



Arrow Vale **Sixth Form**
PROSPECTUS



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headteacher's welcome

Arrow Vale is a mixed 13-18 comprehensive school situated in eastern Redditch. We provide an excellent learning environment for our students and, as a Sports College, for the wider community.

The School has a very lively and comprehensive Sixth Form of around 160 students with a wide range of AS, A2 and BTEC subjects. Compulsory core elements are also delivered. A varied range of vocational courses and one year courses is also available. Our post-16 students are enthusiastically involved in the life of the school and there are many sporting, musical and charity events throughout the year.

We aim to work in partnership with parents, local schools and the wider community to provide our students with the skills and experiences they need to become active contributors in the world beyond school.

Mr Creasy
Headteacher



an introduction

We believe the Sixth Form to be a natural progression for our Year 11 students as well as students from other schools.

The Sixth Form is a mix of academic achievement and social maturity. Students should strive to achieve their best whatever their course of study, and at the same time seek to broaden their experiences. We encourage students to support the lower school and develop as leaders of the future.

As a member of the Sixth Form of Arrow Vale you will be taught in smaller classes, receive excellent support and guidance from subject staff and your tutor as well as enjoying our excellent facilities.

I hope that you will choose to join Arrow Vale's Sixth Form. Should you require anymore information then please do not hesitate to contact me on 01527 526800 or via e-mail at office@arrowvale.worcs.sch.uk.

Ms Bolch
Assistant Headteacher
Head of Sixth Form



why us?



“As I was already at Arrow Vale before I joined the Sixth Form, I knew the teachers well and they knew me. It’s great because the teachers know your capabilities and how to push you.”

Kerry Anne Boyle,
Year 12 Student

- We have excellent facilities including a dedicated Sixth Form ICT room equipped with 25 PCs
- Student support and guidance through tutorials and supportive tutor programme
- Smaller teaching groups
- Dedicated teachers who will support students and strive for excellence
- Students with excellent records in Year 12 may be offered part time jobs as school prefects
- Sixth Formers enjoy using our excellent sports facilities and regularly organise their own competitions.
- Many students support the musical and theatrical productions
- We are a caring school and support our community through fundraising work in lower school and other events

our facilities



AFTER RECENT DEVELOPMENT WORK, ARROW VALE HAS SOME OF THE BEST SIXTH FORM FACILITIES IN WORCESTERSHIRE.

THE FORUM

The main facility for Sixth Formers is 'The Forum' or senior common room area. This consists of 3 sections. It has a bespoke IT suite, with 25 networked PCs. There is a private study area, ideal for quiet work and also a social area which includes comfortable seating. The Forum has access to wireless Internet facilities so students can use their own laptops. All Sixth Form students are entitled to their own private locker.

THE OLYMPUS CAFÉ

The Olympus Café allows exclusive access to Sixth Form students throughout the school day. A relaxed environment allows students to work while enjoying food and drink provided

by our caterers. The OC has a plasma screen TV, wireless Internet facilities allowing Sixth Formers to use their own laptops and is also used to host live music events.

SPORTS FACILITIES

As a Specialist Sports College, we have excellent sports facilities including a fitness suite, gym, sports hall, dance studio, outdoor table tennis facilities, squash courts, Astro turf and rugby field.

IT PROVISION

Arrow Vale has the highest student-to-PC ratio within Worcestershire. These are accommodated within 13 IT rooms, sixth form common room area, learning resource centre and the music technology department.



“The facilities are modern and there have been plenty of new developments which makes it a great place to study.”

Lisa Montgomery,
Year 12 Student





“ I like the social aspect of Sixth Form. The forum is a great place to hang out with friends. Other events through the year like charity week are great fun. ”

Ryan Gardener,
Year 13 student

student life

Hello, my name is Yasmin Sleem and I am currently a Year 13 student at Arrow Vale High School. I study English and ICT Double Award. Being in the Sixth Form has helped me get to know new people and find new friends but besides all that it has opened many doors and led me in to new and exciting opportunities. First, I was asked if I could be a prefect and this meant I would be monitoring the doors as students came in and out of the school. Having prefects in the school has helped tremendously.

Ms Bolch and Mr Wright, Head and Deputy Head of Sixth Form, set up a system where we had a senior team. The whole of the Sixth Form were offered to apply to different places, and after applying for Head of Social Events I was told I had got the position alongside Leticia Smith and Ryan Gardener.

University is considered a really important place in the Sixth Form, every form tutor and Ms Bolch and Mr Wright are keen to help us look at all possible opportunities, help us write personal statements and write individual references.

English at A level is a big jump from GCSE but in my opinion it is a lot more interesting. You read better books, learn about things you would never have known, and the most interesting is what we are currently doing, talk in life and talk in literature. IT is one of the most popular subjects in Sixth Form, lots of people take it and the IT teachers in this school are really helpful. I get all the help and support I need, and so do all the other students.

I think one of the main things people like to know about in the school is the transformation of the Sixth Form, as we now have an up to date, fresh and modern area. We have a computer room dedicated to Sixth Form only, a chill out area for break and lunch time and a study area. We also have a Café called the Olympus Café that is open to Sixth Form and Year 11 only. It has a 'Costa' feel about it, warm colours and a television that has the news and information about school on it.

As you can probably tell I really enjoy Sixth Form and will be sad to go.

