


SAMUEL WHITBREAD ACADEMY

# SIXTH FORM

Believe – Achieve – Succeed – Exceed

## WHY CHOOSE US?

- Strong Ethos of Achievement
- Extensive Level 3 Courses
- Outstanding Results & Destinations
- Comprehensive Enrichment
- Personalised Support
- Inclusive Learning Environment
- Focus on Employability & Skills
- Flexible Progression Pathways
- English & Maths Resits
- Modern Facilities
- Vibrant Student Community

JOIN SAMUEL WHITBREAD ACADEMY SIXTH FORM - WHERE AMBITION MEETS OPPORTUNITY












# Assistant Principal – Head of Sixth Form

## Mr Lee Huckle

# Taking the Next Step

## Option pathways after year 11

### Sixth Form

**Level 3 courses:**

- A Levels
- L3 BTEC's
- Alternative Academic Qualifications (AAQs)
- Vocational (V) Levels

### College

**Level 2 and 3 courses:**

- GCSEs
- A Levels
- L3 BTECs and AAQs
- T Levels

### Apprenticeships

**Linked to college and work places**

**Need advice?**

Speak to the careers advice team for further guidance and visit the careers fair in the Sports Hall this afternoon/evening.



# Results 2026

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| ★ | A*–A (or equiv.) | 32% |
| ★★ | A*–B (or equiv.) | 65% |
| ★★★ | A*–C (or equiv.) | 85% |
| ★★★★ | A*–E (or equiv.) | 99% |

**Number 1**
Sixth Form in Central Bedfordshire for progress

# Destinations 2026

Where our Year 13 students are heading next

## University

**47%**

**109 students**

Almost half of our Year 13 leavers are progressing to university.

## Employed

**16%**

**37 students**

A significant number of students are entering employment.

## Gap Year

**10%**

**24 students**

Many students are taking time out to travel, volunteer or gain experience before their next step.

## Other destinations

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Degree Apprenticeship | 14 | 6% |
| Other Apprenticeship | 7 | 3% |
| College | 2 | 0.8% |
| Training | 0 | 0 |
| Services | 1 | 0.4% |
| Seeking Employment/NEET | 5 | 2% |
| Repeat Yr13 | 2 | 0.8% |
| Unknown - Have been contacted, no response | 17 | 7% |




# Our Focus is your Future!

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# YEAR 13 UNIVERSITY DESTINATIONS 2026

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A WIDE RANGE OF UNIVERSITIES. A WIDE RANGE OF SUBJECTS. BRIGHT FUTURES.

**150** students applied to university

**126** received an offer and had a university place recorded

**84%** of students who applied were placed at university

**57** different university destinations

**106** places starting in 2026

**20** deferred starts in 2027

## MOST POPULAR COURSE CHOICES

| | |
|---|---|
| Psychology | 6 |
| Law | 6 |
| Business & Management | 3 |
| Mathematics | 3 |
| Physics | 3 |
| Sport and Exercise Science | 3 |

Figures show the most frequently listed course titles in the university destinations data.

## TOP UNIVERSITY DESTINATIONS

(Number of SWA students with a recorded place)

