social Care with a grade B or Distinction, alongside GCSE grade 4 or above in Science, Mathematics and English.

# WELCOME TO THE NEXT LEVEL



### \*VACCINATION NOTE:

Please see page 58 for information on vaccinations in relation to this course.





## HEALTH & SOCIAL CARE

### BTEC Diploma Level 3 (=1 A Level)

#### Venue:

Alton Campus

#### Duration:

2 years

#### Overview

This course combines academic study with practical experience and is an ideal choice if you are hoping to pursue a career in health, early years education or social work.

The research, evaluation and problem-solving skills you will develop will be valuable preparation for Higher Education courses or furthering your knowledge for a profession related to the course.

There will be talks on the course from guest speakers in health, social care and early years settings, as well as various trips and visits.

#### Structure

On this course you will study:

##### Year 1

- Human Lifespan Development
- Meeting Individual Care and Support Needs

##### Year 2

- Working in Health & Social Care
- Physiological Disorders

#### Teaching & Learning

The College offers a variety of learning and teaching approaches including lectures, tutorials, studios, workshops, presentations and group discussions.

#### Assessment

Each year you will be assessed by an exam in the first unit and coursework in the second unit.

#### Progression

This course is designed to provide progression to Higher Education and further training for employment in a health science profession, early years care and education and social care. Our previous students have gone onto a variety of careers including social policy, health studies, teaching and youth and community studies.

#### Entry Requirements

Five GCSEs at grade 4 or above, including English Language, Mathematics and a Science or other equivalent qualifications.



#### \*VACCINATION NOTE:

Please see page 58 for information on vaccinations in relation to this course.

## HEALTH & SCIENCE

### Level 2

#### Venue:

Alton Campus

#### Duration:

1 year

#### Overview

This course is designed to prepare you to study either Health & Nursing or Biomedical and Healthcare Science.

The Science element of this course is focused on giving you a solid educational foundation to science, which includes both theoretical and practical skills in Earth science, Biology, Chemistry and Physics. As a learner, you'll acquire the investigative skills needed to work in a laboratory setting and work on a project.

With Health and Social care, you'll look at very important skills such as communication, teamwork and understanding of the care values that will help you to become a professional carer. You'll also cover units in Health and Safety, Health and Social Care Services and Individual Needs. Much of your work will involve writing short reports or producing leaflets and posters that might be used in a care setting. You'll also undertake 4 weeks of work experience where you'll be able to try out some of the skills you have learnt.

#### Structure

Health & Science course is divided into units (subjects) and there are two types of unit, which make up any one course. The course consists of four core units and four optional units. The core units are studied by all students nationally. The optional units are chosen by the College from a list provided by the examination board OCR.

Science - You will study the following units:

- Earth Science - ideas about the changing nature of the Earth and our place as humans living on Earth.
- Biology - factors that affect health and wellbeing

## PRE T-LEVEL

- Chemistry - the widespread uses of chemicals, including practical investigations to gather data.

Furthermore, you'll look at a range of analytical techniques, used both in medical and commercial laboratories and develop your understanding of these within practical chemistry units.

- Science and Health - how science is providing treatments for many diseases and infections that cause problems within society.
- Careers in science - you will explore the career options available to you and create a plan of how to work towards your desired career.

In addition, you will study English and Mathematics at a level appropriate for you unless you already have a GCSE grade (9-4).

#### Teaching & Learning

A team of lecturers teach the course, which lasts one year and is coordinated by a programme manager, you will also have a tutor. The team meets regularly to plan and coordinate assignments and activities and to discuss students' progress.

You will have a mixture of formal and less formal learning experiences. Some sessions will be in the form of lectures but you will also participate in a mixture of activities - whether working individually or in groups. You will participate in role-plays, discussions and presentations.

#### Assessment

To achieve on this course, you need to complete written assignments, a science exam and a project.

#### Entry Requirements

You should normally have achieved a grade 3 profile at GCSE. To study this course, you should also have an interest in working with people.

You must have a clear DBS (Disclosure and Barring Service) check.

### \*VACCINATION NOTE:

Please see page 58 for information on vaccinations in relation to this course.

# PRE T-LEVEL

## WORKING WITH CHILDREN IN EARLY YEARS AND PRIMARY SETTINGS

### Level 2 Certificate

#### Venue:

Alton Campus

#### Duration:

1 year

#### Overview

This is a full-time course suitable for school leavers (16-18 years) who would like a career in areas of children's care and development. The course covers a range of key subject areas that provide the knowledge, understanding, and skills needed to care for and educate children aged between 0 and 11 years 11 months old. It has been designed to support progress to Level 3 qualifications across a number of sectors, including our T level in Education and Childcare, Early Years Educator sector, and the Children and Young People sector. The course can also provide a good basis to progress to more advanced work-related qualifications and apprenticeships.

You will also be required to undertake 250 hours of work experience which will offer valuable insight to Early Years and Primary Settings.

#### Structure

The course consists of 6 compulsory units that cover important areas of early years practice:

- Child development from birth to 11 years 11 months
- Play and learning
- Exploring legislation
- The role of the childcare practitioner
- Nutrition
- Physical development and physical activity

You will also be required to undertake 200 hours of work experience which will offer valuable insight to Early Years and Primary Settings.

Route-based project. To support the application and development of knowledge, and prepare for further study in areas such as our T Level in Education and Childcare, students will complete a small project relevant to the Childcare sector.

The project will focus on planning, research, and presentation skills.

Study Skills. The development of key study skills within the course will also provide a platform for progress to our T Level in Education and Childcare or other higher-level courses at college.

#### Teaching & learning

The knowledge for this course is taught and assessed in College via assignments. Lessons combine theory and practical activities to prepare you for your early years vocational placements.

#### Assessment

Assessment is undertaken via assignment work and observation in the Early Years and/or Primary setting.

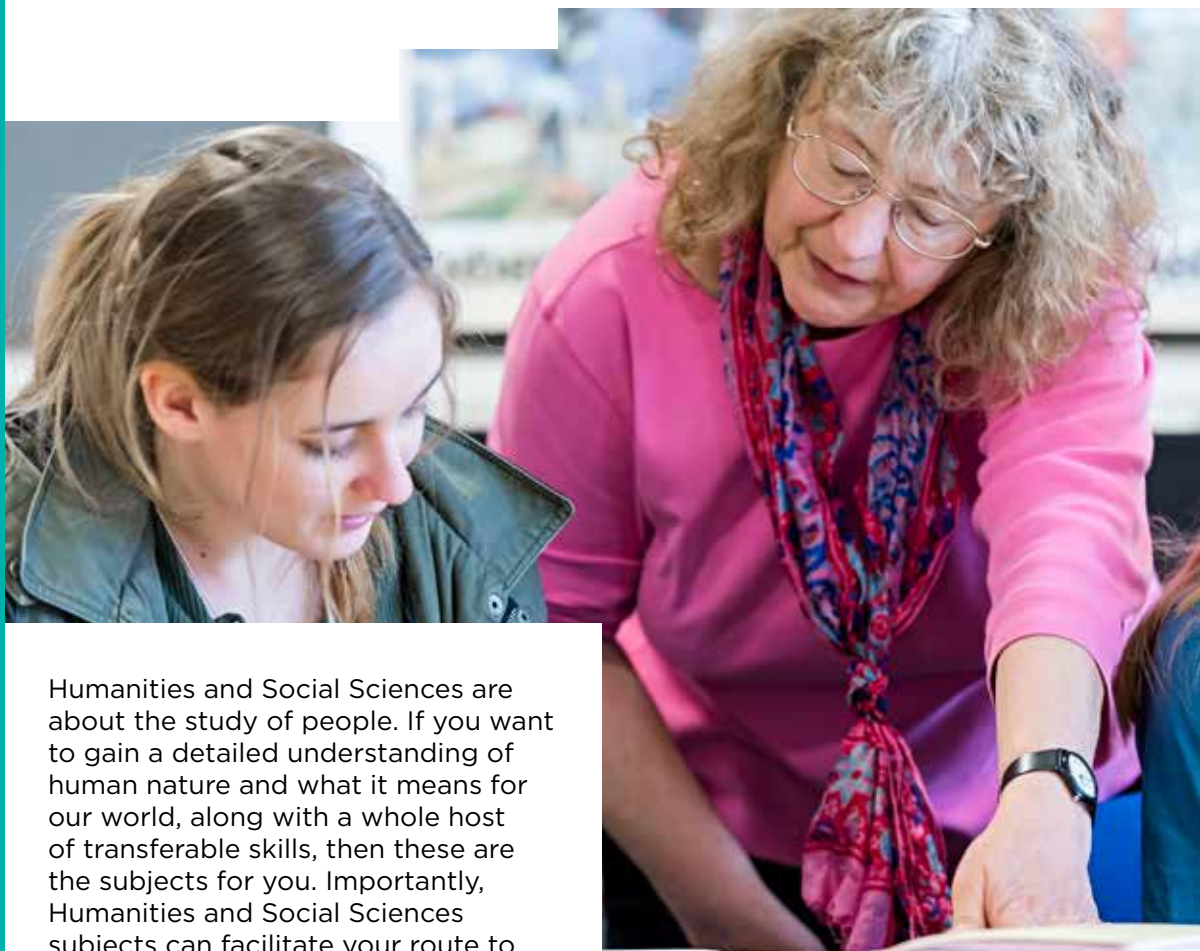
#### Progression

Successful achievement and appropriate references from your tutor could enable you to progress on to the T Level in Education and Childcare, Learning and Development or begin a Level 3 Early Years Apprenticeship.

#### Entry Requirements

Applicants must have a genuine interest in working with children. You will need to have both English Language and Mathematics with one at grade 4 and the other no lower than a grade 3, or English Language and Mathematics at Functional Skills equivalent grades. In addition, you will need three other GCSEs at grade 3 or above. Other related Level 1 or 2 qualifications may be considered.

# HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES



Humanities and Social Sciences are about the study of people. If you want to gain a detailed understanding of human nature and what it means for our world, along with a whole host of transferable skills, then these are the subjects for you. Importantly, Humanities and Social Sciences subjects can facilitate your route to university and give you a wealth of applicable knowledge and analytical savvy.



# CRIMINOLOGY

## WJEC Applied Diploma (=1 A Level)

### Venue:

Alton Campus

### Duration:

2 years

### Overview

Criminology is a dynamic and exciting subject which brings together aspects of sociology, psychology, law and forensic science. Tapping into your curiosity and critical thinking skills, you will explore topics such as why people commit crime, policing, social control, punishment and the criminal justice system.

The course supports you in becoming effective, engaged and employable, equipping you for the workplace, an Apprenticeship or university. The course is equivalent to one A Level and can be studied alongside other A Level subjects or together with other vocational courses.

### Structure:

In Year 1 you will study:

- Criminological Theories - This unit will explore the theory behind why people commit crime and the way society responds to criminality. You will be expected to be critical in examining theories and develop a way of seeing ideas from a variety of perspectives.
- Changing Awareness of Crime - You will also complete coursework based on the wide range of crime that occurs in society and the reasons people have for not always reporting crime. You will explore the ways in which the media portrays crime and the effect this might have on our perceptions of crime. You will gain an understanding of the social implications of crime and criminality.

In Year 2 you will study:

- Crime Scene to Courtroom - The coursework will provide you with an understanding of the criminal justice system, from the moment a crime has been detected through investigation of crime and on to the criminal trial process. You will be evaluating what needs to happen within this process to ensure a just verdict at the end.

- Crime and Punishment - You will learn about the criminal justice system in England and Wales, considering the effectiveness of social control in delivering criminal justice policy.

### Teaching & Learning

You will be taught to be critical in your thinking and this will be achieved through lectures, class debates, group activities and independent learning. Be prepared to be challenged! There will be a number of guest speakers, including police officers and other professionals as well as external visits, all of which will give you an insight into criminology-related employment opportunities and help you develop the skills to access them.

### Assessment

50% examination (two 90-minute exam papers) and 50% controlled assessment (coursework).

### Progression

On completion of this course, you could go on to study university courses related to Criminology, Sociology, Law and Psychology.

You could also go on to an Apprenticeship in police, social work and probation. You could also end up within the following careers - social research, social work, police, civil service and criminal prosecution service.

### Entry Requirements

Five GCSEs at grade 9-4, including a grade 4 in English Language and Mathematics.



# GEOGRAPHY

## A Level

### Venue:

Alton Campus

### Duration:

2 years

### Overview

Geography is an intrinsically dynamic and exciting subject. Using the latest geographical information systems, a wide range of resources and independent research, you will examine the crucial issues facing our world right now. Geography explores the relationship between people, places and the environment. This course offers a wide variety of geographical topics including Changing Places, Global Governance and Hazard Management. You'll build on aspects of GCSE Geography as well as study new topics from the new specification. There will be many fieldwork opportunities which will provide you with an excellent foundation upon which to produce your coursework. Geography naturally combines with a variety of other subjects and lessons are varied, providing a range of skills which are useful for both Higher Education and boosting employability.

### Structure

On this course you will:

- Examine crucial issues such as climate change and global inequality, using the latest geographical information systems and technology
- Study the dynamic and ever-changing relationships between people, places and their environment
- Analyse and understand a wide variety of topics such as Changing Places; Global Systems and Governance; Hazard Management and Contemporary Urban Environments
- Complete fieldwork within a variety of different settings such as The Solent, The River Mole, Alton and Stratford to put classroom theory into action
- Select an issue of personal interest to complete an investigation as part of your course with full support and mentoring from dedicated teachers

### Teaching & Learning

Staff support your quest to learn at every stage. In Physical Geography, there is a great deal to understand which will require taking notes and writing essays. There will be a need to interpret maps and data. In Human Geography, there will be learning through discussions, and classroom presentations to prepare. IT research and wider reading is a large part of this course and we are fortunate to have superb facilities to allow for this. Visiting lecturers, trips to RGS London, and entering competitions are all part of your learning too!

### Assessment

20% coursework, 80% exams (two exam papers).

### Entry Requirements

Five GCSEs at grade 9-4, including a minimum grade 5 in Maths, English and Geography.



# HISTORY

## A Level

### Venue:

Alton Campus

### Duration:

2 years

### Overview

A Chinese (attributed) curse states: "May you live in interesting times", a comment reflecting the difficulties and uncertainties that changes and unforeseen developments in everyday life can create. An awareness of the past provides us with knowledge and understanding of our world and thereby a degree of protection against "interesting times".

The study of History is vital for anyone wanting to comprehend the present and help to make informed decisions for the future. Lessons will focus on exploring key historical issues, examining how they were viewed by people at the time and by historians. As a History student, you will study a wide range of themes by exploring late twentieth century Britain, Tsarist and Communist Russia and Tudor Foreign Policy. In the second year, you will conduct research in order to write a coursework essay. A keen interest in all aspects of the past, the ability to ask questions and a willingness to read widely are welcomed in the History department.

### Structure

When we hear of a major event in the news we are seeing history in the making. What has happened in the past greatly affects all aspects of our lives in the present, and will indeed affect what happens in the future. Historians enquire into the events of the past and attempt to produce an interpretation and reconstruction of it. We will be concerned with investigating why events happened and their significance, and try to understand the nature of historical evidence by examining documents and materials from the time. We will examine how historians have interpreted events and consider why they often disagree.

- Unit 1: Britain 1931-1997
- Unit 2: Russia and its rulers 1894 - 1941
- Unit 3: Tudor Foreign Policy 1485 - 1603
- Unit 4: Independent Historical Enquiry

### Teaching & Learning

Lesson activities are wide ranging and include debates and discussions on matters of historical significance to role play activities and the development of independent study.

### Assessment

20% coursework, 80% exam (three exam papers).

### Entry Requirements

Five GCSEs at grade 4-9 which include English Language and Mathematics at a minimum of grade 5. There is no need to have studied History at GCSE but at least grade 5 in English Language is essential and a grade 5 in another Humanities subject preferable.



# PHILOSOPHY, RELIGION AND ETHICS

## A Level

### Venue:

Alton Campus

### Duration:

2 years

### Overview

In Philosophy, Religion and Ethics you will study the work of some of the world's greatest thinkers, as we seek answers to some of the most challenging questions. Philosophy, Religion and Ethics puts an emphasis on the development of philosophical skills, especially argumentation and the opportunity to consider your own position.

There are three components to the course; Philosophy of Religion, Developments in Religious Thought and Ethics. You will consider problems such as the nature of evil, the ethics of war and the role of the conscience. An open mind and a willingness to examine some of the most difficult questions of life are essential for this course.

### Structure

#### Philosophy of Religion

- Ancient philosophy
- The soul, mind and body
- Arguments about the existence of God
- Evil

#### Ethics

- Normative ethical theories
- Applied ethics

#### Developments in Religious Thought

- Buddhist beliefs, practices and values
- Social and political developments
- Buddhist philosophy and ethics

### Teaching & Learning

Philosophy, Religion and Ethics at Alton College is an exciting programme of study. Lessons are varied and are designed to introduce students to new and alternative ways of thinking about learning.

There are a number of trips throughout the year including Philosophy taster days at the University of Oxford and University of Southampton. Students can participate in the Philosophy Society and Debating; there are also opportunities to participate in essay competitions.

### Assessment

100% exams (three exam papers).

#### Exam papers:

- Philosophy
- Ethics
- Developments in religious thought

### Entry Requirements

Five GCSEs at grade 9-4 including English Language and Mathematics. A grade 5 in GCSE English is required.



# POLITICS

## A Level

### Venue:

Alton Campus

### Duration:

2 years

### Overview

Decisions made by government affect our lives on a day-to-day basis, but how much influence do we have over these decisions and how much should you have?