- Yasmin Sleem 13SL

opportunities

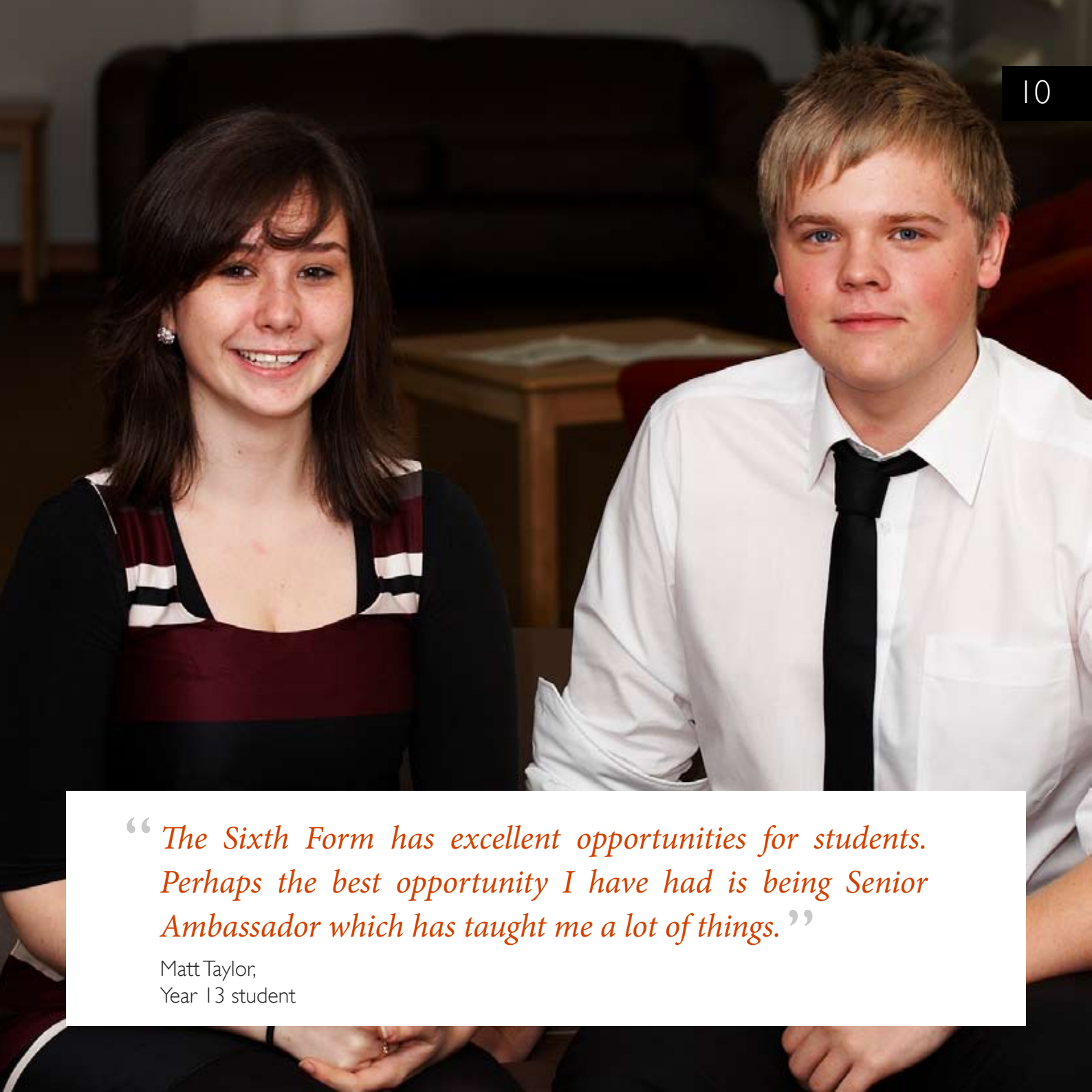
We see our students as leaders of the future. As a result in year 13 we appoint students as our most Senior Team. This includes Senior and Deputy Ambassadors of the school. As such they organise events, show visitors around school and give speeches at our most prestigious events.

In addition to our ambassadors we have another team who are responsible for marketing and publicity, standards, fundraising and our sport specialism. Many of these students have been involved in our successful charity week and the marketing of the school.



“ Since starting in the Sixth Form, I have been given many great opportunities such as part-time work and responsibilities of being a prefect which is great for my CV and UCAS application. ”

Jordan Simpson,
Year 13 student



“The Sixth Form has excellent opportunities for students. Perhaps the best opportunity I have had is being Senior Ambassador which has taught me a lot of things.”

Matt Taylor,
Year 13 student

A photograph of three students sitting on a brown leather sofa in a modern lounge. On the left, a young man in a striped sweater looks at a book. In the center, a young woman in a purple blazer looks towards the man on the right. On the right, a young man in a white shirt and red tie looks at a folder. The background features large potted plants and a window with blinds.

“ The Forum is an attractive environment that is up to date. The facilities are great and were one of the things that attracted me to the Sixth Form. ”

Lisa Montgomery,
Year 13 student

destinations

Only a few of our Year 13 students left last year to go into employment, usually with local employers.

88.4% of our students go on to Further Education.

7.2% of our students go on to employment.

The majority of our students left to embark upon a variety of courses at Universities around the country.

“ Ms Bolch and Mr Wright are keen to help us look at all possible opportunities, help us write personal statements and write individual references. ”

Yasmin Sleem,
Year 13 Student

These included:

Art and Graphic Design at Coventry, Chester and Lincoln.

Business and Computer Science at Warwick

Business Management and Software Management at Coventry and Derby

English at Brighton

Health and Social Care and Early Years at Newman, Worcester and NEW Colleges

History at Aberystwyth and Worcester

Psychology at Gloucester, Nottingham and Birmingham

Sport and Dance at Coventry, Bristol and Worcester.

We wish all of our former students success and the very best for the future.

course choices

MAKING SENSE OF IT ALL

If you are doing Level 3 qualifications, you need to decide which courses you want to do by picking 1 subject out of 4 of the 5 groups below. Note that if you pick a double course,

you must also choose the single course ie if you pick IT Double in group C, you must pick IT Single in A or D. Creative Art & Media Diploma or Hospitality & Catering span over both A and B which means you cannot pick anything else from these groups.

YEAR 12: LEVEL 2

BTEC Sport Diploma

YEAR 12: LEVEL 3

A

Art Certificate:
Art, photography or fashion

Forensic Science National

Geography

IT Single

Sport Diploma

Travel & Tourism

Creative Art & Media Diploma*

Hospitality & Catering*

* See Mr Roberts for further information

B

Design Graphics

English

French

Law

Performing Arts Certificate

Sport National

C

Biology

H&SC Double

History

IT Double

Sport Certificate

Media

ENRICHMENT COURSES

We offer a range of compulsory Enrichment Courses for all students. Students who gain a grade D in GCSE English and Mathematics must retake either or both of them. There is also an opportunity to retake GCSE Science if necessary. All other students have a choice of

enrichment subjects from Asdan, Arts Award, Basic Expedition Leadership Award (BELA), General Studies, PE or Community Sports Leadership Award (CSLA). Students will make these choices when they register for the Sixth Form in August/September 2009.

Retakes

GCSE English

GCSE Maths

GCSE Science

Enrichment

General Studies

PE

BELA

Asdan

Sports Leadership

Careers

Arts Award

D

Art National

Chemistry

IT Single

Maths

Performing Arts National

Sport National

H&SC Single

E

Business

Dance

Forensic Science Certificate

Music

Physics

Psychology

NOTES

To study a national certificate / double course you must also choose the national award or single course. To study a national diploma course you must have chosen a national certificate and national BTEC award course in that subject. For information about the Creative & Media Diploma or Hospitality & Catering, please see Mr Roberts.

