



ST EDMUND'S CATHOLIC ACADEMY, WOLVERHAMPTON

ACADEMY REPRESENTATIVES' STATEMENT ON PROGRESSION TO THE SIXTH FORM FOR SEPTEMBER 2017



1. Representatives recognise that under the *Raising the Participation Age* legislation all learners in Year 11 are entitled to progress to some form of education or training until they are 18.
2. Representatives see St Edmund's Sixth Form, as a separate but collaborating institution within Compton Park, as the natural progression route for post-16 study for pupils on roll at St Edmund's in Year 11. Provided they meet the entry criteria for their chosen courses, pupils with special educational needs and children in the care of the local authority (who have priority over others as in the main academy policy) are equally entitled to progress to the sixth form and it is the duty of the academy to see that they are appropriately supported.
3. Representatives recognise the importance of sixth form studies and therefore endorse a formal programme of impartial guidance to all pupils in Year 11. This guidance will comprise:
 - a) Information about post-16 courses at St Edmund's for the following 2 years (brochure/prospectus/Year 11 into Sixth Information Evening/individual guidance sessions)
 - b) Independent advice and guidance as to the range of alternative provisions such as apprenticeships and vocational/technical education not provided at St Edmunds.
 - b) Information about the entry requirements to specific courses and the likelihood of attaining those entry requirements (predicted grades/mock results/average point scores). At present the overarching requirements are structured via 3 pathways (see below)
4. They also recognise that RPA simply makes sixth form study the next phase in students' lifelong learning. However, the choices required make it appropriate that pupils complete a Progression form (Progression to Sixth Form) outlining the courses they would like to study, their current subjects, their GCSE/BTEC target grades and any grades they may have already achieved.
5. Representatives recognise that not everyone will wish to continue their post-16 education at St Edmund's but they aim to have 160 students on roll overall in Year 12 and Year 13/14. Where a pupil wishes to progress into the sixth form but there is little likelihood of him/her attaining the appropriate grades for the courses he/she wishes to study (normally grade B or its equivalent for Level 3 courses) there will be a formal guidance session with parents, the Head of Sixth Form and the Vice Principal.
6. Where it is unlikely that there will be 160 on roll in Year 12 and Year 13/14 representatives will be pleased to consider making up the shortfall with applicants from other institutions who will complete a Progression form (similar to the one under 4 above).
7. Where the academy and the pupil cannot reach a mutually acceptable decision parents who wish their son/daughter to study at St Edmund's Sixth Form and pupils, separately, have the right of appeal to an independent appeal panel, but both appeals must be heard at the same time.
8. All Year 12 students sign a Sixth Form contract, which outlines what they can expect from St Edmund's and what they are expected to contribute to and participate in at the academy, as part of the induction process.

Level 3 Study Pathways

We ask for a good level of academic attainment in order to join St Edmunds Academy Sixth Form. We have set our entry requirements at this level because we believe that if you have achieved these grades you are prepared for the challenge of advanced level study. We always strive to ensure every student is placed on the right course for them; a course that will lead to academic, vocational and personal success. For entry in September 2017, there are three pathways depending on what programme of study you choose. Your choices are:

Standard 3 A level Programme

The majority of our students will choose to study 3 A level courses and will commit to these subjects for the full 2 years. Entry requirements for this programme are:

- At least two B grades or grade 6s at GCSE
- At least a further three C grades or grade 4s at GCSE
- You should have at least a grade 4 or C grade in GCSE English Language and Mathematics.

2 x Btec L3 route (+ 1 A level)

Students with a strong vocational aspiration and /or a grade 4 profile will be encouraged to choose one or two BTECs as part of their application. Entry requirements for this programme are:

- At least 5 x C grades or grade 4s at GCSE including GCSE English Language

4 x A level Programme:

Some very able students may choose to study 4 A level subjects. This will include all students who choose to study A level Further Mathematics, who will pick Mathematics, Further Mathematics and two other subjects. These students must commit to these 4 subjects for the full 2 years. Entry requirements for this programme are:

- At least 5 A/A* grades or grade 7's at GCSE
- You should have at least a grade 6 or B grade in GCSE English Language and Mathematics.
- Students picking Mathematics and Further Mathematics will need to get at least a grade 7 in GCSE Mathematics.

Please note the following

- *There may be additional entry requirements specific to particular courses - please check each course listing carefully to ensure you understand these entry requirements. Where students do not fully meet the entry requirements, it is at the Principal's discretion to offer a place.*
- *All students who do not have grade 4 in English and Maths are required to resit as part of their study programme.*
- *While most GCSE courses are grades A*-G, GCSE Mathematics and GCSE English Language and GCSE English Literature will be graded 9-1 (grade 9 being the top grade) from 2017 onwards.*
- *All GCSE courses will be graded by the new system in coming years, but for 2017, it will only be Mathematics and English that adopt this new grading system.*
- *Grade 4 is broadly equivalent to a C grade in the old system.*