



Goodwin Academy

Sixth Form Course Guide

2017-18

Choosing courses for study at Goodwin Academy Sixth Form

What is the purpose of studying at Goodwin Academy Sixth Form?

- Further academic study at Sixth Form is rewarding because it is intellectually stimulating and challenging.
- We encourage learners to have 4 learning aims, this makes a robust study programme and by pursuing studies more deeply in a narrower range of subjects the learner gains a strong level of knowledge and mastery of that subject.
- Level 3 study is the stepping stone to university and can unlock many avenues in the future.
- Level 3 courses provide a benchmark of capabilities to a prospective employer. These qualifications are highly valued by employers.

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Registered office: 1st Floor Holborn Gate, 330 High Holborn, London WC1V 7QT.
VAT registered number: GB 220 9017 47

GOODWIN ACADEMY
MILL ROAD
DEAL
KENT CT14 9BD

T: 01304 373 363
F: 01304 380 769
E: ADMIN@GOODWINACADEMY.ORG.UK

Sixth Form Programmes of Study

Goodwin Academy is committed to offering a wide range of courses to suit the needs of learners within the local area. Therefore, we offer courses at two levels.

Level 3 allows students the opportunity to achieve at A Level and could lead to university, employment or further education. There are two types of Level 3 courses available:

- **A Levels** – These courses are designed to be taught and learned over two years. In most cases there is no formal external examination at the end of Year 12. All of the knowledge, understanding and skill that you learn will be assessed at the end of the second year of the course. In some A Level subjects there is an element of non-examination assessment that takes during the course.
- **Vocational** – These are assessed through coursework and examinations over a two year period. The BTEC National Extended Certificate and the OCR Cambridge Technical Extended Certificate are equivalent to one A Level. The BTEC National Diploma and the OCR Cambridge Technical Diploma are equivalent to two A Levels.
- **Entry requirements** – To study the courses offered at Level 3, students will need to have achieved 5 x A*- C grades or Level 9 - 4 in English and Mathematics at GCSE or equivalent; this can include vocational courses. Some A Level courses might have extra requirements, and these are outlined in the subject information section. They are also available on the Goodwin Academy website and on www.kentchoices4u.com

Level 2 courses enable students to prepare for Level 3 study, apprenticeships or employment. There are two types of Level 2 courses available:

- **Level 2 Goodwin Academy Traineeship for Employment (GATE)** – This course is designed for students who wish to prepare themselves for an apprenticeship or to follow an A Level or vocational route, but who also need to improve their achievement of qualifications at Level 2. Where suitable students will have the opportunity to follow a vocational programme of their choice at Level 3 but will also be expected to retake qualifications in GCSE English and GCSE Mathematics. The programme will also provide qualifications in employability and study skills to ensure that successful students can progress on to full time study at Level 3 within our Sixth Form or to find a suitable apprenticeship.
- **Level 2 Vocational Education** – This course allows students to choose a specific full time vocational pathway at Level 2 whilst retaking GCSE English and/or Mathematics qualifications. This course can lead students onto full time vocational Level 3 study, apprenticeships or employment.
- **Entry requirements** – To study the courses offered at Level 2 students will need to have achieved 5 x A*-G grades or equivalent in Year 11. Students will need to retake GCSE Mathematics and/or English if they have not achieved a minimum of a GCSE Level 4 or higher.

Planning your Level 3 study programme

At Goodwin Academy Sixth Form we aim to create the study programme that is right for each individual learner. We aim to ensure all learners have a minimum of 4 learning aims on a bespoke pathway that matches their needs. This can be achieved in a number of ways:

- **Studying 4 Level 3 subjects (A Level or Vocational*)**
- **Studying 3 Level 3 subjects and the Level 3 Extended Project or Level 3 Certificate in Personal Finance**
- **Studying 3 Level 3 subjects and GCSE English and / or Mathematics**
- **Studying 3 Level 3 subjects and playing for the Gillingham FC Football Academy**

**Please note that a vocational double award will count as two subjects / learning aims.*

It is important to note that some students are encouraged and supported to engage with a study programme that may have 5 learning aims, or others, if it matches their needs, to study with 3 aims.