On this course you will gain an understanding of the UK and the USA's political landscape including the ability to interpret what politicians are saying and the key issues of the day. Topics covered include: democracy, political parties, pressure groups, US politics and the political ideologies liberalism, conservatism, socialism and anarchism. You will learn through lively discussion and debate, group and individual work. There will be many opportunities to widen your enjoyment of this subject through listening to guest speakers from a variety of political perspectives and going on trips, including a visit to Parliament and attending student conferences.



### Structure

The world of politics is fast-moving and fluid. Politics influences our everyday lives and our understanding of often complex events can be obscured by conflicting information and ideas. How do we make sense of these events? Politics focuses on how we manage disagreements in society – national and global. In other words, it concentrates on the analysis of current affairs, Parliament and other institutions, and generally the events and issues that affect our day-to-day lives. A knowledge of such things helps us to answer questions that are directly relevant to us – for example, why are we allowed to drive at 17 but not vote until we get to 18?

You will study:

- Component 1: UK Politics
  - Political Participation: Democracy and participation, political parties, electoral systems, voting behaviour and the media.
  - Core Political Ideas: Conservatism, liberalism, socialism.
- Component 2: UK Government
  - UK Government: The constitution, parliament, Prime Minister and executive, relationships between the branches.
  - Optional Political Ideas: One idea from the following: anarchism, ecology, feminism, multiculturalism, nationalism.
- Component 3: Comparative Politics USA
  - The US Constitution and federalism, US congress, US presidency, US Supreme Court, democracy and participation, civil rights.

### Teaching & Learning

Lesson activities are wide-ranging and include debates and discussions on the latest political events in order to make sense of politics as it unfolds.

### Assessment

100% exams – three exam papers making up 33% of the final mark each.

### Entry Requirements

Five GCSEs grades 4-9 which include English Language at a minimum of grade 5. An active interest in politics and current affairs.



# PSYCHOLOGY (APPLIED)

## BTEC National Extended Certificate Level 3 (=1 A Level)

### Venue:

Alton Campus

### Duration:

2 years

### Overview

In the first year of the course, you will study a range of psychological approaches and their applications to real life situations (assessed externally). You will explore four key approaches in Psychology (social, cognitive, learning and biological) and apply these approaches to issues relevant to contemporary society.

You will also learn how to develop your knowledge, understanding and skills in the scientific process and in psychological research methodology through your own psychological research project. This will improve your employability skills and help you see the practical implications of your findings. In the second year of the course, you will learn about Health Psychology (assessed externally) and Psychopathology.

### Structure

You will study:

- Unit 1 - Psychological Approaches and Applications
- Unit 2 - Conducting Psychological Research
- Unit 3 - Health Psychology
- Unit 6 - Introduction to Psychopathology

### Teaching & Learning

Units 1 and 3 are assessed by examination. Units 2 and 6 are assessed by completing assignments. The assignments combine individual research and taught theory and are based on realistic situations.

### Assessment

42% coursework and 58% exam based.

Your work will be graded Pass, Merit or Distinction. The BTEC National Extended Certificate is equivalent to one A Level and carries a maximum of 56 UCAS points. The Pearson BTEC Level 3 National Certificate in Applied Psychology, awarded after successful completion of one year, carries a maximum of 28 UCAS points.

You must complete and pass the first year to be awarded a BTEC National Certificate and the full two years of the course to receive the full BTEC National Extended Certificate.

### Progression

This course could lead to careers in sports psychology, occupational health and child psychology.

### Entry Requirements

Five GCSEs at grade 9–4, including English Language & Mathematics. Alternatively, if you have studied at Level 2, you should have achieved a Pass, Merit or Distinction. You should have achieved a grade 4 or 4/4 in Science GCSE.



# PSYCHOLOGY

## A Level

### Venue:

Alton Campus

### Duration:

2 years

### Overview

Psychology is a science, giving an insight into human behaviour and leading to a wide range of careers in psychology and beyond. It addresses questions about a wide range of topics including whether eyewitness testimony is accurate, why relationships can break down and what the causes of mental illness are. You will learn through independent research, presentations, discussion and debate, and will also develop high-level transferable skills including analytical skills and research design.

### Structure

On this course, you will study the following:

- Social influence
- Memory
- Attachment
- Psychopathology
- Approaches
- Biopsychology
- Forensic psychology
- Relationships
- Stress
- Research methods
- Issues and debates

Psychology is the study of human behaviour and how our biology, mental processes, experiences of the world around us and the actions of others work together to influence our behaviour and who we become.

### Teaching & Learning

Lessons involve working through topic workbooks, whole class and small group discussion and informal assessment, aided by the use of mini-whiteboards and Kahoot quizzes. Students carry out mini research projects into the topic areas studied. We organise trips and speakers, including a day at Marwell Zoo learning about methods of observing behaviour.

### Assessment

100% exams (three exam papers).

The exams contain a mixture of multiple choice, short answers and extended writing.

10% of assessment contains mathematical skills equivalent to Level 2 or above.

### Entry Requirements

Five GCSEs at grade 9-4, including English and Mathematics at grade 5 or above and a Science at grade 6 or above is recommended.



# SOCIOLOGY

## A Level

### Venue:

Alton Campus

### Duration:

2 years

### Overview

Sociology is the study of society and human behaviour. This course seeks to build upon your existing knowledge by increasing your awareness of what is happening in the world today. You will explore different perspectives and be introduced to conflicting interpretations and theories. This course will encourage you to look at our world in a more critical and enquiring way.

Throughout the Sociology A Level, you will cover a wide range of topics including 'Families and Households', 'Education' and 'Crime'. If questions such as 'how has the family changed over time?', 'how can your gender affect your achievement at school?' and 'is there such a thing as a typical criminal?' are of interest to you, then so is Sociology at HSDC Alton.

### Structure:

On this course, you will study:

#### Year 1

- Culture - You will discover how we learn how to behave in society and what can happen if this process doesn't occur, through studying case studies of feral children. You will also question to what extent our behaviour is influenced by nature and to what extent our behaviour is influenced by nurture.
- Families and Households - You will analyse how families, relationships and the experiences of children have changed over time in Britain. You will also explore the role of the family whereby you will study theoretical perspectives, including functionalist, the New Right, Marxist, feminist and postmodernist.
- Education - You will explore the purpose of the education system whereby you will study theoretical perspectives, including functionalist and Marxist. You will also question why do some pupils achieve more qualifications than others? In relation to this, you will analyse how your social class, gender and ethnicity can all affect your educational achievement.

- Research Methods - You will find out how sociologists study society, such as through questionnaires, interviews, observations and through analysing secondary sources and you will critically evaluate the use of these methods. You will also have the opportunity to design and conduct your own research on a topic of your choice.

#### Year 2

- Social Inequalities - Using evidence and examples, you will consider the extent to which inequality exists in society in the contemporary UK including social class, gender, ethnic and age inequalities. Utilising your knowledge from year one, you will also apply a range of theoretical approaches to the study of social inequalities.
- Crime and Deviance - You will explore patterns of criminal and deviant behaviour and you will explore questions such as; 'why are black men stopped and searched by the police more than white or Asian men?', 'why do men commit more crimes than women?', 'how does the media affect our perception of crime?'. You will also look at crime prevention and punishment, victimisation and again, you will apply a range of theoretical approaches to the study of crime and deviance.

### Teaching & Learning:

Lessons are varied including; mini-lectures, discussion, debate, quizzes and practical research whereby you are provided with the opportunity to experience some of the practical, ethical and methodological issues that sociologists encounter in their research. We also organise sociological conference trips and hold an in-house conference on 'Life Behind Bars'.

### Assessment:

100% examination made up of three exam papers.

### Progression:

A good A Level pass in a range of subjects will help you to progress to Higher Education or relevant employment. A sociology degree and the skills it brings is invaluable for careers in social research, law, teaching/lecturing, social work, the police force, journalism, media, politics and many others.



**Entry Requirements:**

Five GCSEs at grade 9-4 including Mathematics.  
A grade 5 in English Language is required.



# SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING AND MATHEMATICS







Discovery and innovation in STEM subjects has helped us as humans to progress in ways which once seemed impossible.

From a man on the moon to the smartphone in your pocket – science, technology, engineering and maths have made it all possible.

Thousands of career opportunities await in these areas, so if you have the spark and desire to make the next giant leap for mankind, then don't miss this opportunity to study with us.

#### SECTOR FACTS



**£43,700**  
AVERAGE SALARY  
IN THE LOCAL AREA



# ANIMAL CARE & MANAGEMENT

## T Level (=3 A Levels)

### Venue:

Alton Campus

### Duration:

2 years

### Overview

Are you passionate about working with animals and want to learn more about their welfare, behaviour and health? If you have a particular interest in animals and would like to learn more about their fascinating lives, either directly hands-on or within the wider industry then this is the course for you.

It is designed to provide you with a very wide range of specialist technical practical skills and detailed knowledge and understanding, which will equip you to seek a diverse range of employment opportunities, such as working in the pet industry, zoo-keeping, wildlife or working with dogs.

You will gain extensive hands-on experience with a range of animals over the two years of the qualification, such as large animals, companions, rodents, and exotic animals. You will work with animals on and offsite and undertake 150 hours of work experience over the two years of the course.

You will spend time in both the classroom, learning basic principles and theory, and in the animal unit, where you will learn a range of practical processes and skills. You will also spend a minimum of 45 days on an industrial placement where you will work closely with a leading employer either every week or on a block placement to help you develop the right knowledge, technical skills and behaviours for working in this exciting sector.

This course ensures you can rival all students with a unique blend of both academic and industry experience with a work placement giving you the real-world skills you require for future employment.



### Structure

In Year 1 students will develop an understanding of a broad range of issues relevant to the sector, including:

- Sustainability, including environmental legislation, sustainable development and the health and welfare of animals
- Employment rights and responsibilities and progression opportunities within the sector
- Ethical principles and the principles of animal welfare
- Health and Safety to support optimising animal environments
- Business management in the animal care industry, enterprise skills and project management
- Communication skills

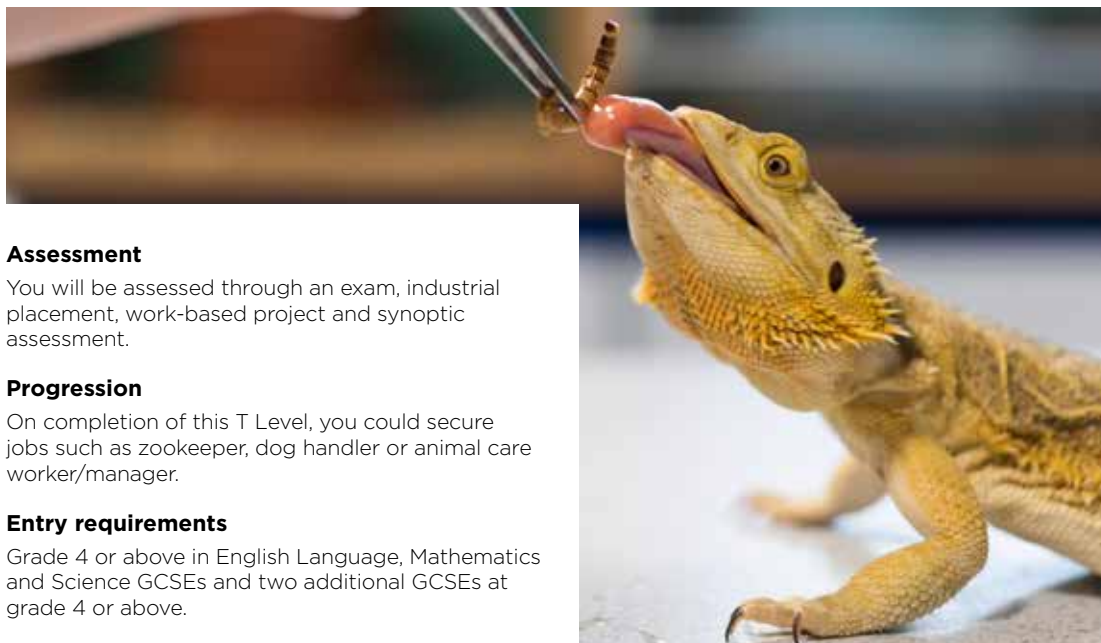
In Year 2, students will learn how to:

- Optimise health and welfare of animals including health checks, animal biology and animal husbandry
- Monitoring animal environments including accommodation and environmental conditions
- Understand animal behaviour and how to create animal enrichment to maximise animal welfare
- Apply techniques to influence positive animal behaviour including signs of stress and natural motivators and how to assess and monitor health and safety risks to animals
- Understand the principles of animal welfare and conservation including freedoms, needs and domains and how to ensure best practice in the industry

### Teaching and Learning

You will be taught on campus three days a week with a full-time programme of lessons in our specialist classrooms, animal laboratory and animal unit which includes outside space offering aviaries, animal enclosures, chicken coops and specialist herptile and mammal areas. We provide the specialist knowledge and industry expertise to prepare you for employment with some of the best local and regional animal care and management companies and employers. Each week you will also work with one of our partner employers, who are leaders in this industry, and they will help you apply the theory and skills learnt in college to real industry applications.

# WELCOME TO THE NEXT LEVEL



## **Assessment**

You will be assessed through an exam, industrial placement, work-based project and synoptic assessment.

## **Progression**

On completion of this T Level, you could secure jobs such as zookeeper, dog handler or animal care worker/manager.

## **Entry requirements**

Grade 4 or above in English Language, Mathematics and Science GCSEs and two additional GCSEs at grade 4 or above.

# BIOLOGY

## A Level

### Venue:

Alton Campus

### Duration:

2 years

### Overview

How do different substances pass into and out of cells? How is your heart controlled to beat faster when you exercise? Why do plant stems become thinner in the middle of the day? Why do some cells become cancerous? Biology is a natural choice if you're interested in a career in Medicine or Veterinary Sciences but it is an interesting subject in its own right and will leave your options open to a variety of different career pathways. You'll study living organisms from the molecular level right up to understanding how communities interact with the environment.

### Structure

- Biological molecules
- Cells
- Organisms exchange substances with their environment
- Genetic information, variation and relationships between organisms
- Energy transfers in and between organisms
- Organisms respond to changes in their internal and external environments
- Genetics, populations, evolution and ecosystems
- The control of gene expression

### Teaching & Learning

You will work through the interactive packs of notes in lessons and enjoy the frequent use of mini whiteboards and card sorting activities. Regular practical classes allow you to develop laboratory skills which are assessed continuously, leading to the Practical Endorsement. If you apply to competitive courses such as Medicine, you are fully supported throughout your application. We organise many extra-curricular activities including entry into the Biology Olympiad and the Intermediate Biology Olympiad.

### Assessment

100% exams and practical endorsement.

Three exam papers: - Paper 1: Topics 1-4, Paper 2: Topics 5-8, Paper 3: Topics 1-8. (See Structure section for topics).

10% of the assessment will contain mathematical skills equivalent to Level 2 or above. At least 15% will assess knowledge, skills and understanding in relation to practical work. You will carry out the 12 required practicals to pass the Practical Endorsement.

### Entry Requirements

Five GCSEs at grade 9-4, including Maths minimum grade 6 and English minimum grade 5. It is essential that you have gained at least grade 6 in Biology or 6/6 in Double Science.

As there is an essay component to the assessments and lots of new terminology to learn it is important that you have good English skills.







# BIOMEDICAL & HEALTHCARE SCIENCE

## T Level (=3 A Levels)

### Venue:

Alton Campus

### Duration:

2 years

### Overview

Are you interested in a career as a biomedical scientist, a cardiograph, a radiographer, a bioinformatician, an audiologist or genetic scientist?

Are you interested in carrying out medical examinations on patients such as X rays, ultrasound, CT or MRI scans? Then this is the course for you!

This T Level qualification is an exciting new full time course which has been designed in partnership with businesses and employers. It is aimed at giving you the knowledge and skills to move into a career in healthcare which is the UK's largest employment sector. It is designed to enable you to progress to employment in hospitals or healthcare settings or to move on to study in Higher Education.

This course covers:

- Learning about the huge range of jobs that you can move into as a healthcare professional
- Learning about the different types of clinical tests and measurements and how to use the equipment
- Learning about different types of imaging used by medical professionals such as X rays, MRI scans and ultrasound scanning and how this information can be used for diagnosis and treatment

You will need to complete a minimum of 315 hours of industry placement over the two-year duration of the course.

### Structure

Core units

- Working within the Health and Science Sector
- Health, Safety and Environmental Regulations in the Health and Science Sector
- Managing Information and Data within the Health and Science Sector



- Good Scientific and Clinical Practice

Core Science Concepts

- Health and Safety, Regulations in Healthcare Science
- Providing Person-Centred Care when Working in Healthcare Science
- Infection Prevention and Control in Healthcare Science Settings
- Managing Information and Data

Specialist units

- Core science covering Biology, Chemistry and Physics
- Contribute to patient care by supporting physiological, physical and clinical engineering services to produce reliable data and images for use by health care professionals in diagnosis and treatment
- Contribute to patient care by supporting the collection of a range of specimens for analysis to aid diagnosis and treatment
- Contribute to patient care by processing and analysing patient specimens in a laboratory environment to produce reliable data sets for use by healthcare professionals in diagnosis and treatment

### Industry Placement

You will need to complete a minimum of 315 hours of industry placement over the two-year duration of the course. This unique experience will provide you with the opportunity to develop the right skills, knowledge and behaviours in the workplace which will prepare you to move directly into employment in your chosen sector.

