

Post 16 Prospectus

2021/2022



Diverse
Academies

Welcome to Walton Post 16

A warm Walton welcome. It is my pleasure to lead our sixth form and I am delighted that you are considering further education with us.

We offer a wide range of courses including A Levels and BTEC Level 3 subjects. Students at Walton Post 16 enjoy a vast array of leadership opportunities including student subject leaders, Post 16 Committee and student academic mentors. In addition, there are many extracurricular clubs and activities on offer.

We provide all students with a bespoke programme of advice and guidance to inform you about your future pathways, including higher education and apprenticeships. Our careers officer is also available for one-to-one appointments to help you plan your next steps.

Our dedicated post 16 team is relentless in ensuring an effective climate for learning to make sure that all students reach their full potential. We look forward to welcoming you at our open evening or for one of our post 16 'Talk and Tour' events.



Carly McKeown
Head of Post 16



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Why choose Walton?

Choosing the right place for your post 16 study is an important decision. The experience at post 16 will shape your future prospects, whether that be achieving your chosen university course, securing an apprenticeship or preparing for a future career.

By choosing Walton, you will be challenged and stretched to achieve the best possible academic results to set you on the right path for the future. Just as importantly, you will be supported to develop as an individual – to achieve your ambitions and to expand your horizons.

Our post 16 students are encouraged to shine throughout their time in sixth form and to leave as confident, resilient and motivated individuals. The Walton post 16 student is prepared for life ahead, wherever that may lead.

Life at Walton

Our sixth form offers an exciting, vibrant place of study. Post 16 students join a lively community, located within Walton's dedicated post 16 centre. This allows students a greater level of independence and freedom in their studies, preparing them for the transition to university or the world of work.

Superb results

We are extremely proud of our high success rate for A Level and BTEC Level 3 examinations. In 2019 our students achieved the following (2020 results were moderated and therefore not published due to Covid-19).

- Overall pass rate of 99%
- 9% of grades A*-A
- 29% of grades A*-B
- 98% of grades A*-E
- 57% of Level 3 BTEC grades were the top Distinction* Distinction

Outstanding facilities

Walton's purpose-built post 16 centre provides a modern and welcoming hub for our sixth form students.

In addition to tutor rooms, you will have access to group and individual study and breakout areas, fully equipped ICT suites and laboratories, and a post 16 common room – perfect for relaxation and socialising with other students. Refreshments and snacks can also be accessed within the centre.

The post 16 learning environment also offers Walton students access to additional unrivalled facilities – the majority of which cannot be found at other post 16 centres:

- visual arts spaces for painting, textiles and drawing
- photographic studio with purpose-built dark room
- dance studio
- theatre with auditorium seating plus backstage lighting, camera and sound console

Our recently refurbished maths and science suites are located next to the post 16 centre for ease and convenience.



Enrichment

Extracurricular opportunities are an important and significant area of learning as they provide students with new and challenging experiences. These opportunities allow students to develop new skills, take risks, experiment with new experiences and consequently grow in self-confidence.



As a Walton post 16 student you will have access to a broad range of enrichment opportunities to aid your learning and help develop life skills. These include supporting students in the lower school as mentors, working within departments or with students in tutor groups, theatre visits, sporting events, visits abroad and a debating society.

All year 12 students go on a week's work experience in July. With guidance, you will be required to research and set up a placement. This is a fantastic way for you to gain experience in the workplace and to support applications for apprenticeships or universities.

A number of our students have attended summer schools at Cambridge, Nottingham, Lincoln, Lancaster and Oxford. In addition, our performing arts faculty offer a wide range of opportunities for post 16 students to perform, including numerous productions both locally and nationally.

We are equally passionate about offering STEM enrichment opportunities to students throughout their courses, and work in partnership with the Ogden Trust and Supporting Physics Teaching Network.

Enhancing your experience at Walton

Extracurricular and enrichment opportunities:

- Principal Student and Deputy Principal Student
- Post 16 Leadership Team
- Post 16 newsletter editors
- Post 16 Debating Society
- Form leaders and deputies
- Mental health ambassadors
- Performing in drama, dance and musical theatre productions
- Subject leaders
- Chemistry clubs for years 12 and 13
- Physics lectures in London
- Art enrichment visit to London, Sheffield and Harlaxton Manor
- Newton Lecture at RAF Cranwell
- Interview practice and CV writing workshops
- Fitness and relaxation boot camp
- Revision and exam preparation skills
- Crest Awards
- Ogden Scholarship
- Isaac Physics Boot Camp
- The Walton Lectures
- Bishop Grosseteste University Pre-Teaching Award

Support, guidance and transition

Our students are supported by our team of specialist post 16 staff as they transition into year 12 and onto year 13.

