

**New
College
Durham**



YOUR FIRST CHOICE FOR A-LEVELS

Sixth Form Centre Mini-Guide
2024
2025

newdur.ac.uk



**Sixth
Form
Centre**

DISCOVER A-LEVELS

Take your first steps towards a fantastic future by joining the Sixth Form Centre at NCD. Choosing a fresh start will give you the chance to be yourself, become more independent, meet new friends and enjoy new experiences.

WHY NCD SIXTH FORM CENTRE IS YOUR BEST NEXT STEP?



Get future ready

We treat you like an adult and offer a more independent learning environment than school, so you are better prepared to take on university level study or employment.



Expert staff

All our teachers are dedicated A-Level staff with expertise in their areas. You can also receive extensive support with your personal statement and university applications.



Outstanding support

Our Sixth Form Centre students get targeted, specific, additional support including individual and small group masterclasses and holiday revision sessions.



University links

You will have the chance to attend lectures and workshops in university settings and visit higher education institutions such as Oxford, Cambridge and Durham University.



Progress

Last year, 100% of our A-Level students who applied for undergraduate places were successful. Our students progressed to study at universities such as Cambridge, York, Exeter, Newcastle and Durham.





THE LOWDOWN

The best of both worlds

At NCD we combine the best of school and college. You have your own dedicated space in college, but you can also make the most of being on a large and vibrant campus.

Our Sixth Form Centre

A-Level students study in our dedicated Sixth Form Centre, located within the college. This includes a quiet study room so you can make the most of your time at college. This combined with access to the wider facilities on campus sets NCD apart.

Depending on the subjects you choose you will have access to relevant classroom spaces including an art studio and science labs. We will also bring learning to life with our immersive suite which allows you to be transported to real-life scenarios to apply your learning in different settings.

A campus experience

If you study A-Levels at NCD Sixth Form Centre you benefit from a modern and exciting campus. You can use the college-wide facilities including:

- The Digital Learning Centre
- The Library
- The Gym
- Campus eating spaces and facilities including our on-site Starbucks and Costa

Enrichment programme

Make the most of your time at NCD by getting involved with the amazing range of enrichment opportunities on offer. You can choose from our varied range of activities which are designed to support your physical health and mental wellbeing.

Support built around you

Our students get the best level of support. We have an amazing network of trained and experienced staff who can tailor support to meet your needs. Our support services include:

- Advice, Support and Careers (ASC) who can give advice on careers and funding
- Learning Support team who can support you if you have any additional learning needs
- Personal Learning Coaches can assist with study skills, motivation and transitioning to college life
- Personal Development Coaches will work with you to set aspirational targets and you will have weekly sessions covering vital life and employability skills.



APPLICATION JOURNEY

You've decided that A-Levels is the perfect route for you, so what's next?

You can apply any time throughout the year. Follow these simple steps to apply for A-Levels at New College Durham:



Get started

Attend our events, pre-register for our Information Advice and Guidance events and A-Level open events.



Apply

Complete an online application. You don't need to select the A-Levels you would like to study yet.



Offer

We'll review your application and will be in touch with your next steps or an offer for a place at New College Durham.



Attend Get NCD Ready

You will be invited in to our Get NCD Ready event at the end of June.



Accept your place

You can accept your place when you meet with our teaching staff, or you can accept it later over the phone or via email.



Meet your tutor

We'll send you an appointment to come for a chat with your course tutor where you'll receive advice and guidance.



Enrol

Following GCSE results day, you will be invited into college. You will have a chance to select your three A-Level subjects.

EVENTS FOR YOU

Information, Advice and Guidance event

First Tuesday of February, March, May, June

A-Level open event

Scheduled one Saturday in October and February

For more information, date and to pre register for fast track entry please head to newcollegedurham.ac.uk/events

A-LEVEL SUBJECTS

Art & Design

Develop your knowledge, understanding and skills in a range of specialist areas as you explore the specialism of Fine Art.

Biology

You will study biology and disease, the variety of living organisms, practical and investigative skills, populations & environment, and control in cells & organisms.

Business

You will develop a broad understanding of how businesses work by exploring core business concepts and applying them to business contexts.

