

# COURSES COURSES COURSES







# Choosing your courses

At St David's Catholic College, we recognise the challenges in researching and then enrolling onto the subjects that are going to take you forward into university, apprenticeships or employment.

We understand that for the first time in your education, you now have full control over choosing which subjects suit you, your passions, and your career aspirations.

You will not be alone in making that decision.

As part of the application process for St David's Catholic College, you will first select up to five subjects on your application. This is just an indication of the types of subjects that you want to study, and the subjects are not locked in until you actually enrol at College in August, after receiving your GCSE results.

You should look at this guide, and the **College website** to research subjects. You will find information on how the course is assessed, the types of modules you will study and what that qualification can lead to. Importantly, you will also find the entry criteria that you will need to meet to study those subjects - all important information on making a confident decision about your subjects. Most students will study three A Level (or equivalent) courses in college.

After you have applied, you will have a **guidance session**. This is a conversation with a teacher, where you can discuss what subjects suit you and your career aspirations, and also ask questions about those courses to make sure they meet your needs. The purpose of this session is to guide you into making the right decisions for you.

# **Honours Programme**

In a bid to cater to the individual needs of our learners, we have established a programme designed exclusively for students who show particular academic aptitude.

These will be students who show an interest which goes beyond the normal limits of the classroom, and a desire to explore the sorts of questions that would both expand their world view and improve their ability to engage in academic conversation.

The Honours Programme has seen many of its students go on to read for degrees at Britain's leading universities in every subject from Art History to Zoology. Our record over the years of helping students achieve their full potential has been recognised and praised by universities, inspectors, parents and students alike.

# Who is eligible?

The Honours Programme is designed for more able and talented learners. As such, there is a high academic entry criteria.

Typically, we are looking for applicants with 25 points, counting GCSE results as;  $A^* = 3$ , A = 2 and B = 1. Due to limitations of space, we also take into account the strength of a student's application and the competitiveness of their achieved grades compared with other applicants at enrolment. We do not normally consider vocational qualifications.

Applying to the Honours Programme requires an additional application to your application to St David's College. Head to www.stdavidscollege.ac.uk/honours-programme



# **Spiritual Reflection**

Spiritual Reflection is the title given to the Religious Education programme followed by all students, with a 50 minute lesson each week.

The starting question for each student on the course is: 'what kind of person would I like to become?' Throughout the course, students will have an opportunity to reflect on a range of virtues and values, case studies of such virtues in practice as well as role models to emulate. Students are able to achieve the Agored Cymru Level 3 Extended Award in Religious Education on successful completion of the course.

This is an additional qualification recognised by Qualifications Wales. Successful candidates will gain an additional 8 UCAS tariff points which may help secure the university course of your choice.

Our 2020 Diocesan Inspection commented:

It is an imaginative well-designed course now well into its second year. Inspectors confirm that it stimulates questioning and debate and introduces key beliefs, teachings and practices of the Catholic Church and other faiths.



# **Pastoral Programme**

Throughout your life you will face a number of challenges - and it is important to recognise that. Throughout your academic life, social life, career, and family life, you will need to develop social and emotional skills to face these challenges.

The Pastoral Reflection Programme will not only teach you about some of the issues you will face, but also give you the opportunity to develop the skills needed to face new and unforeseen challenges later in life.



# Advanced Skills Baccalaureatte Wales

All learners at St David's College take the Advanced Skills Baccalaureate Wales.

Learners must complete three projects which provide a vehicle for learners to develop, practise and demonstrate the Integral Skills through a range of contexts that are relevant and current and that encourage learners to participate in critical and civil engagement and to consider their well-being and the well-being of others.

### **Global Community Project**

The Global Community Project gives learners the opportunity to explore a wide variety of complex and multifaceted global issues and to appreciate how global issues transcend local and national boundaries.

