



Associate 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
L3 Applied



College

Level 2 and 3 courses:

GCSEs
A Levels
L3 BTECs
L3 Applied
T Levels



Apprenticeships

**Linked to college and
work places**

Please speak to the careers advice team for further guidance.

In 2023, SWA Sixth Form was first in the Central Bedfordshire Local Authority



Year 13 Results	2023
A*-A or equivalent	26%
A*-B or equivalent	56%
A*-C or equivalent	82%
A*-E or equivalent	99%

We are an aspirational Sixth Form



“ Leaders and teachers have high expectations for pupils in the Sixth Form. ”

OFSTED 2023

“ Members of the school community are proud of the school’s involvement in Sport and the Arts ”

OFSTED 2023)

“ Sixth Form students lead tutorial sessions for younger pupils as part of The Society programme. ”

OFSTED 2023

“ Sixth Form students enjoy a wide range of extra-curricular clubs and activities. ”

OFSTED 2023



EPQ: To what extent the perceptions of witches, witchcraft and magic changed?
Imogen Addison



BEST
BEDFORDSHIRE
SCHOOLS TRUST



Destinations 2023

Destination	Number
University	122
Degree Apprenticeship	6
Other Apprenticeship	16
Employed	30
Seeking Employment	15
College	3
Training	1
Services	1
Gap Year	11
Repeat Yr13	1



Please visit the alumni area of the Sixth Form webpage to view videos of many of our students and what they went on to do:

<https://www.samuelwhitbread.org.uk/page/?title=Alumni&pid=133>

Applications



	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
% of students successful in gaining a place at a Russell Group University (top 24 research based Universities in the UK)	14%	24%	32%	37%	40%



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% of students successful in gaining a place at a Russell Group University (top 24 research based Universities in the UK)	14%	24%	32%	37%	40%

	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Apprenticeship acceptance rate	75%	80%	82%	90%	92%

Courses on offer

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
Music
Further Mathematics

Philosophy, Religion and Ethics
Physical Education
Physics
Politics
Product Design
Psychology
Sociology
Spanish
Textiles

38 Courses

BTECs and Applied Level 3:

Applied Science
Business (Single and Double)
Engineering (Single)
Food and Nutrition
Health and Social Care
Information Technology

Media
Music Technology
Sport (Single,
Double & Triple)

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

Entry and Course Requirements



- **Five** grade 5s minimum for entry to A Level courses
- **Six** Grade 4s minimum for entry to BTEC/Applied courses
- Each subject has its own entry requirement and Average Point Score (see page 8, 9 and 10 in the handbook)

Subject/Course	Average Points Score – Guidance	Minimum Entry Requirements
BTEC Level 3 Applied Science	4.2	Two grade 4s in GCSE Sciences Grade 4 in GCSE Maths 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 (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.
Business	4.2	Grade 5 in GCSE Maths Grade 5 in GCSE English Language or Literature If Business is studied at GCSE a grade 5 is needed.
BTEC Level 3 Business (Single)	4.2	Grade 4 in GCSE English Language or Literature Grade 4 in GCSE Maths If Business is studied at GCSE a Merit grade is needed.
BTEC Level 3 Business (Double)	4.2	Grade 4 in GCSE English Language or Literature Grade 4 in GCSE Maths If Business is studied at GCSE a Merit grade is needed.
Chemistry	5.3	Two Grade 6s in GCSE Sciences (If Triple Science is studied, then one must be Chemistry) (If Combined Science is studied, then chemistry components must be Grade 6). Grade 6 in GCSE Maths Pass the entry exam.
Computer Science	5.3	Grade 5 in GCSE Computer Science Grade 6 in GCSE Maths

Where can I find more information?

- Handbook or Prospectus
- Course leaders
- Website

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.



