



👑 KING JAMES I ACADEMY 👑

SIXTH



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Time to fly

"When you move into Sixth Form, I can promise that you will have a great experience over the next two or three years of your education. You will have the opportunity to specialise in your choice of subjects and we, as a group of staff and dedicated tutor team, will ensure that you have all the support you need to help you plan for your future beyond Sixth Form.

A range of qualifications will allow you to have a choice of subjects, including traditional academic subjects, as well as vocational learning experiences through relevant coursework development. Work experience will be organised to give you valuable insight into how organisations operate.

As a student at King James I Academy Sixth Form you will have the opportunity to take part in residential visits to various cities and universities and have expert guidance related to careers for the future. We will support you fully when you are researching university choices and completing applications. Previously, our Sixth Form students have visited Edinburgh, Glasgow, Liverpool, York, Leeds, Manchester, Newcastle, Oxford and London to explore universities and to get a taste of student life should you choose to study there.

Expert careers advice for students who are aiming for apprenticeships, employment and training is also at hand, with dedicated staff to help advise and link to local and regional organisations.

There will also be the possibility of international visits to look forward to, with previous destinations including Rome, Barcelona, Amsterdam, Malta, Ireland, USA, Italy, Ghana, Jamaica and Brazil.

Whatever you choose to do, we aim to help you work to the best of your ability with positive support and encouragement throughout your time at King James I Academy Sixth Form. We look forward to welcoming all students into our Sixth Form and staff are always available to help with any questions you may have. "

Head of Sixth Form



ChooseKJ1SixthForm

Welcome

Your choice

At King James Sixth Form we want students to be serious about their studies, but also find the experience memorable and fun. We believe that students are offered a huge amount of support when choosing the right courses. The right choice for you may involve a range of qualifications.

A-Levels

Each A-Level is made up of modules. The first half of the modules are taken in Year 12 and the remaining modules taken in Year 13. Some subjects are 100% exam and some are a combination of coursework/controlled assessment and exam.

Level 3 Cambridge Technicals

We recognise that we have a number of students who would prefer a Post-16 course that is more vocational, before moving into Higher Education. These courses help to develop practical, interpersonal and thinking skills.

Level 3 BTEC Nationals

Recognised and well respected by both employers and universities, BTEC Nationals focus on vocational learning in an industry context. These courses help to develop practical skills and specialist knowledge in a variety of subject areas.

Level 2 Open Pathways

These courses combine Academy-based learning and weekly work placements for students looking to gain qualifications and experience in a range of industry sectors. They offer a practical route into a career path that is selected by the student. Depending on the route chosen, a Level 2 Technical qualification can also be achieved.

What can I study?



Art

This course is suitable for students who enjoy a range of art-related activities and are willing to learn exciting new ways of expressing their ideas through a variety of media.

Entry Requirements

A GCSE Grade 6 or above in Art is desirable.

A GCSE Grade 5 in Art is essential; however, this will require an individual portfolio viewing/interview with the Lead Teacher of Art.

How the course is taught

You will have group lessons and one-to-one tutorials with your teacher.

During lessons you will be introduced to Fine Art, Sculpture and Textiles.

Independent study is encouraged during study periods.

What areas are covered by the course?

Component 1:

Students are encouraged to develop their portfolio through personal investigation around an area of interest. They will explore a wide variety of processes and techniques and be influenced by both historical and contemporary movements and artists. A supporting written piece will be produced, comprising of 1,000 words at AS Level and 3,000 words at A2 Level.

Component 2:

Students select from a series of themed questions and produce a sketchbook and design sheets around the theme. This work is further developed for an exam outcome completed in 10 hours at AS Level and 15 hours at A2 Level.

How is the course assessed?

The course is assessed through 60% coursework and 40% examination.

Career Opportunities

This course will benefit students who want to go to university to study a wide range of design courses such as Architecture, Interior Design, Textiles, Glass, Ceramics, Exhibition Design and Fine Art.





Biology

The course is aimed at students who are interested in the Biological Sciences and who may wish to pursue a Medical or Science related course at university. It is a popular and challenging course, which will develop an understanding of key biological topics at a more detailed level, as well as practicing a more advanced choice of investigative skills in the laboratory setting.

Entry Requirements

Five GCSEs at Grade 6/7 or above including two in GCSE Science.

How the course is taught

The course is taught through a variety of interactive teaching, including practical activity, student-led activities and guest speakers. There may also be an opportunity for field trips for example to Newcastle RVI Hospital and the Life Centre.

What areas are covered by the course?

The course covers cell Microbiology, Human Anatomy and Physiology, Immunology, Food and Nutrition, DNA and Genetics, Biodiversity and Evolution, the Nervous System and Control.

How is the course assessed?

The course is assessed through written and practical exams. Practical skills are assessed through a series of 'required practical' investigations to assess experimental skills and techniques at a more advanced level.

Career Opportunities

The study of Biology can lead to careers in Medicine, Dentistry, Veterinary Science, Nursing, Physiotherapy, Dietetics and Sports Sciences. Career opportunities also exist in areas such as Public Health including medical specialisms, Environmental Sciences, Forensic careers, Marine Biology and Zoology.

Chemistry

The course will equip students who enjoyed Chemistry at GCSE with the further knowledge and skills required to progress into higher education.

Entry Requirements

Five GCSEs at Grade 6/7 or above including two in GCSE Science. Students should have GCSE English and Maths at Grade 4/5 or above.

How the course is taught

The course is taught over two years using a variety of teaching methods which include group discussions, research tasks and practical activities.

What areas are covered by the course?

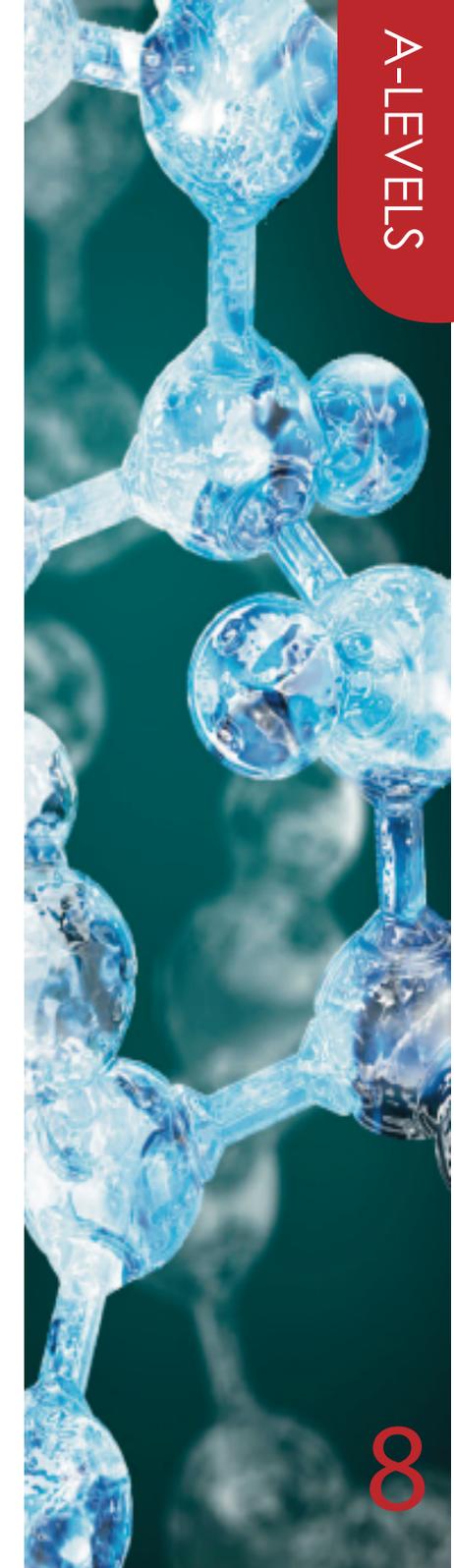
- Physical Chemistry: The Structure of an Atom, Amount of substance, Energetics, Equilibria, Bonding and Kinetics.
- Inorganic Chemistry: The Halogens and Transition Metals.
- Organic Chemistry: Introduction to Organic Chemistry, Halogenoalkanes, Alkenes and Alcohols.

How is the course assessed?

Students complete the AS Level course in Year 1. This consists of two exams including a range of short and extended answer questions and multiple choice questions. Students then continue onto the A-Level course in Year 2, which consists of three exams, including one synoptic paper based on the entire content of the course.

Career Opportunities

An A-Level in Chemistry can lead to success in a range of degree courses at University and a wide variety of careers including Engineering, Medicine and Veterinary Science. This course also prepares students for employment and demonstrates a high level of ability and commitment to learning, reasoning and developing analytical skills.