geography

COURSE TITLE	Advanced Level Geography
AWARDING BODY	AQA
COURSE DESCRIPTION	A Level Geography is about understanding the world around us. The ways in which land and the environment change over time are important, as is the relationship between humans and the earth in a variety of places globally and locally. Students will be expected to develop their own views in relation to these issues and understand the views and roles of others.
COURSE CONTENT (AS)	The course in Year 12 will be divided into two units. Physical Geography will cover topics including rivers, floods and extreme environments such as deserts and mountain regions. Human Geography will assess population change and also look at current issues such as energy, health and food.
COURSE CONTENT (A2)	Geography in Year 13 continues to be focussed on both Human and Physical Geography. Some of the options that are available for study include earthquakes and volcanoes, climate change, cities, globalisation and current conflicts. There will also be an in depth Fieldwork project where students will research an issue, collect data and evaluate the success of their investigation.
ASSESSMENT AS LEVEL:	Human and Physical Geography – 1 exam 2 hours Geographical Skills – 1 exam 1 hour
ASSESSMENT A2 LEVEL:	Contemporary Issues – 1 exam 2 hours 30 minutes Fieldwork Investigation – 1 exam 1 hour 30 minutes
PROGRESSION ROUTES	A Level Geography is very well recognised by employers and universities because it requires students to develop a deep understanding of the world around them.

history

COURSE TITLE	Advanced Level History
AWARDING BODY	AQA
COURSE DESCRIPTION	A level History will provide students with an understanding of some of the key changes in Britain and across the world in the 20th century. Students will learn about the past in a variety of ways, from the traditional methods of note taking and writing essays to more collaborative work such as debates and presentations.
COURSE CONTENT (AS)	AS History is made of two units. Life in Nazi Germany, with topics including; Why did Germans vote for Hitler? Did all Germans support the Nazis? How did life change for women, children and workers? The other unit is concerned with the USA in the first half of the 20th century. Some of the most important issues to be studied are; Immigration, the power of the President, the Boom and Bust of the economy.
COURSE CONTENT (A2)	History in Year 13 builds on the knowledge learnt at AS level. One unit considers how Britain changed in the 20th century. The second is concerned with the effects of war on Germany, Britain America and other countries throughout the 20th century.
ASSESSMENT AS LEVEL:	Life in Nazi Germany – 1 exam 1 hour 30 minutes USA 1890-1945 – 1 exam 1 hour 30 minutes
ASSESSMENT A2 LEVEL:	Britain 1918-1964 – 1 exam 1 hour 30 minutes Impact of War – coursework of 2500 words
PROGRESSION ROUTES	A Level History is very well recognised by employers and universities because it demonstrates an ability to summarise, analyse and evaluate as well write at length to support an opinion.

health and social

COURSE TITLE	GCE Single Health and Social Care
AWARDING BODY	OCR
COURSE DESCRIPTION	AS/A2 Health and Social Care may be studied as single or double awards. They are GCE A' Levels graded A to E. They are designed to introduce students to a wide variety of work in a range of health and social care services. These courses will develop various skills which are required when working with others, such as communication and the ability to carry out independent research.
COURSE CONTENT (AS)	Unit 1: Promoting Quality Care: externally tested Unit 2: Communication in Health and Social Care Unit 3: Promoting Good Health
COURSE CONTENT (A2)	Unit 10: Care Practice and Provision Unit 11: Understanding Human Behaviour Unit 14: Mental Health Issues
ASSESSMENT	66% Coursework (Portfolio evidence) 33% Examination
PROGRESSION ROUTES	All units studied are applied to the care sector, which includes health care settings, early years care and education, and social care. As a result of this, completion of this course may lead to further and higher education and on to careers such as nursing, primary education, social worker, police officer, residential carer or counsellors. You could also go into employment.

double health and social

COURSE TITLE	GCE Double Health and Social Care
AWARDING BODY	OCR
COURSE DESCRIPTION	AS/A2 Health and Social Care may be studied as single or double awards. If you choose the double award you must also study single. They are GCE A' Levels graded A to E which are designed to introduce students to a wide variety of work in a range of health and social care services. These courses will develop various skills which are required when working with others, such as communication and the ability to carry out independent research.
COURSE CONTENT (AS)	Unit 6: Working in early-years care and education Unit 7: Health as a Lifestyle Choice Unit 9: Caring for Older people externally assessed
COURSE CONTENT (A2)	Unit 13: Child Development Unit 15: Social Trends externally assessed Unit 16: Research methods in health and social care
ASSESSMENT	66% Coursework (Portfolio evidence) 33% Examination
PROGRESSION ROUTES	All units studied are applied to the care sector, which includes health care settings, early years care and education, and social care. As a result of this, completion of this course may lead to further and higher education and on to careers such as nursing, primary education, social worker, police officer, residential carer or counsellors. You could also go into employment in the health and social care field.

law

COURSE TITLE	Law AS Level
AWARDING BODY	OCR
COURSE DESCRIPTION	AS Law provides the learner with an understanding of the legal system and those who work in it. Whilst it is not essential that students who wish to follow a career in law or go to university to study AS Law it does provide the learner with a basic understanding of the legal structures and what is involved in pursuing a career in law. This subject is only offered at AS level due to the fact that universities prefer to offer their equivalent of A2.
COURSE CONTENT	<p>Module 1 – The English Legal System – This looks at both Civil and Criminal law, the court systems, legal personnel, the powers of the police and how the legal system is financed. It is an examined unit consisting of essay style questions half of which require the recall of knowledge, the other the application of that knowledge.</p> <p>Module 2 – Sources of Law – This looks at how laws are made, the relationship between the English and European legal systems, judicial precedent and codes of practice within the law. This unit is also examined and is based upon Case Study material.</p>
ASSESSMENT	Module 1 is worth 60% of the final marks. It consists of a 2 hour examination where students are expected to answer essay style questions from two sections. Module 2 is worth 40% and consists of a 1 hour examination whereby students are expected to apply the law to Case Study situations.
PROGRESSION ROUTES	This course is ideal for any students considering a career in the police, legal professions such as solicitors and barristers. It is also ideal as a combination for anyone interested in Criminal Psychology or Criminal Forensics.

travel and tourism

COURSE TITLE	BTEC National Award in Travel and Tourism
AWARDING BODY	Edexcel
COURSE DESCRIPTION	This Travel and Tourism course gives students the opportunity to learn about all aspects of the industry in Britain, Europe and beyond. Whether students are keen to work in Travel and Tourism or not, the course will provide a good understanding the world today and the relationships between countries around the globe. Students will also develop their knowledge of how Tourism is changing and the positive and negative impact it can have on the people and places that are involved.
COURSE CONTENT	<p>UNIT 1: The UK Travel and Tourism Industry.</p> <p>UNIT 2: Customer Service in the Travel and Tourism Industry</p> <p>UNIT 3: The Travel and Tourism Industry</p> <p>UNIT 4: European Destinations</p> <p>UNIT 5: The Business of Travel and Tourism</p> <p>UNIT 6: Long Haul Destinations</p>
ASSESSMENT	All Units will be assessed through written assignments, group discussions and presentations as well as role play and activities based on real examples from the Travel and Tourism Industry.
PROGRESSION ROUTES	The course is obviously suitable for those students considering a career in the Tourism Industry. The Units studied are equally useful for students who wish to demonstrate they are global citizens. Also, a BTEC Level 3 qualification shows that learners have a good understanding of the practical skills required in a workplace environment.