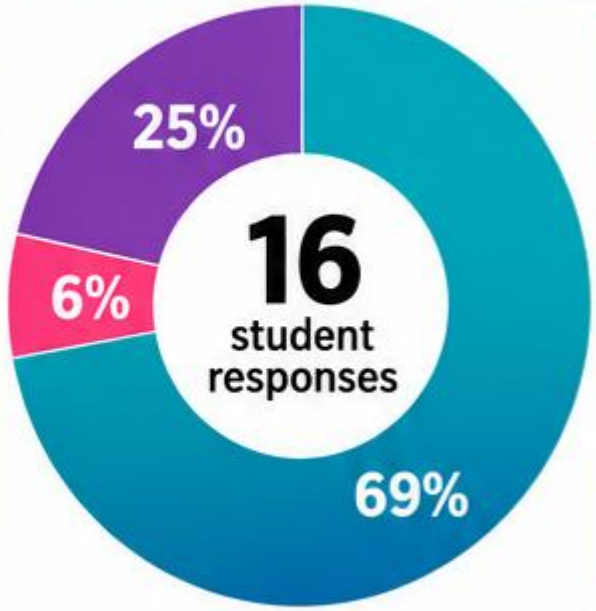
| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | University of Hertfordshire | 6 |
| 2 | Loughborough University | 6 |
| 3 | Newcastle University | 5 |
| 4 | University of Birmingham | 5 |
| 5 | Liverpool John Moores University | 4 |
| 6 | University of Southampton | 4 |
| 7 | University of Lincoln | 4 |
| 8 | University of Sheffield | 4 |
| 9 | University of Brighton | 4 |
| 10 | Cardiff University | 4 |
| 11 | University of Leeds | 4 |



# YEAR 13 APPRENTICESHIP DESTINATIONS 2026

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## APPRENTICESHIP LEVELS




**Level 6**
Degree-level apprenticeship
11 students (69%)

**Level 5**
Higher apprenticeship
1 student (6%)

**Level 3**
Advanced apprenticeship
4 students (25%)

## EMPLOYERS REPRESENTED

- Amazon Web Services
- GXO
- UTAC
- Shawbrook Bank
- Kennet Aviation
- Mercedes-Benz Financial Services
- TUI
- Network Rail
- Sesame Access Systems Ltd
- Shellmar Construction
- GSK
- TT Couriers
- Rent Connect Housing Ltd
- Corrosion Engineering Solutions
- Haynes Lower School
- Langan O'Rourke

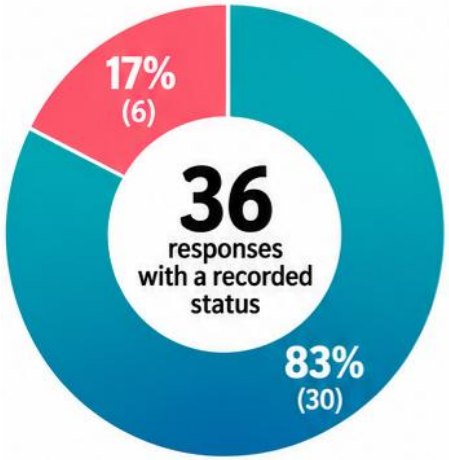
# YEAR 13 EMPLOYMENT DESTINATIONS 2026

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Survey responses. Real destinations. Real opportunities.

## EMPLOYMENT STATUS

Based on 36 responses with a recorded employment status (from 37 survey responses)




**30 EMPLOYED**
83% of those with a recorded status

**17 FULL-TIME**
(of the 30 employed)

**13 PART-TIME**
(of the 30 employed)

**6 SEEKING FULL-TIME EMPLOYMENT**
17% of those with a recorded status

**1 STATUS NOT RECORDED**
(of 37 survey responses)

## EMPLOYERS REPRESENTED

A range of local, regional and national employers, across different sectors.

- Tesco
- Rocksteady Music School
- PJK Connections
- Hickory's Smokehouse
- The Park Pub (Bedford)
- TRU-FIT Training
- Center Parcs
- McDonald's
- Glo The Beauty Clinic
- Pix Brook Academy
- FRP Advisory
- BGC Group
- Speedeck Foundations
- Sainsbury's
- David Lloyd
- Smith HP
- Safer Roadworks
- Arcer
- Boipe Ltd
- Wickes
- Bedford Blues
- Greene King Pubs

## ROLES AND CAREER AREAS

Examples of roles from our Year 13 respondents, across a variety of sectors.

