



# WHY A LEVELS?

**If you enjoy academic learning and would like to continue to study a broad range of subjects before deciding upon your ideal career path then the A level programme here at Weymouth College could well be the right choice for you.**

A Levels open up a wide choice of career opportunities and are seen as a traditional route into Higher Education or employment. The subjects you decide to study can really help to shape your future.

Students at Weymouth College achieved a 98% pass rate at A Level in summer 2018 and as always, a very high proportion of our students progressed to the university of their choice.

As an A level student you will be part of a college community of many ages and disciplines – a culture and environment very different from a traditional school sixth form and an ideal preparation for higher education and university level study.



"I felt supported and happy. A levels are tough but I could never have achieved the results I did at any other sixth form."

**Stephanie**

"I had very little confidence at school but starting A levels at Weymouth College was the best decision I ever made – I have great support and have discovered both the belief and direction that was lacking for so long."

**Ben**

"The wide range of A levels allowed me to study what I am passionate about. I will never forget the great times I have had at Weymouth College."

**Jacopo**



# A LEVELS AT WEYMOUTH COLLEGE

## OUR TEAM

Experienced and committed – many of our A level team have years of experience in industry and bring that real-life understanding to their teaching. Many more of our team have immense classroom based experience with six staff members currently examiners at A level – with one chief examiner and one senior examiner amongst them!

## OUR CENTRE

A dedicated A Level centre with a 'Sixth Form' Common Room and dedicated study rooms for all students plus:

- Dedicated science laboratories
- Art and photographic studios
- Dedicated computer labs for media and film studies
- Access to laptops for all students

## OUR RESULTS

In 2018 our A Level students achieved an outstanding overall pass rate of 98% demonstrating that the College continues to maintain an excellent level of performance alongside a strong national pass rate. In 13 out of 16 subjects a 100% pass rate was achieved.

Of those A level students who made a UCAS application for 2018 university entry – 100% of students were offered places, with 29% of those students who applied to the elite Russell Group universities receiving offers.

## OUR ENRICHMENT

- Access to musical instruments and lessons
- College choir
- A wide range of course-based trips and events – Auschwitz (history), Parliament (politics), field trips (geography), industry-based STEM days (science/maths)

## PLUS

UCAS and university open day trips

Access to the Royal Geographical Society Lecture programme

Access to all Weymouth College facilities including:

- Subsidised gym
- Variety of sports at College-owned Redlands Community Sports Hub



An aerial photograph of a beach and ocean. The ocean is a deep teal color, and the beach is a light tan color. White waves are breaking along the shoreline. Overlaid on the image are several large, semi-transparent geometric shapes: a large triangle on the left side of the ocean, and a large 'V' shape on the right side of the beach. In the top left corner, there is a white-bordered box containing the title 'AWARDS AND ACHIEVEMENTS' and a list of three awards. In the bottom right corner, the text 'weymouth.ac.uk' is followed by a small blue square containing the number '5'.

## AWARDS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

- Beacon Award – VTCT award for Sport in the Curriculum, 2014/15 and 2016/17
- Beacon commended – Careers, Education and Guidance, 2018/19
- Kite Mark 2016 for Value-added A levels (top 20% in the UK)

# EXPERIENCE

## FACILITIES FOR YOU

**Wi-Fi enabled campus** – so you can always stay connected

**Learning Resource Centre** – with full library facilities and specialist computer suite connected to gigabit fibre broadband – so you can access the information you need, when you need it.

**Moodle** – a virtual learning environment for students, giving you access to resources and study programme materials direct from home so you can study your way.

**College Square** – summer BBQs in College Square are legendary. With music playing in the College's student performance space, it's the perfect way to relax at lunch.

