



Goodwin Academy

Sixth Form Course Guide

2018-19

Choosing courses for study at Goodwin Academy Sixth Form

What is the purpose of studying at Goodwin Academy Sixth Form?

- Further academic study at Sixth Form is rewarding because it is intellectually stimulating and challenging.
- We encourage learners to have 4 learning aims; this makes a robust study programme and by pursuing studies more deeply in a narrower range of subjects, the learner gains a strong level of knowledge and mastery of that subject.
- Level 3 study is the stepping stone to university and can unlock many avenues in the future.
- Level 3 courses provide a benchmark for the learner's capabilities to a prospective employer; these qualifications are highly valued by employers

Sixth Form Programmes of Study

Goodwin Academy is committed to offering a wide range of courses to suit the needs of learners within the local area. Therefore, we offer courses at two levels.

Level 3 allows students the opportunity to achieve at A Level and could lead to university, employment or further education. There are two types of Level 3 courses available:

- **A Levels** – These courses are designed to be taught and learned over two years. In most cases there is no formal external examination at the end of Year 12. All of the knowledge, understanding and skills that you learn will be assessed at the end of the second year of the course. In some A Level subjects there is an element of non-examination assessment that takes place during the course.
- **Vocational** – These are assessed through coursework and examinations over a two year period. The BTEC National Extended Certificate and the OCR Cambridge Technical Extended Certificate are equivalent to one A Level. The BTEC National Diploma and the OCR Cambridge Technical Diploma are equivalent to two A Levels.
- **Entry requirements** - To study the courses offered at Level 3 students will need to have achieved 5 x A*-C or 4-9 grades at GCSE or equivalent; this can include vocational courses. Some A Level courses might have extra requirements and these are outlined in this course guide and on www.kentchoices4u.com

Level 2 courses enable students to prepare for Level 3 study, apprenticeships or employment.

- **Level 2 Goodwin Academy Traineeship for Employment (GATE)** – This course is designed for students who wish to prepare themselves for an apprenticeship or to follow an A Level or vocational route and who also need to improve their achievement of qualifications at Level 2. Where suitable, students will have the opportunity to follow a vocational programme of their choice at Level 3, but will also be expected to retake qualifications in GCSE English and GCSE Mathematics. The programme will also provide qualifications in employability and study skills to ensure that successful students can progress on to full time study at Level 3 within our Sixth Form or to find a suitable apprenticeship or employment.
- **Entry requirements** - To study the Level 2 GATE programme, students will need to have achieved 5 x A*-G or 1-9 grades or equivalent in Year 11. Students will need to retake GCSE Mathematics and/or English if they have not achieved a minimum of a GCSE grade 4 or higher.

Planning your Level 3 study programme

At Goodwin Academy Sixth Form we aim to create the study programme that is right for each individual learner. We aim to ensure all learners have a minimum of 4 learning aims on a bespoke pathway that matches their needs. This can be achieved in a number of ways:

- **Studying 4 Level 3 subjects (A Level or Vocational*)**
- **Studying 3 Level 3 subjects and the Level 3 Extended project or level 3 Certificate in Personal Finance**
- **Studying 3 Level 3 subjects and GCSE English and / or Mathematics**
- **Studying 3 Level 3 subjects and playing for the Gillingham FC Football Academy**

**Please note that a vocational double award will count as two subjects / learning aims.*

It is important to note that some students are encouraged and supported to engage with a study programme that may have 5 learning aims and others, if it matches their needs, to study with 3 aims.

It is our aim to offer a bespoke programme where possible, building the timetable around the applications of the students. By using this method we aim to ensure that as many students as possible will be able to study their first choice courses. For students to have the best chance of being able to study on their first choice course, we encourage early applications.