### Teaching & Learning

This course will be taught in a combination of learning environments. Some lectures will take place in science laboratories, whilst others will take place in state-of-the-art facilities set up as hospital wards and healthcare settings. High-tech medical and clinical equipment will be used to enable you to understand the range of equipment used by healthcare professionals and how to use this equipment yourself.



### **Assessment**

Externally assessed exams, industrial placement, employer-set project and synoptic assessment in a healthcare setting.

One exam will be on the healthcare content and the other exam will be on the Science.

### **Progression**

On completion of this course, you will be able to go directly into employment as a Healthcare Assistant. You could also undertake a Higher Apprenticeship as a healthcare science associate which includes roles such as phlebotomist (taking blood), cardiographer (monitoring the heart) or a newborn hearing screener (assessing hearing in newborn babies). Alternatively, you could go on to study in Higher Education in degrees such as Radiography, Nuclear Medicine or Cardiac Physiology.

### **Entry Requirements**

Five GCSEs at grade 4 or above, including English Language, Mathematics and Double Science (or Triple Science) or Level 2 in Science with a Distinction, alongside GCSE grade 4 or above in English Language and Mathematics. Alternatively Level 2 in Health and Social Care with a grade B or Distinction, alongside GCSE grade 4 or above in Science, Mathematics and English.



# CHEMISTRY

## A Level

### Venue:

Alton Campus

### Duration:

2 years

### Overview

This A Level will give you an exciting insight into the contemporary world of Chemistry. It covers the key concepts of chemistry and practical skills are integrated throughout the course. Our range of practical work will enable you to enhance both qualitative and quantitative skills, for example: How do pH indicators work? How could you work out the molar mass of a gas? How do you make your own pH buffer? By the second year, you will be confident enough to research and design your own experimental method to find the % of iron in an iron tablet, for example. Over the two years of the course, you will learn about chemistry in a range of different contexts and the impact it has on industry and many aspects of everyday life.

### Structure

- Development of practical skills in chemistry: practical skills are taught and developed throughout the course. You will progress your technique in skills such as volumetric analysis (titration) and measuring rates of reaction. You will also meet new techniques in topics such as organic synthesis and the qualitative analysis of inorganic and organic substances.
- Module 2 "Foundations in Chemistry" builds on your GCSE understanding of concepts such as atomic structure, bonding, acids and moles.
- You will increase your understanding of the Periodic table in Module 3 and develop this further in Module 5, where you will also study transition elements. Physical chemistry, including energy changes, rates and equilibrium, will also be covered in Module 3 and extended in Module 5.
- Modules 4 and 6 will cover organic chemistry and analysis. You will be studying the properties of groups such as alcohols, haloalkanes, aromatic hydrocarbons, amines and proteins. You will also learn how organic compounds can be synthesised and then analysed using a range of spectroscopic techniques.

### Teaching & Learning

Lesson activities are varied. You will undertake practical work for all topics, and some of this will count towards your practical endorsement. The chemistry content is contextualised so that you can relate it to the world around you. Have you ever wondered: How can chemistry impact on the environment? How do we know the formula of a molecule when we can't see it? How can we make a plastic dissolve? If you have, then A Level Chemistry will hold some of the answers.

### Assessment

100% exams. The three exam papers will be 'Periodic Table, Elements and Physical Chemistry', 'Synthesis and Analytical Techniques' and 'Unified Chemistry'.

Practical Endorsement; to achieve a Practical Endorsement you will undertake a range of experiments to display your competency in all aspects of practical chemistry. The result of this is reported separately from your A Level grade.

### Entry Requirements

Five GCSEs at grade 9-4, including Maths minimum grade 6. It is essential that you have gained at least grade 6 in Chemistry or 6/6 in Double Science.



# CREATIVE MEDIA PRODUCTION AND TECHNOLOGY - GAMES DESIGN AND DEVELOPMENT

## UAL Extended Diploma Level 3 (=3 A Levels)

### Venue:

Alton Campus

### Duration:

2 years

### Overview

Housed in our new Gaming & Creative Design Studios, the multidisciplinary nature of this course will allow HSDC Alton to offer you the very best experience when working in this field. You will learn about the games industry; from devising a concept to developing a working prototype using industry-standard applications.

We have invested heavily in both new hardware and software, based on the input from industry experts to ensure you start off right on this exciting course. Over the two years, you will gain both technical and non-technical skills that are highly regarded by the industry. We will provide you with all the relevant software to enable you to develop and hone your skills outside of the classroom. This will be a fully digital course, utilising a range of different digital resources and submission of assignments.

### Structure

The course will be two years, where you will cover a mixture of specialist application and industry specific skills. During the first year, the focus is on the industry skills, Higher Education and industry visits.

On this Level 3 course you will be studying:

- Digital Media Skills
- Media Campaigns
- 3D Modelling
- Games Engine Scripting using Unreal
- 3D Digital Animation
- Sound Design
- Working in the Creative Media Industry

### Teaching & Learning

Using the latest hardware and software technology, aligned with industry practice in games development, you will have the opportunity to acquire real-world skills and experience in this emerging industry. You will be using software from Adobe Creative Cloud, Adobe Audition, Unreal Engine, Game Maker and Unity.

This course will include a variety of teaching methods using online digital resources, with you developing a range of portfolios in various different formats. Where appropriate, guest speakers and industry experts will be invited in to provide insight into games development.

### Assessment

Assessments will largely be project-based, leading to a collaborative project at the end of each year.

### Progression

After successfully completing this course, you could progress onto a university degree, Level 4 Apprenticeship in Games Development or another relevant industry.

### Entry Requirements

Five GCSEs at grade 4 or above, including English Language and Mathematics.



# DIGITAL: IT COMPUTER SCIENCE

## A Level

### Venue:

Alton Campus

### Duration:

2 years

### Overview

In Computer Science, you'll like a challenge and will have a logical approach to solving problems. A large part of this course involves learning how to use a variety of programming languages to write computer programs to solve a series of problems. Towards the end of your first year, you'll be able to call yourself a computer programmer! Computer Science is a technical subject within which you'll also gain an understanding of the internal structure of a computer, how the CPU actually functions, the role binary plays in storing all of the data on all of the computers in the world and also how the internet manages to function correctly on a day-to-day basis.

### Structure:

You will:

- Cover topics such as programming, data structures, algorithms, databases, computer systems and networks
- Be taught how to create 'good' computer programs
- Develop a systematic approach to solving problems using both procedural, event-driven and functional programming languages such as: C#, Haskell, Java, Pascal, Prolog, Python and Visual Basic
- Complete a practical programming project based on the requirements of a real end user
- Analyse and design a range of challenging problems before creating and testing solutions
- Learn how a computer translates a computer program into a form that the CPU can understand
- Find out about binary, hexadecimal and how to analyse and simplify Boolean logic
- Understand what really happens in the 'heart' of a CPU
- Be able to fully appreciate what happens when you click on a link to browse the Internet
- Gain an understanding of how a computer can create and play music recorded as a series of 1s and 0s

### Teaching & Learning:

Lesson activities will include writing a number of computer programs to solve a range of challenging problems, independently researching how devices and systems function, working on individual programming projects, actively participating in class discussion plus a number of quizzes to test understanding.

### Assessment:

80% exams, 20% coursework.

Two exam papers:

Paper 1 (on-screen exam includes programming)

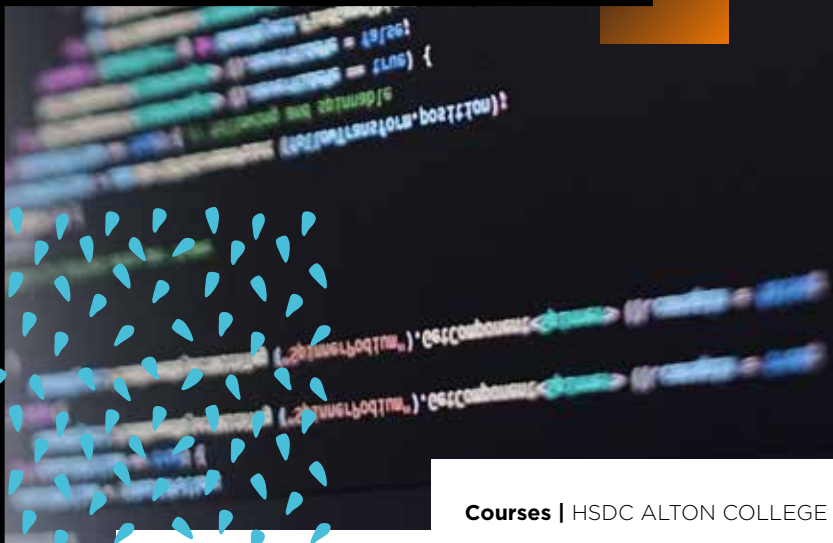
Paper 2 (written exam)

### Entry Requirements:

Five GCSEs at grade 9-4. You will need a logical mind to write your own computer program successfully and for this reason, grade 5 in GCSE Mathematics is required.









# DIGITAL : IT FUNDAMENTALS

## Cambridge Technical Diploma Level 2

### Venue:

Alton Campus

### Duration:

1 year

### Overview

This course will provide the necessary practical skills and qualifications for learners to pursue a variety of careers in the IT industry.

You will be taught how to use industry-leading software such as Adobe Photoshop CC and Adobe Muse CC. You will also develop valuable employability skills related specifically to the IT industry gaining experience in using both Apple Mac and PCs.

### Structure

On this course you will study:

- Communicating in the IT industry
- Working in the IT industry
- Setting up an IT network
- Website development
- Computer graphics
- Computer systems
- Computer hardware

### Assessment

All of the units will be assessed through assignments and will be graded Pass, Merit or Distinction.

# PRE T-LEVEL

### Progression

On successful completion of the course, learners with a Merit/Distinction and tutor recommendation may progress onto a relevant level 3 course in IT or apply for a level 2/3 apprenticeship in an IT-related area.

### Entry Requirements

Four GCSEs at grade 3 or above including English Language or Mathematics or BTEC Level 1 Diploma in IT at Merit Level.



# DIGITAL PRODUCTION, DESIGN & DEVELOPMENT

## T Level (=3 A Levels)

### Venue:

Alton Campus

### Duration:

2 years

### Overview

This course prepares you for working in the exciting and growing digital design industry. This T Level is a two-year course equivalent to three A Levels. The T Level also provides you with an extended industrial placement where you can work closely with a leading employer every week. This course ensures you can rival all students with a unique blend of both academic and industry experience.

This course will be taught in our Gaming & Creative Digital Studios.

### Structure

This Digital Production, Design & Development T Level includes the following core units:

- Business context: understanding the business environment including dealing with end-user, customer and business needs, the value of digital in business and technical change management
- Culture: ethical and moral issues raised by the increasing reliance on technology including impact on culture, autonomous operations and addiction
- Data: concepts and fundamentals of data including how organisations use data, key features and functions of information systems, data format, analysis and maintenance, data modelling and data across different platforms
- Digital analysis: understanding algorithms, action and pattern recognition
- Digital environments: systems fundamentals including physical, virtual and cloud
- Learning: awareness of emerging technology trends and innovation
- Legislation: legal and regulatory requirements and importance of industry standards, where to find them and staying up to date
- Planning: principles of planning including cost-benefit, dependencies, prioritisation, quality and time



- Security: understanding privacy and confidentiality of information, processes and protocols plus threats, vulnerabilities and risk management
- Testing: the importance of testing of components, interfaces, usability etc.
- Tools: understanding digital tools and their use in business

In addition to the core units, there are also specialist units that develop the specific knowledge and skills needed to design, implement and test software while also considering ethical principles and legal or regulatory requirements. It also develops skills to change, maintain and support software and to analyse problems and work collaboratively to find solutions.

### Teaching & Learning

You will be taught on campus three days a week with a full time programme of lessons in our specialist digital development centre. We provide the specialist knowledge and industry expertise to prepare you for employment with top digital employers. Each week you will also work with one of our partner employers, each leaders in their field, who will help you apply the theory and skills learnt in College to real industry applications.

### Assessment

You will be assessed through an exam, industrial placement, work-based project and synoptic assessment.

### Progression

On completion of the Digital Production, Design and Development T Level, you could secure jobs such as programmers and software development professionals.

### Entry Requirements

Five GCSEs at grade 4 or above, including English Language and Mathematics.





# ***WELCOME TO THE NEXT LEVEL***







*In partnership with*



# ESPORTS

## BTEC Extended Diploma Level 3 (=3 A Levels)

### Venue:

Alton Campus

### Duration:

2 years

- Ethical and Current Issues in Esports
- Shoutcasting
- Video Production
- Skills Strategies and Analysis

### Overview

Housed in our new Gaming & Creative Digital Studios, this course will give you the skills you need for success within the fast-growing Esports industry. Esports offers a unique opportunity to study a sector that crosses over multiple subject areas such as sport, marketing, enterprise, IT and the creatives. It provides an opportunity for alignment of social, physical, mental and financial skills into one qualification to deepen and expand learning; these are skills that are highly valued in the changing and fluid workplace. You must apply strategy, skill and teamwork to be successful.

You will also have the opportunity to compete in the British Esports Association colleges competitions. The HSDC Storm team will compete in Rocket League, Overwatch, League of Legends and Valorant against other colleges. The matches run from October to May on Wednesday afternoons.

### Structure

On this Extended Diploma at HSDC Alton, you will study:

#### Core Units (mandatory)

- Unit 1: Introduction to Esports
- Unit 2: Esports Skills, Strategies and Analysis
- Unit 3: Enterprise and Entrepreneurship in the Esports Industry
- Unit 4: Health, Wellbeing and Fitness for Esports Players
- Unit 5: Esports Events

#### Other units include:

- Live-streamed Broadcasting
- Producing an Esports Brand
- Business Applications of Esports in Social Media
- Esports Coaching
- Psychology for Esports Performance

### Teaching & Learning

This full time course is taught in our Gaming & Creative Digital Studios. We provide the specialist knowledge and skills to prepare you for the fast-growing Esports industry.

This is a career-focused qualification with industry endorsement that enables you to learn underpinning knowledge, develop technical and transferable skills and gain experience in a variety of different sections of the Esports industry.

### Assessment

All units are internally assessed and subject to external standards verification.

You will be given opportunities to:

- present findings of your own research
- use case studies to explore complex or unfamiliar situations
- carry out projects for which you have a choice over the direction and outcomes
- demonstrate practical and technical skills using appropriate processes

Your course culminates in a synoptic assessment that enables you to demonstrate you can identify and use effectively, in an integrated way, an appropriate selection of skills, techniques, concepts, theories and knowledge in realistic contexts, scenarios and activities.

### Progression

Studying this course could lead you into employment across a range of roles within Esports either individually or in teams. Alternatively, you could progress onto a relevant degree such as the Esports degree offered by our partners at the University of Chichester.

### Entry Requirements

You will need five GCSEs at grade 4 or above.

# ENGINEERING, DESIGN & DEVELOPMENT (MECHANICAL & ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING) T Level (=3 A Levels)

## Venue:

Alton Campus

## Duration:

2 years

## Overview

Engineering has a hand in designing nearly everything you come into contact with within your daily lives, such as homes, cars, computers, mobile phones and game consoles. This course will allow you to develop an understanding of engineering disciplines and prepares you for working in this exciting industry.

Your lessons will take place in the Sonardyne Centre, our superbly-equipped engineering building. You will spend time in both the classroom, learning basic principles and theory, and in the engineering workshop, where you will learn a range of practical engineering processes and skills. You will also spend a minimum of 45 days on an industrial placement where you will work closely with a leading employer either every week or on a block placement to help you develop the right knowledge, technical skills and behaviours for working in this exciting sector.

This course ensures you can rival all students, with a unique blend of both academic and industry experience with a work placement, giving you the real-world skills you require for future employment.

## Structure

This Engineering, Manufacturing and Design T Level includes the following core units:

- Science and mathematics - understand the scientific principles that underpin relevant technologies and use the main formulae associated with them
- Engineering analysis - this involves the application of engineering concepts and tools to the solution of engineering and manufacturing problems
- Design - this is the development of an economically



viable product, process or system to meet a defined need

- Economic, legal, social, ethical and environmental context - engineering and manufacturing activities impact on the environment, commerce, society and individuals; you will therefore need to be aware of these activities and to understand their impacts and the various legal and ethical constraints relevant to engineering and manufacturing
- Engineering practice - the practical application of engineering and manufacturing knowledge and skills
- Additional general skills - you should have developed additional basic transferable skills that will be of value in a wide range of situations

In Year 2 you will have the choice of which occupational specialism you study and these will be specialist units to develop specific knowledge and skills in either Mechanical Engineering or Electrical and Electronic Engineering.

## Teaching & Learning

You will be taught on campus three days a week with a full time programme of lessons in our engineering workshops. We provide the specialist knowledge and industry expertise to prepare you for employment with some of the best engineering companies and employers. You will also work with one of our partner employers, each one leaders in their field, who will help you apply the theory and skills learnt in college to real industry applications.

## Assessment

You will be assessed through an exam, industrial placement, work-based project and synoptic assessment.

## Progression

On completion of the Engineering, Manufacturing and Design T Level, you could secure jobs such as mechanical design engineer, materials engineer, manufacturing design engineer and electrical/electronic design engineer.

# WELCOME TO THE NEXT LEVEL

## Entry Requirements

Grade 4 or above in English Language GCSE,  
grade 5 or above in Mathematics and Science  
GCSE and three additional GCSEs at grade 4 or  
above.