### SPORT & FITNESS

- Gym Instructor / Personal Trainer
- Level 3 Personal Trainer

### EDUCATION & MUSIC

- Teaching Assistant
- Band Leader

### HOSPITALITY & LEISURE

- Bartender
- Chef
- Barista / Waiter
- Lifeguard
- Spa Attendant

### BUSINESS & ADMINISTRATION

- Procurement Administrator
- School Leaver Internship
- Trainee Contentious Insolvency Practitioner
- Sales Development Representative

### TECHNICAL & OPERATIONS

- Electrical Container
- Site Maintenance
- Operative
- Junior AI Analyst
- Farm Worker

# The Sixth Form Alliance

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## Alumni

Inviting back alumni students to speak with our students from a wide variety of destinations: universities, apprenticeships and jobs







## Universities

Inviting in Universities to speak with our students: Russell Group and Local.

University visit and taster days: University of Hertfordshire and Bedfordshire.









Inviting in local, national and international employers to speak about future options.

## Employers





Inviting in parents/carers to speak with students about their pathways to different careers.

## Parents/Carers



Inviting in apprenticeship providers to advise and guide on apprenticeships: FCDO, MBDA, Unilever, Specsavers, Glaxo, Network Rail.

## Apprenticeship Providers

# Courses on offer

37 Courses

**A Levels:**

Fine Art
Biology
Business studies
Chemistry
Computer science
Dance
Drama & Theatre Studies
English Language & Literature
English Literature
Film Studies
French
Geography
Graphic Communications
History
Mathematics
Further Mathematics
Philosophy, Religion and Ethics
Physical Education
Physics
Politics
Product Design
Psychology
Sociology
Spanish

**Timetabled one-year academic enrichment courses on offer:**

Extended Project Qualification (EPQ).
Core Maths/Mathematical Studies Level 3.
L3 Personal Finance.

**BTEC's, Applied Level 3s, AAQs and V Levels*:***

Applied Science (AAQ)
Business (Single) BTEC
Food and Nutrition (AAQ)
Health and Social Care (AAQ)
Information Technology (V Level)
Media BTEC
Music Technology BTEC
Sport - Single,
Double & Triple BTEC

***Warning: Courses with low demand on the first day of the academic year in September, may be cut.***

# Entry and Course Requirements

- **Only A Level Route:** Five grade 5's minimum to study a programme of all A level courses.
- **Only BTEC/AAQ/V Level Route:** Six Grade 4's to study a programme of all Level 3 BTEC/applied/AAQ/V Level courses.
- **Combined Route: A Level and BTEC/AAQ/V Level:** Six Grade 4's to study a mixed programme of Level 3 BTEC/applied/AAQ/V Level courses and A Levels.
- Each subject has its own entry requirement that must be met.
- Each subject has an Average Point Score (APS) linked to them for guidance.

| Subject/Course | Average Points Score – Guidance | Minimum Entry Requirements |
|---|---|---|
| BTEC Level 3 Applied Science (AAQ) | 4.2 | • Two grade 4s in GCSE Sciences<br>• Grade 4 in GCSE Maths<br>• Grade 4 in GCSE English Language and Literature. |
| Fine Art | 4.4 | • Grade 5 in GCSE Art |
| Biology | 5.3 | • Two Grade 6s in GCSE Sciences<br>(If Triple Science is studied, then one must be Biology)<br>(If Combined Science is studied, then biology components must be Grade 6).<br>• Grade 6 in GCSE Maths<br>• Pass the entry exam. |
| Business | 4.2 | • Grade 5 in GCSE Maths<br>• Grade 5 in GCSE English Language or Literature<br>• If Business is studied at GCSE a grade 5 is needed or Merit at BTEC Level 2. |
| BTEC Level 3 Business (Single) | 4.2 | • Grade 4 in GCSE English Language or Literature<br>• Grade 4 in GCSE Maths<br>• If Business is studied at GCSE a grade 4 is needed or Merit at BTEC Level 2. |
| Chemistry | 5.3 | • Two Grade 6s in GCSE Sciences<br>(If Triple Science is studied, then one must be Chemistry)<br>(If Combined Science is studied, then chemistry components must be Grade 6).<br>• Grade 6 in GCSE Maths<br>• Pass the entry exam. |
| Computer Science | 5.3 | • Grade 5 in GCSE Computer Science<br>• Grade 6 in GCSE Maths |
| Dance | 4.2 | • Grade 5 in GCSE Dance<br>• Grade 5 in GCSE Language or Literature |