**Mrs J Ambrose
AQA**

SUITABILITY

- 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 & ASSESSMENT BREAKDOWN

- 100% external examination



Head Students

Madeline Doughty and Max Andrews

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



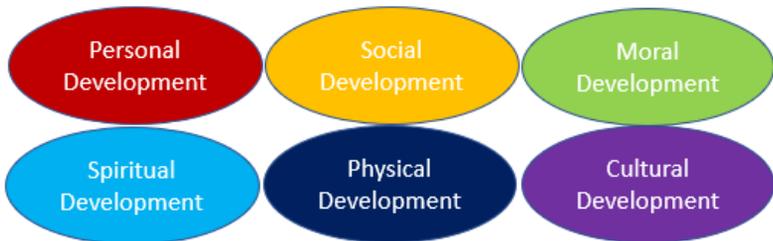
EQUALITY
TEAMWORK
DETERMINATION
INTEGRITY
EMPATHY
INGENUITY
RESPECT

Academic Development

VESPA

Vision
Effort
Systems
Practice
Attitude

Cultural Capital Development



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





Lunch Box Lectures



Each of the below lectures are delivered from 1.20pm – 1.50pm in the Sixth Form study centre upstairs in block 20.

Date	Lecture Title	Delivering the Lecture
Monday 18 th September 2023	'Is there anybody out there?'	Mr Martin
Monday 16 th October 2023	'Is US Superpower status under threat?'	Mr Huckle
Monday 20 th November 2023	'Last man standing: Species of humans'	Miss Ambrose
Monday 18 th December 2023	'2008 World financial crisis'	Mr Hatchell
Monday 22 nd January 2024	'Policing the Crisis': Black people and the police in Britain	Dr Haynes
Monday 26 th February 2024	'How do your wider experiences enrich your CV?'	Mrs Linehan
Monday 25 th March 2024	'The beauty of soil'	Mr Rowell
Monday 29 th April 2024	'Drug discovery and the pharmaceutical industry'	Guest Lecturer - Mr Miguel Lewis
Monday 20 th May 2024	'China in Africa: Is this neo-colonialism?'	Mr Huckle





Year 12s and 13s – Praise Trip: Winter Wonderland, London

<https://hydeparkwinterwonderland.com/>



In your Autumn term report (Year 12s receive their first report on 16th November 2023 and Year 13s on 28th September 2023), if you are awarded **Excellent** ATL's in **all** your courses AND **Excellent** IL's in **all** your courses, you will be invited to attend the praise trip, free of charge, to Winter Wonderland, Hyde Park, London. This will take place on Thursday 7th December.



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=>



Assistant Head of Sixth Form
Head of Year 12
Mrs Susie Hoad

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
- The Society higher academic pathway – please speak with Mr Huckle about the Sixth Form Society.

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 Jackman on the enrichment stall at the open evening or email rjackman@bestacademies.org.uk

Sixth Form Dress Code – Professional

Lanyards are a compulsory part of the Sixth Form dress code and must be worn around the neck and visible at all times whilst on school site. This is for safeguarding reasons.

Dress down days – will be arranged alongside non-uniform days with the rest of the academy.

Examples of acceptable attire	Examples of unacceptable attire
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Trousers, dress and/or skirt with a formal jacket (jacket not compulsory).• Smart chinos, white/black denim trousers/shorts• Tailored knee length shorts• Long or short sleeve shirts. Optional tie can be worn.• Smart collared polo shirt/top.• V-neck sweaters and jumpers.• Cultural clothing.• Footwear must be suitable for walking at school, including evacuating onto the field in case of an emergency. If worn, sandals must enclose the heel securely with a back. Students participating in practical lessons such as science, engineering, food or similar must have covered feet in laboratories for safety reasons.• Optional attire: Specific clothing for the sports academies (rugby, football, netball and dance) must have the school logo present on all items and be sourced from the sports academies agreed suppliers, and only school branded sports attire can be worn at the academy.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Blue jeans/denim, including ripped jeans/trousers.• Tracksuits.• Combat trousers.• Collarless shirts or casual sports T-shirts.• Sweatshirts and non-school hoodies• Skirts and shorts that are not on or just above the knee.• See through items of clothing.• Crop tops and tank tops• Strapless tops (a shoulder strap must be present).• Baseball caps and hats.• Clothing with slogans/logos.• Flip-flops, sliders, crocs, slippers and high heeled shoes.• If you are not part of the sports academies (rugby, football, netball or dance), you should be abiding by the professional dress code and should not be in SWA branded sports attire when not playing sport.



