

**You don't
need to
travel far to
get ahead.**

Discover Duke's Sixth Form



Part of Northumberland Church
of England Academy Trust

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"Let Your Light Shine"

We're delighted to share with you this key summary of information in relation to this year's sixth form option process. Over the next few weeks, the Duke's Sixth Form team will be speaking to all of our current year 11 students and external applicants about their intended destinations for September 2025 and will be endeavouring to support them in their applications. We hope that many of you will be planning to join us to study a combination of the courses outlined in this document. Duke's Sixth Form is an exciting place to learn and we pride ourselves on how well our students are prepared in order to progress into university study, apprenticeships and employment. We put a strong emphasis on being the best you can be here and this means working hard, developing great attitudes to learning, and experiencing as many opportunities as you can.

We hope you will have heard that we had a 98% course pass rate in the summer and 100% of students wishing to go on to higher education did so.

For 2025-26 we will be expanding our sixth form offer and have established a range of subject combinations that will allow our students to follow some of the most popular option pathways and progress into excellent higher and further education courses and employment or training opportunities.

This information is only the start of our option process and is designed to give you and your child a taster of what Duke's Sixth Form has to offer so that you can begin to think about which options are best for your child. If you wish to discuss our offer further, the Duke's Sixth Form team are on hand this evening to talk you through any questions you may have about the subjects you are interested in.





Our current curriculum offer 2025–26

The subjects we're expecting to offer for next year at Level 3 (A Level or equivalent) are:

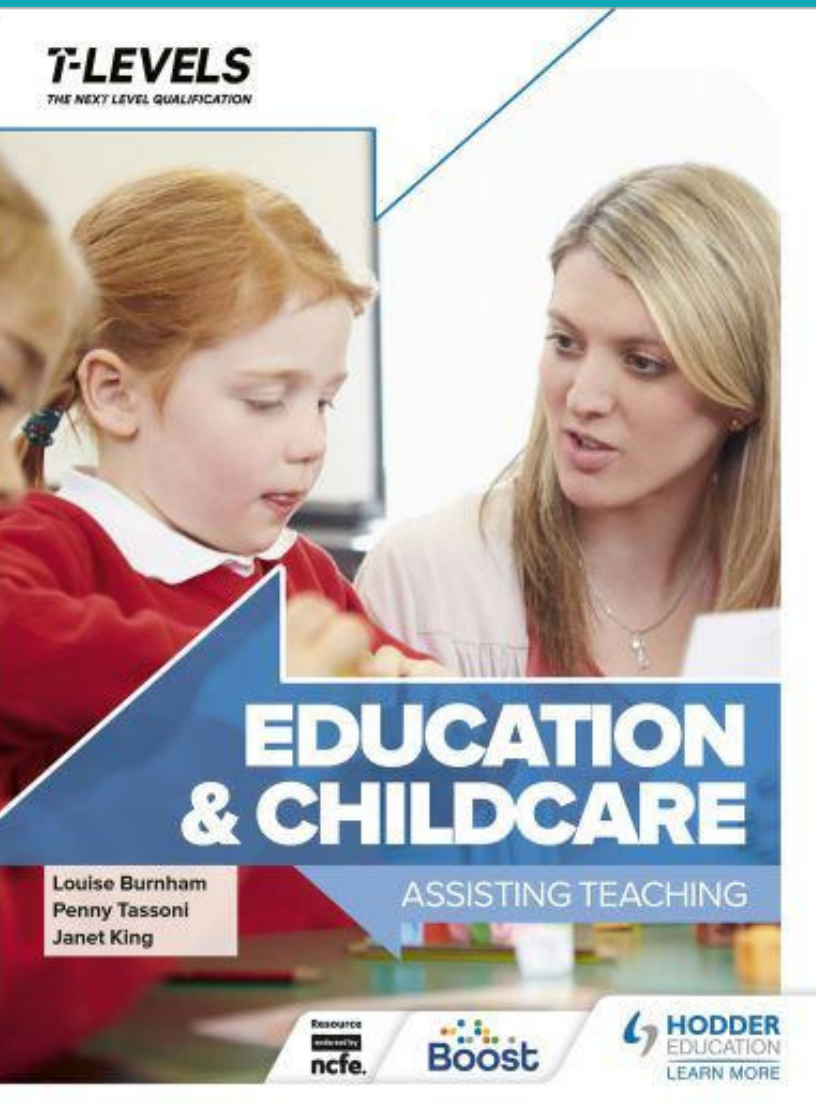
- Art and Design
- Business & Administration- T Level
- Digital Business Services- T Level
- Education & Early Years- T Level
- E-Sports*
- Geography
- Graphic Communication
- Health Science- T Level
- Health and Social Care*
- Mathematics
- Media Studies*
- Music*
- Performing Arts*
- Psychology
- Sociology
- Sport*
- Travel & Tourism*

Please note that subjects marked with an* are vocational subjects and are assessed using coursework and an exam rather than solely examination like the other more traditional A-level subjects offered.