It is our aim to offer a bespoke programme where possible and build the timetable around the applications of the students. By using this method we aim to ensure that as many students as possible will be able to study their first choice courses. For students to have the best chance of being able to study on their first choice course we encourage early applications.

Additional Opportunities to enhance the study programme

- PSHCCEE is timetabled with the whole year group together. This enables us to offer a robust programme including study skills and regular guest speakers – we also provide breakfast!
- Work experience is encouraged during Year 12 and this can take place to meet the needs of the learner. This may be a one week block, one day a week for a term or a morning a week for 3 months – we are flexible to meet the needs of the students
- Leadership opportunities are encouraged with sixth form students taking on the role of mentors and study support for students in the younger year groups
- Compulsory supervised study time will be provided for all Year 12 learners until the end of Term 2. This is to support them to become independent learners. This will then be removed or reduced depending on the performance of the learner

Support for all Goodwin Academy Sixth Form Students

The Sixth Form staff take great pride in the support and care they put in place for all students. We treat each student as an individual and take great care to meet and respond to their individual needs. This can include:

- A mentoring programme that includes one to one meetings with a sixth form tutor
- Regular contact with the Sixth Form Leadership team
- Guidance and support for Higher Education and Careers
- Regular progress monitoring, with subsequent support put in place where needed
- Parent consultation meetings for Year 12 and Year 13 students

We operate an 'open door' policy and are always available for students or parents that wish to discuss any part of life as a sixth form student

The following Level 3 A Level subjects are proposed for study at Goodwin Academy Sixth Form from 2017:

Biology	<p>Aim: Biology develops the ability to think through and develop ideas. Emphasis is placed on practical skills that stimulate interest and understanding and develop investigative skills.</p> <p>This Biology course looks at the microscopic world such as cells and molecules like DNA, through to the macroscopic world such as plant and animal behaviour and the way the human body works and includes the study of many topical issues, such as HIV, genetic fingerprinting and cancer.</p>
Design Technology	<p>Aim: This course places an emphasis on creativity and sustainability. Students are encouraged to explore ideas of originality using a variety of materials and manufacturing processes.</p>
English Literature	<p>Aim: This course approaches the reading and study of literature through the lens of genre and theory, encouraging the independent study of a range of texts within a shared context, giving logic and meaning to the way that texts are grouped for study.</p> <p>The variety of assessment styles used, such as passage-based questions, unseen material, single text questions, multiple text questions, open and closed book approaches, allows students to develop a wide range of skills, such as the ability to read critically, analyse, evaluate and undertake independent research which are valuable for both further study and future employment.</p>
Geography	<p>Aim: This engaging and flexible course gives students the opportunity to engage with the relationship of human populations to each other over space and time. In addition learners will study the relationship between human populations with their physical environment at a variety of scales from the local to the global and consider their own role in relation to these themes.</p>
Graphics	<p>Aim: This course explores the concepts of Graphic Design through a mixture of taught material and short projects.</p> <p>Areas covered include a personal investigation in which the student explores an area of graphic design of interest to themselves. The second is an externally assessed set design brief that the student responds to. Whilst students have a lot of freedom to investigate and discover through experimentation, the course emphasis is on commercial and viable graphic design. A variety of media and techniques are explored along with a significant digital content to realise professional quality outcomes.</p>
History	<p>Aim: This qualification has been designed to help students understand the significance of historical events, the role of individuals in history and the nature of change over time. Students should gain a deeper understanding of the past through political, social, economic and cultural perspectives.</p>
Mathematics	<p>Aim: This course is designed to further develop students' understanding of mathematical processes in a way that promotes confidence and develops abilities associated with logical reasoning.</p> <p>It also creates an awareness of the relevance of mathematics to other fields of study, to the world of work and to society in general.</p> <p>It encourages students to take an increasing responsibility for their own learning and their mathematical development.</p>
Photography	<p>Aim: Students study a range of traditional and contemporary artists/photographers relevant to a chosen theme. Theme-based photography may include Portraiture, Landscape and Still-Life.</p> <p>Layout and presentation are considered important alongside written analysis of images, students own thinking and personal response.</p>
Psychology	<p>Aim: This specification has been designed to provide a broad introduction to the scope and nature of psychology as a science.</p> <p>The emphasis is on applying knowledge and understanding rather than just acquiring knowledge, thereby developing students' transferable skills of analysis, evaluation and critical thinking.</p>
Religious Studies	<p>Aim: Religious Studies gives students the opportunity to study the relationship between religion, culture and society.</p> <p>The course features a variety of relevant and contemporary themes, to help inspire engaging classroom discussion. Students will also gain critical and evaluative skills sought after by higher education and employers.</p>
Sociology	<p>Aim: This course offers an insight into sociology, the social structures and processes that are incorporated into society.</p> <p>The course provides an in-depth investigation into families and households and education as social structures and the social processes that are the causes and consequences of inequalities within society. Students will also learn about sociological research methods, looking at how and why sociologists use particular methods and the impact this has upon their findings in subject areas such as crime and deviance and beliefs in society.</p>