We have a dedicated post 16 tutor team and a progress mentor, and our fantastic team of post 16 form tutors carry out our bespoke pastoral programme over the academic year. This includes folder checks and individual mentoring sessions to ensure all students are on track.

We offer a series of life skills days which provide a plethora of opportunities for you to learn about university life, UCAS apprenticeships, careers guidance, and also include motivational masterclasses by external speakers.

The leadership opportunities are diverse and far reaching. We have students working in partnership with key stage 4 students as individual mentors, student subject leaders across every faculty, STEM ambassadors, performing arts leaders, post 16 newsletter editors, charities committee members, post 16 leadership committee and principal students.

In addition, our study rooms are open for students to complete work after school every day.

Financial support

The 16 to 19 Bursary Fund provides financial support to help students overcome specific barriers to participation so that they can remain in education.

Our post 16 mentor can provide advice to those seeking additional financial support, and full details of the fund and an application form can be found on our website by visiting:

www.walton-ac.org.uk/sixth-form/school-bursary



Planning for the future

University

At Walton, students who are looking to go on to higher education are supported through the process of deciding what course and where to continue their studies. Students are given access to Unifrog, enabling them to search every university course, apprenticeship and college course in the UK. Additionally, it lists other opportunities such as school leaver programmes, MOOCs (massive open online courses) and every college at Oxford and Cambridge. The platform also makes it easy for students to record competencies, and write CVs and personal statements.

Apprenticeships

An apprenticeship is another option after post 16 study and our careers advisor is on hand to support students looking at this route. These usually consist of part time work and part time education. Many companies offer apprenticeships, including degree level apprenticeships. All Walton post 16 students are given Unifrog access where they can view apprenticeship opportunities.

Employment

Another choice may be to go into full time employment. Many industries take on young employees with the intention of training them up and potentially encouraging them to apply for managerial posts later on. Careers support and advice for those looking to enter the world of work is provided by our dedicated careers advisor.



“

I came to Walton on the taster day and I was so impressed by all of the courses available and I was excited to get started. On my first day I was made to feel so welcome. A big difference to my last school was how much the teachers paid attention and how much help they offer you. I am so pleased I came to this academy and there is not one regret.”

Alex, year 13 student



“

I transferred from John Ferneley College and have been made to feel really welcome. The academy offers opportunities in enrichment from complex notetaking to lifeskills at universities, with support from the whole post 16 team. It creates a foundation in which you feel comfortable in.”

Grace, year 13 student

Our courses

We provide both A Level and BTEC courses, enabling you to tailor your course to suit your academic and vocational aspirations.

Options pathway

The following table shows the options for post 16 study at Walton based on predicted GCSE grades.

Pathway Programme	Predicted GCSE grades	Description	Possible Destinations
INDIGO	Mainly 8s and 9s	3 A Levels <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Applications for medicine/veterinary/dentistry OR Oxbridge OR Russell Group university Courses require at least two 'traditional' subjects: maths and further maths, English literature, physics, biology, chemistry, geography, history or a modern foreign language• See www.russellgroup.ac.uk/media/5272/informedchoices-print.pdf for the full informed choices booklet	Oxbridge Russell Group university University degree Higher apprenticeship
PURPLE	Mainly 7s and some 6s	3 A Levels	University degree Higher apprenticeship
COBALT	Mainly 5s and above	3 or 4 courses. A combination of 3 BTECs and one AS Level to continue onto 3 courses in year 13	University degree Higher apprenticeship
TEAL	Mainly 5s	3 BTEC courses. Must include GCSE resit in English and/or maths if less than grade 5	University foundation degree Advanced apprenticeship

9	8.6	8.3	8	7.6	7	6.6	6	5.6	5.3	4.6
All 9 GCSE Grades	Mostly 9 GCSE Grades	Mostly 8/9 GCSE Grades	Mostly 8 GCSE Grades	Mostly 7/8 GCSE Grades	Mostly 7 GCSE Grades	Mostly 6/7 GCSE Grades	Mostly 6 GCSE Grades	Mostly 5/6 GCSE Grades	All 5s GCSE Grades	Mostly 5s GCSE Grades

View our online course guide

www.walton-ac.org.uk/sixth-form/courses

APPLIED SCIENCE

BTEC Level 3 Extended Certificate

Students studying applied science have an opportunity to learn independently, carrying out active research and developing communication skills by delivering presentations and being active group members. Learners can also benefit from opportunities by selecting areas of interest for detailed study. By the end of the course students will be confident in reading scientific and technical texts, writing effectively, showing analytical skills, and be confident and proficient in a variety of practical scenarios – all skills which can be brought forward for use at university or in the workplace.