Chemistry

Chemistry at this level attempts to explain why processes happen, working out the reasons for chemical changes and the trends and patterns in these changes.

Classical Civilisation

This course allows you to look at many aspects of the classical world which are significant in the development of the modern world.

English Language

Develop your knowledge and interest in the English language and improve your use of English in a variety of contexts.

English Literature

This challenging and enjoyable course is for those who love reading and want to study a range of poetry, drama and prose.

Film Studies

Discover the ways different genres of film encode meaning for their audience by studying cinematography, editing, sound and mise en scene.

Further Mathematics*

This course expands the areas covered in AS/A-Level Mathematics and introduces new topics such as matrices, complex numbers and more.

Geography

Develop an in-depth understanding of physical and human geography and explore the complexity of people and the environment.

History

You will make links and draw comparisons between different periods of the past and develop an understanding of history's intrinsic value and significance.

Law

This subject will provide you with an understanding of the English legal system with a focus on criminal law, contract law and human rights.

Mathematics

You will learn to recognise how real life situations may be represented mathematically and acquire the skills required to use technology to solve mathematical problems.

PE

This course will equip you with knowledge, understanding and skills relating to scientific, socio-cultural and practical aspects of physical education. Assessment includes exams and a non-exam assessment.

Physics

If you enjoy problem solving, handling numbers and theories and like a challenge then this course is for you. Much of the work is covered by experiments and demonstrations.

Politics

You will study the political process in the UK as well as its democratic and political institutions and have the opportunity to engage in political debates and discuss a range of relevant issues.

Psychology

Gain an insight into the world of psychology through practical research and prime psychological studies. You will study topics such as social influence, memory and attachment.

Religious Studies

Investigate ultimate questions such as 'why does evil exist?' and 'what is the purpose of life?' while studying topics that explain the diversity of life and religion in the modern world.

Sociology

Explore the social influences that shape people's lives. You will look at different methods of research and examine particular aspects of social life in more detail.

SIXTH FORM CENTRE ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

To study A-Levels with us you will need a minimum of 5 GCSEs which must include maths at grade 4 or above & English at grade 5 or above.

Some A-Level subjects have their own specific entry criteria – see our website for details.

ADDITIONAL SIXTH FORM CENTRE SUBJECTS*

Level 3 Diploma Applied Science

This applied science course is interactive and will include numerous excursions, practical sessions and assignments.

Level 3 Diploma Criminology

This course will give you an introduction to criminological theories to give you a greater insight into the kind of thinking used by experts to explain crimes.

Level 3 Extended Project Qualification

This is an additional skills based subject that will provide you with transferable skills in order to approach tasks in other A-Level subject with confidence. You will write a report, keep a diary and give a presentation.

***Entry requirements may differ, see website for current entry criteria**

Find out more

Our A-Levels section on our website has everything you need to know about the courses we offer. There are full course listings, videos and details on how to apply. Go to: www.newcollegedurham.ac.uk/courses/a-levels

We also have dedicated A-Level open events in October and February. At this event you can meet with curriculum staff from the wide range of A-Level subjects we offer, to help you decide which are the right A-Levels subjects for you. You can also meet current students who will take you on a tour of our sixth form centre.

Visit the events section of our website to pre-register.

Contact us

We are available Monday to Thursday from 8.30am to 5.00pm and Friday 8.30am to 4.30pm to answer your questions.

MAIN COLLEGE

Tel: 0191 375 4000

ADMISSIONS OFFICE

Tel: 0191 375 4210

email: admissions@newdur.ac.uk

ASC (ADVICE SUPPORT CAREERS)

Tel: 0191 375 4400

email: asc@newdur.ac.uk

Disclaimer

The information in this leaflet was correct at time of publication - Nov 2023.

New College Durham issues this information as a general guide to its policies and facilities and reserves the right to modify or alter, without prior notice, any of the contents herein or otherwise advertised.

The college regularly reviews its offer, and therefore courses, qualifications, facilities and fees may be subject to change.

Please contact the Careers Team on 0191 375 4400 or visit our website for the latest information.



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