

Post 16 Prospectus 2020/2021



WELCOME

Thank you for considering the Post 16 Centre at Tuxford Academy. We offer a friendly and high performing learning environment, with excellent facilities. Our strong relationships with students, coupled with a wide range of courses, enable our students to access a breadth of career opportunities.

We work to help you secure the best qualifications you can achieve. We want to help all students get to the next step in their education or career pathway. You will enjoy a range of leadership and enrichment opportunities to help develop your wider skills. Our programme of information, advice and guidance will inform you about university, apprenticeship and college pathways. You will also have opportunities to develop your 'X-factor' giving you the edge in your next stage of education or future career.

Our post 16 team is dedicated to ensuring an effective climate for learning and maximising your progress. The academy building provides excellent facilities for teaching and learning provision. You can also access a range of support strategies, including the learning mentor team, who can help you to develop effective independent learning skills. There is a broad range of course options to consider and the decisions that you make will guide your future choices. Please spend time considering your strengths and choose a programme that is best suited to your abilities, interests and career plans. We are always happy to welcome prospective students to see our outstanding academy, so please do not hesitate to contact the post 16 team and arrange a visit.

Leanne Murphy (Assistant Principal Post 16) Tom Atherton (Head of Year 12) Chris Wray (Head of Year 13/14)





OUR POST 16 TEAM IS DEDICATED TO ENSURING AN EFFECTIVE CLIMATE FOR LEARNING AND MAXIMISING YOUR PROGRESS.







WHY CHOOSE US?

Tuxford Post 16 Centre is situated at the heart of our outstanding academy and is a well-regarded place in which you can fully realise your ambitions.

Our aims for our students are simple:

- to enable them to shine in their achievements, through excellent teaching and learning of an inspiring curriculum
- for them to benefit from outstanding guidance and pastoral support
- for them to develop grit through perseverance, passion and flexibility as they work to achieve their goals
- for their goodwill to be enhanced as they contribute to, and benefit from, high levels of community cohesion

Our high quality, engaging and stimulating lessons will enable you to develop a deep understanding and enjoyment of your subjects. There is also a wide choice of enrichment activities that will help you to develop skills beyond the curriculum and to prepare you for your future pathways.

Our offer:

- a vast range of courses to suit all pathways, including A Level and BTEC Level 3 options
- an Ofsted-rated outstanding academy
- high quality facilities and equipment
- dedicated and driven teachers and support staff
- consistently excellent results
- a comprehensive programme of student enrichment
- excellent pastoral care
- plentiful extracurricular opportunities



Outstanding results

Every year, we are delighted to see the hard work and determination of our students and staff pay off on results day.

In 2019, our students achieved fantastic exam results.

- 98% pass rate
- One fifth of grades A*-A
- 44% grade B or above
- 81% achieved first choice of destination
- 27% secured a place at a Russell Group university

Superb facilities

Our post 16 students have access to a variety of study spaces that cater to different needs.

The learning resource centre is a dedicated silent study space, whereas the conference room will enable you to discuss your ideas with other students and to work on presentations. Within these study spaces you can also access desktop computers and laptops. If you prefer to use your own devices, you will be given access to the post 16 wifi connection.

These facilities are available before and after school, with advice available from post 16 staff. The cyber café and refectory also provide a space to eat and study, along with the dining room and Clumber gallery.

BEYOND LEARNING

When reviewing university applications, admissions tutors look for evidence of an applicant's dedication to their chosen subject, and make sure that they are equipped with a range of skills that go beyond academic study. Similarly, employers will look for a range of skills on a CV.



At Tuxford Academy, our X-factor pillar, within our core values, is used to represent what students do to move beyond their academic study. You will be encouraged to develop your own X-factor by participating in enrichment activities.

Enrichment can be either extracurricular or super curricular. Extracurricular activities are pursuits that you could undertake in addition to your academic courses to show employers and universities that you are a well-rounded, interesting and enthusiastic individual and team player. Super curricular activities will take your academic study to a higher level and evidence your commitment to your subject.

We provide a range of activities that will allow you to develop these two strands. You can develop your initiative, enterprise and leadership through activities such as the Young Enterprise scheme, Duke of Edinburgh, the Arts Award, and through a wealth of opportunities such as mentoring and faculty ambassador roles.

You will also have the chance to take on positions of responsibility within post 16, such as the student forum, and also to run events and charity committees. Students who complete four enrichment activities in different areas will receive the Tuxford Community Award to recognise their achievements.

We encourage you to participate in both strands of enrichment options – inside and outside the academy. You can improve your application to university, employment or an apprenticeship by joining or organising clubs and activities.



X-factor examples

- Core maths
- Financial management
- First aid
- National Citizen Service
- Sports leader
- Power of Coaching
- Faculty ambassador
- Events committee
- Charity committee
- Volunteering in a local school or care home
- Duke of Edinburgh

OUR COURSES

We offer a wide range of courses tailored to individual needs. The full details of each course, including entry requirements, can be found on our website.

It is important to think carefully about the courses that you choose, whether they are A Level, Level 3 or a combination of the two. Both types of course are accepted by the majority of universities.