# Head Student

## Jess Sarll

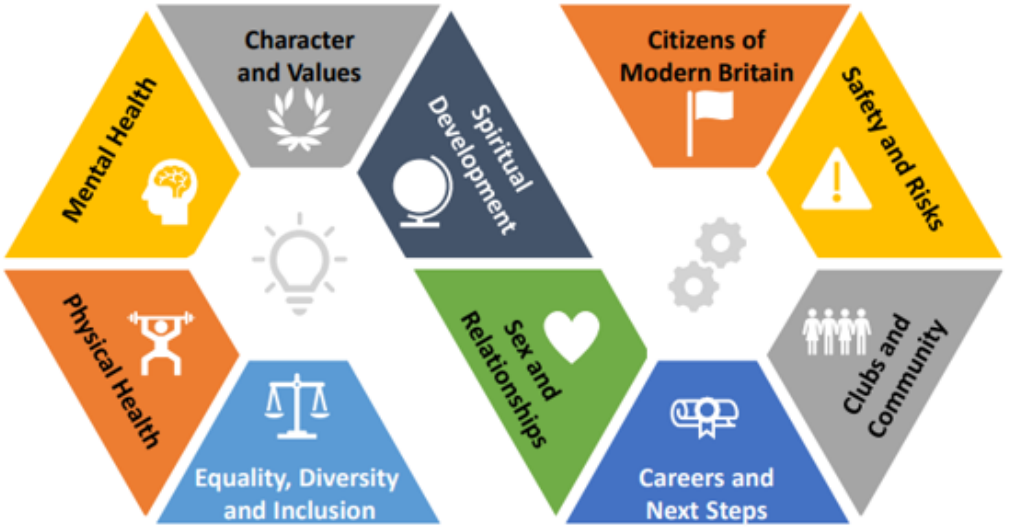



# Assistant Head of Sixth Form
# Head of Year 12

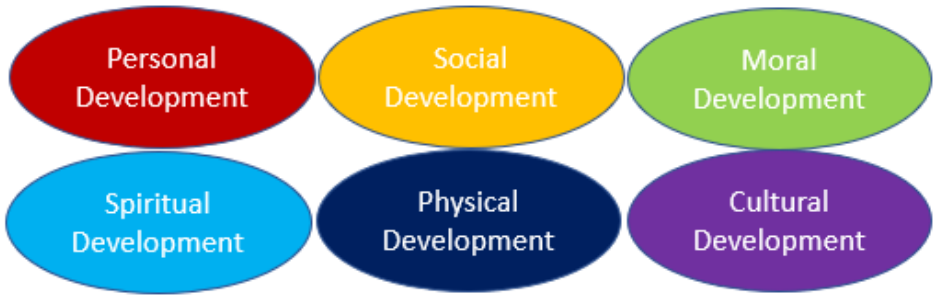
## Mr Tonking

**SWA Core Mission**: At Samuel Whitbread Academy we strive to develop healthy, resilient and independent learners, who read confidently for both learning and pleasure, and who participate in culturally enriching and diverse experiences.

## Personal Development




## Cultural Capital Development




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EQUALITY
TEAMWORK
DETERMINATION
INTEGRITY
EMPATHY
INGENUITY
RESPECT

## Academic Development

### VESPA

Vision
Effort
Systems
Practice
Attitude

**B**

### Believe

Have a belief in yourself in academic and extra-curricula areas of your life. Have the belief you can achieve your aspirations and aim high.

