



A-Level Guide

2022-23

**THE #1
RANKED
COLLEGE
IN THE
COUNTRY**



Welcome.

At KC Sixth, we have a culture of high academic standards and performance, promoting commitment, independence and personal growth.

We strive to inspire and enable all A-Level learners to achieve their full potential.

A-Levels open doors to higher education, apprenticeships and employment. Our academic mentoring programme will support your progress and achievement throughout your time at college to maintain a focus on your long-term goal.

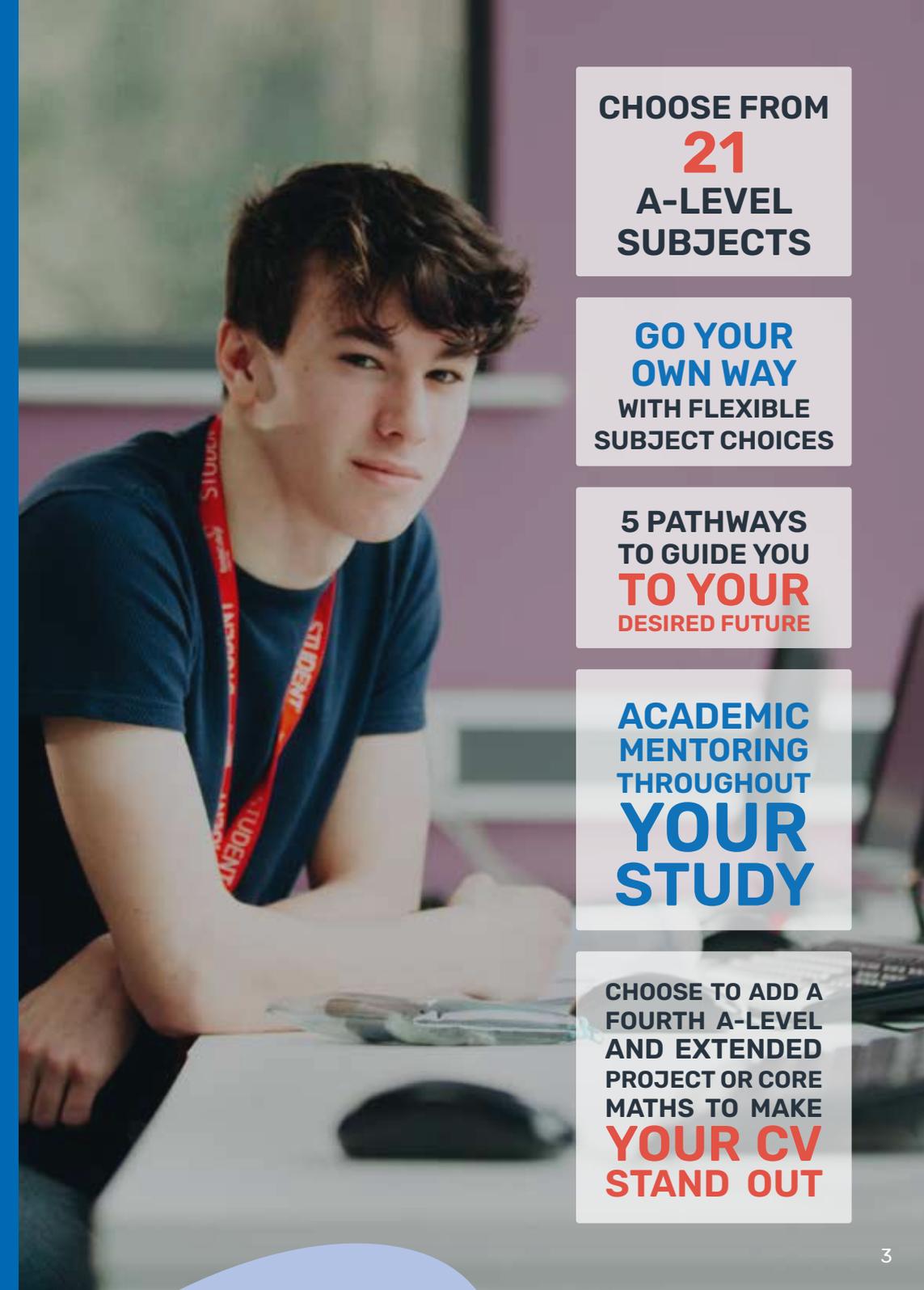
CHOOSE FROM
21
A-LEVEL
SUBJECTS

GO YOUR
OWN WAY
WITH FLEXIBLE
SUBJECT CHOICES

5 PATHWAYS
TO GUIDE YOU
TO YOUR
DESIRED FUTURE

ACADEMIC
MENTORING
THROUGHOUT
YOUR
STUDY

CHOOSE TO ADD A
FOURTH A-LEVEL
AND EXTENDED
PROJECT OR CORE
MATHS TO MAKE
YOUR CV
STAND OUT





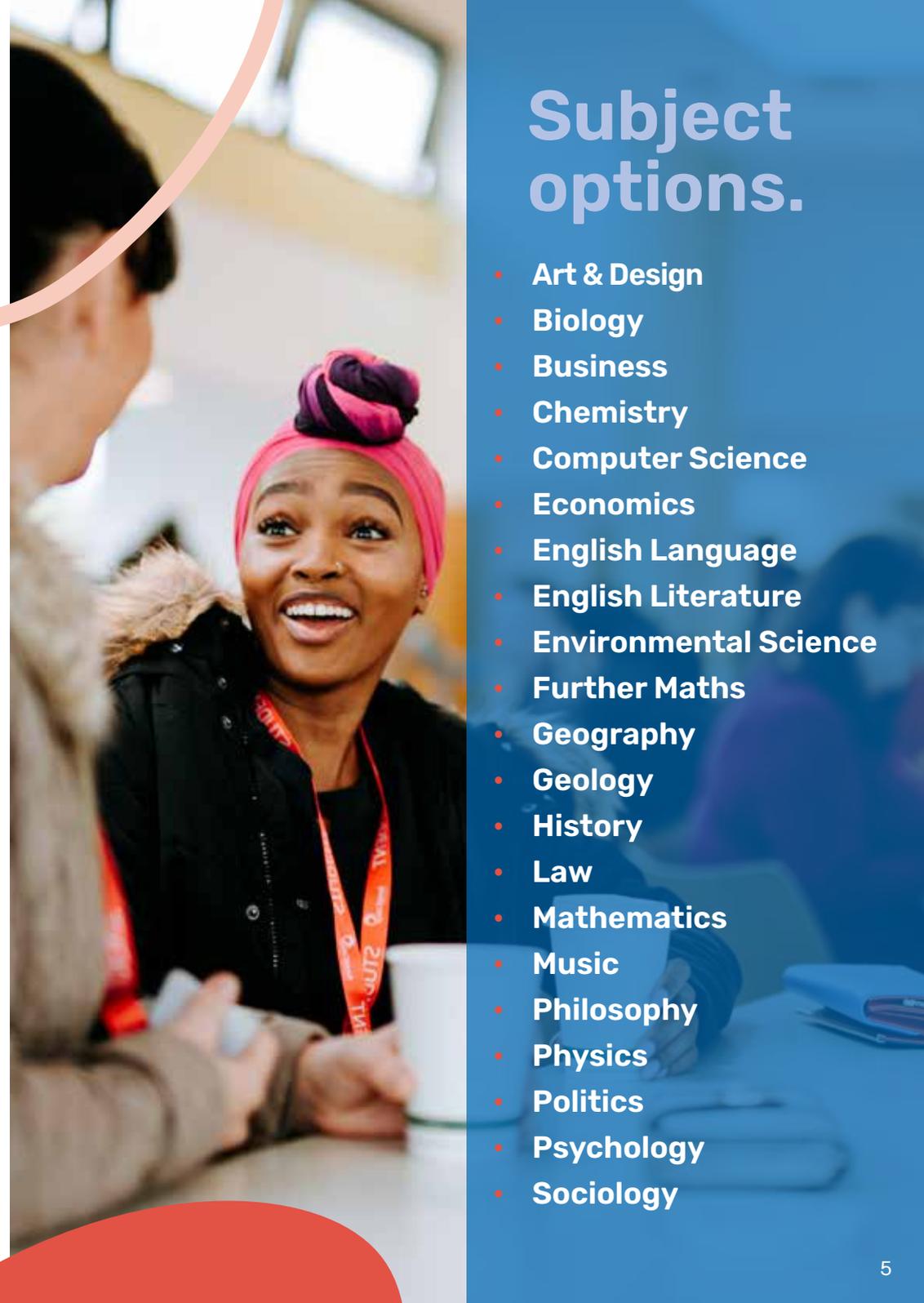
A-Level study in a college environment.