Criminology

Criminology is about crime and punishment. It is an exciting interdisciplinary subject that draws on Law, Psychology and Sociology. It enables progression to further education and employment in the sector and helps develop key skills that are highly valued by employers.

Entry Requirements

A minimum of 5 GCSEs at Grade 4 or above (including English and Maths) is desirable; good computer skills and the ability to work independently.

How the course is taught

The course is taught through planned lectures and discussions. In addition to classroom-based learning, there are a number of opportunities for students to extend their understanding of the criminal justice system through visits from outside speakers and trips to Law Courts and local universities.

What areas are covered by the course?

There are four units of study: Changing Awareness of Crime, Criminological Theories, Crime Scene to Courtroom and Crime and Punishment.

How is the course assessed?

The course is assessed through a combination of controlled assessment and external examination.

Career Opportunities

Studying Criminology at Level 3 will enable students to develop outstanding oral and written communication skills vital to their future careers. It will give students the ability to solve problems and build skills in project-based research, development and presentation. Additionally, what students learn may stimulate interest for a possible career and widen their prospects in terms of higher education, alongside the skills required for all employers.





Drama & Theatre

This is an exciting, creative and challenging course with an excellent balance between performance and written examination to give candidates the best opportunity to succeed.

Entry Requirements

A GCSE Grade 5 or above in Drama or Expressive Arts, and in English. Relevant experience with a youth theatre group or involvement in the arts is also acceptable as entry for the course.

How the course is taught

The course is taught through practical workshops, discussion and personal commitment to reading plays and visiting the theatre. There is a high standard of written work required, produced from taking notes during lessons and finalised through controlled assessment. Students are expected to rehearse after school and at weekends during exam times.

What areas are covered by the course?

Component 1:

Students devise an original performance piece using one key extract from a performance text and a theatre practitioner as stimuli. There are two parts to the assessment - a 3,000 word portfolio- typed evidence and a devised performance.

Component 2:

Students take part in a group performance and a monologue or duologue performance, both of which are externally assessed by a visiting examiner.

Component 3:

In a written examination, students will answer a number of extended response questions relating to the analysis and evaluation of theatrical performances, some that they have seen and some based on an unseen extract from the performance text they have studied.

How is the course assessed?

The course is assessed through a combination of a 40% written exam and 60% portfolio and performance.

Career Opportunities

The course supports careers in Teaching, Drama Therapy, Community Work and Writing. Skills learned shape quick-thinking team players, who can adapt skills and speak with confidence. This self-promotional aspect can be applicable to almost every career route.



English Language

This course aims to develop your expertise by engaging creatively with a wide range of discourse and texts. You will create texts and reflect critically on your own processes of production, while analysing texts produced by others. English Language is a flexible subject that opens up a wide range of opportunities. You will be required to work independently and think critically.

Entry Requirements

In order to be considered for this course, a Grade 6 or above in GCSE English or English Literature would be desirable. Should you still wish to be considered with a Grade 4/5, you should request an interview with the course tutor.

How is the course taught?

The course is taught by a range of teachers to facilitate the exploration and study of all the different areas of language variation, change and acquisition, and attitudes to language. Teaching activities include teacher and student-led sessions, group work and independent study/research.

What areas are covered by the course?

Year 1: Language and the individual, Language varieties.
Year 2: Language, the individual and society, Language diversity and change, Language in action.

How is the course assessed?

20% coursework, 80% examination.

Subject Specific Compulsory Activities

Independent research is a compulsory element of the course.

Career Opportunities

English Language offers a number of progression routes including Law, Journalism, Teaching, the Media and Speech and Language Therapies. The qualification is well respected by universities and therefore an asset for students hoping to gain a place on any degree course.

English Literature

This course aims to broaden your mind by reading and analysing a range of literary texts. You will find this course rewarding, enriching and exciting. English is a flexible subject that opens up a wide range of opportunities. You will be required to work independently and think critically.

Entry Requirements

In order to be considered for this course, a Grade 6 or above in GCSE English Literature or English would be desirable. Should you still wish to be considered with a Grade 4/5, you should request an interview with the course tutor.

How is the course taught?

The course is taught by several teachers to encourage a range of literary critical techniques and opinions. Teaching activities include teacher and student-led sessions, group work and independent study/research. You will also enjoy theatre visits to see texts live at local venues.

What areas are covered by the course?

Year 1: Love Through the Ages - Shakespeare, Poetry and Prose
Year 2: Love Through the Ages - Shakespeare, Poetry and Prose; Texts in shared contexts either WW1 and its Aftermath or Modern Times; Literature from 1945 to the present day; Independent Critical study: Texts across time

How is the course assessed?

20% coursework, 80% examination.

Subject Specific Compulsory Activities

Independent reading is a compulsory element of the course. You should read the course texts and try to read widely around the subject.

Career Opportunities

English Literature offers a number of progression routes including Law, Journalism, Teaching, Libraries and the Media. The qualification is well respected by universities and therefore an asset for students hoping to gain a place on any degree course.

Extended Project

This is a free-standing qualification which is awarded for an extended piece of work. 'The Project' can be based on any subject you are interested in and will be a single piece of work requiring evidence of planning, preparation, research and autonomous working. You will develop independent thinking and research skills, analytical and critical thinking skills and skills in essay writing and presentation.

Entry Requirements

There are no specific entry requirements for the course but a commitment to independent study is essential.

How the course is taught

Throughout the course you will work closely with your tutor on a one-to-one basis to develop a personal project idea. The most important part of the course is that you demonstrate that you are learning and developing new skills. Workshop sessions will help you to develop and weekly targets are set to undertake independent research.

What areas are covered by the course?

Students may study the subject over either one or two years. The core areas that are covered include the completion of a production log, a presentation, written report and/or an artefact.

How is the course assessed?

Work is recorded in a Progress Diary, and at the end of the project you will present your piece of work. You will be assessed on your diary, project and presentation.

Career Opportunities

Universities value the skills you gain on this course as creative thinking, independent working and self-management are a major focus. The skills will benefit all undergraduate courses as well as various employment fields.

Geography

A-Level Geography enables you to understand some of the processes that are affecting the world today and that could affect our future. This dynamic course will give you a view on how the world is changing and the processes that produce change.

Entry Requirements

A GCSE in Geography at Grade 6 or above is essential.

How is the course taught?

Lessons are varied to incorporate a wide range of teaching techniques including lectures, presentations and group and individual study tasks and activities, alongside field trips and practical work.

What areas are covered by the course?

Year 1

Topics include Global Systems and Global Governance, Changing Places, Population and the Environment.

Year 2

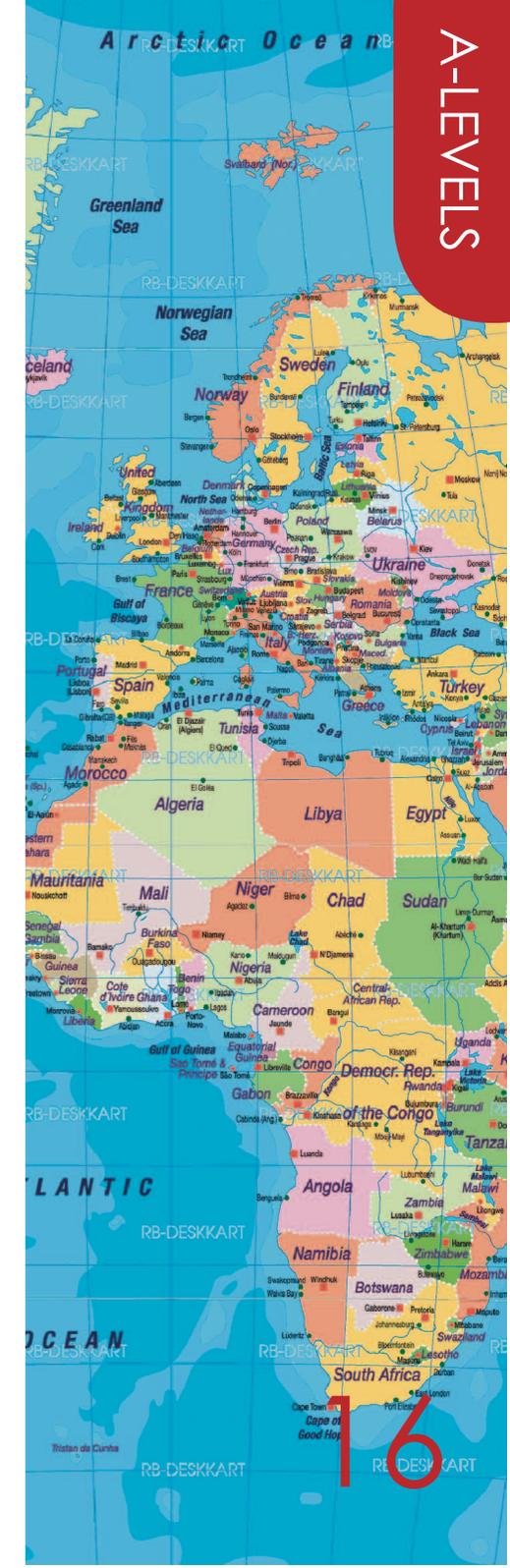
Water and Carbon Cycle, Coastal Systems and Landscapes, Hazards.