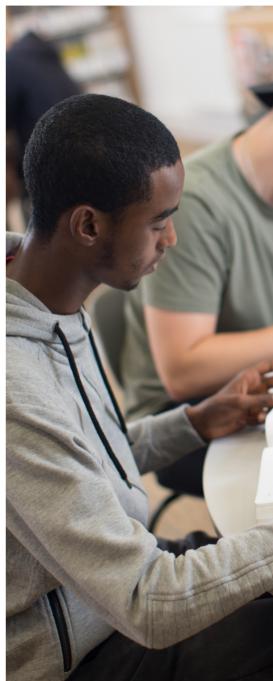
# **Future Destinations Project**

Learners are encouraged to explore realistic employment opportunities and the potential pathways available to them. They will investigate their journey to employment alongside considering the potential health, social, and financial wellbeing impacts on themselves and others.

# **Individual Project**

The Individual Project provides opportunities for learners to develop a range of research skills and are encouraged to explore a subject with an emphasis on future educational or career aspirations. The skills that learners will be developing will be of great benefit to them in future higher education and employment, as well as good discussion points for interviews leading to their future destination.







LEVEL 1	GCSEs Grades D, E, F or G.
LEVEL 2	GCSEs Grades A*, A, B or C
LEVEL 3	A Levels Applied A Levels BTEC Nationals
LEVEL 4	Higher Apprenticeship
LEVEL 5	Foundation Degree
LEVEL 6	Degree Apprenticeship, Degree with honours, Graduate Diploma
LEVEL 7	Master's degree, PGCE
LEVEL 8	Doctorate (PhD)

### Level 3

The vast majority of our students study a Level 3 course.

Students with at least **six** Cs at GCSE will be eligible to study A Level courses, students with **five** Cs and above at GCSE or Level 2 BTEC will be eligible to study vocational courses.

Most Level 3 courses have particular course entry requirements. Please refer to individual course information for details.

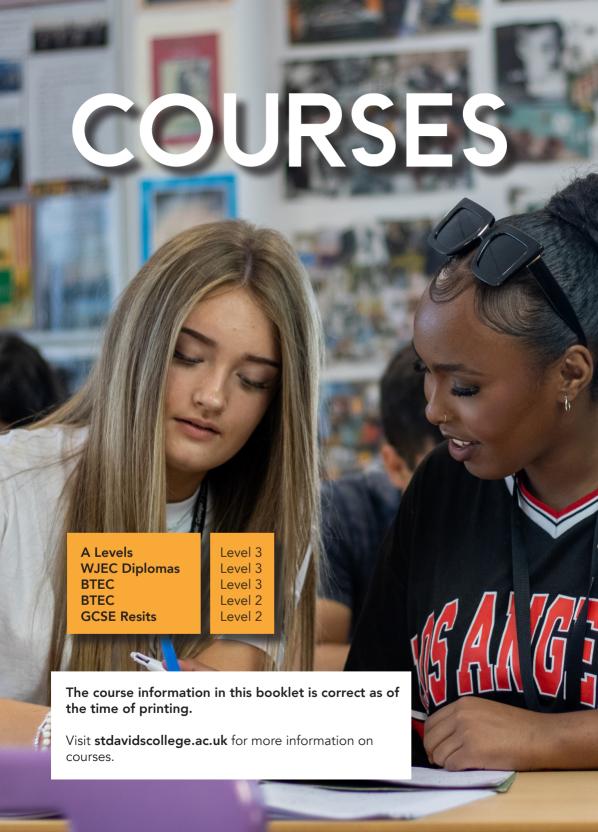
# Level 2

At Level 2, the College offers one-year courses appropriate for learners who do not meet the requirements for a Level 3 programme.

Learners from Catholic High Schools have priority to places on Level 2 courses.

After successful completion of our level 2 programme, students will be invited to apply for our level 3 courses.

Level 2 courses are commonly combined with GCSE resits to get the best set of qualifications to move on to a level 3 course. GCSE resit courses are also open to level 3 learners. Our GCSE resit courses are Maths, English and Science (Science is a two-year course).