Additional Opportunities to enhance the study programme

- PSHCCEE is timetabled with the whole year group together; this enables us to offer a robust programme including study skills and regular guest speakers – we also provide breakfast!
- Work experience is encouraged during Year 12 and this can take place to meet the needs of the learner; this may be a one week block, one day a week for a term or a morning a week for 3 months – we are flexible in meeting the needs of the students
- Leadership opportunities are encouraged with sixth form students taking on the role of mentors and study support for younger students
- Compulsory supervised study time will be provided for all Year 12 learners until the end of Term 2. This is to support them to become independent learners. This will then be removed or reduced depending on the performance of the learner

Support for all Goodwin Academy Sixth Form Students

The Sixth Form staff take great pride in the support and care they put in place for all students. We treat each student as an individual and take great care to meet and respond to their individual needs. This can include:

- A mentoring programme that includes one to one meetings with a sixth form tutor
- Regular contact with the Sixth Form Leadership Team
- Guidance and support for higher education and careers advice
- Regular progress reviews with subsequent support put in place where needed
- Parent consultation meetings for Year 12 and Year 13 students

We operate an 'open door' policy and are always available for students or parents that wish to discuss any part of life as a sixth form student.

The following Level 3 A Level subjects are proposed for study at Goodwin Academy Sixth Form from 2018:

Biology	<p>Aim: Biology promotes the ability to think through and develop ideas. Emphasis is placed on practical skills that stimulate interest and understanding and develop investigative skills.</p> <p>This Biology course looks at the microscopic world such as cells and molecules like DNA, through to the macroscopic world such as plant and animal behaviour and the way the human body works and includes the study of many topical issues, such as HIV, genetic fingerprinting and cancer.</p>
Computer Science	<p>Aim: This course helps students understand the core academic principles of computer science. Classroom learning is transferred into creating real-world systems through the creation of an independent programming project. The A Level will develop the student's technical understanding and their ability to analyse and solve problems using computational thinking.</p>
English Literature	<p>Aim: This course approaches the reading and study of literature through the lens of genre and theory, encouraging the independent study of a range of texts within a shared context, giving logic and meaning to the way that texts are grouped for study.</p> <p>The variety of assessment styles used, such as passage-based questions, unseen material, single text questions, multiple text questions, open- and closed-book approaches, allows students to develop a wide range of skills, such as the ability to read critically, analyse, evaluate and undertake independent research which are valuable for both further study and future employment.</p>
Geography	<p>Aim: This engaging and flexible course gives students the opportunity to engage with the relationship of human populations to each other over space and time, study the relationship between human populations with their physical environment at a variety of scales from the local to the global, consider their own role in relation to themes and issues being studied and the roles, values and attitudes of others including decision makers.</p>
History	<p>Aim: This qualification has been designed to help students understand the significance of historical events, the role of individuals in history and the nature of change over time. Students should gain a deeper understanding of the past through political, social, economic and cultural perspectives.</p>
Mathematics	<p>Aim: This course is designed to further develop students' understanding of mathematical processes in a way that promotes confidence and develops abilities associated with logical reasoning.</p> <p>It also creates an awareness of the relevance of mathematics to other fields of study, to the world of work and to society in general.</p> <p>It encourages students to take an increasing responsibility for their own learning and their mathematical development.</p>
Photography	<p>Aim: Students study a range of traditional and contemporary artists/photographers relevant to a chosen theme. Theme-based photography may include Portraiture, Landscape and Still-Life.</p> <p>Layout and presentation are considered important alongside written analysis of images, students own thinking and personal response.</p>
Sociology	<p>Aim: This course offers an insight into Sociology, the social structures and processes that are incorporated into society.</p> <p>The course provides an in-depth investigation into families and households and education as social structures and the social processes that are the causes and consequences of inequalities within society. Students will also learn about sociological research methods, looking at how and why sociologists use particular methods and the impact this has upon their findings in subject areas such as crime and deviance and beliefs in society.</p>

In the event of insufficient uptake for specific courses, Goodwin Academy Sixth Form reserves the right for those courses not to run.

