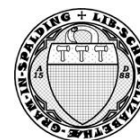


Spalding Grammar School Sixth Form Curriculum Policy for UCAS References



All students applying to join our Sixth Form are required to choose three A-Level subjects which form their core curriculum, and they commit to these for the full two years. The only exceptions to this are students applying to study Mathematics and Further Mathematics or Triple Science (Biology, Chemistry and Physics) and Mathematics, who are permitted to choose four A Level subjects. Again, these students must commit to these subjects for the full two years. Students can choose any combination of subjects with the following restrictions: only one History may be studied; and Engineering, Further Mathematics and Physics must be studied in partnership with Mathematics.

Following the changes to the A Level system, there is no longer an option for students to discontinue an A Level subject at the end of Year 12, and all students entering Year 13 must study three A Levels. Additionally, given that AS Levels are now only worth 40% of an A Level and that AS results no longer count towards an A Level, students do not sit AS exams in reformed subjects at the end of Year 12. We, like many schools, have taken the view that to lock students into a Year 12 diet of AS can only dilute performance in the reformed A Level examinations.

On top of their core curriculum, students are also required to choose an enrichment subject. The only exception to this is students studying four A Levels, who, given the increased demands of their chosen curriculum, may opt out of enrichment and use the time for private study instead. Within our enrichment programme students may choose from a diverse range of subjects, including AS Art, the Extended Project Qualification (EPQ), AS Classical Civilisation, Cambridge Pre-U Global Perspectives, AS Creative Writing, the European Computer Driving Licence (ECDL), Core Maths, Work Experience, the Community Sports Leader Award (CSLA) and Young Enterprise.

The School operates in a rural area with low socio-economic performance and weak infrastructure and, as such, the number of parents who have experienced higher education is well below the national average. That said, on average, an encouraging 80% of Sixth Form students apply and are accepted onto undergraduate courses each year.