In the event of insufficient uptake for specific courses, Goodwin Academy Sixth Form reserves the right for those courses not to run.

The following Level 3 Vocational subjects are proposed for study at Goodwin Academy Sixth Form from 2017:

Art & Design	Aim: The Art and Design BTEC qualification aims to give a coherent introduction to the study of art and design at this level. Learners develop art and design projects and gain an understanding of the creative process. They study visual recording and communication, critical analysis and production skills to produce art and design outcomes.
Business	Aim: The Extended Certificate is for learners 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. This course has been created to develop transferable skills that are essential in the workplace or for further study in all areas of Business.
Fashion And Design Production	Aim: The qualification is designed to give learners a technical understanding of Fashion Design and Production. Learners gain knowledge and skills in design, pattern cutting, manufacturing methods and promotion to produce fashion projects. The qualification is for post 16 learners intending to gain employment in the fashion industry, possibly after further study in higher education and is designed to be studied over two years alongside additional qualifications.
Health And Social Care	Aim: To offer students an exciting, inspiring and challenging qualification created to develop transferable skills that are essential in the workplace or for further study in all areas of health and social care. The OCR examination board has worked in partnership with industry specialists, leading employers and further education tutors in the development of these qualifications
Information Technology	Aim: 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.
Law	Aim: Applied Law aims to explore many aspects of the English Legal System and Criminal Law. In addition, studying Law encourages the development of various skills including communication, problem-solving, information technology, independent learning and working with others.
Manufacturing Engineering	Aim: The practical BTEC approach lets the students practice a range of Engineering and Manufacturing skills they require for progression into Apprenticeship, the workplace or into Higher Education. Manufacturing Engineering will enable students to develop through the application of practical skills and knowledge which will enable them to understand how Engineering impacts upon the products that we use every day. British engineering has changed; it is no longer the gritty, grimy profession that many people assume it is.
Media	Aim: The qualification provides a coherent introduction to the study of creative digital media production at this level. Learners develop an understanding of the media industry through analysing media representations and pitching and producing media projects. It is designed for post-16 learners who aim to progress to higher education and ultimately to employment, possibly in the media industries, as part of a programme of study alongside other BTEC Nationals or A levels.
Music	Aim: Students will develop performance (both solo and ensemble) and listening skills in a variety of styles. Students will use these skills in composing and arranging with the aid of music notation software packages. Students will develop an understanding of the sound and music industry which will give an insight into professional roles and careers available in the industry.
Performing Arts – Dance & Drama	Aim: This performing arts course offers a personalised learning path for students and allows the student to study purely dance or drama. This performing arts course imitates closely a performing arts company and students are expected to adopt a work ethic that suits this style of vocational learning.
Public Services	Aim: The aim of this course is to give students an insight into the work of the uniformed public services e.g. Police, Army, Fire Service, Prison Service, NHS and Border Force. The course will be assessed by portfolio and will be certificated at pass, merit or distinction. Students will undertake a mixture of class based and practical activities.
Science	Aim: The Applied Science course provides the knowledge, understanding and skills for students wishing to enter a career in the areas of laboratory and industrial science, medical science or forensic science.
Sport	Aim: The qualifications give learners specialist knowledge and skills, enabling entry to an Apprenticeship or other employment, or progression to related higher education courses. Students will have a broad introduction that gives learners transferable knowledge and skills in a variety of sports related topics.
Sport – Fitness and Services	Aim: This qualification is aimed at learners looking to progress to employment in this sector. This qualification is mapped to industry standards for the fitness industry. It is designed for entry to roles such as gym instructor or fitness instructor, and is appropriate for progression to Level 3 Personal Trainer qualifications or degree programmes.
Travel and Tourism	Aim: This qualification aims to inspire and enthuse students to consider a career in the travel and tourism sector. Studying the subject will give students the opportunity to gain broad knowledge and understanding of, and develop skills in the travel and tourism sector.