art and design

COURSE TITLE	BTEC National Award in Art and Design
AWARDING BODY	Edexcel
COURSE DESCRIPTION	The BTEC Art and Design National Award is designed to help develop and improve your creative skills, knowledge and understanding in art and design. This course has been thoughtfully developed to provide you with an insight into the creative industries, as well as the skills necessary to prepare you for employment in the world of art and design.
COURSE CONTENT	<p>The BTEC National Award in Art and Design consists of four core units plus two specialist units:</p> <p>Unit 1 - Visual Recording in Art and Design Unit 2 - Materials, Techniques and Processes in Art and Design Unit 3 - Ideas and Concepts in Art and Design Unit 4 - Visual Communication in Art and Design</p> <p>SPECIALIST UNITS (example) Unit 7 - Design Methods in Art and Design Unit 6 – Application, exploration and realisation in art and design</p>
ASSESSMENT	100% Coursework
PROGRESSION ROUTES	On successful completion of a BTEC National qualification, you could progress into employment. Alternatively, you could continue to degree or other higher-education programmes.

national certificate art and design

COURSE TITLE	BTEC National Certificate in Art and Design
AWARDING BODY	Edexcel
COURSE DESCRIPTION	The BTEC Art and Design National Certificate is designed to help develop, improve and focus your skills, knowledge and understanding of specific practices in art and design. This course has been thoughtfully developed to provide you with an insight into the creative industries, as well as the knowledge, understanding and skills necessary to prepare you for employment in the world of art and design.
COURSE CONTENT	<p>The BTEC National Certificate in Art and Design consists of one core unit plus 5 specialist units chosen from 3 different Art and Design areas:</p> <p>Unit 5 - Contextual Influences in Art and Design: This unit aims to develop your knowledge and understanding of contemporary and historical art, craft and design. You will learn about different key art movements and improve your skills in identifying, selecting and recording appropriate references for study.</p> <p>SPECIALIST UNITS Fine Art Fashion and Textiles Photography</p>
ASSESSMENT	100% Coursework
PROGRESSION ROUTES	On successful completion of a BTEC National qualification, you could progress into employment. Alternatively, you could continue to degree or other higher-education programmes.

performing arts

COURSE TITLE	BTEC National Award in Performing Arts (Acting) BTEC National Certificate in Performing Arts (Acting)
AWARDING BODY	Edexcel
COURSE DESCRIPTION	Both courses in Performing Arts (Acting) take 2 years to complete and are predominantly practical. Students are trained in performance technique and professional acting skills, as well as studying theatre and dramatic styles.
COURSE CONTENT (NATIONAL AWARD)	Unit 7: Performing to an Audience (Core Unit), Unit 19: The Principles of Acting (Core Unit), Unit 9: Devising Plays, Unit 13: Contemporary Theatre Performance, Unit 20: Applying Acting Styles
COURSE CONTENT (NATIONAL CERTIFICATE)	All units within the National Award plus: Unit 1: Performance Workshop (Core Unit), Unit 3: The Performing Arts Business (Core Unit), Unit 10: Theatre in Education, Unit 16: Performing with Masks, Unit 18: Acting Auditions, Unit 25: The Practice of Directing Theatre
ASSESSMENT	A combination of practical workshops, performances, research and written portfolio make up the assessment in this acting course. The course is assessed 100% by the teacher and therefore has no 'final' exam.
PROGRESSION ROUTES	Both BTEC qualifications provide a firm foundation for any student wishing to follow higher education routes in Performing Arts and other creative subjects such as Media and English. The vocational nature of the course also prepares students for the world of work within the Performing Arts sector.

music


COURSE TITLE	BTEC National Award in Music
AWARDING BODY	Edexcel
COURSE DESCRIPTION	The BTEC course in Music takes 2 years to complete and is predominantly practical. Students are trained in general performance techniques as well as specific instrumental techniques. Students are also guided through the process of and encouraged to arrange their own performances, concerts and gigs in order to prepare them for future education (ie university or college) and the working world.
COURSE CONTENT (NATIONAL AWARD)	This BTEC course consist of individually assessed units of work which aim to give a varied and diverse programme of study. Unit 5 – Classical Music in Practice (Or) Unit 31 – Pop Music in Practice Unit 21 – Music Performance Session Styles Unit 22 – Music Performance Techniques Unit 23 – Music Project Unit 29 – Planning a Music Project Unit 40 – Working and Developing as a Musical Ensemble
ASSESSMENT	A combination of practical workshops, performances and written portfolio make up the assessment in this music course. The course is assessed 100% by teacher assessment and therefore has no final exam.
PROGRESSION ROUTES	The BTEC award provides a firm foundation for any student wishing to follow higher education routes in Performing Arts and other creative subjects such as Media and English. The vocational nature of the course also prepares students for the world of work within the Performing Arts sector.

product design

COURSE TITLE	Product Design (Graphics with materials technology)
AWARDING BODY	Edexcel
COURSE LEVEL	AS & A2
COURSE DESCRIPTION	Product Design seeks to develop students' knowledge, understanding, skills and application for designing products. Products should be fit for purpose, satisfy wants and needs, enhance our day to day lives and, most importantly, give students the opportunity to demonstrate their design and technology capability.
COURSE CONTENT (AS)	Students complete two units during year 12. Unit one is a portfolio of creative skills which gives students the opportunity to develop their creative, technical and practical skills through product investigation, designing and manufacturing activities. In the second unit, students will explore a wide range of materials and processes used in the field of design and technology.
COURSE CONTENT (A2)	A2 also consists of two units. The first covers a range of modern design and manufacturing practices and contemporary design issues, and students are also made aware of the ICT and systems used in the manufacture of products. In the second unit, students apply the skills they have acquired to design a product of their choice.
ASSESSMENT	AS – 80% examination, 20% practical exam (50% of total A level grade) A2 – 80% examination, 20% practical exam (50% of total A level grade)
PROGRESSION ROUTES	The course provides a firm foundation for students if they wish to continue to higher education. Many previous students have successfully completed the course and have gone onto degree based designer courses.

mathematics

COURSE TITLE	Advanced GCE in Mathematics
AWARDING BODY	Edexcel
COURSE DESCRIPTION	Studying mathematics at A level builds on the foundations of GCSE. All students take the four Core units and then extends into other disciplines – Statistics (S), Decision Mathematics (D) or Mechanics (M) units. Students can choose to study different combinations of these modules, and tailor their study according to their strengths and aptitudes.
COURSE CONTENT (AS)	Students must study two compulsory Core units (C1 and C2) along with any one of three other AS units – S1, D1 or M1.
COURSE CONTENT (A2)	To complete the A2 course, students must study the two remaining Core units (C3 & C4) and a further optional unit to complete one of the following combinations: M1 & M2 or S1 & S2 or D1 & D2 or M1 & S1 or S1 & D1 or M1 & D1.
ASSESSMENT	Students will sit one examination for each unit they study. All examinations last for 1 1/2 hours and are equally weighted.
PROGRESSION ROUTES	The academic rigour of A level mathematics is recognised by all universities and as such it is often chosen as an accompanying A level for entry into science based degree courses including physics, Chemistry, Biology, medicine and psychology, as well as the more obvious routes into pure mathematics, Statistics, Accountancy and IT based degrees.

