

THE SIXTH FORM OPTIONS SCHEME

The teaching of Sixth Form courses has to fit into the school's timetable. The Sixth Form curriculum consists of four timetable blocks; you will be allowed to choose no more than one subject in each block. The options available in each block are set out on the 'Sixth Form Curriculum 2019-2021' sheet.

The subject combinations that we are able to offer are based upon our own research and our experience of the sorts of subject combinations which Millfield pupils traditionally choose. Although flexibility is a priority, it is important to note that not all combinations of subjects are possible, just as some are undesirable.

Though every attempt will be made to offer the courses shown, the school reserves the right to limit places if demand is too high or close courses if numbers are too low.

TIMETABLE FOR CHOOSING

Provisional choices will be requested at spring half-term (or as soon as possible thereafter for new registrations). Adjustments to these choices will be possible (for example, following the release of GCSE/IGCSE/BTEC results) with the school's agreement. On the Sunday before the start of the autumn term, key staff will be available to answer any queries at the Lower Sixth Advice Meeting for pupils and parents. Formal registration for Lower Sixth courses will take place on the first day of the autumn term 2019.

The enjoyment factor

Sixth Form study is very different from Year 10/11, both in terms of the quantity of material studied and the depth of that study. The essential advice is to choose subjects that you enjoy and reflect your interests and strengths. If you like a subject then your commitment will be that much greater.

Keeping options open

Check the UCAS website (www.ucas.com) for entry requirements to Higher Education courses of interest; this will provide you with information on courses which have specific subject entry requirements. For Art & Design related courses you will need to prepare a portfolio. Securing a place on a popular university course often requires more than the stated minimum entry grades.

HIGHER EDUCATION

The subjects that you choose will ultimately impact on the university courses that are available to you. The Careers and Higher Education department is available to give expert advice. If you are thinking of applying to universities in North America you should aim to keep your options as broad as possible and you may need to take a Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT) in addition to A levels. Some universities in the USA do not recognise BTEC qualifications and the more competitive universities prefer to see the more traditional A level subjects; you will also need to have suitable qualifications in Mathematics, English and a Social Science at GCSE level, if not at A level.

FURTHER ADVICE

If you have any queries which are not answered in this leaflet then, if you are a current Millfield pupil, please approach your group tutor for initial help and advice. Specific subject information can be obtained by contacting the relevant Head of Department.

If you would like guidance on more complex questions concerning subject combinations or Further/Higher Education and Careers, then please contact one of the tutors in the Careers and Higher Education team:

Mr J Brittain
(Further/Higher Education)
brittain.j@millfieldschool.com

Mrs L Nixon
(North American Universities)
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MILLFIELD

After GCSE ... What's Next?



September 2019

At this stage in your school career you should be making plans for your education following the external examinations in the summer. When your Year 10/11 courses are completed you will be free to focus on the subjects that particularly interest you. However, the subjects that you select can have a significant bearing on the direction of your future education and potential career. **The aim of this brochure is to inform you about the academic options available to Sixth Form pupils at Millfield.**

THE SIXTH FORM CURRICULUM

The Sixth Form curriculum has been designed to provide you with a broad and flexible choice of subjects and courses which include: A levels (or equivalent); BTEC courses; GCSE/IGCSEs. Look carefully at the enclosed 'Sixth Form Curriculum 2019-2021' sheet which shows the complete list of courses on offer.

A level courses

Reformed A levels have been available to new Lower Sixth pupils in all subjects from September 2017. These courses have been specifically designed to be delivered linearly over the Lower Sixth and Upper Sixth years. External examinations taken at the end of the Upper Sixth assess the two years of Sixth Form study and lead to the award of an A level. The courses on offer at Millfield from September 2019 are set out in the Sixth Form Courses 2019-2021 brochure.

Most pupils will study three A level courses (or the equivalent curriculum loading) in the Lower Sixth and continue with all of these courses into the Upper Sixth. With the school's agreement, and depending on prior attainment, aspirations, subject choices (i.e. the overall programme) and co-curricular load, there are options to study more or less courses than this.

Advice is available on the number of courses that would suit you; to follow the 'standard' three A level programme in the Lower and Upper Sixth at Millfield you will typically have achieved a minimum of 30 points from your best six GCSE/IGCSE/BTEC (or equivalent) courses; there are also specific requirements for individual courses. Full details of our requirements for Sixth Form study can be found in the Sixth Form Courses 2019-2021 brochure.