KC Sixth offers a wide range of subjects and specific pathways to university.

Our highly qualified and experienced teachers will guide you through your academic programme, offering three sessions per subject per week. They provide interactive and inspiring lessons, as well as 'curiosity activities,' and regular assessment and feedback to enable you to achieve.

As part of being a KC Sixth A-Level learner you will be supported by an Academic Mentor and the A-Level Coordinator to support your progress and achievement with the aim to help you succeed to the very best of your ability.

There are also additional opportunities available to A-Level learners which include extra-curricular activities and ways to be actively involved in college life.



Subject options.

- Art & Design
- Biology
- Business
- Chemistry
- Computer Science
- Economics
- English Language
- English Literature
- Environmental Science
- Further Maths
- Geography
- Geology
- History
- Law
- Mathematics
- Music
- Philosophy
- Physics
- Politics
- Psychology
- Sociology

Our pathways.

For those that want to specialise.



STEM:

Science, technology, engineering and maths are the tools that drive innovation and help improve the prospects of people and the planet. These are the skills employers require.



Subjects:

Maths, Physics, Chemistry, Biology, Further Maths, Environmental Science, Geology, Geography.

People and Society:

Our pathway that promotes your understanding of how people think, interact and work together, enabling you to improve the lives of others.



Subjects:

Sociology, Psychology, Economics, English Language, Geography, Politics.

Humanities:

Search for a deeper understanding of what it is to be human. Develop an analytical and critical understanding which can be applied to life or study.



Subjects:

History, English Literature, Philosophy, English Language.

Business and Law:

Look at the world as it is and then make a difference. Learn how the right mix of people and technology can get things done. Prepare yourself for the world to come.



Subjects:

Law, Business, Economics, Accounting, Psychology, Politics.

Creative:

Unleash your creativity by understanding and critiquing the work of others to create something unique.



Subjects:

Art & Design, Music, Philosophy, English Literature.

Go your own way:

Choose a blend of subjects that suits your interests and future plans.

Why choose A-Levels?

A-Levels are a proven and widely accepted route to higher-level study.

They can lead to university study or higher apprenticeships. A-Levels are examined courses and the final exams lead directly to the grade you are given (A*-E).

"It's a more mature environment and we are treated as adults, there are no bells and we call our tutors by their first names."



Entry criteria.

Our entry criteria is a grade 6 or above in the subject most relevant to that being applied for (except for Maths and Further Maths where the minimum GCSE grade required is 7).

You will also need at least 4 other subjects at grade 5 or above, including English and Maths. Please see our website for full details.

Applicants with non-standard educational history should contact us for further details and advice.

KC Sixth timetable.

	09.00-10.30	10.45-12.15	13.00-14.30	14.45-16.15
Monday	Light Blue	Green	Dark Green	Blue
Tuesday	Light Green	Light Blue	Green	Dark Green
Wednesday	Red	Light Green	Light Blue	Green
Thursday	Blue	Red	Tut/EPQ/Enrichment	
Friday	Green	Blue	Red	Light Green

All subjects are delivered in three 1.5 hour lessons, allowing in-depth study of each topic. These are indicated by each coloured block on the illustration above. In addition, students are allocated tutorials, academic progress reviews, extra curricula opportunities and three 1.5 hour study slots in our Learning Centre.



A-Level courses.

Art & Design

Future careers: Artist, Product Designer, Graphic Designer, VFX.

Express yourself and communicate to others via visual media. Every image you see on a wall, logo, sign or product, was created by someone with a visually creative background.

Biology

Future careers: Nursing, Conservation, Physiotherapy, Vet

The science of life. Learn how organisms survive and replicate including how cells communicate, and how genes influence the next generation.