A photograph of three students in a chemistry laboratory. They are wearing white lab coats and safety goggles. The student on the left is holding a blue clipboard and a yellow pen. The student in the middle is looking down at something. The student on the right is also looking down. In the foreground, there is a lab bench with various pieces of glassware, including a funnel, a flask with blue liquid, and a rack of test tubes containing colored liquids (brown, dark red, yellow, red, orange).

“ One of the things that attracted me to Arrow Vale was good teaching. In particular, I have enjoyed Biology. ”

Adrian Tan,
Year 12 student

biology

COURSE TITLE	Advanced Level Biology
AWARDING BODY	OCR
COURSE DESCRIPTION	Biology is divided into topics containing key concepts. Once the key features are established applications are considered. The course builds upon topics studied at GCSE as well as covering new and exciting ideas. Biology helps us to understand how living things work and interact with each other and their environment. It is currently a rapidly expanding area and offers exciting employment possibilities and opportunities for further study.
COURSE CONTENT (AS)	Students will complete two modules covering topics such as Cells, Exchange of substances and Transport systems. Also Molecules, Biodiversity and Food and Health. In addition coursework will look at three areas and require a single piece of coursework for each area covered by undertaking set practical work specified by the examination board and assessed by teaching staff.
COURSE CONTENT (A2)	Students will complete two modules covering topics such as Communication, Homeostasis and energy. Also Control, Genomes and the Environment. In addition coursework will look at three areas and require a single piece of coursework for each area covered by undertaking set practical work specified by the examination board and assessed by teaching staff.
ASSESSMENT	AS – 80% examination, 20% practical exam (50% of total A-level grade) A2 – 80% examination, 20% practical exam (50% of total A-level grade)
PROGRESSION ROUTES	The course provides a firm foundation for students if they wish to continue to Higher Education (and not just science degrees) and is also held in high regard by many Employers.

chemistry

COURSE TITLE	Advanced Level Chemistry
AWARDING BODY	OCR
COURSE DESCRIPTION	Chemistry is divided into topics containing key concepts. Once the key features are established applications are considered. The course builds upon topics studied at GCSE as well as covering new and exciting ideas. Chemistry helps us to understand how chemicals are used in every day life. It is currently a rapidly expanding area and offers exciting employment possibilities and opportunities for further study.
COURSE CONTENT (AS)	Students will complete two units covering topics such as Atoms, Bonding and The Periodic Table, Organic Chemistry, Energy, Fuels and Resources. In addition coursework will look at three areas and require a single piece of coursework for each area covered by undertaking set practical work specified by the examination board and assessed by teaching staff.
COURSE CONTENT (A2)	Students will complete two units covering topics such as Energetics, Equilibria and Elements. Genomes and. In addition coursework will look at three areas and require a single piece of coursework for each area covered by undertaking set practical work specified by the examination board and assessed by teaching staff.
ASSESSMENT	AS – 80% examination, 20% practical exam (50% of total A-level grade) A2 – 80% examination, 20% practical exam (50% of total A-level grade)
PROGRESSION ROUTES	The course provides a firm foundation for students if they wish to continue to Higher Education (and not just science degrees) and is also held in high regard by many Employers.

physics

COURSE TITLE	Advanced Level Physics
AWARDING BODY	OCR
COURSE DESCRIPTION	Physics has been developed for students who wish to continue with the a study of physics after the GCSE. Some students may wish to follow a physics course for only one year as an AS GCE, in order to broaden their curriculum. Others will continue their course for a further year extending their course to Advanced GCE. Such course will prepare students to progress into further education, to follow courses in physics, engineering, one of the other sciences or related subjects, or to enter employment where a knowledge of physics would be useful.
COURSE CONTENT (AS)	Initially students will study Basic mechanics: motion, forces in action, work and energy. Electrons, waves and photons: electric current, resistance, DC circuits, waves and quantum physics.
COURSE CONTENT (A2)	Newtonian world: Newton's laws, circular motions and oscillations, thermal physics Fields, particles and frontiers of physics: electric fields and magnetic fields, capacitors nuclear physics, medical physics, medical imaging, modelling the universe.
ASSESSMENT	AS – 80% examination, 20% Coursework (50% of total A-level grade) A2 – 80% examination, 20% Coursework (50% of total A-level grade)
PROGRESSION ROUTES	The course provides a firm foundation for students if they wish to continue to higher education (and not just science degrees) but is also held in high regard by many employers.

forensic science

COURSE TITLE	Applied Science (Forensic Science)
AWARDING BODY	Edexcel
COURSE DESCRIPTION	The BTEC National Award in Applied Science offers a vocational qualification that focuses on applied science and reflect aspects of employment within science organisations or organisations that use science. The qualification offers an approach which is different to other Level 3 qualifications in science, and will appeal to learners who prefer portfolio-based assessment covering a variety of scientific investigations.
COURSE CONTENT	The course requires pupils to study aspects of Chemistry, Physics and Biology. The course develops pupil's scientific knowledge and practical skills as well as introducing new areas such as forensic science and psychology. Over 2 years pupils will study modules in: fundamentals of science, chemical practical techniques, scientific applications, forensic evidence and analysis, medical physics and criminal psychology.
ASSESSMENT	100% assignment based
PROGRESSION ROUTES	The course provides foundation for pupils to continue to higher education. It also provides skills and knowledge for pupils to work in the laboratory environment.