Entry requirements

Students should have a minimum of 5 GCSE grades (5 to 9) including science, maths and English language. Course requirements are a 5-5 in combined sciences.

Examination board: BTEC

Find out more at: www.walton-ac.org.uk/sixth-form/courses/applied-science

ART AND DESIGN (FINE ART/TEXTILES)

A Level

You will learn how to express your thoughts and ideas through the skilful manipulation of materials. You will explore art concepts through a variety of media and formats including painting, printmaking, textiles, photography and digital media. You will be able to specialise in fine art or textiles.

Entry requirements

Minimum grade 6 GCSE in art and design, grade 6 GCSE in English and maths

Examination board: Edexcel

Find out more at: www.walton-ac.org.uk/sixth-form/courses/art-and-design

BIOLOGY

A Level

Biology is the study of life and incorporates a wide variety of exciting subject areas, ranging from molecular biology to the study of ecosystems, from genetics to disease. The A Level course builds on knowledge, understanding and practical skills developed during GCSE science. The course involves a mixture of scientific method, problem solving, practical skills and socially relevant content. It also enables students to develop the essential skills of synoptic essay writing, which is an aspect of modern education highlighted as missing by the major universities.

Entry requirements

Minimum of GCSE grade 7 in biology and grade 6 in both GCSE chemistry and physics or 7-7 in combined science, grade 6 GCSE maths

Examination board: AQA

Find out more at: www.walton-ac.org.uk/sixth-form/courses/biology

BUSINESS

BTEC Level 3 Extended Certificate

This course is for students who are interested in learning about the business sector alongside other fields of study, with a view to progressing to a wide range of higher education courses, not necessarily in business-related subjects. It is designed to be taken as part of a programme of study that includes other appropriate BTEC Nationals or A Levels. Students benefit from experiencing real life businesses through visits, guest speakers and 'live' assignment briefs from local businesses. Learners should have a keen interest in the world of business. They will benefit from having relevant work experience or part-time employment to complement their studies.

Entry requirements

Grade 6 GCSE maths, grade 6 GCSE English

Examination board: Pearson

Find out more at: www.walton-ac.org.uk/sixth-form/courses/business

CHEMISTRY

AS/A Level

Chemistry has one of the highest values of any A Level. It commands universal respect among universities and employers. Whether you want a career in medicine or industry, chemistry provides a great platform for study in higher education. Chemists are seen as great innovators and problem solvers. There are more chemistry graduates within the 'square mile' in London's financial area than any other discipline.

Entry requirements

Minimum of grade 7 GCSE chemistry and grade 6 in both GCSE biology and physics or 7-7 in combined science, as well as at least a 6 grade in maths

Examination board: AQA

Find out more at: www.walton-ac.org.uk/sixth-form/courses/chemistry

CHILDREN'S PLAY, LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT (CPLD)

BTEC Level 3 Extended Certificate

This is an exciting subject area looking at three different mandatory units and one optional unit. It is for students who are interested in learning about the early years sector as part of a balanced study programme. The course will support you to look at different aspects of child development, play and learning as well as essential skills and competencies required to work in the area of early years education.

Entry requirements

A minimum of 5 GCSEs (4-9 grades), including maths and English

Examination board: Pearson

Find out more at: www.walton-ac.org.uk/sixth-form/courses/childrens-play-learning-and-development