In the event of insufficient uptake for specific courses, Goodwin Academy Sixth Form reserves the right for those courses not to run.

Course	A Level or Vocational	Qualification Size	Entry Requirements
Art and Design Level 3 BTEC National Extended Certificate (Single Award)	Vocational	1 A Level equivalent	5 A*-C grades (level 4 and above in Mathematics and English) at GCSE including a C grade or higher in a creative subject
Biology A Level	A Level	1 A Level equivalent	5 A*-C grades at GCSE including Level 4 in English and Mathematics and at least AB Grade in Core and Additional Science or a B grade in GCSE Biology
Business Level 3 BTEC National Extended Certificate (Single Award)	Vocational	1 A Level equivalent	5 A*-C grades at GCSE including level 4 or higher in English Language
Business Level 3 BTEC National Diploma (Double Award)	Vocational	2 A Level equivalent	5 A*-C grades at GCSE including level 4 or higher in English Language
Design Technology A Level	A Level	1 A Level equivalent	5 A*-C grades at GCSE (level 4 or higher in English and Mathematics) including a grade C or higher in a creative subject
English Literature A Level	A Level	1 A Level equivalent	5 A*-C grades at GCSE including either level 5 or higher in English, or level 4 or higher in both English Language and English Literature
Fashion & Design Production Level 3 BTEC National Diploma (Double Award)	Vocational	2 A Level equivalent	5 A*-C grades at GCSE (level 4 or higher in English and Mathematics) including grade C or higher in a creative subject
Geography A Level	A Level	1 A Level equivalent	5 A*-C grades at GCSE including level 4 or higher in English and C or higher in a Humanities subject
Graphic Communication A Level	A Level	1 A Level equivalent	5 A*-C grades at GCSE (level 4 or higher in English and Mathematics) including grade C or higher in a creative arts subject
Health and Social Care Level 3 Cambridge Technical Extended Certificate (Single Award)	Vocational	1 A Level equivalent	5 A*-C grades at GCSE including level 4 or higher in English Language
Health and Social Care Level 3 Cambridge Technical Diploma (Double Award)	Vocational	2 A Level equivalent	5 A*-C grades at GCSE including level 4 or higher in English Language
History A Level	A Level	1 A Level equivalent	5 A*-C grades at GCSE including level 4 or higher in English and a C or higher in a Humanities subject
Information Technology Level 3 BTEC National Extended Certificate (Single Award)	Vocational	1 A Level equivalent	5 A*-C grades at GCSE including level 4 or higher in English Language, any IT / ICT / Computer Science qualification would be a preferred requirement but not essential
Applied Law Level 3 BTEC National Extended Certificate (Single Award)	Vocational	1 A Level equivalent	5 A*-C grades at GCSE (English and Mathematics at level 4 or higher)
Manufacturing Engineering Level 3 BTEC Diploma (Double Award)	Vocational	2 A Level equivalent	5 A*-C grades at GCSE including level 4 in Mathematics. Prior study of Engineering is not essential
Mathematics A Level	A Level	1 A Level equivalent	5 A*-C grades at GCSE including level 7 in Mathematics