psychology

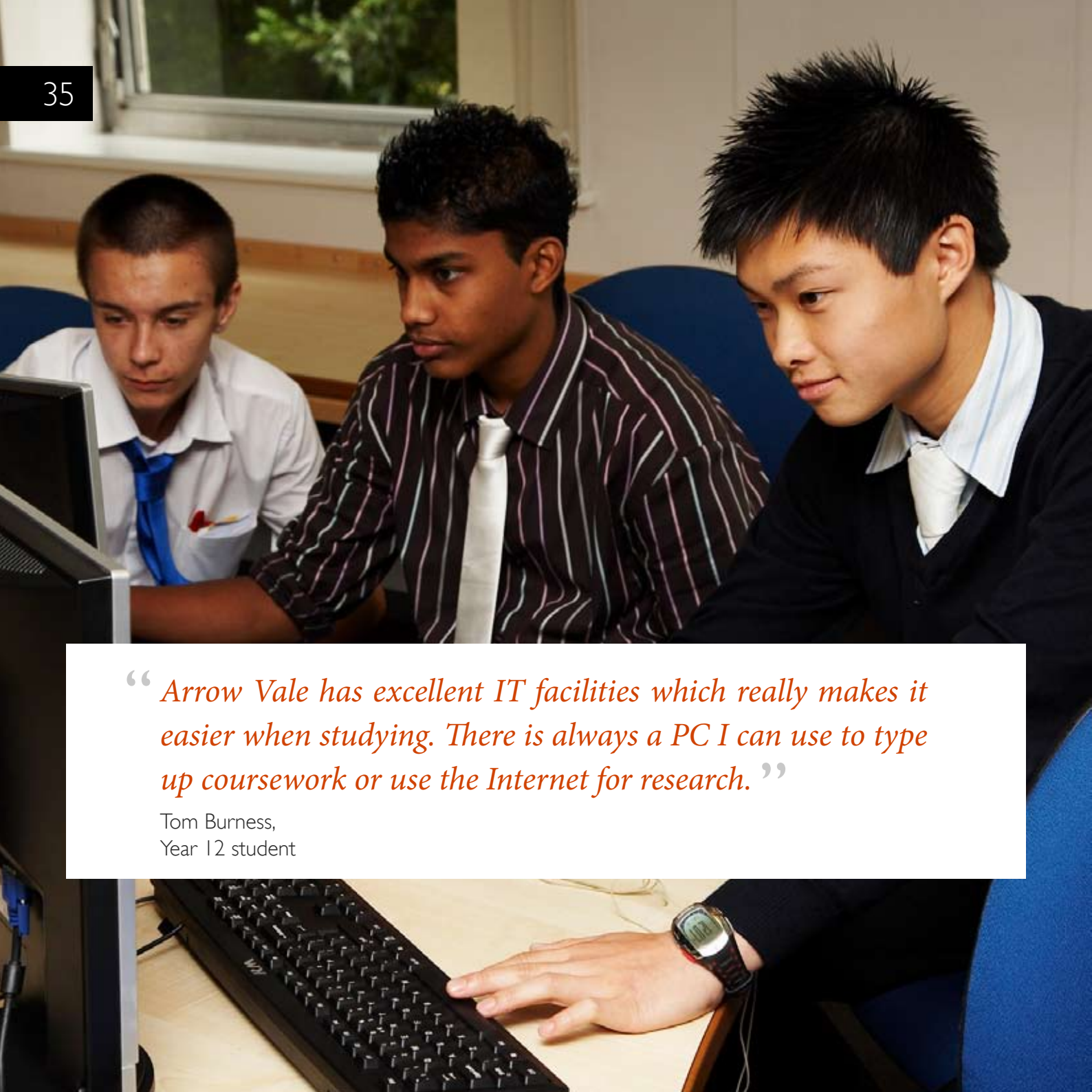
COURSE TITLE	Psychology
AWARDING BODY	AQA
COURSE DESCRIPTION	<p>The aim of this course is to:</p> <p>Provide students with a fundamental understanding of theory, concepts and research in Psychology.</p> <p>Introduce students to the scientific nature of Psychology and to encourage critical appreciation.</p> <p>Allow students to develop a capacity for critical thinking and to apply different aspects of the subject and relate them to contemporary issues.</p>
COURSE CONTENT (AS)	<p>Students will study four modules over two years. All students will study the following two modules at AS Level:</p> <p>Social and Cognitive Psychology.</p> <p>Introducing Psychology (Biological Approach).</p>
COURSE CONTENT (A2)	<p>Students will study the two remaining modules at A2:</p> <p>Child Development including Behaviour Autism and Learning Difficulties, Gifted Children, Anxiety and Eating Disorders, Mood Disorders and Schizophrenia</p> <p>Perspectives, Debates and methods in Psychology.</p>
ASSESSMENT	<p>AS – 100% examination, (50% of total a-level grade)</p> <p>A2 – 100% examination, (50% of total a-level grade)</p>
PROGRESSION ROUTES	<p>The course provides a firm foundation for students if they wish to continue to higher education (and not just science degrees) but is also held in high regard by many employers.</p>

french

COURSE TITLE	Advanced Level French
AWARDING BODY	AQA
COURSE DESCRIPTION	A course that builds on the four skills acquired at GCSE; reading, writing, speaking and listening. Contemporary topics that scrutinize the cultural and society of France are studied. Students are expected to demonstrate a deeper knowledge of social and topical issues, and responses should provide evidence of wider reading. Responses to issues will be well thought out, logical and coherent in a French which is more sophisticated and complex than at GCSE.
COURSE CONTENT (AS)	Module 1 - Listening, Reading and Writing Module 2 - Speaking Test
COURSE CONTENT (A2)	Module 3 - Listening, Reading and Writing Module 4 - Speaking Test
ASSESSMENT AS	Module 1 - 2 hour written examination Module 2 - 35 minutes speaking test (including 20 minutes preparation)
ASSESSMENT A2	Module 3 - 2 hours 30 minutes written examination Module 4 - 35 minutes speaking test (including 20 minutes preparation)
PROGRESSION ROUTES	Students may go on to study a Single honours degree in French at University or a double honours if wanting to pick up another language ab initio. Students may also continue with their French alongside a Law or Business degree. Alternatively languages are desirable skills in the business sector in general, or particularly in the tourism sector or international transport.

english

COURSE TITLE	English Language and Literature
AWARDING BODY	AQA
COURSE DESCRIPTION	The course combines the study of language and literature, building on the work carried out at GCSE level. A range of texts is studied: prose fiction, poetry, drama and non-fiction. The study of talk is an interesting topic introduced at AS level and developed further at A2 level. Teaching is primarily through group and class discussion, focussing on the development of analysis skills. The course allows students a significant amount of choice in their coursework assignments and regular opportunities for personal and creative writing.
COURSE CONTENT (AS)	An anthology containing texts of all types is used to introduce students to the close analysis needed for this level of study. Coursework requires the comparison of two prose set texts and a piece of creative writing.
COURSE CONTENT (A2)	A Shakespeare play and Talk Theory are studied in detail. Coursework requires the close reading of two texts, which are then transformed into new creative texts.
ASSESSMENT	AS Examination 60%, Coursework 40% (50% of A2 total) A2 Examination 60%, Coursework 40% (50% of A2 total)
PROGRESSION ROUTES	The course offers, through a range of study, the chance to develop communication and analysis skills. It gives the opportunity of further study in higher education as well as being a recognised qualification, well known and well regarded, by employers.