How is the course assessed?

There are two examinations at the end of Year 13, along with an individual fieldwork project.

Career Opportunities

This course will prepare you for Higher Education and to progress into a career in Teaching and work with Environmental Agencies. It uniquely bridges the gap between the Arts and the Sciences at university.



History

This course provides opportunities to learn about people, the world and how it has developed, and the historic events that have shaped society. It enables students to research and analyse material in relation to bias and propaganda.

Entry Requirements

A GCSE Grade 6 in History and English is desirable, however other grades will be considered. In this case, an interview with a member of the History Department is essential.

How the course is taught

The course is taught using a wide variety of teaching techniques including traditional lecture-style lessons, class discussions and debates, which help to develop excellent verbal communication skills, and analysis of archive film footage. Critical thinking and literacy skills are developed through extended writing tasks.

What areas are covered by the course?

The course covers 20th Century Modern World History including British, German and American units of study.

How is the course assessed?

The course combines coursework and examination. Coursework is internally assessed and externally moderated, whilst the examination will be externally assessed and moderated.

Career Opportunities

The course is well respected and therefore offers an excellent pathway into university and acceptance on to a wide variety of degree courses. It will benefit those looking towards employment in Teaching, Research, Museums, Libraries and Management careers that require independent learners and thinkers.

Mathematics

There is currently a shortage of employees with good mathematical skills and therefore many opportunities for those who achieve in this subject. All employers look for skills in problem solving, analysis, data handling and communication, to name just a few – all of which are transferable skills gained from this course.

Entry requirements

All students must have Grade 7 or above in GCSE Maths.

How the course is taught

There are five hours of directed teaching a week but all students are also expected to study independently.

What areas are covered by the course?

Pure Maths: Indices and Surds, Coordinate Geometry, Differentiation, Integration, Inequalities, Quadratics, Mathematical Modelling, Proof, Graphs and Transformations, Equations of a Circle, Trigonometry, Sequences and Series, Exponentials and Logarithms, Functions, Numerical Methods, Partial Fractions, Parametrics and Vectors.

Statistics: Statistical Sampling, Data Presentation and interpretation, Probability, Binomial and Normal Distributions, Hypothesis Testing.

Mechanics: Quantities and Units in SI System, Kinematics, Forces and Newton's Laws, Moments.

How is the course assessed?

100% examination, with three 2-hour, calculator allowed exams taken at the end of Year 13.

Career Opportunities

This list is just a sample of the organisations that employ graduates with mathematical skills. Accountancy, Aerospace and Defence, Automotive, Bio-Sciences, Business support services, Chemicals, Construction, Education, Engineering, Environment, Exploration, Geophysics, Medicine, Optometry, Physics, Veterinary Science.

Maths (Core)

This is a popular Level 3 qualification which is the equivalent of an AS Level in terms of UCAS points and is beneficial for all students wishing to maintain skills in Maths without committing to a full A Level in the subject. It is a qualification recognised by employers and will enhance future prospects. Topics include Finance and Statistical Analysis.

Entry requirements

All students must have Grade 5 or above in GCSE Maths.

How the course is taught

There are three hours of directed teaching a week but all students are also expected to study independently.

What areas are covered by the course?

I don't know yet!

How is the course assessed?

100% examination, with three 2-hour, calculator allowed exams taken at the end of the Year.

Career Opportunities

This list is just a sample of the organisations that employ graduates with mathematical skills. Accountancy, Aerospace and Defence, Automotive, Bio-Sciences, Business support services, Chemicals, Construction, Education, Engineering, Environment, Exploration, Geophysics, Medicine, Optometry, Physics, Veterinary Science.

Maths (Further)

This is the fastest growing A-level course aimed at students who have a passion for the subject and are considering studying Maths or Maths-related subjects at university.

Entry requirements

Applicants should have a minimum of GCSE Grade 8 in Maths, and have also enrolled to take A-Level Mathematics.

How the course is taught

Students will have five hours of directed teaching each week.

What areas are covered by the course?

Further Pure Maths 1: Proof, Complex numbers, Matrices, Further algebra and functions, Further calculus, Further vectors.

Further Pure Maths 2: Complex numbers, Further algebra and functions, Further calculus, Polar coordinates, Hyperbolic functions, Differential equations.

Further Statistics: Linear regression, Discrete statistical distributions – Poisson, Probability density functions, Mean and Variance of random variables, Correlation and Spearman's Rank, Hypothesis testing, Chi squared test.

Discrete Mathematics: Packing algorithms, Graph definitions, Prim and Kruskal's algorithms to find minimum spanning trees, Dijkstra and Floyd's algorithm to find shortest path, Route Inspection, Travelling Salesman algorithm, Critical path analysis, Linear programming.

How is the course assessed?

100% examination, taken at the end of Year 13.

Career Opportunities

This course is excellent preparation for university with some leading universities now specifying Further Mathematics as an entry requirement. Careers include Accountancy, Actuarial Sciences, Aeronautical Engineering, Biochemistry, Biomedical Sciences (including Medical Science), Chemical Engineering, Chemistry, Computing, Dentistry, Electrical and Mechanical Engineering, Medicine, Optometry, Physics and Veterinary Science.

Photography

This is an exciting subject which will allow you to develop specialist technical knowledge in digital photography alongside high level creative skills through practical working on a chosen theme. The course includes the study of traditional photography and experimenting with photo-manipulation software to create contemporary pieces.

Entry Requirements

A GCSE Grade 6 or above in Art or Photography is desirable; a GCSE grade 5 essential. Those without this qualification should arrange an individual portfolio viewing/interview with the Lead Teacher of Photography.

How the course is taught

Class lessons consist of individual and group tasks. There are opportunities for visiting UK locations, where students are encouraged to use props and experimental techniques to build a creative portfolio, and international visits to study architectural and cultural photography.

What areas are covered by the course?

Component 1

Genres. Focusing on an individual theme.

Component 2

Examined Unit. Students will select from a set of externally set questions.

How is the course assessed?

The course is assessed through 60% coursework and 40% examination.

Career Opportunities

Many students have continued their studies at university on a variety of arts-related degree courses. Career opportunities include self-employment in Photography, New Media, Film industry, Fashion Photography and Photo Journalism.



Physics

This course will equip students who enjoyed Physics at GCSE with the further knowledge and skills required to progress into Higher Education.

Entry Requirements

Five GCSEs at Grade 6/7 or above including two in GCSE Science.

How the course is taught

The course is taught over two years using a variety of teaching methods including lectures, group discussion and practical tasks. There are possible opportunities for field trips to local universities and CERN.

What areas are covered by the course?

Topics include Particles and Radiation, Nuclear Physics, Astrophysics, Engineering and Electronics.

How is the course assessed?

There are two written examination papers in Year 1 and three in Year 2. Assessment of practical skills also occurs during the course.

Career Opportunities

An A-Level in Physics can lead to a range of degree courses at university and a wide variety of careers, from Engineering and Mechanics to Research and Construction. If you wish to enter employment, you will find that this A-Level demonstrates that you have the ability to commit to learning and have acquired good reasoning and analytical skills - essential in practically every walk of life.

Psychology

Psychology is the scientific study of the human mind and its functions, especially those affecting behaviour in a given context. Students have the opportunity to learn how to analyse arguments and evidence, test hypotheses and make informed judgments – all skills valued by Higher Education institutions and employers.

Entry Requirements

A Grade 6 or above in English Language and a Grade 6 or above in a Science subject is preferred.

How is the course taught?

Lessons include practical work to deliver psychological theory and experiments alongside lecture-style lessons to gain knowledge of this new topic area.

What areas are covered by the course?

The course looks at Bio-psychology, Gender Development, Social Influence, Anxiety Disorders, Cognition and the Law, Child Development and Research Methodology.

How is the course assessed?

Assessment is by external examination.

Career Opportunities

Psychology is an extraordinarily diverse field with hundreds of career paths. Some specialties, like caring for people with mental and emotional disorders, are familiar to most of us. Others, like helping with the design of advanced computer systems or studying how we remember things, are less well known. Many psychologists work in more than one setting; for instance, college professors often consult for industry or see clients on a part-time basis. What all psychologists have in common is a shared interest in the minds and behaviors of both human and nonhuman animals. In their work, psychologists draw on an ever-expanding body of scientific knowledge about how we think, act and feel and they apply the information to their areas of expertise.