The following Level 3 Vocational subjects are proposed for study at Goodwin Academy Sixth Form from 2018:

Art & Design	<p>Aim: The Art and Design BTEC qualification aims to give a coherent introduction to the study of art and design at this level.</p> <p>Learners develop art and design projects and gain an understanding of the creative process. They study visual recording and communication, critical analysis and production skills to produce art and design outcomes.</p>
Business	<p>Aim: The Extended Certificate is for learners who are interested in learning about the business sector alongside other fields of study, with a view to progressing to a wide range of higher education courses, not necessarily in business-related subjects.</p> <p>This course has been created to develop transferable skills that are essential in the workplace or for further study in all areas of Business.</p>
Health And Social Care	<p>Aim: To offer students an exciting, inspiring and challenging qualification created to develop transferable skills that are essential in the workplace or for further study in all areas of health and social care.</p> <p>The OCR examination board has worked in partnership with industry specialists, leading employers and further education tutors in the development of these qualifications</p>
Information Technology	<p>Aim: This qualification is designed for learners who are interested in an introduction to the study of creating IT systems to manage and share information, alongside other fields of study, with a view to progressing to a wide range of higher education courses, not necessarily in IT.</p>
Manufacturing Engineering	<p>Aim: The practical BTEC approach lets the students practise a range of Engineering and Manufacturing skills they require for progression into Apprenticeship, the workplace or into Higher Education.</p> <p>Manufacturing Engineering will enable students to develop through the application of practical skills and knowledge which will enable them to understand how Engineering impacts upon the products that we use every day. British engineering has changed; it is no longer the gritty, grimy profession that many people assume it is. Engineering and Manufacturing encompass a really diverse range of skills and knowledge ranging from Electronics to Civil Engineering.</p>
Media	<p>Aim: The qualification provides a coherent introduction to the study of creative digital media production at this level. Learners develop an understanding of the media industry through analysing media representations and pitching and producing media projects.</p> <p>It is designed for post-16 learners who aim to progress to higher education and ultimately to employment, possibly in the media industries, as part of a programme of study alongside other BTEC Nationals or A levels.</p>
Performing Arts & Musical Theatre	<p>Aim: This performing arts course gives the students the chance to learn a diverse range of applied skills with an industry focus.</p> <p>The course closely imitates a company and students are expected to adopt the work ethic that suits this style of vocational expectation of the performing arts industry.</p>
Public Services	<p>Aim: The aim of this course is to give students an insight into the work of the uniformed public services e.g. Police, Army, Fire Service, Prison service, NHS and Border Force.</p> <p>The course will be assessed by portfolio and will be certificated at pass, merit or distinction. Students will undertake a mixture of class based and practical activities.</p>
Science	<p>Aim: The Applied Science course provides the knowledge, understanding and skills for students wishing to enter a career in the areas of laboratory and industrial science, medical science or forensic science.</p>

	It develops student ability to learn independently, to be able to research actively and methodically and promotes working with others and being active group members. Learner will develop skills in reading scientific texts, writing skills and will learn effective analytical and practical skills.
Sport	<p>Aim: The qualifications give learners specialist knowledge and skills, enabling entry to an Apprenticeship or other employment, or progression to related higher education courses.</p> <p>Students will have a broad introduction that gives learners transferable knowledge and skills in a variety of sports related topics.</p> <p>4 Units across 2 years – Unit 1 Anatomy & Physiology + Exam</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Unit 2 Health, Fitness & Training Programmes + Exam - Unit 3 Professional Development in the Sports Industry + Assignments - Unit 7 Practical Sports and Performance + Assignments