# ENGINEERING

## BTEC Extended Certificate Level 3 (=1 A Level)

### Venue:

Alton Campus

### Duration:

2 years

### Overview

Engineering has a hand in designing nearly everything you come into contact within your daily lives; homes, cars, computers, mobile phones and game consoles. This course will allow you to develop an understanding of engineering disciplines including how mechanical and electronic systems work, fabrication, machining and health & safety in the workplace.

### Structure

On this Level 3 Extended Certificate, you will study:

- Engineering Principles (examined)
- Delivery of Engineering Processes Safely as a Team
- Engineering Product Design & Manufacture (controlled assessment)
- Fabrication Manufacturing processes
- Gaining the ability to use tools and machines to manufacture components to a high standard
- Using professional software to design and test electronic circuits as well as the practical measurement skills
- Learning how to design outcomes to have a reduced impact on the environment
- Planning, organising and reviewing your work on an ongoing basis

### Teaching & Learning

Your lessons will take place in the Sonardyne Centre, our well-equipped Engineering building. We have two workshops to deliver the practical mechanical aspects, equipped with traditional and automatic machines. We also have an electronics laboratory to learn the skills required in testing and measuring including Industry standard simulation software. We have well-equipped CAD classrooms again with industry standard software.

### Assessments

One third of the course is assessed by an external exam, one third by controlled assessment and the final third by ongoing assignments.

### Entry Requirements

Five GCSEs at grade 9-4. It is essential that you have gained at least grade 4 or above in both Mathematics and Science GCSE. Alternatively, if you have studied at Level 2, you should have achieved a Merit or above.





## ENGINEERING

### BTEC Level 2

#### Venue:

Alton Campus

#### Duration:

1 year

#### Overview

Would you like a career in a dynamic, growing industry that has many varied paths? This course gives you a broad foundation in many facets of engineering and is a mixture of theory and practical, covering a whole range of units that give you the knowledge and skills that will be useful in an engineering career. These include Computer Aided Design, electronics and machining. You will encounter a wide variety of learning opportunities using theoretical teaching and practical workshop sessions. Your lessons will take place in the Sonardyne Centre for Engineering and Design Technology.

#### Structure:

On this full time Engineering course, you will study the following:

- Finding out about the engineering world
- Gaining information about an engineered product
- Using various machines to manufacture parts. The department has the manufacturing resources that are the envy of all local schools and colleges
- Learning about engines and other vehicle systems
- Learning welding techniques
- Learning about the basics of electronics in engineering
- Gaining an understanding of mathematics and science in an engineering environment
- Interpreting engineering information, in order to plan work

#### Teaching & Learning

Lessons will incorporate theoretical content, however there are a number of practical lessons within the course content.

## PRE T-LEVEL

#### Assessment

The course will be assessed by written assignments, written exams and a project.

#### Entry Requirements

You should normally have achieved a grade 3 profile at GCSE. To study this subject you should have an interest in technical subjects.



#### SECTOR FACTS



**£36,200**  
AVERAGE SALARY  
IN THE LOCAL AREA

# ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE

## A Level

### Venue:

Alton Campus

### Duration:

2 years

### Overview

On the course, you will investigate local and international environmental issues, topical and current issues. Learn to evaluate and assess data and information from several different sources, separating fact from fiction. You will examine how the planet works; the soil and rocks, the oceans, the atmosphere and the complex living world that depends upon these systems. How man is upsetting and damaging the environment is contrasted with sustainable management of the planet. You will also see how environmental scientists are actively tackling a range of issues facing the world, such as climate change, pollution, desertification and GM technology.

### Structure

The course is broken down into the following major subject areas:

- The living environment
- The physical environment
- Energy resources, pollution
- Biological resources
- Sustainability
- Research methods

Lessons are a mixture of whole-class teaching, group work and independent research that will lead to you presenting your findings to the class. You will also learn through lab work, discussions and field trips.

During your studies, you will become more confident in kick sampling, microclimate analysis and ecological sampling in grassland and woodland habitats. Finally, you will use apps from satellite telemetry to ocean buoy monitoring, to examine how environmental monitoring data is collected and analysed.

### Teaching & Learning

This A Level consists of two written papers examined at the end of two years of study:

- Paper one (50% of A Level, 3 hours, 120 marks).  
Topics to include the physical environment, energy resources, pollution and research methods.
- Paper two (50% of A Level, 3 hours, 120 marks).  
Topics to include the living environment, biological resources, sustainability and research methods.

Both paper one and paper two are assessed via a combination of multiple-choice, short answer and extended writing questions. During both examinations, you will be expected to draw on knowledge and understanding of the entire course of study to show a deeper comprehension of the interconnections between topics.

### Progression

Your interest in environmental issues could take you along several paths beyond College. For example, ecology and wildlife conservation, geography, geology or climatology. Maybe you would like to work for a charity, teach, enter politics or use your A Level in Environmental Science as the stepping stone to study Environmental Science at university?

### Entry Requirements

Five GCSEs at grade 4 or above including English Language and grade 5 in two of the following GCSE subjects – Science, Mathematics or Geography.



# MATHEMATICS

## GCSE

### Venue:

Alton Campus

### Duration:

2 years

### Overview

This revision course gives you the chance to significantly enhance your Higher Education or career prospects.

You will have to do this course if you have previously achieved a grade 3, 2 or 1 in Mathematics GCSE.

The course develops your Mathematics skills in number, algebra, ratio and proportion, geometry, probability and statistics; you will be aiming for a grade 4 or 5.

If you have a grade 2 or 1, you will do GCSE Mathematics over two years, with a long-term aim to gain a grade 4.

### Structure

If you study Mathematics GCSE you will cover the following:

- Number
- Algebra and graphs
- Ratio and proportion
- Geometry and measures
- Probability and statistics

### Teaching & Learning

Lesson activities are wide-ranging, from classroom discussions on how best to mathematically model a situation, to practising problem-solving questions in pairs. You'll use award-winning software in Century.tech on PCs to practice your skills and Kahoot quizzes on your smartphones to try and beat the rest of the class.

The main aim of the course will be for you to gain a grade 4 (or 5), therefore the focus of the teaching will be at Foundation level.

Past students have found the course very rewarding and at times, challenging. Different students enjoy varying parts of the course. The greatest pleasure comes from gaining confidence and realising you can do Maths!

### Assessment

You will be assessed via exams, consisting of three papers of 1 hour 30 minutes.

### Progression

Most Higher Education courses require GCSE Mathematics at grade 4. Many jobs will require grade 4 or higher in Mathematics and English.

### Entry Requirements

Grade 3, 2 or 1 in GCSE Mathematics or Level 1 or 2 in Functional Skills Mathematics.



# MATHEMATICS

## A Level

### Venue:

Alton Campus

### Duration:

2 years

### Overview

If you enjoyed learning Maths at school, why not consider taking your interest to A Level? You will extend your skills in algebra, trigonometry and geometry from GCSE and will be introduced to new areas of Maths such as calculus (for maximising functions), series (for calculating regular savings account balances) and exponentials (for working out how many radioactive particles remain). You'll use technology to do data analysis with large data sets. You'll also develop your skills in probability and discover new ideas such as the normal distribution (what's a good IQ score?), regression for making predictions and hypothesis testing. In addition, you will learn about forces, motion, moments and vectors, including calculating how long it will take a car to drive up a hill when it is pulling a caravan.

### Structure

You will study:

2/3rds Pure Maths:

Extend your skills in algebra, trigonometry and coordinate geometry from GCSE. Plus new topics such as:

- Calculus: What is the most efficient size for a baked bean tin to minimise the metal used? How fast do sky divers reach?
- Sequences & Series: If you invest £1000 every year into a bank account with 1.2% interest, how long is it till you save £20,000?
- Exponentials: What will the world's population be in 2050? How hot will a cup of tea be 10 minutes after making it?

1/6th Mechanics:

- Newton's Laws of Motion are used to model cars pulling trailers down hills, friction, projectiles and see-saws.

1/6th Statistics:

- Sampling, data presentation and interpretation from Large Data Sets; probability; and statistical hypothesis testing. Can you tell if a new drug cures more patients than the old treatment?

### Teaching & Learning

Lesson activities are wide ranging, from classroom discussions on how best to mathematically model a situation, to practising problem solving questions in pairs. Information Technology, such as spreadsheets, graphic calculators and online apps will be used to introduce and explore concepts. Students will also participate in the Senior Maths Challenge and can help out at Maths competitions for feeder schools we organise every year.

### Assessment

100% exams; consisting of three exam papers, each two hours long.

### Entry Requirements

Five GCSEs at grade 9-4. For A Level Mathematics, you must have at least a grade 6 (preferably a 7 or above) in GCSE Mathematics. In addition, you need to enjoy Mathematics - especially algebra!

If you are expecting a grade 7 or above, you could consider taking A Level Mathematics and Further Mathematics.

# MATHEMATICS AND FURTHER MATHEMATICS

## A Level

### Venue:

Alton Campus

### Duration:

2 years

### Overview

If you love Mathematics, doing this course means you can double the amount of Mathematics on your timetable!

As well as the topics described in A Level Mathematics, you'll discover what the square root of -1 is and how matrices are used in making computer-animated films. You'll also discover why motorway corners are banked and how to decide whether a new drug has improved life expectancy for cancer patients. You'll be solving differential equations to model simple harmonic motion and the population of foxes and rabbits. And you'll prove the formula for the volume of a sphere.

If you are an able mathematician and interested in maths-related careers and courses such as Engineering, Physics, Economics or Computing, then this course is for you.

### Structure

This is a two-year course. In Year 1 you will cover the material for A Level Mathematics and in Year 2 you will cover the work for A Level Further Mathematics. The Further Mathematics course consists of Pure Mathematics (50%) and then two options (25% each), chosen from Further Pure, Further Mechanics, Decision Maths and Further Statistics. The options taught will vary from year to year.

#### Options:

##### Further Mechanics

- Momentum and Impulse
- Work, Energy and Power
- Elastic Strings and Springs
- Elastic Collisions in One and Two Dimensions

##### Further Pure

- Further vectors

- Conic Sections
- Inequalities
- The t-formulae
- Taylor Series
- Further Calculus
- Numerical Methods

### Decision

- Graphs and Networks
- Algorithms on Graphs
- Route Inspection
- Travelling Salesman Problem
- Linear Programming
- Simplex Algorithm
- Critical Path Analysis

### Further Statistics

- Discrete Random Variables
- Poisson, Geometric and Binomial Distributions
- Hypothesis Testing
- Central Limit Theorem
- Chi-squared Test
- Probability Generating Functions

### Teaching & Learning:

Lesson activities are wide-ranging, from classroom discussions on how best to mathematically model a situation, to practising problem-solving questions in pairs. Graphic calculators and online apps will be used to introduce and explore concepts.

You will also participate in the National Senior Maths Challenge and can help out at Maths competitions for feeder schools we organise every year.

### Assessment

100% exams; consisting of four papers, each 1.5 hours long.

### Entry Requirements

Five GCSEs at grade 4 or above including English Language. You must also have a grade 7 or above in GCSE Mathematics, although a grade 8 or 9 is preferred. This course must be studied alongside A Level Mathematics.



# MAINTENANCE, INSTALLATION & REPAIR (LIGHT & ELECTRIC VEHICLES)

## T Level (=3 A Levels)

### Venue:

Alton Campus

### Duration:

2 years

### Overview

Have you noticed how many electric and hybrid vehicles are on our roads? By 2030 fossil fuel vehicles will stop being produced and by 2035 so will Hybrid vehicles, making electric vehicles the future. Do you want to have the skills to be at the forefront of this change in the automotive industry?

With the growth in environmental awareness, the use of electric and hybrid vehicles is increasing and the need for skilled technicians who can undertake recovery, repair, and maintenance of these vehicles will grow significantly over the coming years.

This course will give you the technical skills, knowledge and experience to work in this exciting new area in the automotive sector.

This course ensures you can rival all students with a unique blend of both academic and industry experience with a work placement giving you the real-world skills you require for future employment.

### Structure

In Year 1 you will develop an understanding of a broad range of issues relevant to the sector, including:

- Working within the engineering, manufacturing and automotive sectors  
An understanding of how materials, conditions and context influence design processes and products
- Essential mathematics for engineering  
A knowledge and understanding of mathematics including standard matrices and determinants and standard trigonometry materials and their properties
- Understanding material processing techniques and

their effects on materials and material quality, the condition of materials, how these are managed, and materials testing methods and techniques

- Business, commercial and financial awareness  
Basic commercial principles including commercial priorities and markets, customers/clients/partners and resource allocation

In Year 2, you will study:

- Content that will develop your knowledge of concepts, theories and core skills relevant to automotive light and electric vehicles
- Learn about maintenance and repair processes and carry out suitable testing, recording and reporting practices
- Learn about health and safety procedures required when working with electric vehicles, hazards surrounding electric/hybrid vehicles and reducing risk
- Learn about primary and auxiliary systems, energy storage and transfer, drive devices and their purpose and electronic and mechanical measurement techniques and diagnostics

### Teaching and Learning

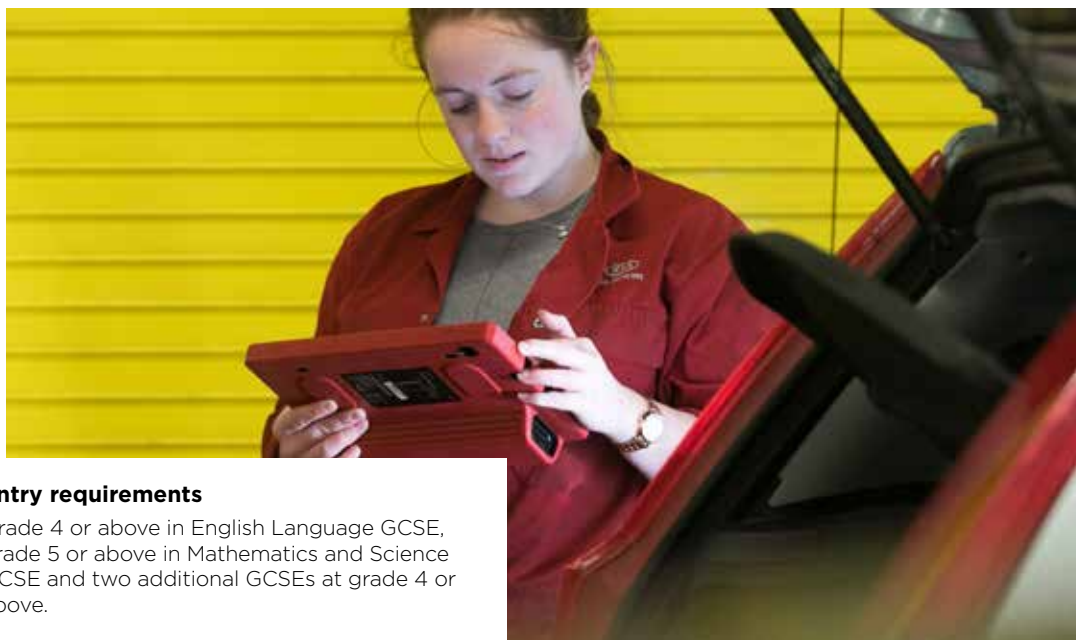
You will be taught on campus three days a week with a full time programme of lessons in our engineering/automotive workshops. We provide the specialist knowledge and industry expertise to prepare you for employment with some of the best engineering and automotive companies and employers. Each week you will also work with one of our partner employers, who are leaders in this industry, and they will help you apply the theory and skills learnt in college to real industry applications.

### Assessment

You will be assessed through an exam, industrial placement, work-based project and synoptic assessment.

### Progression

On completion of this T Level, you could secure jobs such as electric vehicle technician, motor mechanic or motor vehicle breakdown engineer.



### **Entry requirements**

Grade 4 or above in English Language GCSE,  
grade 5 or above in Mathematics and Science  
GCSE and two additional GCSEs at grade 4 or  
above.

# PHYSICS

## A Level

### Venue:

Alton Campus

### Duration:

2 years

### Overview

What can Physics tell us about our bodies, our world, or the universe we inhabit? How do ultrasound scanners or fibre optic communications work? What did Isaac Newton have to do with landing a space probe on a comet? How did physicists at CERN develop PET scanners used in cancer diagnosis? These are just a few of the many questions addressed in this course.

We look at the nature and behaviour of matter from the subatomic scale, to that of the universe itself. Physics works well with other sciences, Maths and Engineering and can lead to careers in areas such as automotive and aerospace industries, health sciences, energy, materials, architecture, finance, technology including music and sound technology, computing and IT.

### Structure

Year 1 of the course covers four main areas of Physics:

- Practical Skills in physics (laboratory-assessed)
- Foundations of Physics (quantities and units, measurement and analysis)
- Forces and Motion (motion, projectiles, forces, work, energy, power, momentum and collisions)
- Electrons, Waves and Photons (charge, current, energy, power, resistance, circuits, wave behaviour, interference and stationary waves, photons, electrons and quantum physics)

As well as continuing to develop practical skills via centre-assessed components, two more modules are covered in Year 2:

- The Newtonian World and Astrophysics (thermal physics, ideal gases, oscillations, circular motion, gravitation, planetary motion, stars, stellar distance and cosmology)
- Particle and Medical Physics (capacitors and electric fields, magnetic fields, electromagnetism, behaviour of charged particles in fields, nuclear atom, radioactivity, fission and fusion, fundamental

particles, medical imaging and diagnosis using X-rays, PET scans, ultrasound and more!)