**On-site café** – proud to serve Costa.

**The Lounge** – a good place to relax and catch up with friends and sample a coffee or snack from the Deli.

Students can also enjoy our wide range of public facilities including:

- The Bay Theatre
- The Avenue training restaurant
- Hair and beauty salons
- Jelly Babies Day Nursery
- Gym and sports centre
- Redlands Community Sports Hub
- Weymouth and Portland Adventure

## STUDENT VOICE

The views and opinions of our students are important at Weymouth College:

- Two of the fifteen members of the College Governors are students.
- Students on every course elect one or more Student Representatives who meet regularly with the Principal and other Senior Leadership Team members to feedback their ideas and suggestions for helping to make improvements to all aspects of College life.

Some recent changes made in response to feedback from students include:

- Contactless payment in place in the canteen plus contactless vending machines.
- Recyclable food containers and cutlery.
- New, secure and covered, 40-place swipe-card entry cycle shelter.

## FINANCIAL SUPPORT

We are able to support claims for financial assistance, providing the student meets the required criteria. Schemes that are available include:

- 16-18 Guaranteed Bursary
- 16-18 Discretionary Bursary
- 19+ Discretionary Learner Support (including childcare)
- Advanced Learning Loan Bursary for 19+
- Free College meals (Please contact the Student Support team on 01305 764807 for further information)

## TRAVEL AND TRANSPORT

We offer the largest contribution towards student travelling costs in Dorset – part of our dedication to meeting the travel needs of Dorset students. For full information on our subsidised travel routes please visit: [www.weymouth.ac.uk/studying-with-us/travel-transport](http://www.weymouth.ac.uk/studying-with-us/travel-transport)

## SUPPORTING YOU

We want you to enjoy your experience with us and we offer support to help you achieve your full potential. The Student Support team provides information, advice, help and support at every stage, sensitively and in confidence. The team works closely with teaching staff to ensure an effective support system for each student, according to individual needs. Our students feel safe here and we are dedicated to maintain this. A safeguarding culture is actively promoted within the College; incidents of bullying, intimidation and harassment will be acted upon immediately.



Our students have successfully gained places in over 50 universities across the UK.

Anglia Ruskin (Cambridge)	London School of Economics
Bath	London South Bank
Bath Spa	Manchester Metropolitan
Bedfordshire (Luton)	Middlesex (Hendon)
Bournemouth	Northampton
Brighton	Northumbria (Newcastle upon Tyne)
Bristol	Nottingham
Brunel (Uxbridge)	Oxford Brookes
Central Lancashire (Preston)	Oxford
Chester	Plymouth
Chichester	Portsmouth
Coventry	Ravensbourne (Greenwich)
De Montfort (Leicester)	Reading
Essex (Colchester)	Salford
Exeter	Sheffield Hallam
Falmouth	Southampton
Glamorgan	Southampton Solent
Gloucestershire (Cheltenham)	Stirling
Greenwich	Surrey (Guildford)
Hertfordshire (Hatfield)	Swansea
Hull	UWE (Bristol)
Kent (Canterbury)	Wales (Cardiff)
Kingston	Wales (Newport)
Lincoln	Winchester
Leeds Metropolitan	Wolverhampton
Liverpool John Moores	



# YOUR FUTURE

## INFORMATION, ADVICE AND GUIDANCE

We offer information, advice and guidance to all our A Level students. We can help you with:

- Future student finance
- Choosing the right study programme
- Career identification and career change
- CV development, application forms and interview techniques
- Higher education
- Support with UCAS application process

## PROGRESSION ROUTES

As a student you will have access to a careers programme which is supported by our online virtual learning environment, Moodle. There are opportunities to complete activities such as CV writing, interview preparation and one-to-one appointments with an adviser. Many students who complete studies at the College progress to university.

We guide and support any student who wishes to apply by helping them to research suitable study programmes and universities and to make an application. For those A level students who would like to continue their HE studies at Weymouth College we offer range of Foundation Degrees – in partnership with the University of Plymouth – all offered at our campus-based HE centre.



