

SUBJECT SPECIFIC CRITERIA 2026

<u>AS LEVEL SUBJECTS</u>	<u>SPECIFIC G.C.S.E. REQUIREMENTS</u>
Agriculture (Pearson BTEC Level 3)	A minimum of Grade C*C* at Double Award Science and preferably grade B in Agriculture and Land Use or equivalent. Access to a farm setting to complete practical work.
Art & Design (CCEA) (AS & A2 Level)	Pupils would be expected to have achieved a grade B or higher at GCSE in order to take this A Level.
Biology (CCEA) (AS & A2 Level)	Students are required to have a minimum of grade BB at GCSE Double Award Science, with a minimum of grade B standard in the Biology component of GCSE having studied higher tier, or grade B in GCSE Biology taken as a single subject. Applicants who have studied AQA Core & Additional Science require an A grade in order to cope with the rigour of A Level Biology.
Business Studies (CCEA) (AS & A2 Level)	12 points at GCSE including 3 B grades with preferably Business Studies and English at grades B and above.
Business - Cambridge Technical Extended Certificate and Diploma	Five or more GCSE qualifications A* - C, with preferably Business Studies and English at grades B and above.
Chemistry (CCEA) (AS & A2 Level)	Students will require a minimum of grade BB at GCSE Double Award Science, with a minimum of grade B standard in the Chemistry component of the GCSE having studied higher tier or a grade B in Chemistry taken as a single subject. Potential A Level Chemistry students are required to have a grade B in Mathematics. Applicants who have studied AQA Core & Additional Science require an A grade in order to cope with the rigour of A Level Chemistry.
Digital Media - Cambridge Technical Extended Certificate	Grade C* or above in English Language, Journalism or English Lit and an interest or qualification in IT, Digital Technology or Journalism. Creativity and an interest in using computers and design is essential as you may use a range of technology including Photoshop, iPads, recording equipment.
Engineering (Pearson BTEC Level 3)	Minimum of a grade B in Maths (achieved through M3 or M4 combined with M7 or M8)
English Literature (CCEA) (AS & A2 Level)	Students are required to have a minimum grade B in GCSE English Literature in order to study A Level English Literature.
Geography (CCEA) (AS & A2 Level)	A minimum B grade in GCSE Geography is required to study Geography at A Level.
Government & Politics (CCEA) (AS & A2 Level)	To study Government and Politics at A Level the department will require all pupils to hold at least a grade C* in GCSE History and four other GCSEs at grade C or above, including English Language. Pupils with higher grades will be considered first and there will be a limit to the number of places available.
Health & Social Care (Pearson -BTEC Level 3)	No Specific requirements, but a grade B in GCSE Home Economic, Child Development or a grade C in Biology would be beneficial.
History (CCEA) (AS & A2 Level)	To study History at A Level the department will require all pupils to hold at least a grade B in GCSE History and four other GCSEs at grade C or above, including English Language.

IT (Pearson BTEC Level 3)	There are no specific requirements for prior learning; however, it would be beneficial to have a grade C or higher in English, Maths, BTEC ICT and/or Digital Technology at GCSE.
Mathematics (CCEA) (AS & A2 Level)	Essential: Minimum of a Grade A in GCSE Mathematics (<i>including an A in both M4 and M8 modules</i>) Desirable: Minimum of a Grade B in Further Mathematics would be beneficial to potential students.
Modern Languages – French/ German/Spanish (CCEA)	A minimum of grade B in a GCSE language. Experience of visiting the country or being willing to do so is very helpful and highly advisable.
Music (Pearson BTEC Level 3)	Preferably an A*- B in GCSE Music (or equivalent) and a minimum of Grade 4 performance standard on a solo instrument.
Nutrition & Food Science (CCEA) (AS & A2 Level)	It is recommended that pupils wishing to study AS/A2 Level in Nutrition & Food Science have B grades (minimum) in GCSE Home Economics: Food and Nutrition, Double Award Science and English Language. A genuine interest in nutrition and contemporary food related matters and an enthusiasm for learning will help you in this course
Performing Arts (Pearson BTEC Level 3)	Students are required to have a grade C or higher in GCSE Drama, English or English Lit although a proven interest in Drama or previous practical experience, including Speech and Drama exams, may also be accepted. Equivalents such as Level 2 Essential Skills in Communication are acceptable.
Physics (CCEA) (AS & A2 Level)	Pupils are required to have a minimum of grade BB at GCSE Double Award Science with a minimum of grade B standard in the Physics component of GCSE having studied higher tier or grade B in GCSE Physics taken as a single subject. Pupils are required to have a minimum grade B in GCSE Mathematics. Preferably students should have studied and gained at least grade C in GCSE Additional Maths. Applicants who have studied AQA Core & Additional Science require an 'A' grade in order to cope with the rigour of A Level Physics.
Psychology (Applied) (Pearson -BTEC Level 3)	A range of Level 2 qualifications including a B in English (or comparable subject) and a C in Maths.
Religious Studies (CCEA) (AS & A2 Level)	To do this course you need: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • at least a B grade in GCSE Religious Studies. C* may be accepted alongside other strong literacy subject results. • a good level of literacy, at least a B grade in GCSE English and/or History • an interest in different cultures and beliefs and have an enquiring mind • to enjoy debating and exploring different viewpoints
Software Systems Development (Programming) (CCEA AS & A2 Level)	Students will require a minimum of a grade B in either GCSE Mathematics or GCSE Music. It would also be useful (but not necessary) to have an ICT related qualification at KS4, for example GCSE Digital Technology, or GCSE Applied ICT
Sport (Pearson -BTEC Level 3)	GCSE qualifications in the following subjects are desirable: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Physical Education at grade B (or equivalent BTEC award) • English grade C • Biology grade C Playing sport at club/competitive level is desirable
Technology & Design (CCEA) (AS & A2 Level)	It is assumed that you will have studied Technology and Design at GCSE level and will have achieved a B grade or higher and grade B GCSE Maths. You should also have an interest in the subject or a desire to study it at a higher level.
Uniform Protective Services (Pearson BTEC Level 3)	There are no specific subject requirements, but a grade C in English and Mathematics (or equivalent) is expected. An interest in the subject matter is also important.