### Teaching & Learning

We have two purpose-built, fully equipped labs dedicated to Physics, one of which is equipped with up to date desktop PCs which we use for online learning, data processing and connection to data loggers. We also have two darkrooms for optics work and a dedicated quiet study area. The course is taught through a combination of interactive lessons and practical activities and the emphasis is on students developing understanding through questioning, research and experiment. We use online resources such as Google Classroom, Kerboodle and Isaac Physics and sometimes use blended and flip learning where students independently learn the basic knowledge required, freeing up more time to work on answering complex problems together in the lesson.

### Assessment

100% exam assessment (three exam papers).

- Paper 1 - Physics in breadth
- Paper 2 - Physics in depth
- Paper 3 - Unified Physics
- There is also a separate standalone centre-assessed practical endorsement

### Progression

Students usually go on to study at university on courses such as Physics, Astronomy, Materials Science, Geology, Geography, Engineering, Health Sciences, Computing and IT, Architecture and Music and Sound Recording.

Some students secure Higher level Apprenticeships and may then be sponsored to complete Level 4 studies and gain a degree while working. Some go on to employment e.g. in financial services, the civil service and music and sound recording.

### Entry Requirements:

Five GCSEs at grade 9-4, including Maths minimum grade 6. It is essential that you have gained at least grade 6 in Physics or 6/6 in Double Science.





# SPORT AND PUBLIC SERVICES



If you want an active career with considerable responsibility, then these subjects represent the keys to your future. As a student you'll grow as both a person and a leader thanks to the expert tuition and experience in your field. No doubt as a society we rely on leaders to show us the way forward. This is your opportunity to be one of them.

## SECTOR FACTS



**£36,992**

**AVERAGE SALARY**

IN THE UNIFORMED PUBLIC SERVICES SECTOR  
IN THE LOCAL AREA

**£26,268**

**AVERAGE SALARY**

IN THE SPORTS AND LEISURE SECTOR  
IN THE LOCAL AREA



# CM SPORTS COACHING ACADEMY

## Level 2/3 Sports Coaching programme

### Venue:

Alton Campus

### Duration:

1 year

### Overview

This course provides an exciting opportunity to gain invaluable experience in an education environment, whilst also gaining the specific qualifications for direct entry into the world of work.

On this course, you will undertake a significant work-based placement with CM Sports on a weekly basis, working alongside experienced coaches in local schools.

### Structure

This course will provide you with all of the relevant qualifications that you need to be able to coach in schools in accordance with requirements of Local Authority.

This includes the following qualifications:

- L3 Delivery PE and school sport
- L2 Sports coaching
- L2 Multi skills development in sport
- First aid at work
- L2 Safeguarding and protecting children
- Mathematics and English where relevant.

### Teaching & Learning

You will benefit from up to date technology when coaching. Every session is recorded using our sports mast and voice recordings are obtained with Bluetooth live recording in sessions for assessment and self-reflection. You will also use Navigate to log all of your industry placement hours and also use as a diary to log skills that you gain.

### Assessment

You will be assessed through a range of practical observations both in College and the workplace. Alongside this you will build a portfolio of evidence.

### Progression

On completion of this course, you can progress onto part time/full time coaching employment/ Apprenticeships with either CM Sports or another coaching company.

### Entry Requirements

Five GCSEs and grade 3 or above including English Language and Mathematics.

- Must be aged 17+ at the beginning of the course.
- If you are currently a student at HSDC and wish to progress on to this course, you must have completed a Level 2/3 course and achieved a Merit.

"This partnership provides an exciting opportunity to ensure **students are equipped with both the qualifications and experience in the world of work to support their progression into sports coaching.** We have high expectations of our coaches, and truly believe this collaboration will harvest both well-rounded and inspirational coaches capable of delivering high quality sports coaching."

**Luke White, CM Sports Director**



# PHYSICAL EDUCATION

## A Level

### Venue:

Alton Campus

### Duration:

2 years

### Overview

Studying Physical Education will equip you with a depth and breadth of knowledge, understanding of skills relating to scientific, socio-cultural and practical aspects of Physical Education. If you have a real interest in not only the practical aspect but also in how we learn skills, how the body functions when in action and the factors that influence participation, then you will find the subject enjoyable and challenging. This course will prepare you for the further study of PE or Sports Science courses as well as other related subject areas such as Psychology, Sociology and Biology. You will also develop the transferable skills that are in demand by Further Education, Higher Education and employers in all sectors of industry.

### Structure

On this course, you will study the following:

- How the body responds to sport and physical exercise with regards to the different systems of the body, such as e.g Cardiovascular, Respiratory and Musculoskeletal
- Analysis of movement using biomechanics theories and principles such as planes of motion, Newton's Laws and lever systems
- Current training techniques and learn how technology is playing its part with regards to analysing and improving performance
- Psychology of sport and performance and research different theories such as Vealeys' model of sports confidence and Weiner's model of attribution
- The emergence and evolution of modern sport and understand how sport developed from pre-industrial Britain to a multi-million-pound industry

### Teaching & Learning

Lessons are a combination of theory and practical with the main emphasis on classroom-based learning. You are expected to play sport competitively and be prepared to have an active

role in all lessons. Suitable trips will be planned throughout the year.

### Assessment

70% Theory

- Physiological Factors - 2 hour paper (30%)
- Psychological Factors - 1 hour paper (20%)
- Socio-Cultural & Contemporary Issues - 1 hour paper (20%)

30% - Evaluation of Analysis of Performance for Improvement (EAPI) and Practical or Coaching Performance

We are only able to accept certain activities to be assessed: Association Football, Amateur Boxing, Athletics, Badminton, Basketball, Blind Cricket, Boccia, Camogie, Canoeing, Cricket, Cycling, Dance, Diving, Equestrian, Gaelic Football, Goal Ball, Golf, Gymnastics, Handball, Hockey, Hurling, Kayaking, Lacrosse, Netball, Polybat, Powerchair Football, Rock Climbing, Rowing, Rugby League, Rugby Union, Sculling, Skiing, Snowboarding, Squash, Swimming, Table Cricket, Table Tennis, Tennis, Trampolining, Volleyball, Wheelchair Basketball, Wheelchair Rugby.

### Entry Requirements

Five GCSEs at grade 9-4. In addition, you should have at least grade 5 in a science GCSE.

It is an expectation and requirement that you are an active competitive participant in your chosen activity throughout the duration of the course.



## PUBLIC & DEFENCE SERVICES

### NCFE Level 3 Certificate (=1 A Level)

#### Venue:

Alton Campus

#### Duration:

2 years

#### Overview

Preparing you for a variety of roles in the Public Service Sector, including Armed Forces, Blue Light Emergency Services, Central and Local Government. This exciting course includes practical work and regular fitness training. You'll develop collaborative skills, leadership abilities and participate in navigation activities leading to an expedition. You will enhance your digital skills and complete assignments in multiple formats. Many students progress onto University studying subjects such as Outdoor Adventure, Politics and Law. Students have also progressed onto the prestigious Sandhurst Military Academy.

#### Structure

Based over two years you will study six units where you will learn how to:

- Prepare for a career in the uniformed services and develop aspects of your physical fitness along the way
- Enhance your leadership skills by putting theory into action as well as learning about Britain's rich and diverse cultural make-up
- Navigate in open countryside in preparation to participate in a challenging expedition

#### Teaching and Learning

This challenging course will test your brains and your brawn! Your lesson activities will include research and written tasks, individual presentations and collaborative tasks designed to enhance your study and employability skills. You will also have the opportunity to develop your theoretical navigation skills before putting them into practice. We would also recommend you join the college's Combined Cadet Force as part of the enrichment programme.

#### Assessment

100% Coursework

#### Entry Requirements

Five GCSEs at grade 9-4. Alternatively, if you have studied at Level 2, you should have achieved a Merit grade or above. Vocational courses are ideal if you prefer coursework over exams.







## PUBLIC & DEFENCE SERVICES

### NCFE Level 3 Extended Diploma (=3 A Levels)

#### Venue:

Alton Campus

#### Duration:

2 years

#### Overview

The course aims to develop specialist service-related knowledge. The course also covers how the public or uniformed services work, social studies to give you an understanding of the environment they operate in and practical subjects to develop your fitness and understanding of the physical aspects required for each service.

There is a range of both theory and practical units within the course and you will be expected to complete a portfolio of evidence, based on the assignment work you are issued within your lessons. You will also undertake residentials in locations such as the New Forest and North Wales, and experience field trips to places that include Parliament and the Imperial War Museum. In addition, you will develop service essential skills, including undertaking conformity simulations, such as a remembrance and pass off parade. You will also be given the opportunity to join the Combined Cadet Force where you can add to your skill set and knowledge.

#### Structure

You will study:

- Prepare for a career in a chosen uniformed service
- Develop aspects of physical fitness for entry to the uniformed services
- Develop leadership skills
- Equality, diversity and inclusion
- Emergency planning and response in the uniformed services
- Skills for water-based outdoor and adventurous activities
- Outdoor and adventurous expeditions
- Understand the impact of war and conflict on uniformed services
- Skills for land-based outdoor and adventurous activities

- Security procedures in the uniformed services
- Crime scene investigation
- Collaboration between uniformed services
- Understanding discipline in the uniformed services
- Carry out map reading and navigation across open country
- UK legal systems and uniformed services
- Volunteering in the uniformed services
- Mental and physical wellbeing

There are a total of 20 units which will be taught by a small team of specialists.

#### Teaching & Learning

You will be taught through a continuous programme of assignments, class activities, practical tasks, discussions, presentations, written reports, voluntary work, organising events and some group work. Each assessment will be graded against the unit criteria and from there you will get an overall grade (Pass, Merit or Distinction). You will also have the opportunity to experience the Defence School of Policing and Guarding at Southwick Park as part of the Combined Cadet Force.

#### Assessment

100% coursework.

#### Progression

This carries UCAS points equal to 3 A Levels, allowing you to go to university.

#### Entry Requirements

Five GCSEs at grade 9-4 including English Language and Mathematics. Alternatively, if you have studied at Level 2, you should have achieved a Merit or above.

To study this course, you should have an interest in working with people.



# SPORT

## OCR Cambridge Technical Extended Diploma Level 3 (=3 A Levels)

### Venue:

Alton Campus

### Duration:

2 years

### Overview

This is a course for those with a real interest in all aspects of sport and fitness who would like to follow a career in this industry. You'll study a range of units which may include anatomy and physiology, training and fitness, sports nutrition, sports coaching, sports massage, sports injuries, and PE and young people in sport. You'll also have the opportunity to develop your practical performance in two individual and two team sports. A key requirement is a real enthusiasm for sport and/or exercise and fitness in both the theoretical and practical aspects.

### Structure

This course is made up of 17 units over two years:

- Body systems and the effects of physical activity \*\*
- Sports coaching and activity leadership
- Sports organisation and development \*\*
- Working safely in sport, exercise, health and leisure \*\*
- Performance analysis in sport and exercise
- Improving fitness for sport and physical activity
- Organisation of sports events
- Physical activity for specific groups
- Nutrition and diet for sport and exercise
- Working in active leisure facilities
- Sports injuries and rehabilitation
- Practical skills in sport and physical activity
- The business of sport \*\*
- Group exercise to music
- Health and fitness testing for sport exercise
- Sport and exercise psychology
- Sport and exercise sociology

\*\* Externally assessed exams

### Teaching & Learning

Lesson activities are wide ranging with lessons taking place in the Sports Hall, the Gym and in computer rooms. You have time to complete your coursework both in and out of lesson times and be involved in other enrichment activities. The Extended Diploma is suitable for you if you have an enthusiasm for sport, both theoretically and practically.

### Assessment

All internal units will be assessed and graded by your teachers. At the end of the course, points gained will combine to form an overall grade. You can achieve a Pass, Merit, Distinction or Distinction\*. All assessments are completed through assignments and/or examinations.

Coursework with practical units and 4 x externally assessed exams.

### Progression

The Extended Diploma in Sport works well for careers such as teaching, fitness instructor, personal trainer, sports therapist or sports coach.

### Entry Requirements

Five GCSEs at grade 9-4 (including English Language and Mathematics). Alternatively, if you have studied at Level 2, you should have achieved a Merit or above. Vocational courses are an ideal qualification for you if you prefer coursework.

To study this course, you should also have a grade 4 in GCSE English and Mathematics and preferably Science/Physical Education.



# SPORT & OUTDOOR ADVENTURE

## NCFE Level 2 Diploma

### Venue:

Alton Campus

### Duration:

1 year

### Overview

This new course offers exciting content that focuses on key areas within sport, outdoor adventure, and public services. You will have opportunities to participate in various activities like climbing, mountain biking, and water-based activities. Alongside these, you will also participate in several team and individual sports like football, basketball, netball, badminton, and tennis. Your leadership skills will also be developed through the challenge of preparing and leading outdoor activities and an expedition. You will also work on your physical fitness. This will support your understanding of the fitness requirements for entry to the public services, and more broadly in terms of general health and wellbeing benefits.

The range of skills gained and developed on the course will then allow you to progress to any of our Level 3 courses. From there, you will have the opportunity to explore employment, university degrees, and Apprenticeships.

There will be a focus on you gaining real-life experience by undertaking work placements to understand more about the opportunities this and further study could lead to. A large part of this course focuses on skill progression within a range of activities but will also require a level of commitment from you to advance your own development outside of the normal college time, to make you more employable.

### Structure

On this one-year course you will study the following units:

- Anatomy and physiology for exercise
- Participating in sport
- Outdoor and adventurous activities
- Leading an outdoor activity session

- Psychology for sports performance
- Expedition experience
- Development of personal fitness through training

### Teaching and Learning

There will be a mix of both theory and practical work. This will take place on-campus and at various locations in the local area. There will also be several day trips to facilities further afield when required.

### Assessment

The course is 100% coursework completed through a mixture of assignments, class activities, practical tasks, discussions, and presentations. In addition, you will sit assessments during and at the end of the year as part of a resit programme in either English Language or Mathematics.

### Progression

This balanced programme offers opportunities to progress onto the Level 3 courses in sport, Public Services or Outdoor Adventure - (South Downs Campus).

### Entry Requirements

Five GCSEs at grade 3 or above including English Language or Mathematics at grade 4.



# VOCATIONAL AND FOUNDATION LEARNING



In Vocational and Foundation Learning we offer a wide variety of courses designed to help you develop the skills and knowledge you need to gain more independence and decide what you would like to do in the future. Through these courses you can acquire and improve skills that will open doors to further study, employment or supported employment. Class sizes are generally smaller and a variety of specialist support is available. All students get the opportunity to improve their skills in English, Mathematics and IT too.

You can choose Vocational options to try out, such as Catering, Drama, Sport, Engineering, Art, Health & Social Care, Business, IT and Horticulture. Our teaching and support staff will encourage and support you every step of the way to be the best you can be and to realise your full potential.

**HSDC is excited to announce that we have been awarded Hampshire SEND Employability Hub status.**

**We are looking to take on a cohort of Year 11 students through a specialist, individualised programme where the outcome is paid employment.**

**For more information please turn to the inside back cover.**

# VOCATIONAL STUDIES

## BTEC Introductory Certificate Level 1

### Venue:

Alton Campus

### Duration:

1 year/2 years

### Overview

This course gives you the opportunity to study a broad curriculum, develop future career ideas and solidify and develop study skills.

On this course you will complete the BTEC Level 1 Introductory Certificate or Diploma in Vocational Studies Qualification. This qualification is focused on a range of vocational areas and students have a choice of units to complete to facilitate progression and enable career pathways to be considered.

You will be able to try out a variety of different subject areas to help you focus on what you would like to do in the future. Whilst doing this you will improve your English, Maths and ICT in weekly lessons. The course also allows for some work experience placements and enterprise activities. This course would suit you if you may not have achieved sufficient GCSE results to get on to a Level 2 course or may have some specific support needs.

### Structure

You will have the opportunity to investigate different vocational areas. The vocational areas that you can study may include:

- Sport
- Engineering
- Childcare
- Art & Design
- Public Services
- Applied Science
- Digital Media
- Catering
- Business

Through studying a variety of vocational options, it is hoped that you will widen your knowledge, enabling you to make informed career choices

for the future. The vocational units are at the heart of the programme. However, you will also have the chance to improve your Maths, English and ICT in weekly lessons.

### Teaching & Learning

You will be taught in groups of approximately 8-16 dependent on options, by experienced staff who are able to support you with your learning. In the classroom, you will work both in groups and individually. There will be some formal notetaking as well as roleplay, group discussions and visiting speakers. There is an expectation that you will study for up to eight hours per week in your own time completing classwork, producing coursework or doing lesson preparation.

### Assessment

During the course, you will be assessed through coursework in various ways including oral presentations, video films, audiotapes, written work and field trips. Coursework will be graded at Pass, Merit and Distinction.

### Progression

Having successfully completed the course you will be able to make further choices about which direction you wish to take. This Level 1 course provides you with a sound foundation for employment but the majority of students decide to progress onto a BTEC Level 2 course. You will require a Merit and a recommendation from your tutor to progress onto a Level 2 course. Students also have the option of progressing to our Supported Internship Programme.

### Entry Requirements

There are no formal entry requirements, although you will normally have followed an Entry or GCSE programme of study at school.

# ENTRY TO VOCATIONAL STUDY

## BTEC Entry Level 3

### Venue:

Alton Campus

### Duration:

1 year/2 years

### Overview

This course prepares you for life and the workplace through gaining the relevant skills you need to become responsible and active members of society.

On this course you will complete the BTEC Entry Level 3 Award or Certificate in Entry to Vocational Study Qualification. This qualification allows a focus on different vocational options. At the end of the course students will be ready to either move onto our Level 1 vocational qualification, a Supported Internship Programme or a more specialist vocational course at L1 or E3. Our aim is to find these learners the right pathway towards independent living and employment.