Sociology

Sociology is the study of the development, structure, and functioning of human society. It is the study of society to include family life, crime, research methods the media and education. Students will learn the fundamentals of the subject and develop skills valued by higher education and employers, including critical analysis, independent thinking and research. Retaining the most popular features of our previous, market-leading qualifications, we have worked with teachers, higher education and the British Sociological Association to produce clear, up-to-date and stimulating specifications.

Entry Requirements

A minimum of Grade 6 in English is essential.

How is the course taught?

Lessons are taught in a traditional lecture style manner and homework is set weekly.

What areas are covered by the course?

- | Education
- | Families and Households
- | Research Methods
- | Crime and Deviance
- | Globalisation and Media

How is the course assessed?

Assessment is by external examination.

Career Opportunities

This course will give students an excellent grounding for many university courses and careers including Teaching, Nursing, Social Work, Public Relations, Police, Management, Advice Worker, Community Development Worker, Family Support Worker, International Aid/Development Worker, Social Researcher, Social Worker and Youth Worker.

Spanish

Language skills are in demand as the work place is becoming increasingly globalised. Learning a language can compliment a variety of careers as well as developing essential communication skills.

Entry Requirements:

A minimum of GCSE Grade 5 in Spanish; however a Grade 6 or above would be preferable.

How the course is taught

We use a variety of resources including the core course textbook, supplementary grammar resources, interactive websites, foreign films, songs and literature. Students are encouraged to speak in Spanish for the majority of lessons to improve fluency.

What areas are covered by the course?

Year 1

Media (TV, advertising, new technologies); Popular Culture (film, music, fashion); Healthy Living (sports, health and well-being, holidays); Family and Personal Relationships.

Year 2

Environment (pollution, energy, protection of the planet); the Multicultural Society (immigration, integration, racism); Contemporary Social Problems (poverty, public order, science and technology). Students then cover two cultural topics of their choice, for example foreign cinema, a Spanish speaking country, Spanish literature.

How is the course assessed?

At the end of Year 13 students will have one exam which assesses Listening, Reading and Writing. Students have control of the listening, so they can rewind as many times as they need. They will also do a Speaking Exam with their teacher, which will be recorded and submitted to the exam board for marking.

Career Opportunities

There are a vast number of careers in which languages are vital or a distinct advantage such as Translation and Interpretation, Foreign Journalism, International Law, International Business and Marketing and Teaching at both primary and secondary levels.

Sport & Physical Education: Men's Football Academy

Supported by Shildon AFC and professional coaches, this is an exciting opportunity for those who are passionate about football. Students have the chance to study in your chosen field for valuable Level 3 qualifications at the same time as enhancing your skills as part of the King James I Elite Football Academy.

Entry Requirements

Applicants do not necessarily have to already be playing for a team. If they do, this could include a school team, local youth team, King James I Academy team, any town, district or county team.

All applicants will be interviewed and trials will be held for potential players.

How it works

You will benefit from a pro-standard practical training programme with specialist coaching, combined with classroom based learning in your chosen field.

You can also look forward to:

- Coaching by a fully qualified coach
- Training sessions four times each week
- Competitive football game every Wednesday
- Participation in the North East College Football League
- Entry into three cups throughout the season

Career opportunities

Potentially, students can make a career from playing football or progress into Higher Education or relevant degree courses at University. Some previous students are now playing at semi-professional level.



King James Women's Football Academy

In September 2023, King James 1 Academy Sixth Form is proud to be launching our own Women's Football Academy. Students have the chance to study in your chosen field for valuable Level 3 qualifications at the same time as playing Football.

Entry requirements

Applicants do not necessarily have to already be playing for a team. If they do, this could include a school team, local youth team, King James 1 Academy team, any town, district or county team.

How it works

You will benefit from a pro-standard practical training programme with specialist coaching, combined with classroom-based learning in your chosen field.

You can look forward to:

- Coaching by a fully qualified coach
- Training sessions four times each week
- Competitive football

Career Opportunities

Potentially, students can make a career from playing football or progress into Higher Education or relevant degree courses at University.



Business Studies

This course is designed for those with a keen interest in the business world and how it operates.

Entry Requirements

A minimum of 5 GCSEs at Grade 4 or above (including English and Maths) is desirable; good computer skills and the ability to work independently are essential. Knowledge of local and regional businesses and a Level 2 Business qualification would be desirable.

How the course is taught

The course is delivered through a practical programme involving study of real-life businesses and assignment based tasks. A vocational study option allows students to apply theory to contextual businesses. Students can choose a course of study comprising of four or eight units.

What areas are covered by the course?

- Exploring Business
- Developing a Marketing Campaign
- Personal and Business Finance
- Managing an Event International
- Business Principles of Management

How is the course assessed?

The course is assessed through a combination of coursework and external assessment.

Career Opportunities

Students who have gained this qualification have moved into Higher Education to Degree programmes such as Business and Marketing or Business and Finance. Students can also apply their skills in industry such as public or private sector work. It provides an excellent preparation for immediate entry into employment.



Creative Media

This course is designed to provide students with a broad overview of the media sector and a high level of specialist skills and knowledge which would be relevant to a career in the diverse and dynamic media industries or a course of further study.

Entry Requirements

A minimum of 5 GCSEs at Grade 4 or above (including English and Maths) is desirable; plus a BTEC Level 2 in Creative Media or a GCSE Grade 4/5 or above in Art, Photography or other creative subject. Students who do not meet the entry requirements should arrange an appointment with the Head of Department.

How the course is taught

The course is delivered using a combination of theoretical and practical lessons, with students using theory to demonstrate their understanding in set assignments. You will develop practical media skills working with professional print and editing equipment and software to develop your own media products.

What areas are covered by the course?

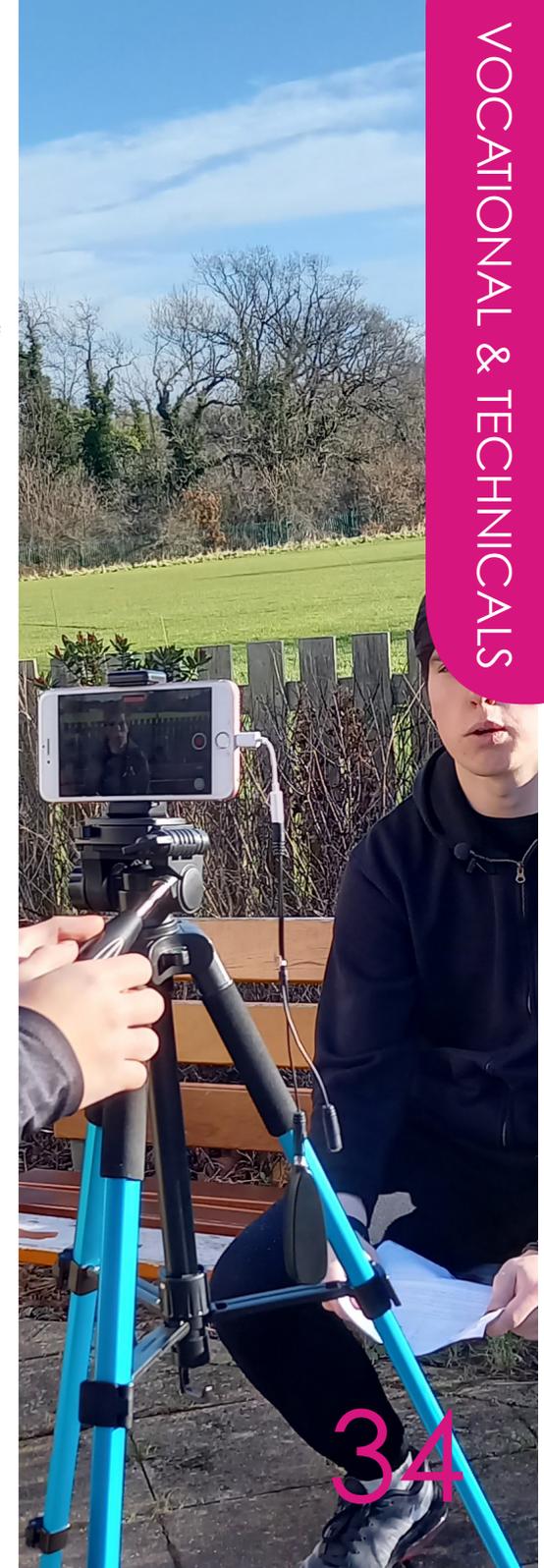
- Media Representations
- Pre-production Portfolio
- Responding to a Commission
- Digital Magazine Production
- Factual/Fictional Film Production
- Media Campaigns

How is the course assessed?