Transportation for 2024-2025

Please note that sixth form students **are not guaranteed** a place on the school bus. A concession is sold when there is a spare seat on a non-registered route and are sold on a **first come first served basis** so please aim to have your form completed and payment made by around mid-August. A concession will be honoured to the end of the term in which it is purchased.

To apply for a concessionary pass you will need to email Central Bedfordshire transport - mainstream.transport@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk requesting them to post a form out to you. All application forms will be sent out on the same day first class to give equal opportunity. This form is to be used for those students who wish to travel to school by bus, but who **do not qualify** for any kind of free or subsidised transportation.

Please direct any transport queries you may have to swa-transport@bestacademies.org.uk

Please see the transport section of the Sixth Form webpage and Mr Whittle on the transport stall in The Street.



Associate 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 23rd February 2024.

Application forms can be found here:

<https://www.samuelwhitbread.org.uk/page/?title=Applications+%26amp%3B+Admissions&pid=59>

SIXTH FORM HANDBOOK 2024 - 2025

SUBJECT PROSPECTUS 2024-2025

INTERNAL (SWA STUDENTS) APPLICATION
FORM

EXTERNAL (STUDENTS FROM OTHER
SCHOOLS) APPLICATION FORM

Website

<https://www.samuelwhitbread.org.uk/page/?title=KS5+Curriculum+%26amp%3B+Courses&pid=231>



Curriculum & Courses

The curriculum in the Sixth Form is one that provides:

1. Academic success
2. Stimulation and challenge
3. Choice and diversity
4. Progression onto a range of post Sixth Form options
5. Access for all who meet the entry requirements
6. Encouragement for independent and life-long learning

The size of the Sixth Form means our curriculum offer at post 16 is second to none, with **34** Level 3 courses on offer. We recommend students study three courses, except those studying Further Mathematics and the most able students, who often take four. Alongside these courses, we offer a range of enrichment courses including: Extended Project Qualification (which is highly regarded by universities), Level 3 mathematical studies and many more timetabled and non-timetabled enrichment opportunities such as Duke of Edinburgh.

For curriculum information on all of our KS5 subjects, including what students will learn in year 12 and 13, please read the Sixth Form Subject Prospectus [here](#).

For more in-depth information about the KS5 courses that we offer please visit the exam board websites. Each course in the subject prospectus indicates the examination board.

APPLIED SCIENCE BTEC

ART A LEVEL

BIOLOGY A LEVEL

BUSINESS BTEC SINGLE & DOUBLE

BUSINESS STUDIES A LEVEL

CHEMISTRY A LEVEL

COMPUTER SCIENCE A LEVEL

DANCE A LEVEL

DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY A LEVEL

DRAMA & THEATRE STUDIES A LEVEL

ENGINEERING BTEC SINGLE & DOUBLE

ENGLISH LANGUAGE & LITERATURE A LEVEL

ENGLISH LITERATURE A LEVEL

Online applications need to be received by 23rd February 2024



<https://www.qmul.ac.uk/outreach/digital-content-hub/>

Key Stage Four Online Courses

Post 16 Options: Beyond GCSE Study

Are you thinking about where you GCSE courses may take you? Our online course will help you to explore the post-16 study options available to you



Researching Courses and Universities

Are you considering university but are a little unsure about which course or institution? This online course will guide you through your next steps



Contact the Sixth Form



- swa-sixthformadmissions@bestacademies.org.uk
- Miss Collins – Administration and applications
icollins@bestacademies.org.uk
- Mrs Bonham – Pastoral and Academic Support Officer
cbonham@bestacademies.org.uk
- Mrs Hoad – Assistant Head of Sixth Form – Head of Year 12
shoad@bestacademies.org.uk
- Mr Tonking - Assistant Head of Sixth Form – Head of Year 13
ctonking@bestacademies.org.uk
- Mr Huckle – Associate Principal – Head of Sixth Form
lhuckle@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>



BELIEVE • ACHIEVE • SUCCEED • EXCEED