University entry requirements are based on achievements at A level (or BTEC or Pre-U) in most cases. The majority of Millfield pupils take three subjects to A level in the Upper Sixth, which is the standard university entry requirement; two being the usual minimum requirement for degree level study. Entry onto Higher National Diploma/Foundation degree courses requires at least one A level or a BTEC qualification with appropriate GCSEs. The option of continuing four subjects to A level is also available.

BTEC courses

Typically these courses are attractive to Sixth Formers who are capable of working at an advanced level but who feel better placed to show their potential primarily through coursework assignments rather than in the traditional examination room setting of most A level assessment. On these courses pupils are largely continuously assessed as they progress through unit assignments and each assessment counts towards their overall grade.

There are four (multiple A level equivalent) courses available; these courses can stand alone (and take up the curriculum time equivalent to three A level subjects) or be combined with one A level. **Pupils who are interested in a multiple A level equivalent BTEC place are strongly encouraged to contact the relevant Head of Department as soon as possible to discuss their suitability.**

- **BTEC Level 3 Extended Diploma in Art and Design**

This is a two year course which is equivalent to three A levels and provides entry onto many degree /foundation degree courses, BTEC Higher National Diplomas and Foundation Art courses.

For further details please contact:

Head of Art, Design & Technology, Mr P Maxfield
(E-mail. maxfield.p@millfieldschool.com)

- **BTEC Level 3 Diploma in Business**

This qualification is equivalent to two A levels and provides entry into over 150 different UK universities for degree programmes in many business related courses, such as sports marketing, events management, human resources or digital marketing.

- **BTEC Level 3 Diploma in Enterprise and Entrepreneurship**

This course is equivalent to two A levels and provides pupils with an excellent skills base of entrepreneurialism, initiative and forward thinking. The qualification provides entry into a variety of degree programmes at universities.

For further details on the Business and Enterprise and Entrepreneurship BTEC courses please contact:

Head of Business, Mrs C Glover
(E-mail. glover.c@millfieldschool.com)

- **BTEC Level 3 Diploma in Sport**

This is a two year course and is equivalent to two A levels. It has been developed to give learners the opportunity to gain a nationally recognised vocational qualification which could aid progression to higher education or enhance employment opportunities within the sport and leisure industry.

For further details please contact:

Head of Physical Education, Mr S Maddock
(E-mail. maddock.s@millfieldschool.com)

The minimum entry requirement for each of these multiple A level equivalent BTEC courses is at least 20 points from the pupil's best five GCSE/IGCSE/BTEC courses. Further details can be found in the Sixth Form Courses 2019-2021 brochure. It is equally important that pupils have the personal qualities appropriate to this style of study: well-motivated, resourceful and considering a career in the chosen BTEC area.

In addition, there are three single A level equivalent BTEC/Level 3 courses available. Each of these courses can be completed in the curriculum time equivalent to a single A level and can therefore be combined with up to three other courses in the Lower Sixth:

- **BTEC Level 3 National Extended Certificate in Music Performance**

For further details please contact:

Assistant Director of Music (Academic), Mrs K Barry
(E-mail. barry.k@millfieldschool.com)

- **BTEC Level 3 National Extended Certificate in Information Technology**

For further details please contact:

Head of Computer Science and ICT, Mr M Shields
(E-mail. shields.m@millfieldschool.com)

- **WJEC Level 3 Certificate in Food Science & Nutrition**

This level 3 course is similar in approach and assessment to a single A level equivalent BTEC course. For further details please contact:

i/c Food and Nutrition, Mr P Reeves
(E-mail. reeves.p@millfieldschool.com)

Extended Project Qualification (EPQ)

The EPQ is an additional qualification available to all Sixth Form pupils and involves independent research on a topic of your own choice. The EPQ is highly regarded by universities as it will enhance and demonstrate your independent study skills. You will work over an extended period, starting in the Lower Sixth and including work over the summer break, to produce your project; mention of the EPQ can therefore be included in university applications. For further details please contact: Mr D Trevis (E-mail. trevis.d@millfieldschool.com).

Other courses

A number of GCSE and specialist courses are also available, including the 'Leiths Basic Certificate in Food and Wine' and the 'British Horse Society Complete Horsemanship Certificate'. All pupils have access to preparation English and Maths lessons for the US university entrance tests (SATs).