### A LEVEL SUBJECTS

- » Art & Design
- » Biology
- » Business
- » Chemistry
- Computer Science
- Design & Technology: Product Design
- » Drama & Theatre
- » Economics
- » English Language & Literature
- » English Literature
- » Film Studies
- » French
- » Geography
- » German
- » Government & Politics
- » History (Modern)
- » Law
- » Mathematics
- » Double Mathematics
- » Media Studies
- » Music
- » Philosophy
- » Physical Education
- » Physics
- » Psychology
- » Religious Studies
- » Sociology
- » Spanish
- » Welsh

### Art & Design

Studying Art & Design will give you a wonderful opportunity to develop a wide range of exciting and stimulating creative skills. The creative skills you learn could include drawing, graphics, ceramics, painting, photography, textiles and sculpture. Studying Art & Design could lead to careers in Architecture or Fashion, as well as design jobs like animation, tattoo artist, theatre design, or photography (amongst more).



# **Biology**

Biology is an exciting yet challenging part of the sciences to study. The first year of this course is a good balance of traditional Biology and more modern topics, while the second year provides an in-depth coverage of fundamental areas of physiology and biological theory. Biology can lead to many healthcare careers, as well as careers working with animals, in research, food or the environment.



### **Business**

A Level Business introduces learners to the dynamic business environment and the importance of skills needed to create a business and sustain business growth. Business skills are useful in many careers, and can lead to accounting, insurance, advertising, management, law, marketing, and much more - including starting your own business.

A Level	Single Subject	2 years	Entry Requirements:
6 grades C's at GCSE, including a grade C in GCSE Maths and a grade C in GCSE English.			

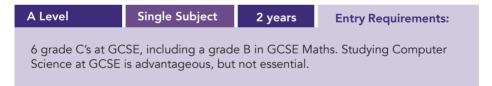
### Chemistry

Chemistry is the underpinning science in society. It plays a part in every aspect of our lives, from the medicines we use to us healthy, to the fertilisers we use to grow our crops. Chemistry can lead to a career in science, and also leads to fields like engineering, pharmacy, research, dentistry, the environment, and a wide range of healthcare roles.



# Computer Science

Computer Science relies on an understanding of the rules of specific languages at a fundamental level and requires logical thinking, problem solving skills, and creative thinking. Computer Science typically leads to careers in software, game or web development.



# Design & Technology: Product Design

Product Design covers a wide skill-set, that you can in to many different academic and vocational careers. Typical career paths include engineers, architecture, graphic design, fashion, construction or manufacturing.



### **Drama & Theatre**

Drama and Theatre fosters an enthusiasm for and a critical appreciation of the dramatic arts through the means of a performance or production-based route. It develops an understanding and appreciation of the significance of social, cultural and historical influences on the development of drama and theatre. A Level Drama & Theatre typically leads to careers in acting, children's entertainment or theatre design.



6 grade C's at GCSE, including a grade C in GCSE English, and, if studied, a grade C in GCSE Drama. A merit or above in BTEC Level 2 Performing Arts can be used as an alternative to GCSE Drama

### **Economics**

A good Economics qualification is highly regarded by universities and employers alike due to its' ability to develop students' analytical and quantitative skills, and develop the qualities and attitudes which equip learners well for the challenges, opportunities and responsibilities of higher education and working life.



6 grade C's at GCSE, including a grade B in GCSE Maths and a grade B in GCSE English.

# **English Language & Literature**

English Language and Literature is a subject that requires students to identify and consider the ways in which attitudes and values are created and conveyed in speech and writing. The focus of study will be the interpretation of written and spoken language, to include poetry, prose and drama as well as a range of non-literary texts.



# **English Literature**

Literature students will be encouraged to actively engage with a range of literary genres from poetry to prose and drama. We will focus upon the way in which structure, form, and language shape meaning as well as draw stylistic and thematic parallels between texts. There is also a significant opportunity for original writing. Core text authors include: Charlotte Bronte, Christopher Marlowe, Philip Larkin, Carol Ann Duffy, Shakespeare, Geoffrey Chaucer, and William Blake.