“ Arrow Vale has excellent IT facilities which really makes it easier when studying. There is always a PC I can use to type up coursework or use the Internet for research. ”

Tom Burness,
Year 12 student



media

COURSE TITLE	Media Studies
AWARDING BODY	WJEC
COURSE DESCRIPTION	This subject looks at the influence of the Internet, film, television, radio, newspapers and other media on our everyday lives. The course requires students to be actively involved with the theory of media processes and practical production work whilst developing their own critical responses to media texts. We use a range of technology within lessons, for both exploring e-media and for the production of media texts.
COURSE CONTENT (AS)	Students will be encouraged to explore the media through a study of genre, narrative and representation and make connections between the texts and audience/user responses to them. For their coursework, students research, plan and produce a media text.
COURSE CONTENT (A2)	Students carry out a comprehensive study of three different media industries and their respective impact on audiences. For coursework, they produce a research project and linked media product.
ASSESSMENT	AS Examination 50%, Coursework 50% (50% of A2 total) A2 Examination 50%, Coursework 50% (50% of A2 total)
PROGRESSION ROUTES	Media Studies offers students a chance to develop important communication, analysis and ICT skills which are relevant to many higher levels of study. A significant number of our students go on to pursue a Media-related subject at University.

applied ict (single)

COURSE TITLE	Applied ICT (Single)
AWARDING BODY	OCR
COURSE DESCRIPTION	In a technology driven society, ICT is the ideal accompaniment to any A level course whilst being essential for those aiming for a career in ICT. Throughout the course, students develop all the necessary skills required in ICT and apply these within work-related contexts. Prior study of the subject is not necessary.
COURSE CONTENT (AS)	You will study three units. The first unit requires you to investigate the creation, use and comparison of standard ICT documents as you promote a business or product. The second unit gives you the opportunity to analyse how organisations use ICT and the impact it has on that business. In the final unit you investigate how the internet has impacted on individuals and society as you graphically present your findings.
COURSE CONTENT (A2)	You will again study three units. The first unit is a project that allows you to demonstrate the development of your knowledge in relevant areas of ICT and your ability to work with others. The second unit requires you to use your knowledge of spreadsheets to overcome a problem that a real business will encounter. The third unit requires you to create a series of publications as designers, illustrators and newspaper artists would.
ASSESSMENT	AS - 2 coursework units and one exam unit. The exam unit requires you to answer questions on a document you have already studied. A2 - 3 coursework units, two of which will be assessed by your teacher and the other will be sent away to be assessed.
PROGRESSION ROUTES	The course prepares students to enter a variety of ICT or computing degree level courses. The course also prepares students for employment.

applied ict (double)

COURSE TITLE	Applied ICT (Double)
AWARDING BODY	OCR
COURSE DESCRIPTION	In a technology driven society, ICT is the ideal accompaniment to any A level course whilst being essential for those aiming for a career in ICT. Throughout the course, students develop all the necessary skills required in ICT and apply these within work-related contexts. Prior study of the subject is not necessary.
COURSE CONTENT (AS)	You will study three units in addition to the units you study in your Single ICT qualification. Firstly you will identify system specifications and configure these for a business. The second unit asks you to investigate software design. The final unit develops your skills in setting up and managing websites.
COURSE CONTENT (A2)	You will again study three units in addition to those studied in your single ICT qualification. Firstly you will be creating a network and solving common problems. The second unit extends your knowledge and practical use of databases. The final unit challenges you to find solutions for users with individual needs.
ASSESSMENT	AS - 3 coursework units, two of which will be assessed by your teacher and the other will be sent away to be assessed. A2 - 3 coursework units, two of which will be assessed by your teacher and the other will be sent away to be assessed.
PROGRESSION ROUTES	The course prepares students to enter a variety of ICT or computing degree level courses. The course also prepares students for employment as students are encouraged to develop their understanding of software and system design within practical work-related contexts.

business

COURSE TITLE	GCE Applied Business
AWARDING BODY	AQA
COURSE DESCRIPTION	This is a modular based course where you will cover a wide range of business activities. You will learn about how a business functions, which will include aspects of marketing, human resources and finance. It will help you to learn how to work independently and as part of a team. It should improve your self confidence and communication skills. Visits to local firms will take place to collect data for completion of portfolios.
COURSE CONTENT (AS)	Unit 1– Investigating Business Unit 2– People in Business Unit 3– Financial Planning
COURSE CONTENT (A2)	Unit 8—Business Planning compulsory and then select another 2 modules from a possible 7 including Marketing Strategy, Promotional Activities, Managing Change, Financial Accounts Managers or Managing Resources.
ASSESSMENT	AS assessment will consist of 3 units of which 2 units are based on portfolio and 1 unit based on examination. A2 assessment is based on 1 compulsory unit which is a portfolio and 2 other units one exam and one portfolio.
PROGRESSION ROUTES	Students who complete this course can go on to a wide variety of post 18 opportunities: degrees in business, business administration courses, marketing courses, human resource management courses, go on to complete HND Business courses or find employment with training.

national award

btec sport

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COURSE TITLE	BTEC SPORT LEVEL 3
AWARDING BODY	Edexcel
COURSE DESCRIPTION	<p>The BTEC National Award in Sport provides you with an understanding of the essential skills needed when looking to build a career in the sports sector. The qualification will give you insight into the various different occupational routes you can take within the sector, plus help you to progress in existing employment, or move on to further study. The course can be adapted to meet your abilities and aspirations: it consists of three compulsory core units plus your choice of three specialist units (which will total 360 guided learning hours). The structure of the course lets you focus on the areas you are most interested in, such as sports coaching, working with children in sport or outdoor and adventurous activities.</p>
COURSE DESCRIPTION	<p>Three compulsory units: The Body in Action Health and Safety in Sport Training and Fitness for Sport</p> <p>Plus three further units chosen from a wide selection that is available</p>
ASSESSMENT	<p>All units are assessed and graded, and an overall grade for the qualification is awarded.</p>
PROGRESSION ROUTES	<p>BTEC National Awards are valued by employers and higher education (universities and colleges). Possible jobs include Sports Centres, Leisure Centres or Outdoor Activities Centres or if you wanted to go to University you could take a degree or BTEC Higher National in subjects such as Sports Studies, Leisure Management, Recreation Management, Teacher Training</p>

btec sport

COURSE TITLE	BTEC SPORT LEVEL 3
AWARDING BODY	Edexcel
COURSE DESCRIPTION	The qualification will enable you to develop the essential skills and knowledge for starting a career in the sports sector, with a specific focus on sports development, coaching and fitness. The course can be adapted to fit your abilities and career aspirations: it consists of two compulsory core units plus your choice of five specialist units. The structure of the course lets you focus on the areas you are most interested in, such as sport and exercise massage, rules, regulations and officiating in sport or exercise, health and lifestyle.
COURSE CONTENT	Seven compulsory units: The Body in Action Health and Safety in Sport Training and Fitness for Sport Sports Coaching Sports Development Fitness Testing for Sport and Exercise Practical Team Sports or Practical Individual Sports Plus five further units chosen from a wide selection that is available..
ASSESSMENT	All units are assessed and graded, and an overall grade for the qualification is awarded.
PROGRESSION ROUTES	The BTEC National Certificate in Sport (Development, Coaching and Fitness) has the equivalence of two GCE A Levels, and it is possible for you to progress further into higher education. It is also valued by employers.

