

CAREERS @ NEWSTEAD

Creating opportunities for success

Choosing GCSEs and A Levels

Introduction from Mrs Dalton

Welcome to our first edition of Careers @ Newstead for this academic year. We hope that this newsletter will become essential reading in supporting your journey through Newstead & onto your chosen path. We aim to broaden your horizons, perhaps introduce you to some careers you had not previously considered, as well as providing you with the latest intel on how to become a successful applicant at university and beyond!

The Autumn Term is all about making UCAS applications for Year 13. If you see any Year 13s looking slightly flustered, they are making awesome applications to university at the moment, and are already receiving amazing offers from Bristol and QM! Please do wish them well if you see them

The first edition focuses on choosing A Levels and other options as Year 11s will be thinking about what to study at Sixth Form - we hope to provide you with some things to consider, and of course, myself or Mrs Green are always happy to discuss this with you. We know many of you will be finding the choices difficult, given that you're good at many subjects, so we hope these questions give you some important pointers for narrowing your choices

We wish all of you making applications the best this term!

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How to choose GCSEs and A Levels

Making choices as a general rule:

- What do you enjoy?
- What are you good at?
- What do you need?

These are not reasons to choose subjects:

- You've heard it's easy
- Because your parents want you to
- You like the teacher (you may not get them as your teacher)
- Your friend is doing the same (you may not be in the same class)

Tips for choosing GCSEs:

- If you want to have a career in art or design then choose an arts focused GCSE
- If you want to travel or work for an international company, opt for a language



Do you know what you want to do in the future or at least have a rough idea? If so, then work backwards

For example, would you like to become a vet? Start by looking at UCAS to see what subjects are needed to study a veterinary degree? (*A Level Biology and 2 other subjects at AAA*). Then, what GCSEs you need to study those particular A Levels or BTECS (*Biology and Chemistry, as well as Maths, Physics, English*)

Check out this link on ucas
<https://www.ucas.com/node/364286>

Choosing A Levels

This is a decision that needs thought, as it will have an impact on the next stage of your life.

However if you don't know exactly what you want to do, then, as in GCSE choices, keep your options open. Some subjects are known as "facilitating subjects" such as Maths, English, Physics, Biology, Chemistry, History, Geography or a foreign language.

Facilitating subjects are the subjects most commonly required or preferred by universities to get on to a range of degree courses. They help you keep your options open when choosing a degree, and many of the top universities will ask you to have at least one A level in a facilitating subject when you apply.

If you don't know what you want to do - this is perfectly fine - but make sure you choose broad subjects

CONNECTING CURRICULUM TO CAREERS



What is Criminology? The study of crime & behaviour - a fascinating degree for anyone interested in law enforcement or the academic study of criminal behaviour. It can be seen as multi-disciplinary as it contains elements of Psychology, Biology, Statistics, Law & Society

Good to have: Volunteering / WEX especially with charities who campaign for social justice; knowledge of relevant material such as the British Society of Criminology blog; a completed free online MOOC with the Open University; a good level of English and Maths GCSE; A Levels such as Psychology, Sociology, History, Statistics or Government/Politics

Do I have to go to university to become qualified? No, there are Criminology apprenticeships available with the intelligence service, the police or local councils

If I decide to go to university, what grades do I need? BBB is quite common at A Level or a level 3 or 6 qualification such as Pearson BTEC level 3

Can I combine degrees? Yes, why not combine Criminology with Business Management, Psychology or Policing and Investigation? This could also give you more options when job hunting

What's happening - Careers@Newstead



- Year 11 students will all be offered a 1:1 Careers Guidance Interview this term
- Two Year 12 careers trips have been organised in November, visiting an Advertising, Media & Marketing company and also an Engineering Careers Fair
- The Young Reporters scheme has been launched again for aspiring journalists in Year 10 and Year 12
- Watch out! After half term we are looking to organize a "Careers@lunchbreak" event covering exciting news from the Aviation industry
- Numerous emails have been forwarded to students regarding careers opportunities - don't miss out, check your emails



Unifrog News

All Year 7, 9 and 12 students have just received their welcome letters, so all students in the school now have access to the huge amount of information available on this Careers Platform