### Film Studies

The WJEC Eduqas A level in Film Studies course offers an excellent introduction to the film industry in both the U.S. and the U.K., with work covering the Classical Hollywood period, New Hollywood, contemporary American independent film and British film. Film Studies leads to careers in the film and TV industry, or journalism. This subject is a linear course, meaning that is must be taken for two years before any qualification is gained.

A Level	Single Subject	2 years	Entry Requirements:
6 grade C's at GC	CSE, including a grade	e C in GCSE Er	nglish.

### **French**

The National Curriculum for modern foreign languages has three aims: to help you to understand and respond to spoken language; to understand and respond to written language; and to communicate both in speech and writing. Understanding, speaking and writing French can be a useful skill in many careers, including industry and commerce, travel and tourism, journalism, sports, law, banking, insurance and many government services.

A Level	Single Subject	2 years	Entry Requirements:
6 GCSEs A* – C, including a grade B or above in French (higher tier).			

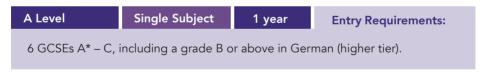
# Geography

A Level Geography encourages learners to apply geographical knowledge, theory and skills to the world around them. In turn this will enable learners to develop a critical understanding of the world's people, places and environments in the 21st Century. The specification draws on both physical and human geography and involves four days of compulsory fieldwork over the two years.



### German

The National Curriculum for modern foreign languages has three aims: to help you to understand and respond to spoken language; to understand and respond to written language; and to communicate both in speech and writing. Understanding, speaking and writing German can be a useful skill in many careers, including industry and commerce, travel and tourism, journalism, sports, law, banking, insurance and many government services. **Students can only study this for 1 year as an AS Level.** 



### **Government & Politics**

Government and Politics will enable students to study a number of issues which are of contemporary national and global importance. The course will give pupils a good insight into how the UK government works, the significance of ideology and its impact on political parties.

A Level	Single Subject	2 years	Entry Requirements:
6 grade C's at GCSE, including a grade C in GCSE English. No prior learning in politics is required, however it is essential to the course to keep up to date with current affairs.			

### History

A Level History takes a period of upheaval in Western society and provides learners with the opportunity to develop a coherent understanding of the past. The course develops an understanding of British progress politically, socially and economically (1880-1980) alongside coverage of the French Revolution (c.1774-1815). At A2, learners will also study American civil rights and foreign policy, as well as completing coursework chosen from a range of modern and early modern topics.



### Law

AS Law requires students to study areas such as the civil and criminal justice systems, the application of the law to scenarios and the law of tort. At A2, learners will study criminal law and human rights law, providing them with a breadth of knowledge of core legal subjects. Throughout both AS and A2 level, learners will develop legal skills such as applying the law, formulating a legal argument, analysing a factual scenario and evaluating the law.



### **Mathematics**

The emphasis of the course is on using and applying Mathematics. The first year develops abilities to reason logically, and to understand the relationship between 'real world' problems and mathematical models. The A2 specification extends students' range of mathematical skills and techniques and uses them in more difficult unstructured problems. Students will develop an awareness of the relevance of Mathematics to other fields of study, to the world of work, and to society in general.

A Level	Single Subject	2 years	Entry Requirements:	
6 grade C's at GCSE, including a grade B in GCSE Maths (higher tier) and a grade B in GCSE Numeracy.				

### **Further Mathematics**

The Double Mathematics course consists of completing the A Level Mathematics course in one year, leading on to complete the Further Mathematics A Level in the second year. Some students may take Double Mathematics when they wish to complete the whole of A Level Mathematics in one year. Any student who is planning to take a Mathematics related degree (engineering, sciences, computing, finance/economics, etc., as well as mathematics itself) will benefit enormously from taking Further Mathematics, at least to AS Level. Further Mathematics qualifications are prestigious and are strongly welcomed by universities.



6 grade C's at GCSE, including a grade A in GCSE Maths (higher tier), and a grade B in GCSE Numeracy (higher tier).