N.B - This subject offer is subject to change and some of the choices recorded may not be the ones that are finally offered in the curriculum model. We may also offer additional courses if there is enough interest expressed through the option process. Students taking L3 courses will usually take 3/4 option choices. If the courses offered are double courses (counting for 2 choices) then between 2 and 3 choices should be taken.

The requirement for progressing to our academic courses is usually a level 6 in that subject at GCSE or in an equivalent subject at GCSE. For example, as we do not offer Sociology at GCSE, the entry criteria for that subject at A-Level is based on the attainment of level 6 in English Language at GCSE. For our Level 3 vocational courses the entry requirement is a Merit grade in that subject at GCSE or a level 4 in both English and Maths. Students wishing to follow a T Level pathway require grade 4 in Maths and English.

T Level in Education & Early Years



T Levels are a new, high-quality, work-focussed alternative to A Levels for young people once they've completed their GCSEs.

- Equivalent to three A Levels
- Gain the practical skills and knowledge needed to progress into the education and childcare workforce, university, or a higher level education and childcare apprenticeship.
- The Education and Childcare T Level (Assisting teaching) is a technical qualification that combines knowledge and theory with a practical work placement made up of a minimum of 45 days in an educational setting
- Students will focus on the area of "Assisting teaching"

If you are self-motivated and love to combine written assignments with practical learning this could be the course for you!

More information on our new T Level pathways in Business, Digital & Health Science will be available soon

Why Duke's?

There are lots of great reasons to choose Duke's Sixth Form for your post-16 education:

- Excellent results for students- 96% pass rate in 2023, 98% pass rate in 2024
- Students progressing onto their chosen pathway- including university and some fantastic apprenticeships
- Extensive support and guidance
- Not having to travel far
- Excellent careers guidance
- Post 16-18 bursary
- Own Common Room
- Study periods
- Lunchtime pass
- Early finish if no PM lessons
- Own Chromebook to use throughout time at Sixth Form
- Casual dress code

We give students the **freedom** they need to grow, but with the **support** they need to succeed.

- Pastoral support
- Careers/University appointments
- Regular progress monitoring
- Target setting
- Silent study room
- Individual Learning Plans
- Smaller classes to allow more one-to-one teaching time
- Support to complete effective independent study



Progression to **great** destinations



Art Foundation
Diploma



Engineering
Apprentices



Lancaster
University



Business Admin
Apprentice



Employment
DWP



Care Assistant &
Salford
University



Pharmacy
Apprentice



Northumbria
University

"Sixth form is an important step between school & the world of work. It develops both your qualifications & personal skills." - **Harrison W.**

We have excellent **extra-curricular** opportunities

In addition to our academic curriculum, **we also offer an extensive enrichment programme** covering guest speakers, university and employer links, trips and volunteering and work experience opportunities. If you would like to find out more about this aspect of Sixth Form life then please see our stand and display or ask one the Sixth Form team.



- University Open Days
- University summer schools & paid internships
- Guest speakers from local businesses
- Apprenticeship agency workshops
- Student leadership team and council

- Careers fairs and industry visits
- Work experience week and additional placements
- Volunteering trips overseas

The Options Process

Please note that dates are approximate and subject to change.

Date	Description	For?
November 2024	Options Assembly	Students
20/11/24	Sixth Form open evening	Students & Parents/Carers
04/12/24	Sixth Form prospectus published	Students & Parents/Carers
w/b 16/12/24	Options interviews	Students
March 2025	Immersive T Level taster days	Students
29/01/25	Sixth form meet & greet coffee morning	Students
21/02/25	Option form deadline	Students
17/03/25	Sixth Form offer letters	Students & Parents/Carers
w/b 17/02/25	Sixth form Taster lessons	Students
26/06/25	Sixth Form Away Day	Students