Business

Future careers: Marketing, Entrepreneur, Leadership, Project Management

Learn what makes business successful, from leadership and strategy to marketing and change management. Develop an understanding of how to get things done.

Computer Science

Future careers: Software Design/Development, Data Analyst, Network Manager, Cyber Security

Modern life is controlled and shaped by computer systems and the people that design them. From gaming to manufacturing, artificial intelligence to cryptocurrencies, understanding them starts here.

Chemistry

Future careers: Environmental Monitoring, Engineering, Conservation, Vet + Medicine

Delve deeper into the nature of materials and understand the relationships between them. Further study in this subject opens up a fascinating and useful appreciation of the natural world.

Economics

Future careers: Management, Marketing, Non Government Agencies

How and why do people make decisions and what affect does this have? From a global scale to an individual choice. Explore what shapes these choices and the impact that they have.

English Language

Future careers: Journalism, Communications, Copy Writing, Teaching

English Language investigates how language changes according to situation, user and purpose, and how attitudes to such variation lie behind the power structures in our society.

English Literature

Future careers: Author, Journalism, Teaching

Explore what it is to be human through the eyes of authors and characters in some of the English language's finest texts.

Environmental Science

Future careers: Environmental Scientist, Technologist, Carbon Advisor

Climate change, deforestation, flooding, pollution, soil erosion and increasing populations. Understand these more to answer the question "how can we develop sustainable solutions to these problems?"

Further Maths

Future careers: Engineer, Software, Data Analysis, Scientist

Deepen and broaden your understanding of maths. Specific study of argument and proof, modelling and problem solving takes you well beyond the A-Level specification. This subject can only be taken alongside Mathematics.

Geography

Future careers: Planning, Environmentalist, Flood and Resource Management

Places, processes and people: cities, volcanoes, immigration and glaciers – Geography covers it all. Studying the unprecedented changes the planet and it's population are undergoing make the subject hugely relevant.

Geology

Future careers: Hazard Management, Mining, Civil Engineering, Engineering

Earth's 4.5-billion-year history and it's uncertain future. Geology dictates access to energy, clean water and mineral resources, and response to floods, climate change and volcanic eruptions.

History

Future careers: Law, Business Research, Management

Learn from the past; look to the future. Learn to analyse the events that shaped our world and what lessons can be learnt from them.

Law

Future careers: Solicitor, Barrister, Policing, Business

Laws develop and change in line with society and in many ways define it. Learn how Law is developed and how to interpret and apply it in a fascinating range of cases from murder to breach of contract.

Mathematics

Future careers: Engineer, Software, Accounts, Data Analysis, Scientist

Maths is the 'language of nature'; explore its beauty, power and usefulness. The logic and reasoning skills developed by studying Maths mean that the qualification is widely respected.

Music

Future careers: Musician, Producer, Sound Technician, Sound Engineer

Explore how music has evolved across time and space, understand the influences and techniques behind musical genres and develop your own talents as a musician and composer.

Philosophy

Future careers: Leadership, Business, Medical Ethics, Law

The study of thought itself. Gain a thorough grounding in the fundamental concepts of philosophy. Morals, minds and metaphysics mixed up to let you win any debate and express ideas clearly.

Physics

Future careers: Engineering, Manufacturing, Design, Research and Development

The world in its purest form from the weird and wonderful world of Quantum physics to galactic superclusters. The technology of tomorrow starts with an understanding of how things work.

Politics

Future careers: Business, Politician, Civil Service, Social Work

Lively, relevant and controversial. Informed by an understanding of political ideas, procedure and comparison with other countries. Learn to critically analyse others and express your own view.

Psychology

Future careers: Counselling, Education, Marketing, Social Work

How the mind works and how it affects human behaviour. Why do people think, act and feel the way they do? Social influence, neurology, attachments to others and many more all start to form an answer.

Sociology

Future careers: Politician, Business, Education, Social Work

How does society work and what influences us within it? Power, culture, identity and what is 'normal' are all explored and applied to topics like education, families and the media.





Our students.

"There is a strong sense of community and the teachers are welcoming and friendly. They have a deep insight into the opportunities that we'll have when we leave college, whether we go on to university or pursue an apprenticeship. You have the freedom to pursue the pathways to the education you want. The pastoral side is also excellent, for example, for students with a mental health issue, the support is really good. Everyone here is kind and caring."