### **Media Studies**

Media students study a variety of media issues and debates in various media formats. Students are taught the technical codes and conventions that are needed when constructing a film, storyboards, script writing, textual analysis, audience reception theories, advertising, magazines, television industry, digital editing skills, new media technologies, digital marketing, gaming, web design, and investigating the power of the media



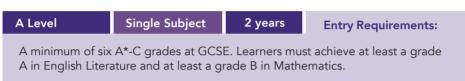
### Music

Music integrates the three components of performing, composing and appraising through the study of various musical traditions. At AS the Western Classical tradition is explored through the study of orchestral music. Modern musical idioms are also encountered through musical theatre or jazz, rock and pop. At A2, a study of twentieth century music through a detailed set work provides a broad basis for entrance to university and musical careers.

A Level	Single Subject	2 years	Entry Requirements:	
6 grade C's at GCSE, including a grade B in GCSE Music OR a grade 5 theory				

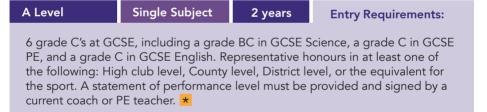
### Philosophy

Philosophy is all about reasoning and argumentation regarding some of the most profound questions in life. Examples include: 'What is the nature and extent of our knowledge?', 'What does reality consist of?', 'Are there non-physical entities?', 'Does God exist?'. In pursuing such questions, philosophy relies on careful, methodical analysis and a special kind of scepticism. This subject is a linear course, meaning that is must be taken for two years before any qualification is gained.



### Physical Education

This course is aimed at students who love sport and wish to study sport, with particular focus on the theoretical side. This course allows students to perform effectively in physical activities, and in roles such as performers, leaders and officials.



# **Physics**

The AS course combines the best of the 'traditional' Physics topics such as mechanics, materials, electricity and radiation with the most modern of ideas involving astronomy, quantum and particle Physics. The A2 course allows for the development of physics in medical setting, whilst at the same time including the essential and fundamental topics of fields, nuclear physics, and kinetic theory.

A Level	Single Subject	2 years	Entry Requirements:
6 grade C's at GCSE, including a grade A in GCSE Maths, a grade BB at Double Award GCSE Science OR grade B in higher tier Physics, and a grade B in GCSE English.			

# Psychology

Psychology is a fascinating subject which will allow students to understand human behaviour and the reasons why we behave in the ways that we do. There are various approaches to Psychology and during the course we will study key pieces of research and topics from a range of these areas including criminal behaviour, eye-witness testimony, phobias, Autism, relationships and therapies such as psychosurgery. Learners will also study research methods and develop existing numeracy skills by looking at data and analysing what it tells us about the human behaviour studied in research.



6 grade C's at GCSE, including 1 grade B in GCSE Science and a grade C in GCSE Maths. Grade C in English is also highly recommended but not a requirement.

### **Religious Studies**

The AS specification for Religious Studies contains two units which include a wide range of topics for consideration, including an in-depth and broad study of Christianity, religion and ethics and philosophy of religion. The A Level specification allows learners to continue their systematic study of these three areas.



# Sociology

Sociology is a stimulating and dynamic subject. Students study individuals within a social setting, which includes groups, organisations, cultures and societies' and the inter-relationships between them. Students will also study social institutions such as the family, education, law, politics, the media, and religion.



# Spanish

The National Curriculum for modern foreign languages has three aims: to help you to understand and respond to spoken language; to understand and respond to written language; and to communicate both in speech and writing. Understanding, speaking and writing Spanish can be a useful skill in many careers, including industry and commerce, travel and tourism, journalism, sports, law, banking, insurance and many government services.



## Welsh (Second Language)

Students will be given the opportunity to express themselves in Welsh, in a written and oral form. There will also be the opportunity to write creatively, read independently, respond to different texts and appreciate literary forms. Students will have the opportunity to practise speaking Welsh with the class teacher, and other Welsh students. There may be an opportunity to visit Nant Gwrtheyrn, the National Language Centre in North Wales and to participate in extracurricular activities, e.g., Eisteddfodau.





