



GRAVENEY SCHOOL SIXTH FORM

Entry to Advanced Courses for Academic Year 2027-2028

Most of the subjects we offer at Graveney are A Level courses. The government has announced the introduction of V Level subjects which they are rolling out over several years. At the moment the Applied General subjects we offer remain either BTEC courses or Alternative Academic Qualifications.

A level qualifications are a two year, Linear A Level course. This means the whole course is assessed in Year 13. AS qualifications are sat after the first year for the majority of subjects and are a Stand Alone Qualifications which do not contribute any marks to the final A Level grade.

Will I be required to sit AS exams in the summer of Year 12? Yes. The AS is a valuable qualification in its own right. It gives an indicator of how well your learning is progressing, and it has value for Universities, Further Education and Employers. It also means that students who do not continue to Year 13 in that subject have a valuable qualification to show for their studies so far.

Please note, however, that AS is not available in Philosophy, which is certificated for A Level only, so if you study Philosophy you cannot gain an AS qualification in it at the end of Year 12. AS is also not routinely offered in Art, Drama, Film Studies, Media Studies, or Photography. This is likely to be of particular importance, but not limited to, students who are considering taking four subjects in Year 12. If you have a query about this, please ask at your Course Selection and Guidance Meeting.

Students must pass the AS at grades A to E in order to proceed to study in that subject in Year 13. Students taking Philosophy, Art, Drama, Film Studies, Media Studies, or Photography must pass an internal assessment at the end of Year 12 in order to proceed to Year 13 in that subject.

For L3 BTEC Diploma, students must have achieved a pass in 6 units (60 credits) and for L3 BTEC Extended Certificate, students must have achieved a pass in 3 units (30 credits) at the end of Year 12 in order to continue with the subject in Year 13.

Your progress will be monitored very closely and the School reserves the right to withdraw a student from a course or exam should it feel that such a decision best serves the needs of the student.

The minimum entry requirements for Advanced Level courses are 5 full GCSE grades at 4 to 9, or grades A* to C, in separate subjects, including English Language and Maths. Any vocational qualification must be passed at a minimum of Merit for entry to Level 3 courses.

Notes on subject choices:

- Film Studies and Media Studies cannot be chosen together
- Textiles and Product Design cannot be chosen together
- Economics and Business Studies
- Maths and Further Maths – Further Maths is typically a 4th subject

How many subjects will I study?

Students will usually take 3 Level 3 subjects. This is, nationally, the standard number of reformed subjects studied. Students who would like to take a fourth subject must have achieved an Average Points Score (APS) of **6.5 or over** in their best 8 GCSEs. Those achieving an APS **between 6.1 and 6.5** in their best 8 GCSEs may be permitted to take 4 Level 3 subjects, depending on the student's potential and the nature and combination of the chosen subjects; decisions will be made by the School on an individual basis. Students who achieve an APS of **6** will be permitted to take the standard number of 3 Level 3 subjects. Students are permitted to take a mix of AS and L3 BTEC courses.

GCSE points are calculated as follows:

GCSE grades 1 to 9: your grade equals the points.

GCSE grades G to A*:

A* = 8.5 points; A = 7 points; B = 5.5 points; C = 4 points; D = 3 points; E = 2 points; F = 1.5 points; G = 1 point.

Where courses are oversubscribed, preference will be given to students who meet the subject entry requirements, and who chose the subject at their Course Selection and Guidance Meeting; and then to students with grade **6/ B** or above in that subject or a closely related one, as listed overleaf in the subject specific entry requirements.

Notes on equivalence:

- GCSE English Language and GCSE English Literature count as two subjects.
- GCSE Combined Science counts as two subjects.
- IGCSE in English and GCSE English Language count as the SAME subject.
- IGCSE in Maths and GCSE Maths count as the SAME subject.
- A GCSE short course counts as half a GCSE achieving half the points per grade listed above.
- Any vocational qualification must be passed at a minimum of Merit for entry to A Level courses.

SUBJECT COURSE ENTRY REQUIREMENTS-2027 ENTRY

All courses are provisional and subject to change in terms of viable numbers and staff availability.
~ AS is not available in Philosophy # AS not routinely offered in Art, Drama, Film, Media or Photography.