**A**

### Achieve

Achieve your personal academic and extra-curricular aims in school and out of school.

**S**

### Succeed

Motivate and dedicate yourself to your academic studies so you succeed in achieving your targets and also enhancing your wider life skills.

**E**

### Exceed

Go above and beyond. Don't see a target grade as the limit. Push beyond that. Exceed your own and others expectations of you in your academic and extra-curricular areas.

# Extra-curricular, Super-curricular and Enrichment


University Mock Trial



Race Car Team


Ghana Sister School


CAMPS International Expeditions

The Society
Samuel Whitbread Academy
Email: SWA-Thesociety@bestacademies.org.uk

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EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY

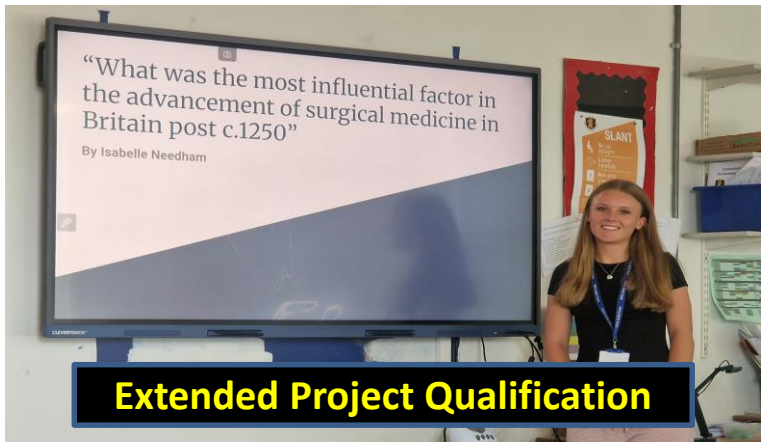
DE of | THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S AWARD



Alumni Fairs



Apprenticeship Visits



Extended Project Qualification

# Extra Curricular and Enrichment: Sports Academies




**Northampton Saints Rugby Development course**

**Whitbread Netball Academy partnered with Saracens Mavericks**

**Samuel Whitbread Football Academy**

**Please take a look at the Sixth Form web pages for further details and videos of the sports academies or visit the sports academies near the gym tonight.**

**https://www.samuelwhitbread.org.uk/page/?title=Whitbread+Sports+Academy&pid=158**

# Making the Transition

**Support for our students:**

- Interventions (1:1, lunch, afterschool)
- Dedicated CEIAG Coordinator (4YPUK) and PASO
- Counselling
- Peer Mentoring
- 16-19 Bursary fund
- Special Educational Needs Support
- Aspiration and aiming high support – The Sixth Form Society
- Student leadership roles: school leadership team, Society leadership team, prefects, tutor group reps.
- Personal development through the morning tutorial programme 8.20am – 8.45am each morning.

# Work experience opportunities

- One week is allocated at the end of the summer term of year 12 for ALL students to go on work experience.
- The work experience needs to be planned and organised by the student – the school does not do this for you.
- The sixth form team will make visits or phone calls to check students at their work experience placement

If you would like more advanced information on the year 12 work experience week please speak with Mrs Freeman at the careers fair in the sports hall or email lfreeman@bestacademies.org.uk

# Assistant Principal – Head of Sixth Form

## Mr L Huckle

# Application Process

## Next steps

- Discuss your choices with family, teachers and course leaders
- Speak to department leaders and students
- Think about your **future!**
- What courses do you need for your next step?
- Please apply online by 1st February 2027. Application forms can be found here: https://www.samuelwhitbread.org.uk/page/?title=Applications+%26amp%3B+Admissions&pid=59

INTERNAL APPLICATION

EXTERNAL APPLICATION

# Where can I find more information?

- Sixth Form Prospectus
- Course leaders
- Website

https://www.samuelwhitbread.org.uk/_site/data/files/sixth_form/about-us/E779876B1A1DD73D4E0DF52E2F7A76BD.pdf

## Biology

### Content and Aims

**This specification is designed to encourage candidates to develop:**

- An enthusiasm for biology
- Practical skills alongside understanding of concepts and principles
- An appropriate and relevant foundation of knowledge and skills for the study of biology in Higher Education.