### WJEC DIPLOMA SUBJECTS

- » Criminology
- » Medical Science
- » Health and Social Care

# **BTEC LEVEL 3 SUBJECTS**

- » Applied Science
- » Business
- » E-Sports
- »
- » Performing Arts
- » Sports Coaching & Development

# **BTEC LEVEL 2 SUBJECTS**

- » Media
- » E-Sports
- » Health & Social Care

WJEC Diploma Courses stdavidscollege.ac.uk

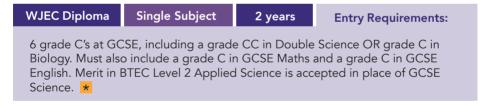
# Criminology

WJEC Level 3 Diploma in Criminology is a qualification with elements of Psychology, Law and Sociology that complements studies in humanities related subjects. The qualification would support learners' progression from any study at Level 2, particularly GCSEs in Sociology, Law or Psychology. The course will go beyond the traditional academic study with guest speakers from agencies involved in services/practice that the Criminology course material covers.



### **Medical Science**

The Diploma in Medical Science is equivalent to one A Level. The course deals with the maintenance of health and the prevention and treatment of diseases. Learners will acquire the knowledge, understanding and skills in key scientific principles to support progress to higher education or employment in areas such as physiological sciences or clinical laboratory services. The qualification covers health, physiology, pharmacology, physiological measurement, clinical testing and medical research.



# Health and Social Care (Double)

The Level 3 Certificate and Diploma in Health and Social Care: Principles and Contexts qualifications are suitable if you are interested in learning more about the health and social care sectors. For completion of the Diploma qualification, you will need to undertake a minimum of 100 hours of sector engagement, of which 60 hours must be spent undertaking a work placement. This ensures that you gain real-life experience and have the opportunity to see different roles to inform your future career.

WJEC Diploma	Double Subject	2 years	Entry Requirements:	
	5 A*-C GCSE's or equivalents. If studied Level 2 Health and Social Care Principles and Contexts- Merit or above.			

WJEC Diploma Courses stdavidscollege.ac.uk

# Health and Social Care (Triple)

The Level 3 Extended Diploma in Health and Social Care: Principles and Contexts qualifications are suitable if you are interested in learning more about the health and social care sectors. It is an interesting course with varied content. For completion of the qualification, you will need to undertake a minimum of 100 hours of sector engagement, of which 60 hours must be spent undertaking a work placement. The sector engagement will ensure that you gain real life experience and have the opportunity to experience different roles within health and social care to inform your future career.

This course is best suited to individuals who wish to pursue careers in health and social care such as teaching, social work etc.

**WJEC Diploma** 

**Triple Subject** 

2 years

**Entry Requirements:** 

5 C's at GCSE, or equivalent vocational qualification. If studied Level 2 Health and Social Care Principles and Contexts- Merit or above.



# BTEC Diploma / Extended Certificate Applied Science

BTEC Applied Science is a vocational course, which means it's more hands-on and includes more practical work. You'll study a wide range of science topics from chemistry, physics, and biology, and also learn how to apply these in practical settings. Assessment is through a mixture of exams and coursework. The Diploma is a two-year course equivalent to two A Levels while the Extended Certificate is a two year course equivalent to one A Level.

BTEC Level 3

Single Subject

2 years

**Entry Requirements:** 

6 grade C's at GCSE, including a grade CC in Double Science OR grade C in Biology. Must also include a grade C in GCSE Maths and a grade C in GCSE English. Pass in BTEC Level 2 Applied Science is accepted in place of GCSE Science requirement.

### **Business**

This is a two year course, equivalent to two A Levels. There are six mandatory units to give learners an introduction to key areas of business, including marketing, finance, event management and international business. Units are assessed internally and externally. This course gives learners transferable skills like analysing data, confidence and presentation skills and IT skills - all skills that are valuable to employers.

BTEC Level 3

Double Subject

2 years

**Entry Requirements:** 

5 C's at GCSE, or equivalent vocational qualifications, including a grade D in GCSE Maths, and a grade D in GCSE English. \*

# **E-Sports**

Level 3 BTEC Diploma in Esports has been developed to meet the upcoming demand for skills in the fast-growing industry of esports. It is equivalent to two A levels, taken over a two-year period of study, and is suitable for learners looking to progress to employment in the esports industry. As part of your application, you will be required to submit a **supporting statement** outlining your interest in the the Competitive Gaming industry.