Students will complete six units, four internally assessed coursework units and two external examinations studied over two years.

Career Opportunities

This course allows students to acquire the relevant knowledge and skills to progress onto a degree course at university or to work in the media industries. Careers could include Film Producer or Director, Camera Technician, Script Writer, Presenter, Journalist, Editor, Advertising Executive, Graphic Designer, Print Industries, Commercial Illustrator, Sound, Lighting or Stage Engineering, Website Design and Management, Events Management and careers in Social Media.





Food Science & Nutrition

This course is designed for those with a keen interest in the food industry and how it operates, and the impact of food science and nutrition upon individuals and society.

Entry Requirements

A minimum of 5 GCSEs at Grade 4 or above (including English, Maths and Science) is desirable.

How is the course taught?

The course is delivered through a practical programme involving research into the industry, the science behind it, and the skills needed.

What areas are covered by the course?

Units include:

- Nutritional needs of specific groups and how these can be met
- The science of food safety and hygiene
- Food production in the home and industry
- Current issues in food science and nutrition

How is the course assessed?

The course is assessed through a combination of internal and external assessment.

Career Opportunities

Students who gain this qualification can apply their skills in industry such as public or private sector work. It provides an excellent preparation for immediate entry to employment. The course also prepares students for university degree courses.

Health & Social Care

The Health and Social Care sector is the largest employer in the UK and this versatile subject allows students to develop a variety of skills.

Entry Requirements

A minimum of 5 GCSEs at Grade 4 or above (including English and Maths) is desirable. A BTEC Level 2 or GCSE Health and Social Care would be an advantage but not essential.

How is the course taught?

The course is taught in a variety of ways, depending on the topics being covered. Students are expected to complete all homework tasks as well as self study in preparation for the examined units. Discussions and presentations are a common feature in the lessons with visits from guest speakers. Students are expected to prepare in advance and be able to speak about a topic at the start of the lesson.

What areas are covered by the course?

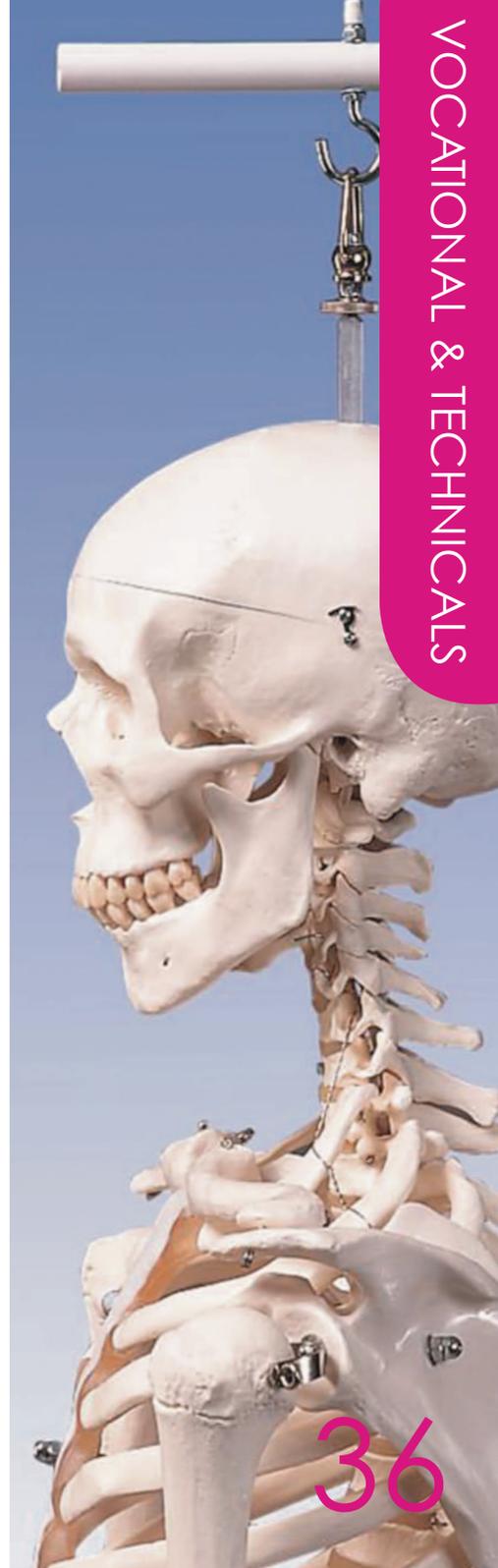
Human Growth and Development and factors affecting this, Meeting Individual Care Needs, Working in Health and Social Care, and Sociological Perspectives.

How is the course assessed?

The course is assessed through external examinations and coursework.

Career Opportunities

The course allows progression to employment or further study at university. Many students have pursued careers in Nursing, Teaching, Social Work, Operating Theatre Studies and Sport Science and Physiotherapy.



Human Biology

This course is aimed at students who are interested in furthering their knowledge of all three sciences: biology, Chemistry and Physics. The course will provide an ideal base for further education in a science-related course at university, or an apprenticeship scheme. It also provides a range of opportunities to develop more advanced practical skills.

Entry Requirements

A minimum of 5 GCSEs at Grade 4 or above (including English, Maths and Science) is desirable.

How is the course taught?

There are three mandatory units which are taught through interactive teaching methods, practical experiments and student-led activities, and one optional unit which involves research into a specialist area.

What areas are covered by the course?

- Principles of Applied Biology: Cells, tissues and biological molecules, Body systems, Immune response, Genetics and Health.
- Practical Microbiology and Infectious diseases
- Human Biology and Health initiatives

How is the course assessed?

Units are assessed through a combination of external and internal assessment. There is one written exam, an externally assessed practical project which is set by the exam board, and an internal assessment through a portfolio of coursework.

Career Opportunities

The broad scientific course will provide a strong basis for a wide range of careers including Nursing, Sports Science and Occupational Health. It will act as a good foundation for further academic study or provide advanced knowledge and skills to use in employment or further apprenticeship schemes in a trade setting.

ICT

This course will give you a wide range of experience in some of the latest aspects of the subject, as well as giving you more advanced knowledge of the traditional aspects of ICT. The course offers specialist pathways in IT Infrastructure Technician, Emerging Digital Technology Practitioner, Application Developer, and Data Analyst.

Entry Requirements

There are no specific entry requirements; however, previous study in ICT is an advantage and an interest in the subject is essential.

How the course is taught

A variety of teaching methods are applied, including lectures, role play and practical activities.

What areas are covered by the course?

Students will complete two mandatory units - Fundamentals of IT and Global Information, in addition to three further units which are relevant to the specialist endorsed pathway chosen by the student.

How is the course assessed?

This course is assessed through a combination of internal assessment and moderation, and external examination.

Career Opportunities

The ICT you will learn on this course is up-to-date, equipping you well for the future whether you choose to progress to Higher Education or employment. Many students continue their studies at degree level at university. Employment opportunities include Programmer, Network Designer, Network Engineer, Web Designer, Web Engineer, ICT Technician and Systems Manager.



Law

This qualification is for post-16 learners who want to continue their education through applied learning and to progress to Higher Education and ultimately to employment, possibly in the Legal Sector. It aims to give a coherent introduction to the study of the Legal Sector.

Entry Requirements

A minimum of 5 GCSEs at Grade 4 or above (including English and Maths) is desirable.

How the course is taught

The course is taught using a wide variety of teaching techniques including traditional lecture-style lessons, class discussions and debates, which help to develop excellent verbal communication skills. Critical thinking and literacy skills are developed through extended writing tasks.

What areas are covered by the course?

The course covers Dispute solving in Civil Law, Investigating aspects of Criminal Law and the Legal System and Applying the Law. There is an option to study aspects of Family Law, Consumer Law, Contract Law or aspects of Tort.

How is the course assessed?

The course combines coursework and examination. Coursework is internally assessed and externally moderated, whilst the examination will be externally assessed and moderated.

Career Opportunities

The course provides the basis of an excellent route for learners to pursue a career in the Legal Sector. This can be through Higher Education (Degrees in Business and Law) or through an Advanced Apprenticeship in Legal Services.



Music

This course is designed for learners who wish to pursue a vocationally relevant qualification in the music sector. This sector is a dynamic area of the performing arts and many of its skills are transferable between the different areas of the larger genre.

Entry Requirements

A minimum of 5 GCSEs at Grade 4 or above (including English and Maths) is desirable. A GCSE or BTEC Level 2 Diploma in Music is desirable, alongside the ability to sing or play an instrument.