CORE MATHEMATICS	CRIMINOLOGY	ENGLISH LITERATURE	FOOD SCIENCE AND NUTRITION	FURTHER MATHEMATICS	GEOGRAPHY
<p>AS Level</p> <p>This qualification is designed to consolidate and build on your mathematical understanding at GCSE, as well as develop your mathematical understanding and skills further in the application of mathematics to authentic problems. You will gain a deeper competence in the selection and use of mathematical techniques used at GCSE and beyond, develop confidence in representing and analysing authentic situations mathematically and applying mathematics to address related questions and issues. You will also build skills in mathematical thinking, reasoning and communication.</p> <p>Entry requirements</p> <p>A minimum grade 4 at GCSE maths</p> <p>Examination board: OCR</p> <p>Find out more at: www.walton-ac.org.uk/sixth-form/courses/core-maths</p>	<p>Level 3 Applied Diploma</p> <p>An understanding of criminology is relevant to many job roles within the criminal justice sector, including police officers, probation and prison officers, and social workers. With their critical thinking, analytical and communication skills, criminology graduates are also attractive to employers outside the criminal justice sector in areas such as social research and politics. This course has a strong focus on applied learning and students will acquire knowledge of the criminal justice system in purposeful contexts.</p> <p>Entry requirements</p> <p>A minimum of grade 6 or above in English and another supporting Level 2/GCSE qualification such as philosophy or history</p> <p>Examination board: WJEC</p> <p>Find out more at: www.walton-ac.org.uk/sixth-form/courses/criminology</p>	<p>A Level</p> <p>Studying English literature will allow you to study a plethora of thought-provoking material. It will give you the opportunity to discuss themes, characters and narrative structures of texts whilst reflecting on what this reveals about human nature and the world we live in. Many of the texts you study will come from different periods of history. However, the universal concepts and ideas will capture your imagination and help you develop your own interpretations of seminal literary works.</p> <p>Entry requirements</p> <p>Grade 6 and above in GCSE English language and English literature</p> <p>Examination board: AQA</p> <p>Find out more at: www.walton-ac.org.uk/sixth-form/courses/english-literature</p>	<p>WJEC Level 3 Diploma</p> <p>An understanding of food science and nutrition is relevant to many industries and job roles. Care providers and nutritionists in hospitals use this knowledge, as do sports coaches and fitness instructors. Hotels and restaurants, food manufacturers and government agencies also use this understanding to develop menus, food products and policies that support healthy eating initiatives. This qualification offers you a chance to develop both practical and academic skills through applied learning, for example, through the acquisition of knowledge and understanding in purposeful, work-related contexts, linked to industry.</p> <p>Entry requirements</p> <p>Grade 6 GCSE food preparation and nutrition, grade 6 GCSE maths and English</p> <p>Examination board: WJEC</p> <p>Find out more at: www.walton-ac.org.uk/sixth-form/courses/food-science-and-nutrition</p>	<p>A Level</p> <p>Further maths is essential for many university courses and careers. This A Level has been designed alongside deliverers of higher education to ensure it gives students the best possible chance to progress and realise their potential. This course will stretch and challenge even the most able mathematicians to prepare for a career in the STEM subject areas. You will also build skills in mathematical thinking, reasoning and communication.</p> <p>Entry requirements</p> <p>Minimum grade 7 GCSE maths</p> <p>Examination board: AQA</p> <p>Find out more at: www.walton-ac.org.uk/sixth-form/courses/further-maths</p>	<p>A Level</p> <p>Geography is one of the most diverse subjects available for A Level due to the wide ranging topics areas studied within human, physical and environmental geographies. Geography would be the ideal course if you enjoy learning about people and their societies, economies, cultures and the physical environment. The two-year A Level course also states that students must undertake a minimum of four days of fieldwork.</p> <p>Entry requirements</p> <p>Grade 6 or above GCSE geography</p> <p>Examination board: Edexcel</p> <p>Find out more at: www.walton-ac.org.uk/sixth-form/courses/geography</p>

HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE (DIPLOMA)

BTEC Level 3 Diploma

This is an exciting subject area looking at six different mandatory units and two optional units. It is for students who are interested in learning about the health and social care sector as part of a balanced study programme. The course will support you to look at different aspects of life and human development as well as essential skills and competencies required to work in the vast area of health and social care.

Entry requirements

A minimum of five GCSEs at grade 4-9 or above, including maths and English

Examination board: Pearson

Find out more at: www.walton-ac.org.uk/sixth-form/courses/health-and-social-care-diploma

HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE (CERTIFICATE)

BTEC Level 3 Extended Certificate

This is an exciting subject area looking at six different mandatory units and two optional units. It is for students who are interested in learning about the health and social care sector as part of a balanced study programme. The course will support you to look at different aspects of life and human development as well as essential skills and competencies required to work in the vast area of health and social care.

Entry requirements

A minimum of five GCSEs at grade 4-9 or above, including maths and English

Examination board: Pearson

Find out more at: www.walton-ac.org.uk/sixth-form/courses/health-and-social-care-extended-certificate

HISTORY

A Level

The course has been designed to help students understand the value and significance of world events in the past. In the process you will gain a deeper understanding of social, cultural, religious and ethnic diversity.

Entry requirements

A minimum of at least grade 6 GCSE history and English.

Examination board: AQA

Find out more at: www.walton-ac.org.uk/sixth-form/courses/history

ICT

BTEC Level 3 National Extended Certificate

This qualification is designed for learners who are interested in an introduction to the study of creating IT systems to manage and share information – alongside other fields of study – with a view to progressing to a wide range of higher education courses, not necessarily in IT.

The course is equivalent to one A Level. There are 360 guided learning hours (GLH) for the completion of the qualification. Lessons will be a mixture of practical and classroom based theory lessons.