Jack Hill
A-Level Maths, Biology & Chemistry

"When I started, I met lots of new friends from different areas. All the tutors are lovely, they always stand by every decision you make. I'm hoping to go to university and the support from my tutors has made this possible. Charlotte, our A-Level Mentor, has guided us through the UCAS application process, and if university isn't for you, she'll support you to explore other options. I was very nervous about starting college as I didn't know anyone, but it been one of the best experiences of my life. It's pushed me outside of my comfort zone and I'm more confident within myself."



Maddie Parkin
A-Level Law, History & English Language



Watch videos of these students talking about their experiences, as well as tutor videos & more, on our website:

kendal.ac.uk/a-levels

It's your future, your college, and we look forward to working with you to create it.

- ✓ A personal academic mentor
- ✓ A timetable designed for A-Level study
- ✓ UCAS application support
- ✓ Support in finding an apprenticeship or job
- ✓ Online resources for all subjects and Clickview subscription
- ✓ A café open all the time you are here
- ✓ Bring your device to college
- ✓ Office 365 account
- ✓ Wifi access
- ✓ No uniform
- ✓ Study space

Life at KC Sixth.

A typical day.

At college your timetable is designed specifically for A-Level study. 3 lessons a week for 1 ½ hours allows you to explore topics in-depth and helps you make the step up from GCSE confidently. You will have study time between the lessons depending on the subjects, so have time to keep up-to-date with your work.

You can choose how to spend your time between timetabled sessions.

Academic mentoring and progress reviews.

Your academic mentor will work with you regularly to support your study. They are your guide through successful A-Level study. You will also meet the college's A-Level Coordinator to have an honest appraisal of your progress which will help you improve and reach your goals.



Pastoral support.

There may be things that affect your ability to study whilst you are at college. Your academic mentor will be the first person you can talk to, but from there we can direct you to more specialist services as required. We will offer to support you so that you can stay focused on your study.

Target grades.

All A-Level students will be set target grades that are based on their GCSE results. These target grades will be reviewed as part of the academic review process, and subject advice and guidance will be provided to support your progress and achievement.

Assessment.

We believe students need to know exactly where they stand regarding their academic progress. We have assessment points throughout the year that will give you and the team around you a clear picture, and allow you and them to plan the next steps.

Our culture.

No bells: first name terms with all staff; independent study; shared public areas with staff and other students; zero tolerance of bullying and other behaviour that interrupts study.

Frequently asked questions.

How is college different from school?

Our students tell us the biggest difference is the atmosphere. College is an adult environment, so students say it feels more relaxed. You will mix with people with all sorts of interests and goals, from a wide range of places.

Can I study four A-Levels?

Yes. If you have high entry grades, you aspire to a top university place and enjoy studying.

Will I get support with UCAS and job applications?

Yes. Your teachers, Academic Mentor and Student Services Team will help you with this. As we deliver both degrees and apprenticeships we are well placed to help you find a degree-level apprenticeship.

How do I know I will settle in at College?

Nearly all our students who start in September are new to the College and are keen to meet new people. Your teachers will ensure that you get to know each other during your first days at College.

Are A-Levels my only option if I might want to go to University?

No. A-Levels are a good route to university, but they aren't the only option. Most other Level 3 programmes at the College have the same UCAS points as 3 A-Levels.

Should I add an EPQ and or Core Maths to my A-Levels?

It's up to you. EPQ shows a university or employer that you have good independent study skills and continuing maths is well advised if you want to do a subject at university that requires maths skills, it's also a useful life skill.

Should I stick with subjects I've studied at school?

Statistics say there is no advantage in only choosing A-Level subjects that you've studied at school, so choose what interests you most and fits with your future plans.

What combinations of subjects should I choose?

It's important that you choose 3 subjects that you will enjoy studying. Our pathways give you some suggestions to help guide you, if you are ready to specialise.

Can you support my Oxbridge application?

Yes. We have successful experience in supporting students with applications to Oxbridge and Russell Group universities.



kendal.ac.uk/a-levels
hello@kendal.ac.uk
01539 814700

    @kendalcollege