



Robert Clack Sixth Form

Robert Clack Sixth Form – Your Curriculum

We offer courses to cater for a wide variety of interests and aspirations. We have a proven track record of working with pupils to secure places at a range of universities (including Oxford, Cambridge and Russell Group) to study a wide variety of different subjects (including highly competitive courses such as Medicine, Law, Dentistry and Veterinary Science). Pupils also progress to employment and apprenticeships including at international firms in the City of London.

Teaching expertise and experience allows our pupils to excel in all of the subjects that we offer, as our **2018 results** enclosed in this pack show. We are proud to help pupils progress to their desired university, apprenticeship or employment destinations after Sixth Form. Also included in this pack are the **2018 University places** that our pupils secured this September.

Our pupils have access to a broad and balanced curriculum of A level and vocational subjects, combined with extensive enrichment and personal development opportunities. We know that this mixture allows pupils to reach their full academic potential and develop into well rounded adults who can make a positive contribution to society.

The Curriculum

Your curriculum will be made up of a mixture of qualification, enrichment and personal development activities:

Qualifications	Enrichment & Personal Development
Three or four A Level or equivalent qualifications with or without the Extended Project Qualification (EPQ).	Enrichment activities
Or	Achieve Excellence Programme
A full time course e.g.: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Childcare • Beauty therapy • Construction 	University / Apprenticeship support Programme
If you have not yet achieved a grade 4 in GCSE English and/or GCSE Maths you will continue to study these subjects at Sixth Form.	Work Experience



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The number of subjects you study in **Year 12** depends on your GCSE results. Unless you are completing a **full time course**, you will study **three** or **four** A Level or equivalent subjects in **Year 12**. In **Year 13**, unless you are completing a full time course, you will study three A Level or equivalent subjects.

Subjects Taught

Over 30 A Level and equivalent subjects are on offer to Year 12 pupils. The vast majority of these are taught at Robert Clack Sixth Form. Through our partnership with All Saints and Eastbrook School as part of the **North East Consortium (NEC)** we are able to offer additional A Level or equivalent subjects and also far more subject combinations.

The **A Level** subjects on offer are:

Art & Design	Economics	<i>Graphics*</i>	Music	Psychology
Biology	English Literature	History	Philosophy & Ethics	Sociology
Chemistry	Film Studies	Mathematics	Photography	Spanish
Computer Science	French	Mathematics (Further)	<i>Politics*</i>	
Drama & Theatre Studies	Geography	Media	Physics	

Vocational subjects are offered as 'single' award (*i.e.* equivalent to one A Level) unless stated. 'Double' award subjects are equivalent to two A levels.

The **vocational** subjects on offer are:

Business Studies	Food Science and Nutrition	Science
Business Studies (Double)	ICT	Sport
Dance	ICT (Double)	
Engineering	Media (Digital Media)	

If GCSE entry criteria have been met, you can select any subject from the lists above provided the combination fits into the timetable. The subjects listed above with an asterisk (*) are taught at All Saints. All other subjects are taught at Robert Clack. *It is not always possible to study subjects at All Saints due to the different times that the lessons take place.*



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Entry Criteria

If you wish to study a particular subject certain entry criteria must be met. This is to ensure that you have the maximum chance of succeeding on the course in question.

For each subject, there are up to three elements that make up the entry criteria:

1. Average points score (APS) from GCSE. This ranges from a minimum of 3.5 (an average of a C/D grade) for certain subjects to a 5.5 (an average of a B) in other subjects.
2. English and Maths GCSE grades.
3. A subject specific grade based on performance in a specific subject at GCSE.

If you meet all three of the entry criteria then you will be able to study the course as part of your curriculum. These entry criteria are reviewed annually and can be found enclosed in this pack.

Please note that there is a **probation period** at the start of year 12 (roughly 6 weeks) to ensure that you have selected an appropriate curriculum. If you do not demonstrate that you have the capacity to succeed on a particular course, your programme of study may be modified.