Entry requirements

Five GCSEs at grades 4-9

Examination board: Pearson

Find out more at: www.walton-ac.org.uk/sixth-form/courses/ict

MATHEMATICS

A Level

Maths is one of the biggest facilitating subjects and it is essential for many higher education courses and careers. The overarching themes of the course are mathematical argument, language and proof, mathematical problem solving and mathematical modelling.

Entry requirements

Minimum grade 6 GCSE maths

Examination board: AQA

Find out more at: www.walton-ac.org.uk/sixth-form/courses/maths

PERFORMING ARTS

BTEC National Extended Certificate (equivalent to one A Level) BTEC National Diploma (equivalent to two A Levels)

The performing arts industry is one of the largest industries in the world. It includes areas of work such as theatre, music studios, concert venues, museums, education, media and television. It provides a wealth of job opportunities within the UK and abroad. This is also an ideal course for those wishing to pursue a career in dance, acting or musical theatre at a vocational performing arts institute.

Entry requirements

Five grades 4-9 including GCSE maths and English at grade 4 or above. Merit/grade 6 or above in one or more of the following BTEC/ GCSE subjects: music, dance or drama. You will also be expected to audition for a place on the course.

Examination board: Pearson

Find out more at: www.walton-ac.org.uk/sixth-form/courses/performing-arts

PHILOSOPHY AND ETHICS

A Level

Philosophy and ethics is a subject that by its nature requires students to consider individual, moral, ethical, social, cultural and contemporary issues. The subject is suitable for anyone who enjoys thinking critically, playing with abstract concepts and challenging received wisdom. Philosophers ask fundamental questions about our own nature, and of the world we live in. It is a challenging and exciting process, helping you to grow and develop intellectually while developing valuable and transferable skills in analysis, imagination, problem solving and communication. Highly regarded by universities, the subject involves a study of philosophical, theological and ethical theories which underpin and structure our world today.

Entry requirements

Grade 6 or above in GCSE philosophy and ethics

Examination board: Eduqas/WJEC

Find out more at: www.walton-ac.org.uk/sixth-form/courses/philosophy-ethics

PHOTOGRAPHY

A Level

You will learn how to express your thoughts and ideas through the skilful manipulation of photographic media. You will learn about a variety of photography genres and art movements to help you to develop your own themes and projects. You will learn how to use both digital and film cameras, working in both the Photoshop suite and the dark room.

Entry requirements

Grade 4 or above in GCSE art and design, grade 4 and above in GCSE maths and English. Alternatively, an interview and portfolio presentation will be offered

Examination board: Edexcel

Find out more at: www.walton-ac.org.uk/sixth-form/courses/photography

PHYSICS

A Level

Physics has one of the highest values of any A Level. It commands universal respect among universities and employers. Physics will help you to build up your problem solving, research and analytical skills. With these skills you will be able to test out new ideas plus question and investigate other people's theories, which is useful for any kind of job that involves research or debate. Physicists are in big demand, whatever your career, a qualification in physics will open doors. Physics is more than a subject – it trains your brain to think beyond boundaries.

Entry requirements

Grade 7 in GCSE physics with a grade 6 in both GCSE biology and GCSE chemistry or a grade 7-7 in GCSE combined science and grade 6 in maths

Examination board: AQA

Find out more at: www.walton-ac.org.uk/sixth-form/courses/physics

SPORT

BTEC Level 3 National Extended Certificate

The BTEC Level 3 National Extended Certificate in Sport is equivalent to one A Level. There are 360 guided learning hours (GLH) for the completion of the qualification. Lessons will be a mixture of practical and classroom based theory lessons.

Entry requirements

Five GCSEs at grades 4-9

Examination board: Pearson

Find out more at: www.walton-ac.org.uk/sixth-form/courses/sport



How to apply

To apply online please visit www.walton-ac.org.uk/sixth-form/how-to-apply and complete the online application form. If you have any questions at all, please do not hesitate to contact the post 16 team.

Phone: **01476 563251**

Email: enquiries@walton-ac.org.uk

Visit: www.walton-ac.org.uk



Diverse Academies

Walton is part of the Diverse Academies Trust – a group of academies committed to the development and improvement of schools through collaboration and partnership. Our core focus is the achievement and development of each individual student. We have an established framework of core principles and practice to which all academies subscribe, whilst maintaining and developing each academy's unique identity and individual characteristics.

For more information, visit www.diverseacademies.org.uk



Location

Walton Post 16 Centre is accessible from Lincolnshire, Nottinghamshire and Leicestershire by car, bus or train. Walton is located in a pleasant area on the outskirts of Grantham town centre with superb access to the A1 and A52.





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