



A Teacher's Perspective

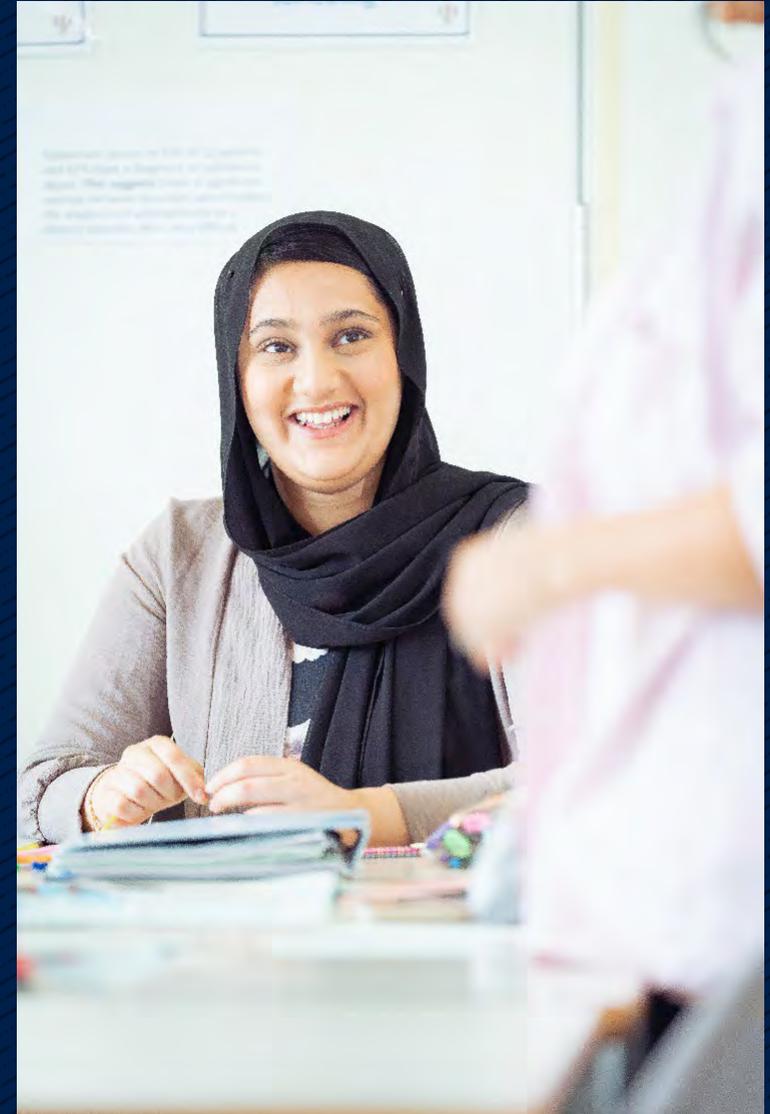
Preparing for Learning at Ashton Sixth Form College

Graham Saffery (Head of Sport and Public Services)

Nicola Barthorpe (Head of Humanities)

How is Level 3 study different to GCSE?

- Students choose the subject/course they have a genuine interest in
- Students study less subjects, more focussed
- More lessons per week per course than at GCSE
- Develop a stronger relationship with teachers, as they have more time and can examine individual progress
- Teachers are level 3 specialists
- Expected to work at a higher level – more critical thinking, analytical skills and evaluation ability is required at Level 3
- More proactive learning – students take more initiative in going beyond the set reading/work set
- Study time is built in to the college timetable for independent study
- Students gain an understanding of the course content, not just learn it



Choosing the right course



A Level



Mixed Study



Vocational

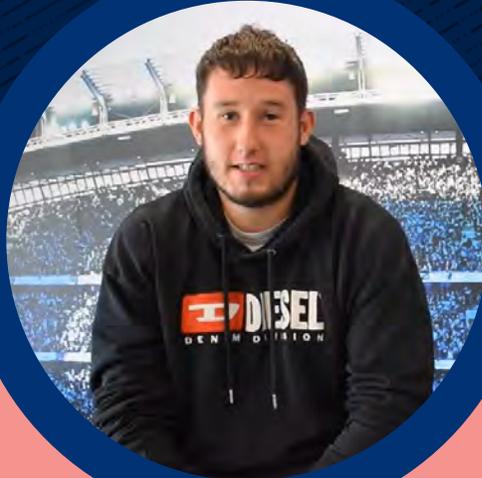


T Level

Vocational programme & T Levels

- Students specialise in one vocational area
- Mix of internal and external assessment - industry focussed controlled assessments & examinations
- Invaluable work placements or industry opportunities
- Specialist teachers, many of whom have worked in the vocational sector they teach
- Group work, team building, practical skills
- Students may also be able to take the EPQ
- Outstanding results for students -
- 85% of students achieved at least a Distinction on their full time Vocational programme. 100% T Level pass rate





Max Harvey

Studied: Sport Coaching and
Development
(Football with CITC)
Dist*, Dist*, Dist*

**Football Coaching (CITC) with
Manchester Metropolitan
University**



Kathryn Axon

Studied: Education & Early Years T
Level
Distinction

**Primary and Early Years Education
with QTS at
The University of Huddersfield**



Millie Kidd

Studied: Level 3 Extended
Diploma in Public Services
Distinction*

**Emergency Medical Advisor
for North West Ambulance
Service**

Mixed Study programme

- Students study 3 subjects
 - A combination of A-Levels & Subsidiary Diplomas otherwise known as Vocational A-Levels
- What is a Vocational A-Level?
- Students benefit from studying a programme with a mix of assessment, industry focussed controlled assessments & examinations
- Assessment is spread across two years
- Opportunity for students to take the EPQ





Ellie-Marie Chesters

Studied: BTEC Business, Fine Art,
Geography, EPQ
Dist*, A*, A*, A*

**Architecture with Manchester
Metropolitan University**



Abbie Schofield

Studied: BTEC Dance, Criminology,
Film Studies
Dist*, B, B

**Film Production with Salford
University**



Salmaan Omar

Studied: Digital Games Production,
Graphic Design, Photography
Dist, B, B

**Creative Digital Design Degree
Apprenticeship with Manchester
Metropolitan University**

A-Level programme

- Students study 3 subjects
- Unrestricted options on what A-Levels students can choose in any combination
- Widens opportunities for progression as students study a mix of courses
- Normally assessed by written exams so suits students who prefer this method of assessment
- Independent learning, research and group work
- Opportunity for students to take the EPQ
- Teachers who specialise in A-Level teaching
- Stunning outcomes for students - 98% pass rate, with half of all grades awarded at A*-B and three-quarters at A*-C





Hamza Aslam

Studied: History, Law, Politics,
EPQ
A, A, B

**Politics and Modern History with
the University of Manchester**



Isabel Wilson

Studied: Psychology, Biology,
Maths
A*, A*, A

**Therapeutic Radiography and
Oncology with the University of
Liverpool**



Millie Syme

Studied: Accounting, Business,
Maths, Further Maths
A*, A*, A*, A

**Accounting Apprenticeship
with Forvis Mazars**

How we prepare students for learning

- Induction day for new students in July 2025
- Ensure students are enrolled on to the right courses
- Initial assignments
- Induction period
- Daily support – an open-door policy
- Canvas
- Regular contact via email
- Guidance on how to revise
- Extra support sessions
- UCAS/employability groups
- Links with industry
- Teachers share good practice across departments
- Cedar