### Structure

The BTEC Entry Level 3 Award or Certificate in Entry to Vocational Study Qualification will give you the opportunity to study different vocational subject options that may include sport, art, cooking, horticulture and engineering. You will also improve your core English, Maths, ICT, independence and social communication skills. You will also have the opportunity to take part in work experience placements or enterprise activities as well as weekly enrichment options.

### Teaching & Learning

You will be taught in groups of approximately 8-16 dependent on options, by experienced staff who are able to support learners with a range of different SEN needs. In the classroom, you will work both in groups and individually. There will be some notetaking as well as roleplay, group discussions and practical work. There is an expectation that you will study outside the course in your own time completing classwork, producing coursework or doing lesson preparation.

### Assessment

During the course, you will be assessed through coursework in various ways including oral presentations, video films, audiotapes, written work and field trips. English and Maths will be assessed by formal exams.

### Progression

Having successfully completed the course you will be able to make further choices about which direction you wish to take. You can decide to progress onto a BTEC Level 1 course with a recommendation from your tutor, a supported employment or internship programme, or a more independent life when you leave.

### Entry Requirements

There are no formal entry requirements, although you will normally have followed an Entry or GCSE programme of study at school.





# PRE VOCATIONAL STUDY

## BTEC Entry Level 2 - Certificate or Extended Certificate Qualification

### Venue:

Alton Campus

### Duration:

1 year/2 years

### Overview

This course will develop your skills to be more independent and work ready. We will give you the confidence to take your next steps.

On this course you will complete the BTEC Entry Level 2 in Pre-vocational Study - Certificate or Extended Certificate Qualification. This qualification allows a mix of life skills and vocational options. At the end of this course students will be ready to make a progression choice to further education at a higher or more specialist level, or be ready to enter adult life with skills to live more independently.

### Structure

You will be able to sample a range of vocational areas such as art, sports, catering, drama and horticulture. In addition, you will get the chance to improve your functional skills in English, Mathematics and IT. You will also have the opportunity to take part in work experience placements or enterprise activities as well as weekly enrichment options. The course also incorporates learning a range of independent living and social communication skills.

### Teaching & Learning:

You will learn in small group sizes and have the added support of Learning Support Assistants. Many students enjoy the variety of different subjects and welcome the opportunity to gain some independence. You will also have the chance to enjoy the social aspects of college life.

### Assessment

You will undertake a series of units which will gradually build your portfolio for when you are ready to claim your qualifications.

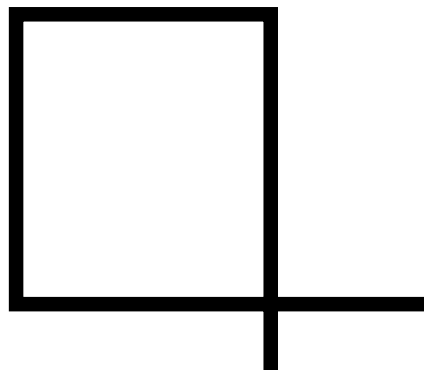
Staff use a variety of assessment methods including role play, observations, written, visual and practical work.

### Progression

Having successfully completed this course, students have progressed onto other courses within the Foundation Learning department. At the end of this course students will be ready to make a progression choice to further education at a higher or more specialist level, or be ready to enter adult life with skills to live more independently.

### Entry Requirements

A positive attitude to learning and the ability to work at an Entry Level 2. Students will typically come from a SEN school.



# SKILLS FOR INDEPENDENCE

## Entry Level 1

### Venue:

Alton Campus

### Duration:

1 year/2 years

### Overview

On this Entry Level 1 course, you will have the opportunity to develop your life skills, independence and knowledge of the wider world and community. Your course will be based around the core areas of preparing for adulthood, skills of employability, health, independent living and community.

This course helps you learn and develop to be able to go out into the wider world successfully. There is an emphasis on community access and learning through doing.

The course will have a focus on getting out into the community, making use for example of our college allotment and local community facilities. On the course, you will also continue to study functional skills in English and Maths at an appropriate level, as well as a range of vocational areas such as sport, catering, drama, outdoor learning, art and horticulture.

You will also access the local community enjoying trips to the shops, the library, local museums and galleries, for example.

### Structure

You will undertake a series of projects as part of the AQA Unit Award Scheme which provides a learner-centred experience to meet all of your individual needs.

Over the year you will undertake several AQA units to gain certificates in all your subjects. Your week will be structured to have regular visits to the community, alongside classroom-based lessons.

### Teaching & Learning

You will learn in small group sizes and have the added support of Learning Support Assistants. On the course, you will predominantly learn in the same group with your fellow students in your tutor group. You will have a base tutor group room to work from and access to the departmental kitchen, college gym and sports hall. You can also enjoy access to our college refectory, including Starbucks, as well as our Learning Hub (Library/Learning Resource Centre). You will also have the opportunity to take part in enrichment clubs such as the Lego club, sports or art.

### Assessment

You will complete coursework for the AQA unit award scheme, to gain certificates of achievement in all subject areas.

### Progression

Students on this course may be able to progress onto an E2 course or be ready for a greater level of independence in adulthood.

### Entry Requirements

A positive attitude to learning and a willingness to undertake community work.

# EXPRESSIONS CREATIVE ARTS PROGRAMME

## Arts Award Discover Entry 2 / Arts Award Explore Entry 3

### Venue:

Alton Campus

### Duration:

1 year/2 years

### Overview

The Expressions Creative Programme is the course for you if you have an enthusiasm for the arts and are keen to extend yourself individually while working closely in a group. Active participation is essential to be successful on this course.

As well as experiencing lessons in Drama, Dance, Music and Art, you will develop your independent life skills and abilities in English and Maths.

You will also have the opportunity to take part in work experience placements or enterprise activities as well as weekly enrichment options.

There will be opportunities to attend theatre trips, visits and workshops throughout the year and we are delighted to have forged close links with renowned organisations such as Blue Apple, which includes working in partnership with their staff and students.

### Structure

On the Expressions Course you will:

- Study the Creative Arts through practical lessons looking at all aspects including Dance, Drama, Music and Art
- Have the chance to develop your performance skills through live performance opportunities, working alongside other students at Alton
- Take part in workshops with teachers & students from Laine Theatre Arts, as well as with other reputable Arts organisations
- Have the opportunity to develop your employment skills through a work experience placement, preparing you for a more independent life
- Develop your independent life skills and awareness of your local community

### Teaching & Learning

You will be taught by a small team of teachers and classes will be supported by Learning Support Assistants. You will complete assignments to build a portfolio of evidence to achieve the Trinity College Arts Award (Discover and/or Explore). The assessments will consist of both practical and written tasks.

As part of the course, you will be involved in various productions/performance demonstrating the skills you have developed during your time on the course. This will mean that, on occasion, you may be required to work 'unsociable' hours due to evening performances or work experience in theatres.

### Assessment

You will generate a portfolio of evidence through different means.

Progression Students will be able to progress to a more vocational programme of study or a Supported Internship course to find a pathway toward a successful, independent adulthood.

### Entry Requirements

No formal qualifications or previous experience is required, but a good attitude to learning is important, as is a keen interest in the creative arts.



# SUPPORTED INTERNSHIP

## Venue:

Alton Campus

## Duration:

1 year/2 years

## Overview

This course will provide you with the skills to enter the world of work. Our supported internship is a one-year course and is designed to build on students' existing skills and interests. You will undertake a work placement with a relevant local employer for a minimum of 11 hours a week across the academic year (inclusive of usual academic holidays to give a real experience of work), whilst receiving support from your job coach. In addition to this, you will also attend college one day a week to work on your English and Maths skills, review your progress, attend tutorial sessions and develop employability skills. Students should leave the course ready for employment, and have a clear idea of their career pathway going forward.

In addition to this, you will also attend college one day a week to work on your English and Mathematics skills, review your progress and develop your employability skills. We are excited to announce that we have been awarded Hampshire SEND Employability Hub status. We are looking to take on a cohort of Year 11 students through a specialist, individualised programme where the outcome is paid employment. If you are interested in applying to be on our SEND Employability Programme or for more information, contact Helen Robinson – [helen.robinson@hsdc.ac.uk](mailto:helen.robinson@hsdc.ac.uk) or 023 9387 9999 ext 4794.

## Structure

- Individual work placement
- Employability skills
- English
- Maths
- Tutorial
- Group and 1:1 job coach sessions

## Teaching & Learning

As well as your ongoing work placement, HSDC offers a variety of teaching and learning approaches including lectures, tutorials, workshops, visits, presentations and group discussions. You will have access to the Learning Hub and other online and digital resources through the HSDC student portal (MyHSDC).

Your job coach will work with you, initially during your placement, to provide support in undertaking any duties required. They will also liaise with you and your employer for the duration to ensure progress is being made.

Realistic but stretching targets will be set and reviewed throughout the placement. You will be supported in all college classes via the use of Academic and Learning Support Assistants where needed and the use of any learning aids or assistive technology as required.

## Assessment

Assessment will be through a process of observations, employer reviews and target setting based on consistent attendance at your workplace and at college.

## Progression

Possible progression routes include, paid work (full or part time), traineeship, Apprenticeship, voluntary work and further training in work preparation skills.

## Entry Requirements

No formal qualifications are required for this course however, a commitment and desire to work is essential, as is a recent record of work/voluntary experience.

**If you are interested in the Supported Internship course at Alton, please contact Jo Shepherd Course Tutor for more information on [jo.shepherd@alton.hsdc.ac.uk](mailto:jo.shepherd@alton.hsdc.ac.uk)**

# EVERYTHING ELSE YOU NEED TO KNOW

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**“Staff and students feel safe and know how to raise concerns, both at the College or in the workplace.”**

**OFSTED 2020**

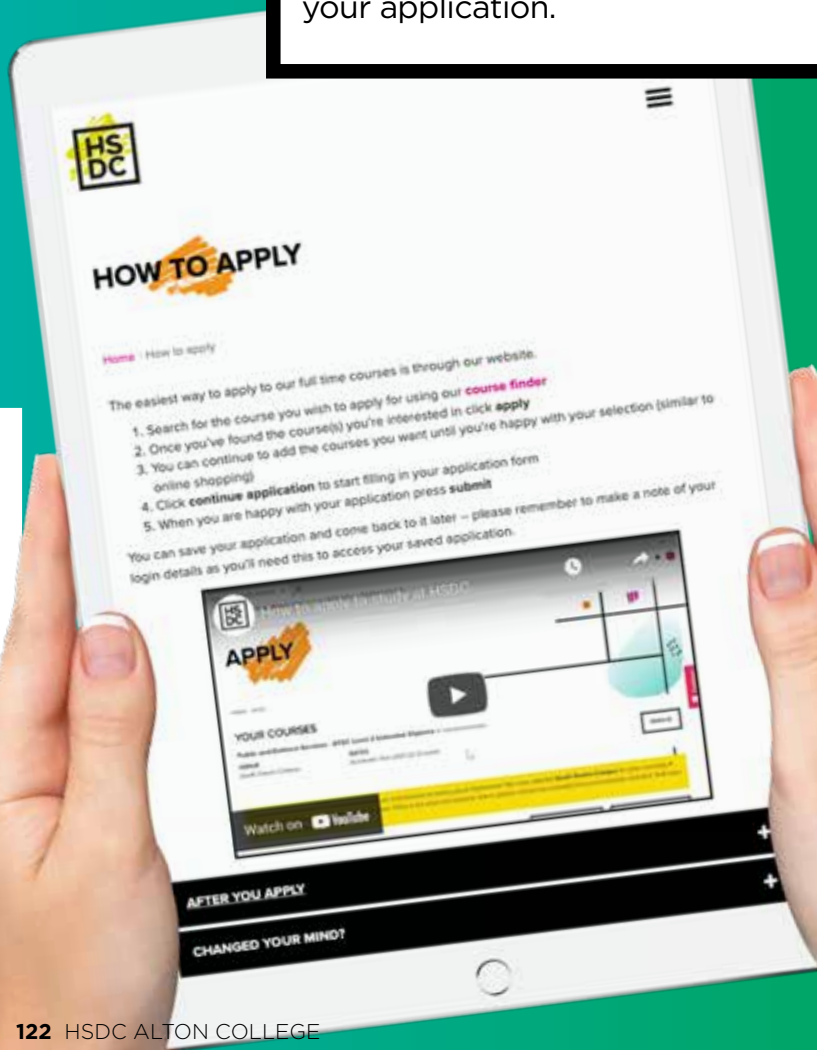




# HOW TO APPLY?

The easiest way to apply is by visiting  
**[www.hsdac.ac.uk](http://www.hsdac.ac.uk)**.

Here you can search for the subjects you're interested in and use our online form to submit your application.

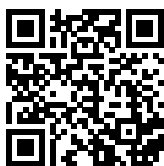


# APPLY ONLINE

- Once you've found the course(s) you want to study, click apply
- You can continue to add the courses you want until you're happy with your selection (similar to online shopping)
- Click continue application to register and start filling in your application form
- When you are happy with the application, press submit.

You can save your application and come back to it later — please remember to make a note of your login details as you'll need this to access your saved application.

If you need any help, you can visit [hsdc.ac.uk/how-to-apply](https://hsdc.ac.uk/how-to-apply)



Scan and watch our How to apply to study at HSDC Video



# 5 TOP TIPS

## FOR YOUR COLLEGE INTERVIEW

**1. Don't worry!** Our interviews are really just a chat, an opportunity for you to ask any questions and for us to make sure the course is right for you

**2. You don't have to come alone.** If you'd feel more comfortable bringing someone with you that's totally OK

**3. If you can't make it, let us know as soon as possible.** We're happy to re-book and give you a new interview time

**4. Wear what works for you.** Whether it's jeans or your school uniform, it's not like a job interview so you don't need to worry about what you're wearing

**5. Don't be afraid to change your mind.** If you realise the course you've applied for isn't right for you just tell us, we know it's not always an easy decision!

# TEACHING AND LEARNING



## INSPIRING LECTURERS SPECIALIST TEACHING STAFF

Whatever course type you choose, you'll be taught by dedicated and experienced teaching staff who are experts in their field and who have a wealth of industry experience or outstanding academic backgrounds. Our teaching staff are committed to making your lessons interesting and interactive — making sure you get everything you need to achieve your aspirations. Your teachers will not only teach you what's on the curriculum, they'll share the tips and tricks of the industry and pass on their own experience too.

## DEDICATED TUTOR

You will have a dedicated tutor who will teach you and support your transition from school to college. Through timetabled sessions they will guide you through your A Level or Vocational course and provide advice and guidance on applying to university, Apprenticeship schemes or employment.

## DIGITAL PROGRESS MONITORING

Our live online progress monitoring system allows you and your parents to see exactly how you are doing in your studies. Your tutor and teachers will discuss your progress with you during regular meetings and help you to develop actions to meet your personal targets. In addition, your parents will receive a regular college notice to keep them up-to-date.

## EDUCATION THAT SUITS YOU

We know that every student has a different way of learning, which is why we're strong believers in learning anytime, anywhere. We understand that a blend of classroom, workplace and digital learning is the best way to get the most out of your Alton College experience. Our different course types will help you tailor your experience to the way you learn best.



## DIGITAL EXCELLENCE

Digital learning has many advantages, including its ability to create a fluid teaching environment where the most needed and valuable resources are accessible at all times, even outside of college hours. Online platforms empower teaching staff, as well as students, to share their ideas and questions and gives them the ability to learn from each other. Our platforms include Google Classroom among other industry-standard learning resources and various apps.

Google Classroom has been our central digital platform across the majority of subjects for many years. Students enjoy engaging materials such as YouTube clips and detailed presentations relating to their chosen topic. Students can learn at their own pace and ask questions via the comments section, allowing questions they may feel uncomfortable asking in class in front of their peers. Many students submit their work online through Google Classroom and receive feedback in the same way, increasing sustainability with paperless technology.

Other industry-standard learning resources give students extra support when it comes to revision and assessment, from videos of lessons to specially recorded and annotated online lectures; and specific apps for study on a phone or a tablet.

**“We recognise and appreciate how HSDC teaching staff play such a pivotal role in our students’ lives; they are inspiring our students through the use of innovative and creative digital technology and making a difference to their wellbeing and long-term success.”**

**Suki Dhesi**

*Vice Principal  
Quality & Students Experience*

# APPRENTICESHIPS

**HSDC is a provider of high-quality Apprenticeships. We support students like you to find an Apprenticeship that can kick-start an amazing career.**

We deliver a wide range of Apprenticeship programmes and work alongside leading employers to help you become part of a skilled workforce.

## EARN MONEY AND GAIN A QUALIFICATION!

Apprenticeships are designed to give you the best of both worlds — work and study. As an apprentice, you'll earn money and spend time in a workplace setting that reflects your career aspirations.

Every Apprenticeship is a real job, giving you plenty of training to develop industry-level skills. Most apprentices will work 30 hours per week, and a programme can last between one and four years — this can vary depending on the Apprenticeship. Apprenticeships range in levels depending on your experiences and skills. Apprentices now have the opportunity to achieve degree-level qualifications without the debt associated with traditional Higher Education.



**“Apprentices develop the knowledge and skills they need to work successfully and progress rapidly in their jobs.”**  
**OFSTED 2020**





## WE OFFER APPRENTICESHIPS IN:

- Business Administration
- Early Years - Childcare
- Customer Service
- Engineering
- Health and Social Care
- Junior Content Production
- Team Leading and Management

## FANTASTIC INDUSTRY OPPORTUNITIES

You'll have the opportunity to take part in real-life industry projects and competitions in particular sectors, showcasing your talents and experience.