How the course is taught

The course is taught through practical workshops based around performance and music technology skills or through tutorial-style lessons. Students are given opportunities to participate in local competitions and support for personal projects. There is one-to-one support for practical work and written projects. You will have opportunities for planning and staging music events of your choice, developing music production techniques such as recording, editing and mixing and performing in different size venues.

What areas are covered by the course?

The course looks at Pop Music In Practice, Aural Perception Skills, Music Performance Techniques, Working and Developing as a Musical Ensemble, Musical Theatre Performance, Music Production Skills and the Sound and Music Industry. Students will also undertake Special Subject Investigation.

How is the course assessed?

The course is assessed through a combination of internally and externally assessed units.

Career Opportunities

Career opportunities in the music industry are wide and varied, ranging from singing and performing with a band to Music Publishing with many different options in between. This course aims to give learners the opportunity to gain understanding and practical skill in a variety of areas of this complex industry.

Performing Arts

The course is exciting and diverse, focusing on the skills of the individual. Students will find a healthy balance with practical and theoretical learning, devising and experimenting in numerous performances throughout the course. Learners must be able to work as part of a team and individually and the course builds these skills through themed work, offering them a chance to let go and enjoy learning creatively, empowered and inspired. The course will provide learners with the skills, knowledge and understanding to progress onto a higher education performing arts programme or specialist performance degree.

Entry Requirements

A minimum of 5 GCSEs at Grade 4 or above (including English and Maths) is desirable. We recommend a Grade 5 or above in an Arts subject alongside a Grade 5 or above in English.

How the course is taught

The course is taught through practical and creative learning. Students are required to be independent and imaginative as they are often in control of their own learning.

What areas are covered by the course?

Learners will study five units consisting of four mandatory units and one optional unit:

- Prepare to work in the performing arts sector
- Proposal for a commissioning brief
- Influential performance practice
- Combined Arts
- Improvisation

How is the course assessed?

Units are assessed through Internal and External Moderation on both performance and portfolio work.

Career Opportunities

Careers in acting and teaching alongside any career that involves working with people will benefit from this subject. The course builds social and life skills resulting in improved confidence and thinking skills. Students will have the opportunity to work with local businesses and the community, and will have several opportunities to showcase their talent in performance. The Performing Arts are a preferred skill on university and job applications as the subject not only shapes creative thinkers, but people who have a drive to succeed.

Psychology (Applied)

Psychology is the scientific study of the human mind and its functions, especially those affecting behaviour in a given context. Students have the opportunity to learn how to analyse arguments and evidence, test hypotheses and make informed judgments – all skills valued by Higher Education institutions and employers.

Entry Requirements

A minimum of 5 GCSEs at Grade 4 or above (including English, Maths and Science) is desirable.

How is the course taught?

Lessons include practical work to deliver psychological theory and experiments alongside lecture-style lessons to gain knowledge of this new topic area.

What areas are covered by the course?

The course looks at the Human Mind and its functions, Psychology in relation to Health, Psychopathology and Research Methodology.

How is the course assessed?

The course is assessed through a combination of coursework and external assessment.

Career Opportunities

Psychology is an extraordinarily diverse field with hundreds of career paths. Some specialties, like caring for people with mental and emotional disorders, are familiar to most of us. Others, like helping with the design of advanced computer systems or studying how we remember things, are less well known. Many psychologists work in more than one setting; for instance, college professors often consult for industry or see clients on a part-time basis. What all psychologists have in common is a shared interest in the minds and behaviors of both human and nonhuman animals. In their work, psychologists draw on an ever-expanding body of scientific knowledge about how we think, act and feel and they apply the information to their areas of expertise.

Sport & Physical Education

This course provides the underpinning knowledge, understanding and skills for you to progress directly into employment or gain a basis for you to continue the study of sport in Higher Education. The course enhances generic skills and knowledge that all practitioners in the coaching and fitness fields should possess.

Entry Requirements

You should have 5 GCSEs or equivalent at Grade 4 or above (including English and Maths) and should have a keen interest in participating in a range of sporting activities.

What areas are covered by the course?

There is range of academic and practical units including:

- Anatomy and Physiology
- Coaching Leadership
- Sports Nutrition and Injuries Fitness
- Training and Programming
- Organisation and Development in Sport

How is the course assessed?

This course is assessed through coursework and two external examinations. The assessment methods will vary from written reports and essays to presentations, practical observations, case studies and group and individual work.

Career Opportunities

Students often progress into Higher Education or relevant degree courses at university. Alternatively some students choose to move directly into employment within the Sport and Leisure Industry.



Work Skills

This personalised one year Level 2 programme gives students the opportunity to prepare for the world of work whilst studying a BTEC Level 2 in Workskills. This course is beneficial for students preparing for the world of work. Alongside the core programme, students have the opportunity to take Functional Maths and English and to spend one day each week on Work Placement.

Entry Requirements

It is an advantage to have some GCSEs although this is not essential. Resit options in Maths and English are available, if applicable grades have been reached.

How is the course taught?

Students will spend four days each week in Sixth Form taking part in structured lessons which combine practical activities with traditional lecture-based learning. They will also spend one day each week on Work Placement.

- Level 2 BTEC in Workskills
- GCSE or Functional Skills in English
- GCSE or Functional Skills in Maths
- Work Placement

Progression routes

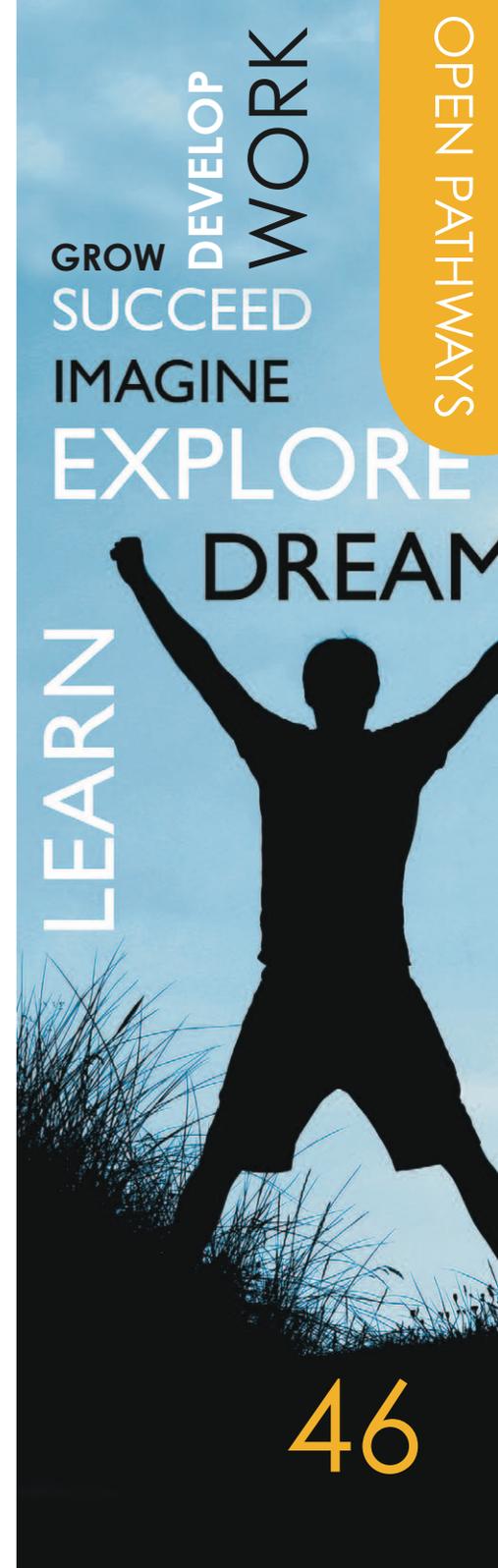
Students will gain a wide range of skills during the programme, which will widen their employment opportunities. Not only will participants learn about the industry they are interested in, but they will also enhance their communication and working skills which will prepare them for a range of future routes. On completion of the course, students may progress directly into employment or an apprenticeship, or choose to enrol for further vocational study or A-Level courses.

GROW
SUCCEED

DEVELOP
WORK

IMAGINE
EXPLORE
DREAM

LEARN



University visits

At King James we are not only interested in the time you are here, but we also want to make sure that you make the right choice on leaving.

Over the course of an academic year, we organise several different university visits depending on our students' interests. Should you have a particular interest in going to a specific university, we can also arrange small group visits. We feel it is important that you are supported in making the right choice and these visits have been very successful in ensuring that our students are confident with their final decision.

You will have the opportunity to visit halls of residence, speak to university students and take part in workshops on potential degree courses. We also spend time looking around the city so that you can experience the atmosphere and decide whether you would feel comfortable living there for the duration of your course.