We also expect all successful applicants to have an excellent behaviour and attendance record and to fully align with the school's ethos.

The transition from Year 12 into Year 13

At end of Year 12 you will select the **three** subjects that you wish to continue to study into Year 13. These will be the subjects that you have enjoyed the most in Year 12 and the subjects that are most relevant to your future aspirations.

In A Level subjects where you finish your study at the end of Year 12, you will be awarded an AS Level in that subject. In the A Level subjects that you continue to study into Year 13, the AS level exam does not count toward your final A Level grade. Your final A Level grade depends on the results of your final Year 13 exams and any coursework element of the subject.

The vast majority of vocational subjects are 2 Year programmes. In the rare case that a pupil finishes at the end of Year 12, an AS Level equivalent qualification will be achieved provided all work is complete.



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Personal Development Programme

In addition to the subjects that you study, you will complete our '**Achieve Excellence**' programme which has been developed over many years with the support of leading education experts 'Elevate Education'. This allows students to develop the study skills that will make them successful in their studies but also in their professional life.

As part of the programme, you will complete a project in Year 12 that allows you to develop the skills you need to be successful learners whilst researching something of interest to you. This will give you the opportunity to complete the Extended Project Qualification (EPQ) which can be studied instead of (or in addition to) a 4th AS Level qualification.

Our personal development programme also includes:

- A high quality work experience placement towards the end of Year 12;
- An assembly and Personal Development programme run in partnership with external organisations;
- A programme to develop the attributes of a successful Sixth Form learner i.e. Vision, Effort, Systems, Practice, and Attitude (the 'VESPA Programme');
- Extensive support in completing the university application process (UCAS) including regular one-to-one meetings and mock interviews;
- Tailored support for those pupils who wish to progress to apprenticeships or employment, including: mentoring, visits to employers and taster days.

These form an integral part of your timetable and they help to ensure that you develop the skills and attributes that are valued by universities and employers.

Enrichment Opportunities and Partnerships

Enrichment activities form an essential part of your programme of study. Although the enrichment offer changes slightly from year to year, there is a core offer available to all pupils each year:

- Extended Project Qualification;
- Duke of Edinburgh Award;
- Debate Society;
- Sports and Fitness;
- Rugby & Netball Academy;
- Volunteering and Outreach Programmes.

Pupils also benefit from taking part in one or more personal development programmes and events. A selection of these are outlined below.

- **Brilliant Club** – an academic programme for high attaining pupils to experience tutorial-style teaching led by a PhD student.



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- **Law Mock Trial competition** – a competition designed for students interested in studying law; students are mentored by a professional barrister and conduct their own court case.
- **Mentoring from the Alumni Association** – our alumni mentor pupils with aspirations to pursue careers in Law and Medicine, help with UCAS applications and give interview preparation.
- **NCS The Challenge** – we have a close link with this programme which provides exciting summer schools to Year 11 and 12 students.
- **The entrepreneur academy** – a programme led by industry leading professionals to develop all of the skills required to become a successful business person.
- **Newnham Women in STEM conference** – an opportunity for female pupils to stay at Cambridge and hear from leading Women in Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths.
- **Pathways events** – borough led talks from experts in various fields designed to give students specific advice on their chosen career paths, including fields such as engineering and medicine.
- **Social Mobility Foundation** – a programme aimed at widening participation through support with finding relevant work experience, summer schools and UCAS applications.
- **Summer Schools** – students from Robert Clack have successfully applied for summer programmes at Kings College London, Queen Mary University, University of Essex, Bristol University, Oxford University, Cambridge University and others.
- **Sutton Trust Foundation and Sutton Trust US** – this is an academic programme to give students an experience of university education in the UK and in the US. Several students have gone on from these programmes to study at top universities nationally and internationally.
- **Target Medicine programme** – a UCL programme guidance tailored to prepare students to study medicine and match students with appropriate work experience.
- **Teach First Futures** – opportunity to visit Oxford or Cambridge and other universities. Support with applications to Oxbridge and mentoring.
- **UCL Unilink** – opportunities to visit UCL and prepare future university applications.
- **STEP/MAT Preparation** – Entry to study mathematics at Oxford and Cambridge universities require a MAT and STEP entry exam respectively. Preparation for this exam is done in school and outside by utilizing the facilities provided by FMSP – Further Mathematics Support Programme, UCL including Problem Solving Classes and Maths Sessions provided by Maths Hubs in various universities.