### Key Features

This specification stimulates the enthusiasm of teachers and students from the start. As a stepping stone to future study, it allows students to develop the skills universities want to see. The course intends to nurture a passion for Biology & lay the groundwork for further study in courses like biological sciences and medicine.

**Year 1 Units**

- Biological molecules
- Cells
- Organisms exchange substances with their environment
- Genetic information, variation and relationships between organisms

**Year 2 Units**

- Energy transfers in and between organisms
- Organisms respond to changes in their internal and external environments
- Genetics, populations, evolution and ecosystems
- The control of gene expression

### Career Considerations

Students who have studied A level Biology may go on to study a wide variety of different subjects at university. These include medicine, dentistry, physiotherapy, nursing, genetics, forensics, ecology, veterinary science, agriculture, sports science, psychology, horticulture and conservation.

### Examination Board

AQA

### Entry Requirement

- APS 5.3
- Two Grade 6s in GCSE Sciences
  (If Triple Science is studied, then one must be Biology).
  (If Combined Science is studied, then Biology components must be Grade 6).
- Grade 6 in GCSE Maths
- Pass the entry exam.

### Examination Breakdown

- 100% external examination

### Contact

Head of Biology: Mrs J Ambrose



# A flavour of SWA Sixth Form: YouTube

https://youtu.be/LH_JaJEaN6E

# SAMUEL WHITBREAD ACADEMY
# CAREERS FAIR

**EXPLORE YOUR FUTURE | DISCOVER OPPORTUNITIES**

- 4YP
- ACO Technologies
- Amazon
- Amplius
- Ashe Group
- AstraZeneca
- Barclays Bank
- Bedford College
- Bedfordshire Hospitals
- Bedfordshire Police
- BEST Teacher Training
- CBC Employment Skills
- Extreme Scaffolding
- FCDO
- George Hay Accountants
- GSK
- Leon Barnett Football Academy
- Network Rail
- Neuro Physio Connect
- North Herts College
- Oxford Brookes University
- Reliance Cyber
- SSG Training
- Premier Education
- Family Tree Day Nursery
- Solveway Apprenticeships
- Stageworks College
- University of Bedfordshire
- University of Birmingham
- University of Hertfordshire
- University of Lincoln




**WHEN:** THURSDAY 12th NOVEMBER

**WHERE:** THE SPORTS HALL

**OPEN TO ALL STUDENTS FROM 3PM**

# Contact the Sixth Form

- swa-sixthformadmissions@bestacademies.org.uk
- Miss Collins – Administration and applications lcollins@bestacademies.org.uk
- Mrs Bonham – Pastoral and Academic Support Officer cbonham@bestacademies.org.uk
- Mrs Hoad – Assistant Head of Sixth Form – Head of Year 13 shoad@bestacademies.org.uk
- Mr Tonking - Assistant Head of Sixth Form – Head of Year 12 ctonking@bestacademies.org.uk
- Mr Huckle – Assistant Principal – Head of Sixth Form and Careers Lead lhuckle@bestacademies.org.uk
- Ms Freeman – Future Options, Pathways and Careers Coordinator lfreeman@bestacademies.org.uk
- Miss Hopkins – Degree Apprenticeship Leader ahopkins@bestacademies.org.uk
- Dr Haynes – Sixth Form Enrichment Leader jhaynes@bestacademies.org.uk
- Website: www.samuelwhitbread.org.uk
- Facebook: SWA Sixth form

**Please watch our other Sixth Form videos on the website here:**

https://www.samuelwhitbread.org.uk/page/?title=Sixth+Form+Open+Evening&pid=144