Creative Digital Media Production Level 3 BTEC National Extended Certificate (Single Award)	Vocational	1 A Level equivalent	5 A*-C grades at GCSE including level 4 or higher in English Language, any Media or Film qualification would be a preferred requirement but not essential
Music Level 3 BTEC National Extended Certificate (Single Award)	Vocational	1 A Level equivalent	5 A*-C grades at GCSE (level 4 or higher in English and Mathematics)
Performing Arts Pathways in Dance & Drama Level 3 BTEC Diploma	Vocational	Options in 1, 2 & 3 A Level equivalent	5 A*-C grades at GCSE (level 4 or higher in English and Mathematics)
Photography A Level	A Level	1 A Level equivalent	5 A*-C grades at GCSE including level 4 in English and Mathematics
Psychology A Level	Academic	1 A Level equivalent	5 A*-C grades in GCSE including level 5 for English and level 6 Mathematics
Public Services BTEC Subsidiary Diploma (Single Award)	Vocational	1 A Level equivalent	5 A*-C grades at GCSE (level 4 in English and Mathematics)
Religious Studies A Level	A Level	1 A Level equivalent	5 A*-C grades at GCSE including English at level 4 or higher and a grade C in a Humanities subject.
Applied Science Level 3 BTEC National Extended Certificate (Single Award)	Vocational	1 A Level equivalent	5 A*-C grades at GCSE including double Science at C grade or above
Applied Science Level 3 BTEC Diploma (Double Award)	Vocational	2 A Level equivalent	5 A*-C grades at GCSE including double Science at C grade or above
Sociology A Level	A Level	1 A Level equivalent	5 A*-C grades at GCSE including level 4 for English and a C or higher in a Humanities subject
Sport Level 3 BTEC National Extended Certificate (Single Award)	Vocational	1 A Level equivalent	5 A*-C grades at GCSE (level 4 or higher in English and Mathematics)
Fitness Services Level 3 BTEC Diploma	Vocational	2 A Level equivalent	5 A*-C grades at GCSE (level 4 or higher in English and Mathematics)
Travel & Tourism Level 3 BTEC National Extended Certificate (Single Award)	Vocational	1 A Level equivalent	5 A*-C at GCSE (level 4 or higher in English and Mathematics)

GCSE Resit Opportunities

English Language GCSE	Academic	This course is aimed at students who have completed the foundation paper in Year 11 but have not attained a level 4 or higher.
Mathematics GCSE	Academic	This course is aimed at students who have completed the foundation paper in Year 11 but have not attained a level 4 or higher.

Level 2 GATE

Goodwin Academy Traineeship for Employment (GATE)	Academic & Vocational	5 A*-G grades at GCSE (level 4 at English and Mathematics)
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Level 2 Vocational Courses

Tech Levels in: Fashion and Textiles Food and Catering Materials Technology Engineering	Vocational	5 A*-G grades at GCSE (level 4 at English and Mathematics)
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Additional Courses

Extended Project Level 3	Academic	5 A*-C grades at GCSE (level 4 English and Mathematics).
Certificate in Financial Studies Level 3	Academic	5 A*-C grades at GCSE (level 4 English and Mathematics).