Pastoral Support and Facilities

You will be supported by a dedicated **Head of Year** whose responsibility it is to ensure that the pupils in their year group excel. **Heads of Subject** are responsible for the progress of students in their subject, they will coordinate and deliver extra support as needed. A team of specially trained **Sixth Form Mentors** are also available to work with pupils who would benefit from additional support, guidance and advice. You will also have access to **independent**



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careers advice whilst you are at Robert Clack Sixth Form. Our expert **Destinations and Enrichment Coordinator** gives all Year 13 pupils one-to-one guidance on their application to University and practice interviews for those who need them. Our **Skills and Gifted and Talented Coordinator** ensures that Year 11 makes an excellent transition into Year 12 and that they develop the habits of success.

Sixth Form pupils have access to dedicated **Sixth Form Centre** which includes a common room, study room and computer rooms. Pupils also have access to the information centre and a range of subject specific facilities, such as those in Media and ICT, Science laboratories, Drama and Music Studios and Engineering workshops.

Expectations of Our Pupils

At the heart of Robert Clack School is community and the culture and ethos of mutual respect. We provide the highest standards of teaching and support. In return we expect pupils to have the highest standards of behaviour, attendance, punctuality and professional appearance. To support this there is a professional dress code which all pupils must adhere to. More details of the dress code and the school rules can be found on our website.

The application process

Please complete the **application form** enclosed in this pack and return it to the main office of Robert Clack School (upper site) by **Thursday 29th November**.

You will be offered a place based on your application form. Once applications have been received we will write to you to confirm if you have been offered a place at Robert Clack Sixth Form. You will be invited to attend an **interview** in January to discuss your course choices and future career aspirations. Interview times will be included in the letter.

All successful applicants are required to attend the **Sixth Form Induction days** which take place after Year 11 exams have finished on **Thursday 27th and Friday 28th June 2018**.

Pupils are expected to complete **bridging work** over the summer in each subject they wish to study in Year 12. This work must be handed to their subject teachers in the first lesson of the Year 12 and is a prerequisite to start the course.

After GCSE results have been published **confirmation of place interviews** will take place in late August. All pupils who wish to take up a place at Robert Clack Sixth form must attend.

Entry Criteria for Year 12 Courses (September 2019)

All subjects have an average points score (APS) requirement; this is the average GCSE grade achieved in Year 11.

All subjects have an English (Language or Literature) and Maths requirement. Some have a subject specific requirement.