A Level Subject	Subject specific entry requirements
Art #	5 in Art
Biology	5 in Biology and in Physics or Chemistry, and 5 in Maths OR 5 5 in Combined Science , and 5 in Maths Because we are able to offer a variety of pathways in this curriculum area, we will advise as to the most suitable course for you depending on your performance at Key Stage 4
Chemistry	5 in Chemistry and in Physics or Biology, and 5 in Maths OR 5 5 in Combined Science , and 5 in Maths Because we are able to offer a variety of pathways in this curriculum area, we will advise as to the most suitable course for you depending on your performance at Key Stage 4
Computer Science	5 in Maths and English Language and 5 in Computing Because we are able to offer a variety of pathways in this curriculum area, we will advise as to the most suitable course for you depending on your performance at Key Stage 4
Drama #	5 in English Language. 5 in Drama, or Merit in L2 BTEC Performing Arts, if taken Evidence of involvement in extra –curricular drama is required if neither Drama GCSE nor L2 BTEC Performing Arts were taken
Economics	5 in Maths and 5 in English Language 4 in Economics / Business Studies/ Merit in L2 BTEC Business Studies if taken Because we are able to offer a variety of pathways in this curriculum area, we will advise as to the most suitable course for you depending on your performance at Key Stage 4
English Literature	Grade 4 in English Language and Grade 5 in English Literature
Film Studies #	5 in English Language and 5 in English Literature; 5 in Media Studies, if taken
French	5 in French
Geography	4 in English Language and 4 in Maths 4 in Geography, if taken, or other Humanities subject
German	5 in German
History	4 in English Language and 4 in History or other Humanities subject
Maths	5 or above in Maths at Higher Tier Because we are able to offer a variety of pathways in this curriculum area, we will advise as to the most suitable course for you depending on your performance at Key Stage 4
Further Maths	7 or above in Maths. Must also study Maths A level Because we are able to offer a variety of pathways in this curriculum area, we will advise as to the most suitable course for you depending on your performance at Key Stage 4

A Level Subject	Subject specific entry requirements
Media Studies #	Grade 5 in English Language and 5 in English Literature; 5 in Media Studies, if taken
Music	5 in GCSE Music or Merit in L2 BTEC Music; Grade 5 pass on an instrument /voice, with a strong recommendation that students have studied at least Grade 5 Theory
Philosophy ~	4 in English Language and 4 in Maths
Photography #	5 in Art or Photography. Students who have not taken GCSE in Art / Photography may be considered on production of a portfolio of work indicating skill levels to a standard equivalent to the GCSE grade 5
Physics	5 in Physics and in Biology or Chemistry, and 5 in Maths OR 5 5 in Combined Science, and 5 in Maths Because we are able to offer a variety of pathways in this curriculum area, we will advise as to the most suitable course for you depending on your performance at Key Stage 4
Physical Education	4 in English Language, 4 in Maths and 5 5 in 2 Science subjects, to include Biology if separate sciences were taken. 5 in PE, if taken. All Students must compete in one sport at school or club level.
Politics	4 in English Language and 4 in History or related subject
Product Design: Graphics, Textiles, Resistant Materials	5 in Design Technology, 4 in English Language and 5 in Maths. Students who have not studied Design Technology at GCSE might on an individual basis be accepted on to the course, on production of a portfolio of creative work and dependent on discussions with Head of Department.
Psychology	5 in English Language, 5 in Maths and 4 in 2 Science subjects, to include Biology if separate sciences were taken. 4 in Psychology, if taken
Religious Studies	4 in English Language or English Literature; 4 in RS if taken
Sociology	5 in English Language and 4 in Sociology, if taken, or 4 in History/ Geography/RS
Spanish	5 in Spanish
BTEC Level 3 Subject	Subject specific entry requirements
BTEC Level 3 National Diploma in Applied Science	Merit in BTEC Level 2 Science or 4 4 grades in Combined Science. 4 in Maths and 4 in English Language required. Because we are able to offer a variety of pathways in this curriculum area, we will advise as to the most suitable course for you depending on your performance at Key Stage 4
BTEC Level 3 National Extended Certificate in Business	4 in Maths and English Language required 4 in GCSE Business Studies or Economics OR Merit in BTEC Level 2 in Business (if taken). Because we are able to offer a variety of pathways in this curriculum area, we will advise as to the most suitable course for you depending on your performance at Key Stage 4
BTEC Level 3 National in Information Technology AAQ (Extended Certificate)	4 in Maths and English Language required Merit in BTEC Level 2 ICT OR another Level 2 IT qualification (if taken). Because we are able to offer a variety of pathways in this curriculum area, we will advise as to the most suitable course for you depending on your performance at Key Stage 4

One Year Courses	Subject specific entry requirements
Core Maths (leads to AS equivalent over one year)	4 or above in Maths Because we are able to offer a variety of pathways in this curriculum area, we will advise as to the most suitable course for you depending on your performance at Key Stage 4
Extended Project Qualification (EPQ) <i>Year 13 Only</i>	There are options for undertaking an EPQ in year 13. Independent Route (alongside 3 A levels): Mainly 7, 8 or 9 in your GCSEs. ABB in your Year 12 exams Taught Route: No formal requirement For both routes all deadlines must be met to remain on the course
ESB Level 3 Certificate in Speech (Grade 8) <i>Year 13 Only</i>	Grade 4 in English Language and Grade 5 in English Literature
English Language GCSE	No formal requirement, this course is aimed at securing a grade 4 or 5 pass only
Maths GCSE	No formal requirement, this course is aimed at securing a grade 4 or 5 pass only

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