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Course	A Level or Vocational	Qualification Size	Entry Requirements
Art and Design Level 3 BTEC National Extended Certificate (Single Award) or Diploma (Double)	Vocational	1 A Level or 2 equivalent	5 A*-C or 4-9 grades (Level 4 and above in Mathematics and English) at GCSE including a 4 grade or higher in a creative subject
Biology A Level	A Level	1 A Level equivalent	5 4-9 grades at GCSE including Level 4 in English and Mathematics and at least 6 Grade in Core and Additional Science or a 6 grade in GCSE Biology.
Business Level 3 BTEC National Extended Certificate (Single Award)	Vocational	1 A Level equivalent	5 A*-C or 4-9 grades at GCSE including level 4 or higher in English Language.
Computer Science	A Level	1 A Level equivalent	5 A*-C/ 4-9 Must have grade 6 in Computer Science
English Literature A Level	A Level	1 A Level equivalent	5 A*-C or 4-9 grades at GCSE. Preferably, grade 5 for English Literature or Language.
Geography A-Level	A Level	1 A Level equivalent	5 A*- C or 4-9 grades at GCSE including level 5 or higher in English and a 6 or higher in a Humanities subject.
Health and Social Care Level 3 Cambridge Technical Extended Certificate (Single Award)	Vocational	1 A Level equivalent	5 A*- C or 4-9 grades at GCSE including level 4 or higher in English Language.
History A-Level	A Level	1 A Level equivalent	5 A*- C or 4-9 grades at GCSE including level 5 or higher in English and a 6 or higher in a Humanities subject.
Information Technology Level 3 BTEC National Extended Certificate (Single Award)	Vocational	1 A Level equivalent	5 A*-C or 4-9 grades at GCSE including level 4 or higher in English Language, any IT / ICT / Computer Science qualification would be a preferred requirement but not essential.
Manufacturing Engineering Level 3 BTEC Diploma (Double Award)	Vocational	2 A Level equivalent	5 A*- C or 4-9 grades at GCSE including level 5 in Mathematics. Prior study of Engineering is not essential.
Mathematics	A Level	1 A Level equivalent	5 A*- C or 4-9 grades at GCSE including level 7 in Mathematics.
Creative Digital Media Production Level 3 BTEC National Extended Certificate (Single Award)	Vocational	1 A Level equivalent	5 A*-C or 4-9 grades at GCSE including level 4 or higher in English Language, any Media or Film qualification would be a preferred requirement but not essential.
Musical Theatre Level 3 RSL Certificate in Creative & Performing Arts	Vocational	1 A Level equivalent	5 A*-C or 4-9 grades at GCSE (level 4 or higher in English and Mathematics).
Photography A-Level	A Level	1 A Level equivalent	5 A*- C or 4-9 grades at GCSE including level 4 in English and Mathematics.
Public Services BTEC Subsidiary Diploma (Single Award)	Vocational	1 A Level equivalent	5 A*- C or 4-9 grades at GCSE (level 4 in English and Mathematics).
Applied Science	Vocational	1 A Level equivalent	5 A*- C or 4-9 grades at GCSE including double Science at 5 grade or above.

Level 3 BTEC National Extended Certificate (Single Award)			
Sociology A Level	A Level	1 A Level equivalent	5 A*– C or 4-9 grades at GCSE including level 4 for English and a 4 or higher in a Humanities subject.
Sport Level 3 BTEC National Extended Certificate (Single Award)	Vocational	1 A Level equivalent	5 A*-C or 4-9 grades at GCSE (level 4 or higher in English and Mathematics).

GCSE Resit Opportunities

English Language GCSE	Academic	This course is aimed at students who have completed the foundation paper in Year 11 but have not attained a level 4 or higher.
Mathematics GCSE	Academic	This course is aimed at students who have completed the foundation paper in Year 11 but have not attained a level 4 or higher.

Level 2 GATE

Goodwin Academy Traineeship for Employment (GATE)	Academic & Vocational	5 A* - G or 1 - 9 grades at GCSE
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Additional Courses

Extended Project Level 3	Academic	5 A* - C or 4-9 grades at GCSE (level 4 English and Mathematics).
Certificate in Financial Studies Level 3	Academic	5 A* - C or 4-9 grades at GCSE (level 4 English and Mathematics).