Check the entry requirements of any higher education courses or careers that you like the look of, to help you decide which subjects suit you best.

Further details about each of our courses can be found online www.tuxford-ac.org.uk/sixth-form/courses

- Applied business
- Applied science
- Biology
- Business
- Chemistry
- Computer science
- Core maths
- Criminology
- Digital media
- Drama and theatre
- Economics
- Engineering
- English language
- English literature
- Fine art
- Food science and nutrition
- French
- Further maths

Points boosters

Points boosters are a series of courses that can be taken alongside your three chosen subjects. They are graded and awarded UCAS points, which go towards university applications.

Points booster courses can also provide the necessary and valuable experience required for undergraduate study, employment and apprenticeships. All of these courses carry the same expectations as our A Level and Level 3 courses, and will require commitment and dedication.

By taking a points booster course, you will be showing that you have gone above and beyond in your post 16 study – a quality

- GCSE resits English and maths
- Geography
- Health and social care
- History
- IT
- Maths
- Music
- PE
- Philosophy and ethics
- Photography
- Physics
- Product design
- Psychology
- Sociology
- Spanish
- Sport

which is greatly respected and admired by university admissions tutors and employers alike, so we encourage all students to choose one of these options.

Our points booster courses

- Extended Project Qualification
- Financial studies
- Sports leadership
- Core maths

To find out more, visit: www.tuxford-ac.org.uk/sixth-form/ points-boosters

TRANSITION TO YEAR 12

We aim to make transition from year 11 into post 16 study as smooth as possible. There are many differences which make studying in the sixth form both a rewarding and an enjoyable experience.

We have a defined support system for all of our students, helping you to achieve your potential and aspire to reach further. We offer both pastoral and academic support, with guidance on financial, educational and career matters.

You will receive regular updates on your progress from your course teachers and personal tutors. Based on your GSCE performance, we will set you realistic yet challenging targets to reach your potential in your chosen courses. Support is tailored to ensure you can achieve your goals and can aspire to stretch yourself academically.

You will be allocated a form and form tutor for the duration of your time with us. You will meet your tutor regularly to discuss academic and personal progress, and they will support you through the process of university applications, apprenticeships or work placements. You can also get support from the wider post 16 team and mentors, who provide advice and guidance on issues, concerns and any questions you may have. This could include wanting to change courses, obtaining information about higher education or training options, discussing problems outside of the sixth form setting, or just simply needing to talk.

> YOU WILL RECEIVE REGULAR UPDATES ON YOUR PROGRESS FROM YOUR COURSE TEACHERS AND PERSONAL TUTORS.



PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE

Throughout your time at Tuxford, you will be kept well informed of potential pathways into higher education, employment or apprenticeship opportunities.



A weekly information, advice and guidance bulletin will be emailed to you, which is discussed during form time with your tutor. This bulletin is kept up to date with information on apprenticeship vacancies, employment opportunities and university open days, as well as study and revision tips.

In addition to this, a week is set aside in year 12 for you to source, arrange and complete a work experience placement with whichever employer you feel will be most relevant to your future pathway. This is an excellent opportunity to practise real life skills which will become invaluable when writing a CV or application in the future.

To help with applications to employment, apprenticeships and university, we have subscribed to the Unifrog online service and will be encouraging its use.

This service draws on information from UCAS, the National Apprenticeships Service, the National Careers Service, and many other statistical and governmental organisations, to ensure that you are well informed of the potential of each possible future pathway. This includes data on starting salaries, vacancies, requirements, course completion and satisfaction rates, and many other important factors which go into making a decision on your next steps. You will also have the opportunity to complete outreach programmes with universities. These range from specialist residential support with applications for medicine and Oxbridge, to programmes designed for those who are undecided on whether they want to go to university.

In addition, we run visits to a campus university each year in order to give you a flavour of what university life will be like. We also invite outside speakers from universities, colleges, apprenticeship providers and employers to give you an overview of what each different pathway might look like.

Regardless of which pathway you are thinking of taking, there will be plenty of support to aid you with the application process from form tutors, teachers and other students. We are committed to ensuring that you are kept up to date with the opportunities that are out there and, most importantly, what you need to do to take them.

HOW TO APPLY

For details of how to apply to our Post 16 Centre, please visit the sixth form pages on the academy website or contact Mrs G Cupit on **01777 870001** or by emailing **gcupit@tuxford-ac.org.uk**





14 www.tuxford-ac.org.uk

Diverse Academies Learning Partnership

Tuxford Academy is part of the Diverse Academies Learning Partnership – a group of academies committed to the development and improvement of schools through collaboration and partnership. Our core focus is the achievement and development of each individual student. We have an established framework of core principles and practice to which all academies subscribe, whilst maintaining and developing each academy's unique identity and individual characteristics.

For more information, visit www.dalp.org.uk



Diverse Academies



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Diverse Academies Learning Partnership is a partnership between the Diverse Academies Trust (Old Hall Drive, Retford, Nottinghamshire, DN22 7EA; registered company number 07664012) and the National Church of England Academy Trust (Annesley Road, Hucknall, Nottinghamshire, NG15 7DB; registered company number 07708713). Not for profit charitable trusts with exempt charity status, registered in England and Wales.