This is great for your CV, future training and employment opportunities.

## AMAZING SUPPORT AND GUIDANCE

You'll receive more training and support than you would in a job alone. Most apprentices spend one day a week at college. Not only that, you'll have the backing of your college-based Apprenticeship Work-Based Trainer who will work with you and your employer to ensure you're making progress and getting the most out of your Apprenticeship.

## HOW DO I APPLY FOR AN APPRENTICESHIP?

In order to start an Apprenticeship, you need a job which matches the qualification you want to study. Our Apprenticeship Team will work with you to identify the best type of role, based on your career goals. They'll also keep you up to date with information about suitable vacancies available to you.

If you have managed to find an employer you want to work with yourself, we will ensure they receive the information and support they need throughout the programme.

For more information about Apprenticeships at HSDC email [apprenticeships@hssc.ac.uk](mailto:apprenticeships@hssc.ac.uk) or visit [www.hssc.ac.uk/study-with-us/apprenticeships/](http://www.hssc.ac.uk/study-with-us/apprenticeships/)

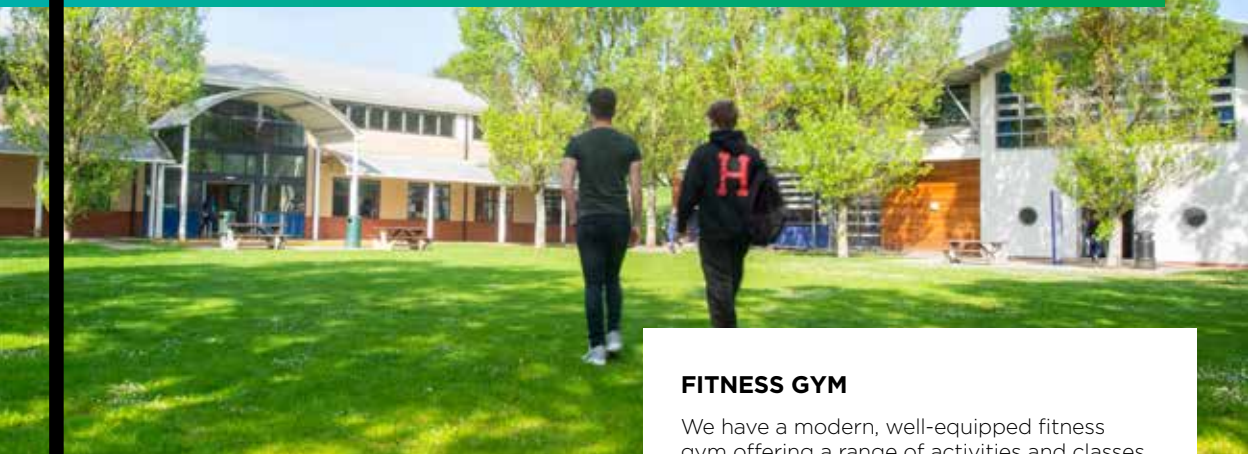
## WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS OF APPRENTICESHIPS AT HSDC?

**“HSDC has developed its Apprenticeship programme in partnership with employers. Our programme is designed to ensure apprentices graduate as highly skilled and motivated employees with exceptional work-based knowledge and behaviours fit for the modern world of work. Delivering Apprenticeships from our Alton Campus is key to giving young people as many options as possible to take the next steps into their future.”**

**Aaron Butson**

*Assistant Principal  
Business, Employment and Skills,  
HSDC*

# OUR CAMPUS AND FACILITIES



## FITNESS GYM

We have a modern, well-equipped fitness gym offering a range of activities and classes to students and staff throughout the year.

## LEARNING HUB

The Learning Hub offers you a choice of study areas you can use when you are not in your lessons. They are divided into a computer zone and a quiet Library space so that you can choose the environment that best suits your working style. For group study, you can also reserve the collaborative workroom. We have bookable and open access PCs and provide Chromebooks that are available on a drop-in basis. The study areas have Wi-Fi, so you can use your device and access your college work.

We have a large collection of physical and online books, journals, magazines, DVDs and a streaming platform for films and documentaries. We also have subscriptions to online educational websites. Together, all of our resources complement and support the curriculum, offering you the chance to read around your subjects and get ahead with your studies. There are always helpful staff on hand to assist you with any queries you might have.



**We invest in our facilities each year to ensure that they create the right learning environment for you and help to support and ignite your passion for learning.**

## MEDIA FACILITIES

Located in the Media and Music departments, the campus has three recording studios and filming spaces. In September 2021 we launched our new Gaming & Creative Digital Studios with over 60 high-end gaming/media PCs and dedicated gaming/Esports facilities throughout.

## HSDC ALTON NURSERY

The aim of the HSDC Alton Nursery is to provide daycare for the children of staff and students during working hours which is safe, stimulating and caring. Children aged between six months and five years of age attend and there is space for 28 children at a time.

## PHOTOGRAPHY STUDIO

We are proud of the three exceptionally well-resourced photography lighting studios and very large darkroom, which accommodate many experimental processes such as light trails, photograms and experimental techniques.

## SONARDYNE CENTRE

The state-of-the-art Sonardyne Centre for Engineering and Design Technology houses industry-standard machinery and equipment for hands-on learning.

## STUDENT HUB

Our welcoming Student Hub and Reception provide an open plan environment for you to easily access the Student Services and Student Welfare teams. If you have any queries about your timetable, transport, careers, university applications or want some additional support, our friendly teams will be happy to help.

## WESSEX ARTS CENTRE

Enjoy a variety of performances in our professional theatre throughout the year, put on by our Performing Arts and Drama students. The Centre also includes two modern dance studios.

## EAT CENTRAL

There's a wide variety of food and drink on offer from Eat Central and the Deli counter. Whatever your dietary requirements, you can find something to suit you.

## STARBUCKS

Starbucks is available on campus, offering the same great drinks for a cheaper price than you'd pay on the High Street.

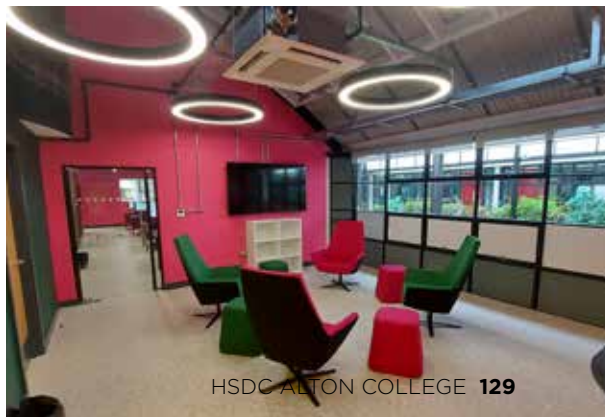


**Did you know?**

### PLANTS not PLASTIC

Our catering disposables are made from **lower carbon, renewable or recycled material**

vegware™ 



# CAREERS AND EMPLOYABILITY

## **Our highly experienced team work according to the Gatsby benchmarks.**

This means you can be sure you're receiving impartial advice and guidance throughout your time at college. The Careers & Employability Team holds the Matrix quality standard, which reflects our professional and knowledgeable ethos.

## **HOW OUR CAREERS SERVICE CAN HELP YOU:**

- Drop-in careers advice clinic at our Open Evenings
- Careers education programme embedded through tutorials, including employability skills
- One-to-one careers guidance interviews
- Careers events, workshops and talks, including speakers from industry
- Guidance on Vocational and A Level work experience and volunteering
- UCAS support in applying to university
- Studying abroad and gap year advice
- Support for CV writing and job applications
- Apprenticeship and job search support
- Results day advice and guidance

## **WORK EXPERIENCE**

Experience of the workplace is vital in helping the workforce of tomorrow develop and strengthen their employability skills. We recognise the importance of work experience for all students and have placement opportunities built into the curriculum. To make these opportunities as valuable as possible we have a team of dedicated staff on hand to help students find their perfect placements.

## **CAREER CHOICES**

Our Careers Advisers have shared some top tips below, on making the right choices for some popular career pathways. Please be aware that in addition to meeting subject-specific entry requirements for university or degree Apprenticeships, the grades achieved also matter, so choose subjects which will allow you to maximise your potential.

### **ARCHITECTURE**

**A Levels:** The RIBA ([www.architecture.com](http://www.architecture.com)) recommends a mixture of Arts and Science subjects are studied. Requirements of architecture schools vary, but useful subjects could include a humanity or social science subject, Mathematics or Physics, and a creative option such as Art, Design Technology or 3D Design. A portfolio will usually be required: some architecture schools set specific tasks for applicants.

**Vocational:** The BTEC Extended Diploma and T levels are also accepted by some universities. Check the entry requirements of any individual universities you might be interested in. A portfolio will also usually be required.

## JOURNALISM

**A Levels:** A good subject combination could be an English A Level and two from a wide range of subjects from Humanities through to Arts, Social Sciences or Sciences.

**Vocational:** UAL: Creative Media Production, Level 3 Diploma could be a suitable choice.

## LAW

**A Levels:** An essay-based subject such as English Literature or History, plus at least one other academic subject, is advisable for students with strong academic potential. A Level Law is not required but is valued by universities and provides good insight into studying law as an undergraduate.

**Vocational:** Level 3 Applied Diplomas in Psychology and Criminology alongside Law A level, Level 3 Extended Diploma in Business or Introductory Diploma in Business with two of the above suggested subjects will keep some options open to you.

## MEDICINE / DENTISTRY / VETERINARY MEDICINE

**A Levels:** Chemistry and Biology with another academically rigorous subject will keep most medical, dentistry and vet schools open to you: Cambridge looks for Maths or Physics as the third A level for both courses and Glasgow requires Maths or Physics as the third subject for medicine and prefers it for veterinary medicine. There are an increasing number of medical schools which will now accept Psychology as a second science: check the Medical Schools Council website ([www.medschools.ac.uk/](http://www.medschools.ac.uk/)) for the latest information. Dentistry schools are currently less flexible in this respect ([www.dentalschoolscouncil.ac.uk](http://www.dentalschoolscouncil.ac.uk)). Many medical, dentistry and vet schools want English, Maths and Science GCSEs at grade 6 / 7 or above.

**Vocational:** A small number of 'gateway' course options for medicine, dentistry and veterinary medicine accept students with vocational backgrounds. Subjects such as Health and Social Care or Sport might be accepted by two or three of the medical schools, but always check directly with a university as entry requirements can change at any point in a year.

## NURSING

**A Levels:** Entry requirements vary. A science or social science (e.g. Biology, Psychology, Sociology) is usually required or recommended. English, Mathematics and GCSE Science (4+) will also be needed.

**Vocational:** Level 3 BTEC extended diploma in Health & Social Care is becoming increasingly widely accepted: please check directly with universities. A combination including Level 3 BTEC subsidiary diploma in Applied Science alongside two accompanying A Level subjects can also work well. English, Mathematics and GCSE Science (4+) will also be needed.

## POLICE & FIRE SERVICE

Entry to the police is via a degree or a degree Apprenticeship, so level 3 qualifications are essential. Firefighters do not need level 3 qualifications but it is a highly competitive career path so taking level 3 qualifications is a good way of ensuring you keep other options open if needed. Selection for both careers is based on more than just academic qualifications so do your research and think about joining the relevant cadets or getting other experience.

**A Levels:** Useful subjects can include Sociology, Psychology, Criminology, Law or PE.

**Vocational:** Level 3 Extended Diploma in Public Services or Sport or BTEC Subsidiary Diploma in Public Services accompanied by two other subjects could be suitable choices.

## TEACHING

**A Levels:** To keep options open, include at least one subject which is related to a primary/secondary national curriculum subject, for example: Art, English, Geography, History, Mathematics, Music, PE or a Science.

**Vocational:** The Education & Childcare T Level is one option for students who know they want to specialise in Early Years (3-7 years), Primary or SEN teaching. GCSE English, Mathematics and Science at grade 4 or above are essential to progress into primary teaching.



# SCHOLARSHIPS AND GRANTS

The Alton College Foundation is an independent registered charity which rewards excellence amongst students. There are two schemes: Scholarships for Excellence and the Development Fund.

## SCHOLARSHIPS FOR EXCELLENCE

Scholarships of up to £400 a year are offered in a wide range of subjects to those students achieving the highest grades in their GCSEs or those who show exceptional talent in Art, Drama, Music and Sport. Scholarships of £300 are offered by The Arts Society Alton to talented artists applying for the post-18 years Foundation Diploma in Art and Design course.

### Our Supporters Include:

- Alton College Foundation Alumni Scholars
- The Arts Society Alton
- Alton Lions (CIO)
- Ellis Campbell Foundation
- Mr Niven Baird
- Mr Nicholas Branch
- Mrs Merula Frankel
- Mr Peter Gaffney
- Mr George Heller
- Headley Financial Services
- Sir Simon and Lady Virginia Robertson
- The Aerogen Company Limited
- The Rotary Club of Alton
- Sir James Scott
- Mr Fraser Wilson
- Mr and Mrs Wilson

## DEVELOPMENT FUND GRANTS

The Development Fund aims to encourage and support activities that will enable the College and its students to succeed in a changing educational environment. Grants of up to £500 are available to hard-working students in need of extra help for specific activities such as field trips, additional tuition or resource materials.

This past year the Foundation awarded its 300th scholarship.

Registered charity no. 1079285



"I chose Alton College due to its great reputation for STEM teaching. I love the long lunchtimes which mean I have time to take part in music ensembles and meet people outside of my subject choices.

Alton College has helped me build a great personal statement through providing enrichment opportunities such as the Senior Maths Challenge and going to the Royal Society of Chemistry Exhibition. Being awarded the Alton College Foundation Scholarship for Engineering built my academic confidence and helped me gain an offer for Engineering at the University of Cambridge."

## KATELYN CHELBERG

Previously at:  
Robert May's School

Studying:  
Chemistry, Maths and Further  
Maths, Physics, EPQ

Next step:  
Study Engineering at  
the University of Cambridge





# **BE**

# **EXTRAORDINARY**

# **AT ALTON COLLEGE**

## **BE EXTRAORDINARY**

The Be Extraordinary programme gives you lots of opportunities to extend your enjoyment of College life beyond your course choices.

Be Extraordinary includes a full range of activities from sports, societies, volunteering and work experience to provide you with a more vibrant College experience.

**THE PROGRAMME IS MADE UP OF THE FOLLOWING STRANDS:**

**BE ASPIRATIONAL**

**BE EMPLOYABLE**

**BE ACTIVE**

**BE INVOLVED**

**BE ADVENTUROUS**





# BE ASPIRATIONAL

**At HSDC we recognise that all students are individuals and that high achieving students often need some specialist support to help them meet their full potential. As such, we offer a special Be Aspirational Programme which our gifted and talented students can attend alongside their study programme. The programme is designed to ensure our students maximise their potential and go on to study at Russell Group or Oxbridge universities or embark on one of the highly competitive Degree Apprenticeships that are available.**

As well as working with you in curriculum areas to help you achieve top grades, we will also encourage you to extend your studies through the Extended Project Qualification and enrichment activities.

Whatever your plans are, we are committed to helping you meet your potential and achieve your goals.

## BE ASPIRATIONAL

### **Be Aspirational Briefings and University Speakers**

This prepares you for the challenges of the university admission process, helping you deliver an enhanced application to ensure you have a competitive advantage. This also includes help with admissions tests, Q&A sessions with current Oxbridge and Russell Group students who

studied at HSDC Alton, and talks and workshops delivered by guest speakers from Oxbridge and Russell Group universities.

### **HEPlus**

HEPlus is a programme of extension lectures run in conjunction with Trinity College, University of Cambridge. Students can apply to attend tours and residential visits at Cambridge University.

### **Curriculum Support**

Your teachers will work with you to stretch and challenge you in your studies and encourage you to aspire to exceed your target grades. You will undertake extension tasks, wider reading and enter competitions such as the Newnham Essay Prize, University of Cambridge.

### **Extended Project Qualification (EPQ)**

The EPQ is a research project on a topic of your choice guided by a dedicated supervisor. Final submission could be in the form of a report, music or even a film. Many universities and employers highly value the EPQ.

### **Super-Curricular**

Students are encouraged to take part in activities across subject areas. These include national competitions such as the law-focused Bar Mock Trial, UK Olympiads in Mathematics or the Sciences and MedSoc which helps candidates apply successfully to study medicine at university.



# BE EMPLOYABLE

## VOLUNTEERING

We can offer you support if you want to get involved with volunteering within the local community. As well as helping a worthy cause, volunteering can give you that competitive edge on your CV alongside real work experience in an industry that interests you.

## GUEST SPEAKERS & TRIPS

HSDC offer a robust and bespoke Guest Speakers Series involving inspirational talks from local, national and worldwide employers. We also offer trips and opportunities to gain valuable work insight with real employers.

## HIGHER EDUCATION & EMPLOYMENT FAIR

Held annually this event includes representatives from approx. 90 universities, gap year companies, company training schemes, Apprenticeship providers and employers. This will give you a chance to network and find out about different progression opportunities to help you decide what your next steps will be.

## CAREERS ACTIVITIES INCLUDING NATIONAL CAREERS WEEK

HSDC is dedicated to ensuring that all students progress with the tools that will enable them to thrive after completion of their course. Whilst studying with us you will also gain sought-after employability skills through various activities and tutorial sessions held during the year and within National Careers Week. All students also have access to individual careers guidance with one of our qualified Careers Advisers.