UNIVERSITY OF  
PLYMOUTH

# YOUR COURSE

## ENGLISH LANGUAGE

Developing and nurturing a variety of assessment styles – including data analysis, discursive essays, directed writing, original writing and research-based investigative writing—you will develop your appreciation of the many forms and contexts of the English language.

## ENGLISH LITERATURE

Challenging the interpretations of other readers and developing your own informed personal responses, you will explore the relationship between texts and the contexts within which they are written. You will consider texts from Shakespeare and pre and post 1900 poetry and prose to literature from 1945 to the present day.

## CHEMISTRY

Giving you an insight into the contemporary world of chemistry – and the impact it has on industry and many aspects of everyday life – you will learn about its relevance and application in a range of different contexts. These will include: elements of life, developing fuels, elements from the sea, the ozone story, the chemical and medical industries, developing metals and polymers.

## PHYSICS

Physics is the study of fundamental quantities and events, the scale of our universe and how science quantifies and describes our world. You will explore a wide variety of areas which may include nuclear, astro and thermal physics. This A level will prepare you for many higher education courses particularly those in the fields of Engineering, Mathematics and Pure Science.





## BIOLOGY

Studying areas including lifestyle, immunity, genes, biodiversity, infection and forensics you will develop practical and mathematical problem-solving skills. You will understand how the sciences contribute to the success of both the economy and society

## MATHS

A course which will develop further the disciplines of pure maths, statistics and mechanics. You will be introduced to a variety of mathematical skills including, quadratic equations, plotting circles using formulae, graph transformations, logarithms, trigonometrical equations and calculus.

# YOUR COURSE

## (Continued)

### FILM STUDIES

You will consider mainstream American films from the past and the present as well as a range of recent and contemporary British films, American independent films and global films (both non-English language and English language). You will develop your appreciation and understanding of film and the range of responses it can generate.

### COMBINED ART

Embrace current and emerging technologies – including animation and games design, moving image and 3D digital design – as well as the more traditional routes of art, craft and design such as drawing, painting and sculpture.

### MEDIA STUDIES

The environment, new technologies, the economy, employment, sport, celebrity, music and events – what would you know about any of these without the media bombarding you with messages all day every day. Whether we like it or not, the media tell most of us what to think, most of the time. Media Studies helps you make sense of and question those messages. Be an opinion leader, not a mere follower.

### PHOTOGRAPHY

Build a wide range of skills using both digital and analogue film cameras. Developing skills in software – such as Photoshop and Lightroom – will allow you to edit digital images and you will explore film and darkroom processing and printing for the analogue film camera.





# UNIVERSITY OF WYOMING COURSE

## (Continued)

### ITALIAN

Study the language, culture and society of Italy and the Italian-speaking world. Explore the social issues and trends – both past and present – which have shaped today's spoken Italian.

### GERMAN

You will develop your language skills in the context of German-speaking countries – exploring technological and social change, art and architecture and the development of the modern German political landscape. You will explore the many issues and influences shaping this multicultural society's future.

### SPANISH

A course focusing on the language and culture of Spanish-speaking societies, looking at how those societies continue to evolve. You will consider social background, artistic life, politics, multiculturalism and the role of young people in the future of the Hispanic world.



## **FRENCH**

Using authentic spoken and written sources, you will consider how French-speaking society has been shaped socially and culturally. You will look at aspects of the political landscape and consider the role of immigration, the teenage voice, strikes and demonstrations in crafting both the political, cultural and social basis of the countries where French is spoken today.

## **HISTORY**

You will study The Cold War in Europe 1941–1995 – exploring the rise and fall of the USSR as a superpower, its changing relationship with America and the impact of global events on the Cold War in Europe. You will also consider the Early Stuarts and the origins of the Civil War, including the growth of Puritan opposition, the first civil war and the problems of non-monarchical government between 1649 and 1660 under Oliver Cromwell.

## **GEOGRAPHY**

Engage critically with real-world issues and places and assess major issues including place identity, rising sea levels, rise of new superpowers, energy and water supplies, migration and national identity.