**BTEC Level 3** 

**Double Subject** 

2 years

**Entry Requirements:** 

5 C's at GCSE, or equivalent vocational qualification.

### IT

This qualification gives learners the opportunity to develop their knowledge and skills in IT systems, systems management, and social media in business. Upon successful completion of the first year, learners will be awarded the BTEC Level 3 Certificate in IT (one AS Level equivalent). After completing the second year, students will achieve the full BTEC Level 3 Extended Certificate in IT (one A Level equivalent).

BTEC Level 3 Single Subject 2 years Entry Requirements:

5 C's at GCSE, or equivalent vocational qualification. Must include a minimum of a grade D in GCSE Maths.

### **Performing Arts Practice**

If you are passionate about Musical Theatre this highly practical course will give you training to progress your skills in all three disciplines: singing, dancing and acting to become a versatile Musical Theatre performer. Maybe your ambition is to perform on stage in musicals, cruise ships or you aspire to perform for others as part of the entertainment industry. Throughout the course students will experience a wide variety of performance styles and will develop your skills to help you achieve your dreams.

BTEC Level 3 Triple Subject 2 years Entry Requirements:

5 C's at GCSE or equivalent vocational qualifications, including a grade C in GCSE English, and a grade C in GCSE Drama or Music, if studied. Learners will need to pass an audition in front of the performing arts teaching team. \*

# **Sports Coaching and Development**

The BTEC Level 3 Diploma in Sport is equivalent to two A Levels and 120 credits. The course is intended to provide students with an introduction to and development of knowledge and skills appertaining to the sports and fitness industries. The course aims to stimulate and sustain students' interest in, and enjoyment of the sports industry and develop practical and coaching skills in a variety of sports, allowing you to progress into employment in the sports industry.

BTEC Level 3 Double Subject 2 years Entry Requirements:

5 C's at GCSE, or vocational equivalent qualifications. If taken, a merit or above in BTEC Level 2 Sport.

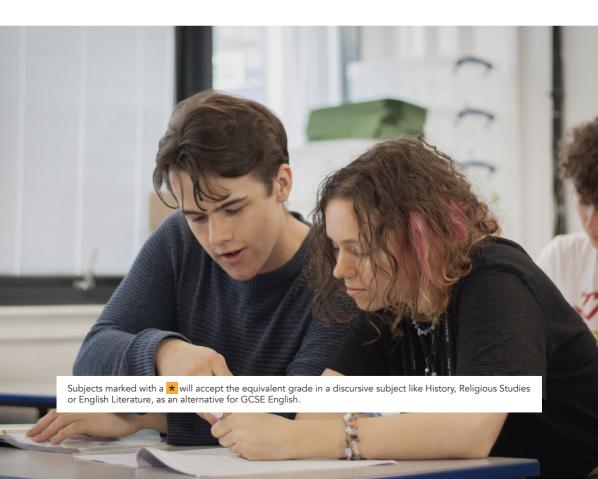
# Level 1 Vocational Skills Programme

### We have a limited number of places available on our Level 1 programme.

St David's Level 1 Vocational Studies programme is a set of skills-based qualifications designed to help learners develop the personal and social skills needed to progress to independent living, future employment or further vocational study at Level 2 and above. This is assessed by St David's staff meaning there are no examinations. Students who complete the course with a good record of studentship will be able to apply to progress to study at Level 2.

It is possible for Level 1 students to progress to Level 3 studies, after completing Level 1 and Level 2 programmes, and this would then provide them with qualifications to meet entry requirements for university degrees, apprenticeships and employment.

Learners from Catholic High Schools have priority to places on Level 1 courses.





The course information in this booklet is correct at the time of printing but may be subject to change throughout the academic year.

Visit www.stdavidscollege.ac.uk for more information on courses.