# BE ACTIVE

## SPORTS TEAMS AND ACTIVITIES

Whether you want to continue playing the sports you enjoy or you want to try something new, we offer a wide range of sporting activities through our sports teams and clubs. There is the option to get involved for fun or fitness, and you may also be given the opportunity to compete at a high level against other local and national college teams. Sports teams and activities are open to all students, regardless of whether you are studying a sports-related course.

Our fully-equipped gym has all you need to keep your fitness levels up. We provide inductions and tailored individual and group exercise programmes at various times during the college week.

## SPORTS TEAMS OFFERED AT HSDC ALTON INCLUDE:

- Badminton
- Basketball
- Cricket
- Football
- Hockey
- Netball
- Rugby
- Tennis

To get involved in playing the sports you love, just sign up at enrolment at the same time as you choose your courses.

## SPORTS LEADERS' AWARD

This is a very practical enrichment course enabling you to develop leadership, life skills and confidence to coach younger children in a safe environment. You will have the opportunity to coach and engage with local schools and explore the different coaching and leadership options in the world of sport. This is a nationally recognised coaching qualification that has been running for 35 years. Leadership volunteering is a vital part of this course, allowing you to practice and build your skills to help you in employment and education.



# BE INVOLVED

**We offer a superb range of clubs and societies to enable you to make the most out of your time at HSDC, the chance to try something new, develop your interests and hobbies and to make life-long friends in the process. As importantly though, you'll be learning and developing fantastic skills outside of the classroom which will enhance your CV, whether you're applying to university or going into employment. From subject-specific clubs and societies to Sports, Performing Arts, TV & Film, Music and Table-top Games, there is literally something for everyone at HSDC. Just pop along at Freshers Fair in September and sign up for any of these exciting opportunities or contact our Be Involved Coordinator at any point throughout the term. Be Collaborative. Be Inspired. Be Involved.**

## STUDENTS' UNION — ENSURE YOUR VOICE IS HEARD

Our Students' Union (SU) is your chance to help shape how the College is run for the benefit of you and your fellow students.

Each year you'll be given the chance to elect Learner Voice Representatives, Students' Union Officers and Student Governors to act on your behalf. You may even wish to stand for election yourself.

The SU is responsible for organising various events throughout the year, such as fundraisers and a fresher-style event to welcome new students.

The SU is affiliated with the National Union of Students, which means you can gain access to the benefits offered by this much larger student interest organisation, including many discounts.

## LEARNER VOICE CONFERENCE

Once a year we'll invite your elected Learner Voice Representatives to our Learner Voice Conference. The Conference gives learners the opportunity to meet key staff to discuss various themes across the College, including teaching and learning, student support and facilities, and to propose changes which benefit the HSDC student experience.

## CLUBS AND SOCIETIES

Being part of our college community is just as much about acquiring new knowledge and skills as it is meeting like-minded people and enjoying an inspiring and creative social experience. That's why we run a variety of clubs and societies to help you engage with people, interests and issues you care about.

Many curriculum areas run their own clubs and societies for students. Here is an example of some of the clubs and societies available to all students at HSDC Alton:

### **The Alternative Magazine**

A magazine run by students, for students. Become part of the editorial team to write, illustrate and design articles of your choice.

### **Debating Society**

An opportunity for you to learn and develop debating skills and to take part in inter-college and national debating events.

### **Esports - HSDC Storm**



Join the Esports Society at HSDC where you can try out for the HSDC Storm Esports teams or just have fun and compete alongside and

against other like-minded Esports players. You will have the opportunity to play League of Legends, Valorant, Overwatch & Rocket League as well as have a go at streaming and shout casting.

### **Forensic investigation: Crime Scene to Court**

If you've ever watched CSI and wondered how realistic it is, then this is for you. We will use some high-profile cases to illustrate how crime scenes are investigated and the roles of the different agencies involved, and then we will look at the scientific approaches used to analyse evidence.

### **LGBTQ+**

Meet people, find support, be supportive and be yourself. Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Trans and Straight students are welcomed to the weekly drop-in sessions.

### **Music**

We are renowned for our talented music students. We have many diverse bands and ensembles to join, including our Jazz Band, Live Music Performance group, Choir and Chamber Orchestra.



### **Wilding Society**

Join our campaign to re-wild the Alton campus with wildflower meadows and new insect habitats. Become a part of this climate change group and help improve our carbon footprint.

### **Plus much more!**

## **STUDENT AMBASSADOR SCHEME**

The Student Ambassador scheme is open to all students and, as part of the scheme, you'll have the chance to meet new people and develop your knowledge and skills. Being a Student Ambassador is a great way to boost your employability and will look great on any UCAS application.

As part of this programme we'll give you the opportunity to:

- Get involved in College events
- Visit local schools to talk about your Alton College experience
- Write blog entries for the College website
- Help future HSDC students take their next step
- Receive rewards for being involved



# BE ADVENTUROUS

## EDUCATIONAL AND RESIDENTIAL TRIPS

College life isn't just about what goes on inside the classroom. We know that to maximise student life you need to experience the real world, putting the theories you study into practice. That's why we work hard to provide educational and residential trips every year.

Trips and tours are fun and can help you in your studies, while travel abroad can be a real eye-opener. Maybe you'll learn something new from seeing another lifestyle, brush up on your language skills or have one of those light-bulb moments. Our students travel far and wide as part of their courses and our trips vary from year to year. Just to give you an idea, our UK trips usually include visits to:

- Concerts at Wigmore Hall, Royal College of Music
- The National Theatre
- London art galleries
- Brecon Beacons Mountain Centre
- The Houses of Parliament
- Climate Change workshop at Alice Holt Forest
- Royal Military Academy, Sandhurst

- Workshops at Jane Austen's House
- Solent Sound
- British Museum

Past overseas trips have seen students visit the following locations:

- Languages trip to Mexico
- Physics visit to CERN in Switzerland
- Development work in South Africa
- History and languages trip to Berlin
- Politics trip to Washington
- Art trip to Amsterdam

## DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S AWARD SCHEME

Develop work-ready skills and build your CV with the Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme. You will have the opportunity to work towards this prestigious award at Silver or Gold Level, which enables you to get involved in voluntary work, be part of a team and help develop your organisational skills — all excellent preparation for university and beyond.





## STUDENTS SKI AND SNOWBOARD ON THE SLOPES IN ITALY

In February half term, 11 intrepid HSDC Alton students set off for the Italian ski resort of Frabosa Soprana, 90 kilometres south of Turin and about 25 kilometres southeast of Cuneo, to experience five full days of glorious sunshine, skiing and team-building exercises. They worked well as a team, helping each other on the slopes. The progress they all made was terrific to see and all learned valuable life skills along the way. Grant Gallacher, a Uniformed Public Services teacher and one of the staff supervising the trip, was incredibly proud of the students: "I looked around at other schools and colleges in the mountains and along the journey and could honestly say I have never been so proud to work for HSDC Alton and what fantastic ambassadors the students were for our College and local community too."

All the skiers achieved their goals of being able to ski competently on blue and red runs and five students excelled themselves by exploring the whole resort and beyond at the highest level of skiing.

First-year A Level student Hannah summed up her experience: "Really fun trip with loads of time to ski as well as free time in the afternoon. There was lots of snow and the instructors were very friendly and funny."



## ENRICHING EXPERIENCE AT CLIMATE CHANGE WORKSHOP

Five HSDC Alton Biology students had an enriching experience at Alice Holt Forest at the Forest Research Station's first-ever Climate Change Workshop. The students heard from three of their scientists explaining how and why they are continually collecting data on climate change.

The group then ventured into the Forest to understand how scientists are using different species of trees to measure the effects of global warming through tree girdles, springs and callipers to measure tree growth. The research is trying to establish which species of tree will be able to grow the best as our climate changes and temperatures increase. The group then had the chance to create their own girdles to measure the girth of trees and also tested the local area for the presence of a fungus that is damaging to plants.

The trip gave the students the chance to work with real scientists, undertake real scientific experiments and develop an understanding of the different careers in Biology that could potentially be available to them.

Ellie, who took part in the trip, said: "I had a really good day finding out more about how the forests are managed. It has opened my eyes to more career paths I might be interested in."



# PREPARING FOR COLLEGE

## UNDERSTAND THE WHOLE PROCESS

There are several key stages to joining HSDC. Here's our guide to what you should be doing and when:

## YEAR 10 TASTER DAYS

We offer Taster Days to Year 10 students who may be interested in joining us after leaving school. Taster Days give you the opportunity to explore our campus facilities, experience college life and find out more information about our courses.

Taster Days run towards the end of the academic year, and you'll get to choose which subjects you would like to experience on the day.

## THINKING OF BUYING A NEW LAPTOP?

Our device purchase scheme gives you the chance to start college with a brand new device, without having to pay for it all at once.

We've partnered with Academia for education to enable our students to purchase a new device at a discounted rate.

Visit [hsdc.ac.uk/get-digital](https://hsdc.ac.uk/get-digital) for more information.

## SEPTEMBER 2022

## FIND OUT ABOUT THE COLLEGE

By reading our prospectus, visiting our website and following our social media pages, you can gain an insight into what life at HSDC Alton will be like. We will also be visiting a number of schools to deliver assemblies and speak about college options at Careers Fairs and Parents' Evenings.

## APPLYING

You can complete your application online at our website [hsdc.ac.uk](https://hsdc.ac.uk) and you can find instructions about this process on page 122 of this prospectus. Applications are open from October to the following August.

However, to avoid disappointment we would encourage you to submit your application in the autumn term.

# AUTUMN TERM 2022

## OPEN EVENTS

Open Events give you and your parents/carers the opportunity to meet our teaching staff, speak to our current students, tour our facilities, get a feel for the atmosphere at the College and ask any questions you may have. During Open Events staff will also be on hand to provide information on careers, learning support, transport and student finance.

## YOUR INTERVIEW

Once we have received your application you will be invited for your interview. This will be relatively informal, giving you the chance to discuss your Study Programme and find out more about the College. Once you have completed your interview and an appropriate Study Programme has been agreed, we will most likely offer you a place. You can choose to confirm your place at the interview or send us your acceptance a few days later.

# JANUARY 2023

## KEEPING IN TOUCH

After you have accepted your place we'll keep you up-to-date with all the latest news and events at the College via email. Therefore, please make sure you provide us with your most current email address.

# SPRING TERM 2023

## OPEN EVENTS

This is a further opportunity for you and your parents/carers to explore our facilities, meet our teaching staff and students and ask any further questions about College life at HSDC Alton.



# MAY 2023

## YOUR GCSEs

This is when your GCSE exams begin. We wish you good luck with these and hope you achieve your maximum potential.

# JULY 2023

## WELCOME DAY

In July, after your GCSE exams have finished, you will be invited to attend our Welcome Day. This is an ideal opportunity for you to meet your teaching staff, make new friends, attend your subject areas and find out about exciting enrichment opportunities.

# AUGUST 2023

## PRE-ENROLMENT INFORMATION

Once you have confirmed your place with us, we'll write to you over the summer to arrange an enrolment interview. The interview will take place after you receive your GCSE results.

## GCSE RESULTS DAY

This is when you will finally discover how you have performed in your GCSEs. You will be given the opportunity to discuss your options and make any adjustments to your plans at your enrolment interview shortly after GCSE results day.

## ENROLMENT INTERVIEW

During this interview, we will help you to decide your final Study Programme. Do not worry if your results are not what you were expecting as we can discuss alternative courses or options with you. Please remember to bring your exam results with you to the interview.



# ALTON COLLEGE

# SEPTEMBER 2023

## START WITH US

You'll start at HSDC Alton early in September 2023. Your first day will include an official welcome from your Personal Tutor and the opportunity to make new friends and get to know your new campus!





# STUDENT TRAVEL AND SUPPORT

**HSDC Alton provides a travel and financial support scheme to help our students reach their full potential. The College works closely with Stagecoach and South Western Railway to provide discounted travel tickets to all students.**

The Student Travel & Support team can provide information on:

- Transport routes to college
- Bus and Train Passes
- Free Student Meals (FSM)
- College Financial Assistance Scheme
- Vulnerable Bursary Scheme
- Childcare Financial Assistance Scheme

## TRAVEL – BUS PASSES

All students are eligible to purchase an online discounted student bus pass through the Stagecoach website (regardless of household income).

An additional Travel Subsidy may be available towards these bus passes for full time students (excluding Higher Education students). If you are eligible for this extra support, the College will email you near the beginning of the second term.

The College may completely pay for a student's bus pass if the student lives beyond 0.5 miles

of the campus, is studying a full time course (excluding Higher Education courses) and the household is in receipt of an income based benefit.

All Stagecoach bus passes will be posted out to the home address of the student.

## TRAVEL – TRAIN PASSES

The College have negotiated specially reduced priced train passes with South Western Railway. Students or parent/carers can apply for a train pass from the College and pay us directly.

For households in receipt of an income based benefit, the college will deduct the equivalent cost of a bus pass directly from the termly cost of a train pass. There may be a contribution to pay towards a train pass.

All train passes can be collected from the Student Travel & Support Office.

## 16-17 RAILCARD

The Department of Transport has released a Railcard for 16 and 17-year-olds, the 16-17 Saver. A 16-17 Saver offers 50% off most rail fares every day of the year with no time restrictions and no minimum fare.

The Railcard costs £30 and is valid for one year or until the student's 18th birthday, whichever comes first.



HSDC understand that some passes may still be cheaper if purchased through the College but would advise all students and parent/carers to investigate the 16-17 Saver before purchasing a college train pass.

For further information on the 16-17 Railcard, please go to the website <https://www.16-17saver.co.uk/>

## COLLEGE FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE SCHEME

Students may be eligible for support from the College's Financial Assistance Scheme, if they or their household is in receipt of an income based benefit. Once an application form has been completed, and an eligible benefit seen and approved, the college may financially help the student with:

- A college-bought bus pass or a contribution towards a train pass
- Essential equipment, clothing and kit (depending on the course of study)
- Specified books relating to the course
- UCAS administration fees when progressing to university
- Part refund of travel expenses for up to three 'University Open Day' visits or a part refund towards audition fees.
- Day trips or residentials that have a strong link to the curriculum criteria
- Financial assistance with childcare fees whilst attending the course

College financial assistance is a limited fund of money that offers no guaranteed right to assistance. HSDC reserves the right to change items listed based on funding available.

## FREE STUDENT MEALS (FSM)

Students may be entitled to Free Student Meals at college if the household receives certain benefits. If a student is eligible for Free Student Meals, the allowance will be uploaded to the student's college ID card every timetabled day. The allowance can be spent in the college refectories on food and drink.

## DISCRETIONARY FINANCIAL SUPPORT

HSDC recognises that there are some circumstances where a student may be experiencing financial difficulty, but the household is not in receipt of an income-based benefit. The College may be able to help with some college related costs if students are facing financial barriers to learning. Please speak to the Student Travel & Support team for further advice. All discretionary applications are assessed by each individual case and appropriate evidence will need to be supplied.

## VULNERABLE BURSARY

Students who meet one of the four criteria below and who have a financial need, can apply for a bursary of up to £1,200 per year. If eligible for the vulnerable bursary, essential college costs such as bus pass, equipment or uniform can be taken from this amount, leaving the remainder to be paid into the student's bank account on a weekly basis if the student has attended 100% of their classes and abides by the College's rules and behaviour standards. Weekly payments are made during term time only.

The defined vulnerable groups are students who are:

- In care
- Care leavers

Receiving Income Support/Universal Credit in their own name because they are financially supporting themselves or financially supporting themselves and someone who is dependent on them and living with them such as a child.

# WE'RE EASY TO FIND

Students travel to HSDC Alton from across Hampshire, Surrey, Berkshire and West Sussex. There are a variety of easy ways to get here.



## CAR

There is plenty of parking available to the rear of the College off Edward Road, GU34 2HU, including visitor and disabled parking. Staff and students are advised to use this car park.

## TRAIN

The station is a short walk from campus and tickets are available from [southwesternrailway.com](http://southwesternrailway.com).

## BUS

The brilliant annual UniRider ticket is available from Stagecoach, which can be used to travel to College during the week, at weekends and throughout the holidays. [stagecoachbus.com](http://stagecoachbus.com)

**At HSDC we are committed to providing meaningful and inspirational opportunities for young people with additional needs which meet the four outcomes outlined by Preparing for Adulthood:**

## **■ Employment**

## **■ Independent Living**

## **■ Community Inclusion**

## **■ Health**

Our current provision is being enhanced this year as we are excited to announce that we have been awarded Hampshire SEND Employability Hub status.

The aim of the hub is to provide opportunities for Hampshire young people with an Education, Health & Care Plan (EHCP) to become ready for employment in a safe and supportive environment, encouraging future independence both socially and financially.

We are looking to take on a cohort of Year 11 students through a specialist, individualised programme where the outcome is paid employment.

The programme will last between 1 and 3 years and will be closely connected to our existing Supported Internship programme offering individual long term work placements, job coaching and extra specialist qualifications as required.

If you are interested in applying to be on our SEND Employability Programme then please contact Helen Robinson for an informal chat.

**[helen.robinson@hsc.ac.uk](mailto:helen.robinson@hsc.ac.uk)**

**023 9387 9999 Ext 4794**

**All the information within this prospectus is correct at the time of printing.**

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*All sector data has been sourced from EMSI in 2019 unless otherwise stated.*



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# EXPLORE ALTON COLLEGE

Come along to our next Open  
Event to discover all Alton  
College has to offer!

[hsvc.ac.uk/openevent](https://hsvc.ac.uk/openevent)



Scan and explore Alton  
College today through our  
online 360 tour.



**ALTON  
COLLEGE**

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