Which universities do you visit?

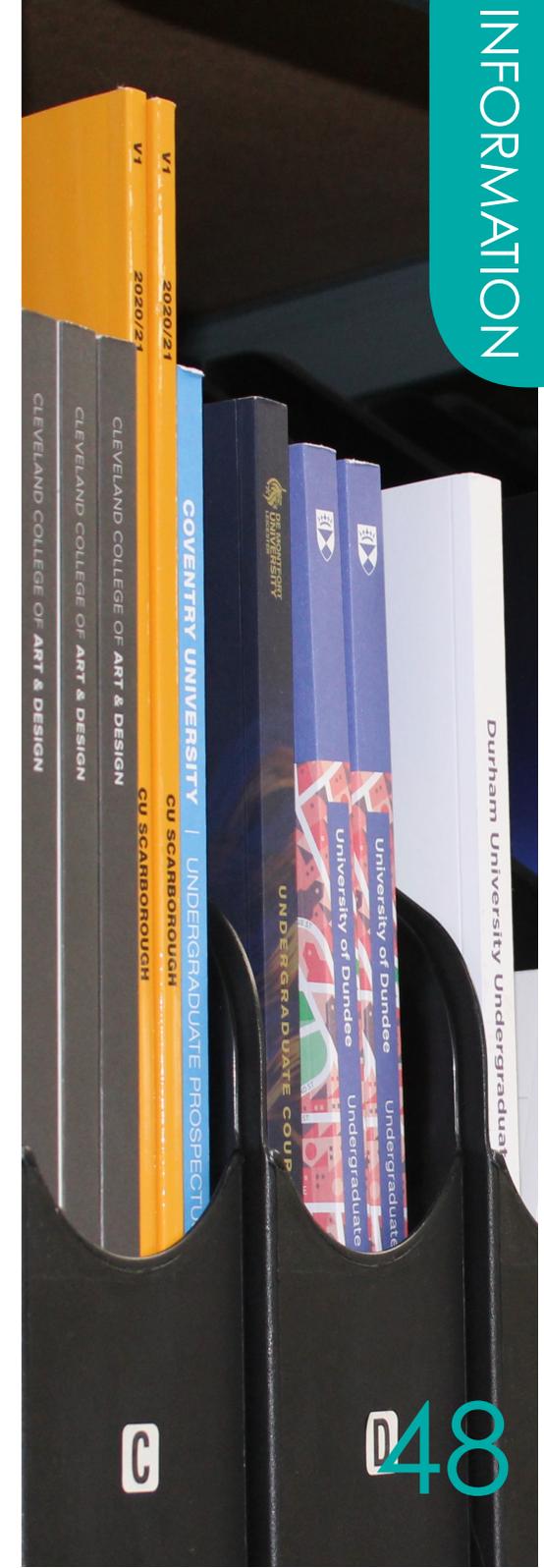
The following visits are residential over two days and take place at different times during the year:

- Edinburgh Queen Margaret and The University of Edinburgh
- Liverpool Hope University and LIPA (Liverpool Institute of Performing Arts)
- Leeds Metropolitan and Leeds University
- Northumbria and Newcastle Universities
- Central School of Speech & Drama, London
- York St. John and University of York

We have also taken students on visits to Sunderland University, Oxford University, Manchester Metropolitan University, Teesside University and the University of Cumbria, and arranged visits for Year 12 students to many of the University Open Days which take place throughout the year. Alternatively, if there are only one or two students wanting to attend an open day we will support transport costs.

To enhance these visits, we regularly link up with former students of King James who act as excellent guides and advisors to our students at their chosen university. This helps greatly as our students already know them and are at ease asking questions about university life.

A world of Opportunity





Opportunities to succeed

At King James we try to give all of our students opportunities to make the most of their talents and help them to succeed.

On an academic level, we offer extensive guidance and support with university choices and course choices. We have many links with universities in the North East and beyond. Our university visits have proved to be an excellent success and offer valuable experience to our young people. We also provide workshops throughout the year to ensure students are fully briefed on student finance, student life and further education.

Our Science Department provides excellent opportunities for learning. Sixth Form Biology students have taken part in a conference in London focusing on exam techniques and students have also had the opportunity to see a Cadaver at Newcastle University. Physics students visited the CERN Laboratory in Geneva to meet the world's top Physicists and see the Large Hydron Collider. Throughout the year, Science students work with outside agencies such as Wessington Cryogenics and Newcastle and Durham Universities.

There are many subjects which help students to find a subject-specific placement, such as Sport and Health and Social Care. This builds on the theory that students are taught in lessons whilst developing employability skills. Having a taste of the world of work is also an enlightening experience for many students.

Educational visits and experiences are an important part of Sixth Form life at King James. Our Health and Social Care department provides opportunities to experience cultural events such as Chinese New Year celebrations, an exciting visit which involves active involvement in traditional activities.

Our Media Department has strong links with Teesside University and arranges visits for students to work with the lecturers and degree students at the £750K studio facilities there. Media students work on real briefs as standard on their course and produce professionally printed magazines each year, alongside cross-media promotional campaigns and film projects.

The English Department visits local theatres to see plays relevant to their studies, and there are also group visits to Hardwick Park and to Beamish, linked to Victorian literature. Our Geography Department offers a two-day trip to the Lake District and students enjoy regular educational field trips to places such as Berwick, Alnwick Gardens, Auckland Castle and Low Barns Ecological Conservation Area.

In Religious Studies, students have regular opportunities to discuss relationships, beliefs, conflict, discrimination and ethics among other topics with visiting speakers, and they also visit a wide range of religious buildings to increase their knowledge and understanding of the subject. Students have also travelled to Aushwitz-Berkenau and and been involved in a number of Holocaust Memorial events.

In Drama and Performing Arts, students have many opportunities to take part in performances which are enjoyed by our local community from themed Dance Shows to the annual Christmas spectacular. Music students also organise live music performances throughout the year, hosted by King James and Bishop Auckland Town Hall. They can also gain practical experience and build their skills in sound, lighting and stage management by offering support to events such as the annual Shakespeare Festival, which is organised in partnership with the Royal Shakespeare Company.

We are a well-organised college that has our students' best interests at the core of everything we do. We provide our Sixth Formers with an excellent academic experience, while developing their social skills and providing many opportunities to enhance their life-long learning.