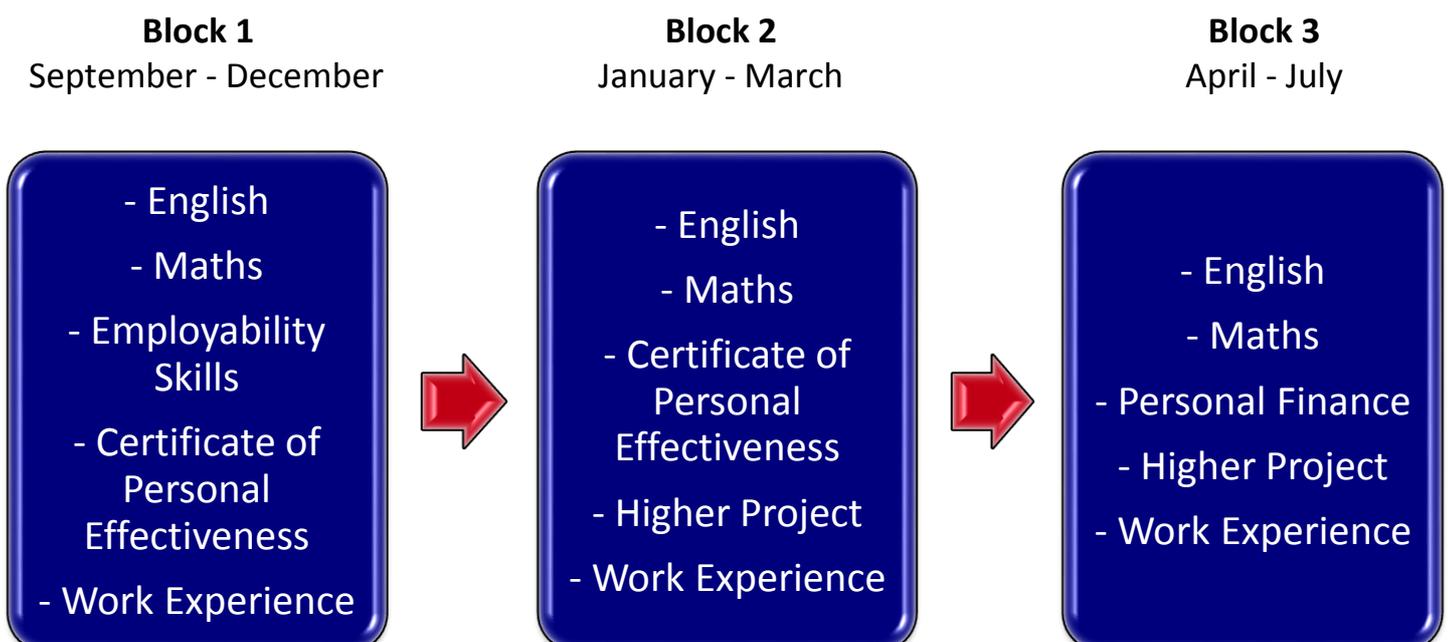
Goodwin Academy Traineeship for Employment (GATE)

GATE is designed to prepare students who have not achieved well at GCSE or Level 2 by the end of Year 11 and are looking to progress academically and/or improve their employability skills. The typical student will need to complete English and Maths qualifications but will be interested in gaining apprenticeships and work based training instead of staying in full time education.

When they have finished their studies at the end of Year 11 many students will lack the skills required to enter the work place, either as an apprentice or for high-level work experience. The aim of GATE is to give students the skills they require, while supporting them with applications, in search of the positive destinations they desire.

GATE will engage with local employers to run a series of employability sessions and work place visits to help students prepare for a successful work placement and hopefully apprenticeship opportunity.

The GATE programme will have three 'blocks' that enable students to roll on or roll off as their situations change.





A Level	Vocational
Biology	Art & Design
Design Technology	Business
English Literature	Fashion And Design Production
Geography	Health And Social Care
Graphics	Information Technology
History	Law
Mathematics	Manufacturing Engineering
Photography	Media
Psychology	Music
Religious Studies	Performing Arts – Dance & Drama
Sociology	Public Services
	Science
	Sport
	Sport – Fitness and Services
	Travel and Tourism

Sixth Form Leadership Team

Mr C Stanley: Head of Sixth Form

Mr R Cousins: Key Stage 5 Progress Leader

Mill Road, Deal, Kent, CT14 9BD

Salisbury Road, Walmer, Kent, CT14 7QJ

Tel: 01304 373363

Email: sixthform@goodwinacademy.org.uk

Website: www.goodwinacademy.org.uk