Sixth Form Curriculum 2016 - 18



King Ecgbert School offers A level and level 3 BTEC qualifications which can be taken separately or in combination. Alongside these, there is opportunity to add enrichment courses such as EPQ, IFS and Core Maths.

We work as part of the South West Learning Partnership, so students can also take A level courses at two neighbouring schools, allowing a broader curriculum provision.

BTEC Qualifications

In 2016, our BTEC Business department moved to the new specification as part of a pilot. In line with other centres, we have found the qualification to be much harder than the old specification. Pearson have stated they expect to see a significant change in the grade profile for this qualification.

Other BTEC qualifications were all taught on the old specifications.

AS and A level Qualifications

For the 2016-17 academic year, as A level Mathematics and A level Further Mathematics were still on the modular structure, we took the decision as a school that all departments would teach the AS level in year 12.

In September 2016, Year 12 students enrolled on the equivalent of three or four AS level courses. Some very able students elected to start on the equivalent of five AS level courses.

All students taking Maths and/or Further Maths certificated in these courses.

In addition, the school funded students to certificate in a further AS course. Students were able to chose to certificate in more AS courses if they funded this themselves.

Those students who did not certificate in a course sat the same AS level examinations on the same day in a twilight exam session. These exams were marked by teachers to give an internal AS grade which was used to inform the A level predicted grade.

In September 2017, students then enrolled on the equivalent of three A level courses for Year 13. Some students chose to continue with four courses although this was not encouraged.

Disrupted Study

The Chemistry department faced a lot of disruption in 2016-17 with a mid-year retirement and two serious injuries resulting in three of the five members of staff not being available for significant parts of the year. Classes were overseen by qualified A level teachers but students were often taught by a member of staff who did not know them and, for a term, students worked independently for one lesson per week supervised by cover supervisor who was not a scientist.

If you have any queries about the curriculum, or our rationale, please contact Miss Rebecca McCairns, Head of Sixth Form, at rmccairns@ecgbert.sheffield.sch.uk.