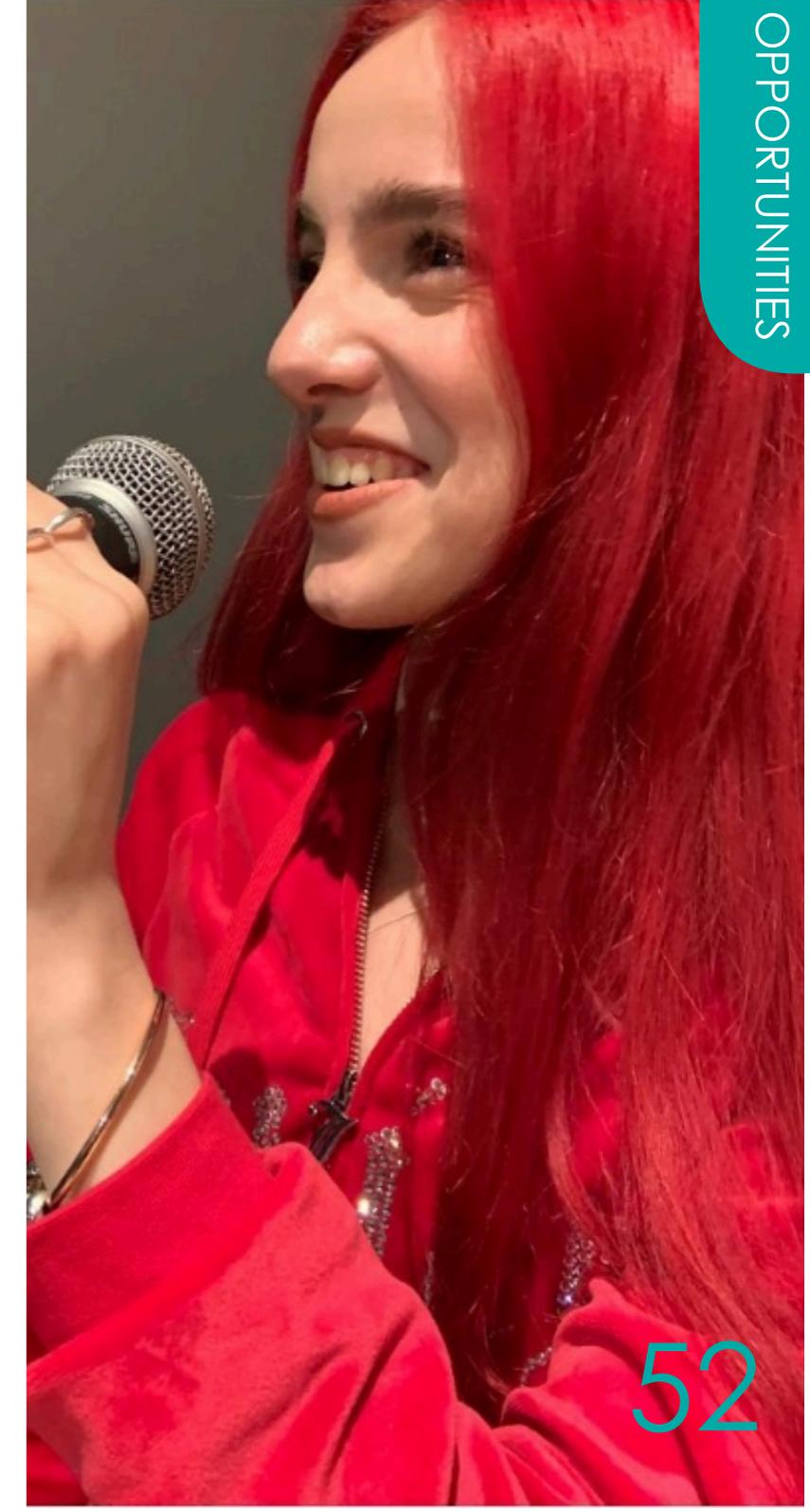
Getting involved

We recommend our students get involved in as many Sixth Form activities and volunteering opportunities as possible to help build confidence and social skills, and to enhance their UCAS form or CV.

Taking part in Academy events such as Open Evenings and Primary School Liaison events is a great way to gain valuable life skills and to build a sense of belonging. Our Sixth Form students regularly work with visiting primary school pupils and some are also involved in our Outreach Programme. A number of Sixth Formers choose to become Subject Mentors, working alongside teachers in Key Stage 3 lessons to support younger students. Sharing their knowledge with others in lessons can be both rewarding and beneficial in terms of building an impressive CV, as it offers the opportunity to gain experience that is respected by prospective employers and universities.

Giving something back to the community helps students to become more understanding of others. There are regular opportunities for Sixth Formers to make a difference at a national and local level through fundraising and work placements in the local area; we will also make a contribution towards any costs they require. In addition to this, Year 12 students can take part in the National Citizenship Service, which offers the opportunity to develop leadership, communication and team working skills through the development of a social action project to deal with a local issue. Students then work together to put the project into action in their community.

We also create opportunities to celebrate success and socialise. Our Annual Prize Evening celebrates the achievements of our most talented Sixth Form students in all subject areas, and the Year 13 Leavers' Event is an enjoyable opportunity for staff and students to reminisce and for students to say farewell before they leave for university or employment.





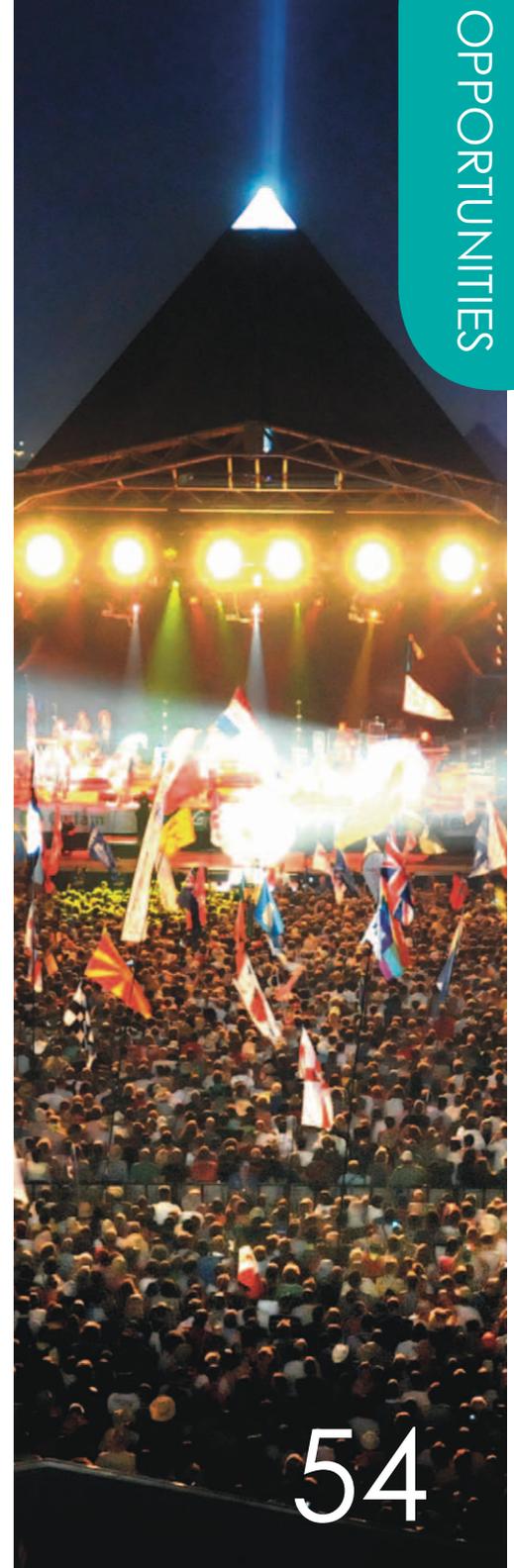
The Festival Experience

Each year, Sixth Form students in Year 13 have the opportunity to become a member of our Festival Recycling Team and join the volunteer team that work at a music festival each year. Recently, a group helped at the world famous Glastonbury Festival!

Volunteers worked for up to six hours each day and in return, they enjoyed camping with upgraded facilities in specially reserved crew areas, free crew uniform and festival memorabilia, and inclusive meals for the duration of their stay. Most importantly, they got the opportunity to see the worlds greatest musicians live on stage.

Becoming an official Glastonbury Festival Volunteer not only enhanced a student's CV, it entitled participants to priority volunteering placements at future festivals. With Glastonbury tickets selling out in minutes every year, this is a distinct advantage for those who wish to return, and there are few who do not wish to relive the experience!

Students are always in awe of the amazing atmosphere at Festivals and benefit greatly from the experience overall in terms of increased self-confidence, resilience and independence. Team working and social skills are also improved and for those who are about to enter the world of work, or those who are due to leave King James to take up university places, this improved level of confidence is a major advantage as they are more sure of their ability to adapt and succeed.



Sixth Form Team

At King James I Academy we have our own Sixth Form Team who are available to support the transition from Year 11 to Post-16 studies. With a variety of experience in Education and Careers they are well placed to offer advice and find solutions to any issues you may have.

The role of the Sixth Form Team is to provide students with guidance and support in many different areas of their Sixth Form life. This is through providing assistance with work skills, time management, careers guidance and non-educational issues such as housing, financial or social issues.

Our team will support you throughout your time in Sixth Form to ensure you have secured the appropriate progression route on completion of your studies. This will be done through individual meetings in order to get to know you personally and in turn, meet your specific needs.

You will be fully supported in regards to things such as revision, subject choices and changes, and with advice to help you develop effective study skills to make your time here easier.

Our Sixth Form Team will also organise the educational 'Aim Higher' trips which allow students to experience an early taste of Higher Education through residential visits to Universities across the country.

Careers Advice

We have a dedicated Careers' Advisor who is on hand to advise you of Employment Opportunities, possible future-Career Pathways and University courses. She will make sure you are Application and Interview-ready!

#ChooseKJ1SixthForm



Additional
information

How to apply

We hold regular open evenings and special events for prospective Sixth Formers throughout the year. You can visit our website for dates and times or call our Main Reception to enquire about forthcoming events.

Alternatively, you can arrange a personal appointment with a member of our Sixth Form Team, when you can take a guided tour of King James and discuss your options in detail.

If you have already made your decision and are ready to apply, application forms are available to download on our website, or you can request a hard copy by calling Main Reception on 01388 603 388.

Students wishing to join us after the start of the academic year should request an interview with the Head of Sixth Form to discuss suitable subject choices and timetables.

King James I Academy Sixth Form
South Church Road
Bishop Auckland
County Durham
DL14 7JZ

Telephone: 01388 603388

Email: kingjames@kja.com
Website: www.kingjames1academy.com/sixthform

The (not so small) print!
We don't often make mistakes; however, nobody is perfect! At the time of publication all information in this prospectus was up-to-date and accurate. Please note that some courses require a minimum number of students.





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KING JAMES I ACADEMY SIXTH FORM



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