## **GEOLOGY**

You will cover key areas including foundations in geology (minerals, rocks, fossils and time), global tectonics (plate tectonics, earth and geological structures), interpreting the past (sedimentary environments and geochronology). Students will also undertake a programme of fieldwork activities.

## **ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE**

Study and consider the living environment, the physical environment, energy resources, pollution, biological resources and sustainability – developing throughout your scientific and independent thinking skills.









# YOUR COURSE

## (Continued)

### **POLITICS**

Your exploration of politics will give you an understanding of the role of political decisions in today's society and raise awareness of the rights and responsibilities of individuals and the state.

### **SOCIOLOGY**

What is Sociology? A subject which helps explain social change, past, present and future. A subject which encourages political and social engagement with contemporary social issues. A subject which involves being actively involved with social research and policy.

You will study topics including; crime and deviance, the impact of globalisation, the nature of social relationships, different forms of social inequality, the impact of new forms of social media and social research in a range of social contexts.

### **LAW**

You will develop an understanding of the role of Law in today's society and consider the rights and responsibilities of individuals through the study of real life legal situations.

### **PSYCHOLOGY**

Learn about conformity, social norms, how the mind remembers and forgets and how children form attachments.

### **PHYSICAL EDUCATION AND SPORT**

Anatomy, physiology, fitness testing and sport risk assessment – just some of the areas you will explore and develop as you study. You will also have the opportunity to participate in our football and tennis academies.

BLOCK A	BLOCK B	BLOCK C
HISTORY	BIOLOGY	ENGLISH LITERATURE
PHYSICS	GOVERNMENT & POLITICS	PHOTOGRAPHY
PSYCHOLOGY	FILM STUDIES	GEOLOGY
PE and SPORT	FRENCH	GERMAN
BLOCK D	BLOCK E	BLOCK F
MATHS	PSYCHOLOGY	CHEMISTRY
COMBINED ART	LAW	MEDIA STUDIES
ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE	ENGLISH LANGUAGE	GEOGRAPHY
SOCIOLOGY	ITALIAN	SPANISH

If you decide to study A Levels with us, you may also have the option to study a BTEC vocational qualification alongside – BTEC Construction or Engineering alongside A Level Maths or BTEC Health and Social Care, Public Services or Sport & Exercise Science alongside A Level Biology or Psychology for example. Studying combinations of subjects will provide you with the best opportunity for progression to university study programmes that have specific entry requirements.

## ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Generally 5 GCSEs at Grade 5 (C) or above including English and maths. There may also be further specific entry requirements depending on the A Level subject(s) to be studied. Please check our website for full details.

# YOUR NEXT STEPS

# AND HOW TO MAKE AN APPLICATION

Once you've decided on the A Level subjects you are interested in, you can find out more information and gain an understanding of exactly what you'll be studying on the A Level programme by visiting the dedicated study programme page on our website.

Pop along to one of our Open Events in October, November, February or June to speak to current students and staff and see where you could be studying. Don't forget to book your open event place online at [www.weymouth.ac.uk/register-open-day](http://www.weymouth.ac.uk/register-open-day). This is a great opportunity to ask lots of questions about the A Level programme to people who are actually teaching and studying it.

## APPLY ONLINE

you can apply online, either at home or come into college if you need help or support. Applications need to be made online.

You'll be offered an interview within 4 weeks of applying.

If you're offered a place on the A Level programme, work hard, have fun, get your grades, have an epic summer and before long you'll be enrolling with us, online (from the comfort of your home if you wish), ready to start in September.

Don't forget if you have any questions or would like any advice or guidance, just give one of our friendly team a call on 01305 761100 and we will be very happy to help.





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[weymouth.ac.uk](http://weymouth.ac.uk)



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*The College reserves the right to withdraw study programmes depending on demand and class sizes. Please check our website for the latest information.*