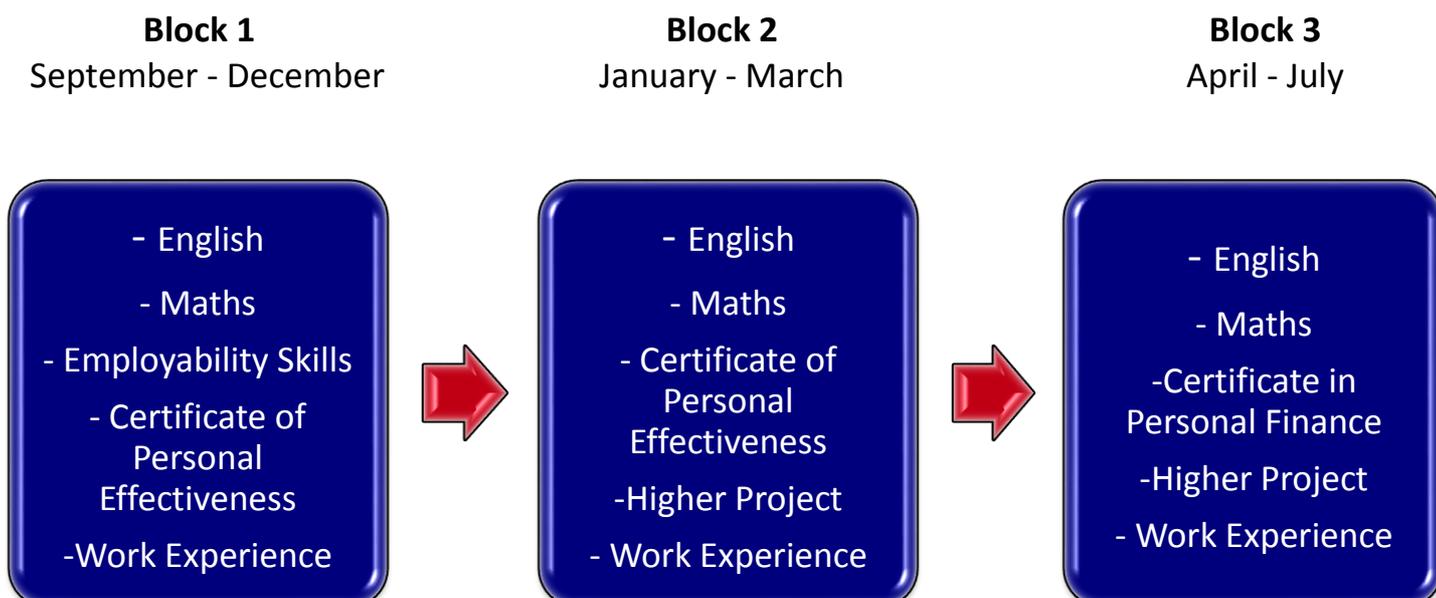
Goodwin Academy Traineeship for Employment (GATE)

GATE is designed to prepare students who have not achieved well at GCSE or Level 2 by the end of Year 11 and are looking to progress academically and/or improve their employability skills. The typical student will need to complete English and Maths qualifications, but will be interested in gaining apprenticeships and work based training instead of staying in full time education.

When they have finished their studies at the end of Year 11, many students will lack the skills required to enter the work place, either as an apprentice or for high-level work experience. The aim of GATE is to give students the skills they require, while supporting them with applications in search of the positive destinations they desire.

GATE will engage with local employers to run a series of employability sessions and work place visits to help students prepare for a successful work placement and potential apprenticeship opportunity.

The GATE programme will have three 'blocks' that enable students to roll on or roll off as their situations change.





A Level	Vocational
Biology	Art & Design
Computer Science	Business
English Literature	Health And Social Care
Geography	Information Technology
History	Manufacturing Engineering
Mathematics	Media
Photography	Performing Arts – Dance & Drama
Sociology	Public Services
	Science
	Sport

In the event of insufficient uptake for specific courses, Goodwin Academy Sixth Form reserves the right for those courses not to run.

Sixth Form Leadership Team

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