Overall (A Level)					
5 separate subjects passed at 4 grade or above. These subjects will include English (Language or literature) AND Maths at grade 5 or above.					
A Level Subjects	English	Maths	GCSE APS	Previous Study?	Comment
Art	5	4	4	Yes 6	Art complements all other subjects well. It demonstrates creativity and attention to detail.
Biology	6	6	5.5	Yes 6,6	Biology should, ideally, be taken with Chemistry and Maths.
Chemistry	5	6	5.5	Yes 6,6	Chemistry should, ideally, be taken with Maths and another Science.
Computer Science	6	6	5.5	Yes	Computer Science can be studied with IT if a student has a specific reason.
Drama and Theatre Studies	5	4	4	Yes 5	Other performance related subjects considered if GCSE drama not studied. Complemented by the study of English and other essay based subjects.
Economics	6	6	5.5	No	Complemented well by essay based subjects. If students are considering studying a degree in Economics, Maths should also be taken.
English Literature	6	5	4.8	Yes 6	Students must have a Level 6 in both English Language and English Literature GCSE. Complements all other subjects based subjects well.
Film Studies	5	4	4	No	Should, ideally, be taken with Media. Complements the study of English well.
French	6	5	4.8	Yes 7	Student must achieve at least a grade 7 in GCSE French.
Geography	6	5	4.8	No	If studied at GCSE a 6 is required. If not, 6,6 required in Science. Complemented well by the study of Biology, Chemistry or Physics.
Graphics	5	5	4	Yes 6	6 in a related subject. Should not be taken with Art.
History	6	5	4.8	Yes 6	Complemented by the study of English, Philosophy and Ethics or another 'essay' based subject.
Mathematics	5	7	5.5	Yes 7	Complements the study of Biology, Chemistry, Economics and Psychology. Required if a pupil wishes to study Physics.
Mathematics (Further)	5	7	5.5	No	Student must achieve an 7 or above in GCSE Maths.
Music	6	5	5.5	Yes 7	Must have studied at GCSE and achieved a 7 grade. In exceptional circumstances a 6 is considered. Must be at least a grade 5 on instrument or voice.
Philosophy & Ethics	6	5	4.8	No	6 required in a Humanities subject. Complemented by the study of History, English or another essay based subject.
Photography	5	4	4	No	Interview required with Art department to determine suitability if no 5 in an Art related GCSE subject.
Politics	6	5	4.5	No	A further 5 in a humanities subject is also preferred. Individual student circumstances considered if grade not achieved.
Physics	5	7	5.5	Yes	Pupil must also study A Level Maths. Compliments, and complemented by, the study of other sciences.
Psychology	6	6	5.5	No	5,6 in Science required. Complemented well by the study of Biology and Sociology.
Sociology	6	5	4.8	No	Complemented well by the study of Psychology and essay based subjects.
Spanish	6	5	4.8	Yes 7	Student must achieve at least a grade 7 in GCSE Spanish.

: Subjects taught at All Saints only. You will only be able to take this subject if it fits on your timetable.

Overall (Vocational)					
4 separate subjects passed at C / 4 grade or above. These subjects will include English (Language or literature) OR Maths at grade 4 or above.					
Vocational Subjects	English	Maths	GCSE APS	Previous Study?	Comment
Business Studies (double or single)	4	4	3.5	No	Previous study is an advantage if no 4 grade in English.
Dance	4	4	3.5	No	A genuine interest in Dance and an aptitude for the subject. Previous Dance experience needed. Very practical subject - not suitable with a long term injury.
Engineering	5	5	4	No	Previous study considered if no grade 5 in English or Maths.
Food and Nutrition	4	4	3.5	No	An interest Food and catering required.
ICT (double or single)	4	4	3.5	No	Previous study considered if no grade 4 in English or Maths.
Media	4	4	3.5	No	Complimented well by the study of A Level Film.
Science	5	5	4	Yes 5,5	Previous study considered if no grade 5 in English or Maths. Can be studied with the A Level Sciences.
Sport	4	4	3.5	No	4 in Science preferred. Previous study considered if no grade 4 in English or Maths.

Full Time Vocational Courses					
	English	Maths	GCSE APS	Previous Study?	Comment
Beauty (Level 2)	3	3	N/A	No	Separate interview required with Head of Beauty. 1 year course. Gives access to Level 3 course in Year 13.
Child Care (CACHE, Level 3)	4	4	N/A	No	Taught at Eastbrook School.
Construction (Level 2)	3	3	N/A	No	Separate interview required with Head of Construction 1 year course.

IMPORTANCE NOTICE:

The 2018/2019 academic year will be the first year where all GCSE subjects are graded as numbers and not letters.

The entry criteria above will be reviewed when the GCSE results are published to ensure that they are comparable to previous years so that no year 11 pupil is disadvantaged.