national diploma

btec sport

COURSE TITLE	BTEC SPORT LEVEL 3
AWARDING BODY	Edexcel
COURSE DESCRIPTION	This qualification provides you with an understanding of the essential skills needed when looking to build a career in the sports sector. The course consists of three compulsory core units plus your choice of three specialist units. The structure of the course lets you focus on the areas you are most interested in, such as sports coaching, working with children in sport or outdoor and adventurous activities.
COURSE CONTENT	Seven compulsory units: The Body in Action Health and Safety in Sport Training and Fitness for Sport Sports Coaching Sports Development Fitness Testing for Sport and Exercise Practical Team Sports or Practical Individual Sports Plus eleven further units chosen from a wide selection that is available.
ASSESSMENT	All units are assessed and graded, and an overall grade for the qualification is awarded.
PROGRESSION ROUTES	With the international recognition of BTEC qualifications, you can progress straight into employment. There are a wide variety of prospective careers that you can explore, for example: sport and exercise scientist, sports physiotherapist or sports coach. The BTEC National Diploma in Sport (Development, Coaching and Fitness) has the equivalence of three GCE A Levels, and it is possible to progress further into higher education.



dance

COURSE TITLE	Dance Level 3
AWARDING BODY	TBC
COURSE DESCRIPTION	Dance will be offered at BTEC National level. This is a performing arts pathway and requires candidates to demonstrate an understanding of the main components of dance and performance. Candidates will learn a variety of dance styles and will review various professional works. For further information please contact Miss Billingham in Performing arts or Miss Irwin in PE.
PROGRESSION ROUTES	Students who have completed this course frequently progress on to University or Colleges of Performing Arts.

btec sport

COURSE TITLE	BTEC SPORT LEVEL 2
AWARDING BODY	Edexcel
COURSE DESCRIPTION	<p>Core Units</p> <p>Unit 1: The Body in Sport:</p> <p>Unit 2: Health, Safety and Injury in Sport:</p> <p>Specialist Units</p> <p>Unit 3: The Sports Industry</p> <p>Unit 4: Preparation for Sport</p> <p>Unit 5: Planning and Leading Sports Activities</p> <p>Unit 6: Practical Sport</p> <p>Unit 7: Practical Outdoor and Adventurous Activities</p> <p>Unit 13: Work-Based Project in Sports</p> <p>Unit 14: Instructing Exercise and Fitness</p> <p>Unit 15: Sport and Leisure Facility Operations</p>
ASSESSMENT	All units are assessed and graded, and an overall grade for the qualification is awarded.
PROGRESSION ROUTES	BTEC First Diplomas and Certificates offer direct progression on to BTEC National programmes. On completion of a BTEC National, students can progress to a degree, BTEC Higher National or BTEC Foundation Degree programme. A BTEC First also prepares students for employment in their chosen career.

code of conduct

WE EXPECT HIGH STANDARDS FROM OUR STUDENTS AND THEREFORE WE EXPECT THE FOLLOWING:

- A high degree of maturity both in and out of lessons
- Students to be punctual to school and lessons. This includes attending registration on a daily basis at 8.35am.
- Students are to meet all deadlines.
- Students will undertake all chosen subjects and enrichments subjects.
- Students will support in lower school.
- Students will attend additional support sessions should the need arise.
- Students will work to the best of their ability and work to meet or exceed their target grades.

CODE OF DRESS

We expect our students to dress in a smart manner, this we liken to an office environment in the work place. Students may not wear jeans, trainers, shorts, logo t-shirts or facial jewellery. We reserve the right to decide what we regards as acceptable.

how to apply

INTERESTED IN APPLYING TO THE ARROW VALE SIXTH FORM? HERE'S HOW:

To apply for the Sixth Form please complete the separate application form.

Students wishing to follow the level 2 course must tick level 2 Sport.

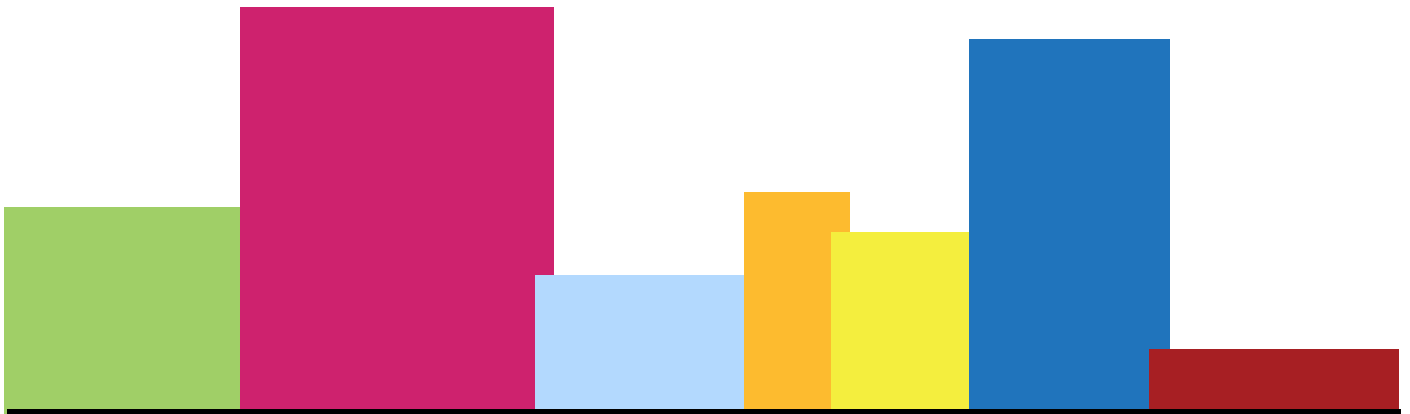
Students wishing to follow level 3 courses should choose 4 subjects from the 5 option columns. Trying to cater for everyone's choices is difficult and there may be some cases where subjects clash by appearing in the same column. In such a case please tick both subjects and we will try to accommodate these choices but at this stage we can not make any promises.

All subjects are subject to viability.

Please ensure that you return your application form to Ms Bolch (via your form tutor) by the date mentioned on the form.

Any students that are not currently at Arrow Vale can download an application form from our website at www.arrowvale.worcs.sch.uk.

Following your application you will be interviewed by either Ms Bolch or Mr Wright.



Arrow Vale High School • Green Sward Lane • Matchborough West • Redditch • B98 0EN
01527 526800 • office@arrowvale.worcs.sch.uk www.arrowvale.worcs.sch.uk/sixth-form/

