Ofsted GRADED GOOD

SIXTH FORM PROSPECTUS 2027-2028

SIXTH FORM

Excellence through opportunity

BUDMOUTH ACADEMY WEYMOUTH

AN ASPIRATIONS ACADEMY

WELCOME



Dear Student,

It gives me great pleasure to welcome you to Budmouth Sixth Form.

Choosing where to continue your education after Year 11 is an important decision. At Budmouth Sixth Form, we are proud to offer a supportive and ambitious environment where every student is known, valued and encouraged to achieve their full potential.

We inspire every student to aim high, embrace new opportunities and become the very best version of themselves. We offer a wide range of A Level and vocational courses, enabling students to follow pathways that reflect their strengths, interests and future aspirations.

As a student-centred Sixth Form community, we pride ourselves on providing personalised support and fostering strong relationships between students and teachers, helping every student flourish both academically and personally. Alongside this, our dedicated Student Support Centre and exceptional team of tutors provide outstanding pastoral care, ensuring students receive the guidance, encouragement and support they need to thrive.

Our extensive enrichment programme offers students opportunities to pursue their interests, develop new skills, build confidence and form lasting friendships.

Whether your aspirations lead to university, an apprenticeship or employment, we are committed to helping you develop the knowledge, skills and self-belief to achieve your goals.

I hope your visit provides a valuable insight into what makes Budmouth Sixth Form such a special place to learn, grow and succeed, and helps you understand why so many students choose us for the next stage of their education.

This is an exciting time in your educational journey, and we look forward to supporting you as you take your next steps towards a successful future.

If you have any questions or would like to see our Sixth Form in action, please do not hesitate to contact our Sixth Form Administrator, Jan Cockings, at jcockings@budmouth-aspirations.org.

We look forward to welcoming you to Budmouth Sixth Form.

Hannah Evans
Head of Sixth Form



We are a community, within a community.

Budmouth has an incredibly high retention rate and we are proud of the support we offer our students so that they are happy and successful, both whilst still in education and later on into their future.

It is a privilege to support students during this period of their lives, watching them grow and develop into young adults ready to enrich our society.

This support includes:

- Sixth Form Preparation Days
- Right Move week
- Monitoring and tracking your progress
- Study skills and organisational skills development through the tutor and Drop Everything and Revise (DEAR) curriculum
- Target setting and Academic mentoring through the tutor and DEAR curriculum
- In-person Parent Consultation Evenings
- Student voice
- Student Union Welfare Officer
- Team building and tutor group activities
- Oxbridge and Medicine Support Group and our Scholars Programme
- Student counselling service and Sixth Form Student Support Centre
- Access to a careers adviser
- "Next Step" and UCAS advice and guidance, including for early applicant courses
- Work experience opportunities, internships and scholarships
- Aspirations Employability Diploma
- Access to the UNIFROG Careers Platform
- Subject revision from specialists within the school day



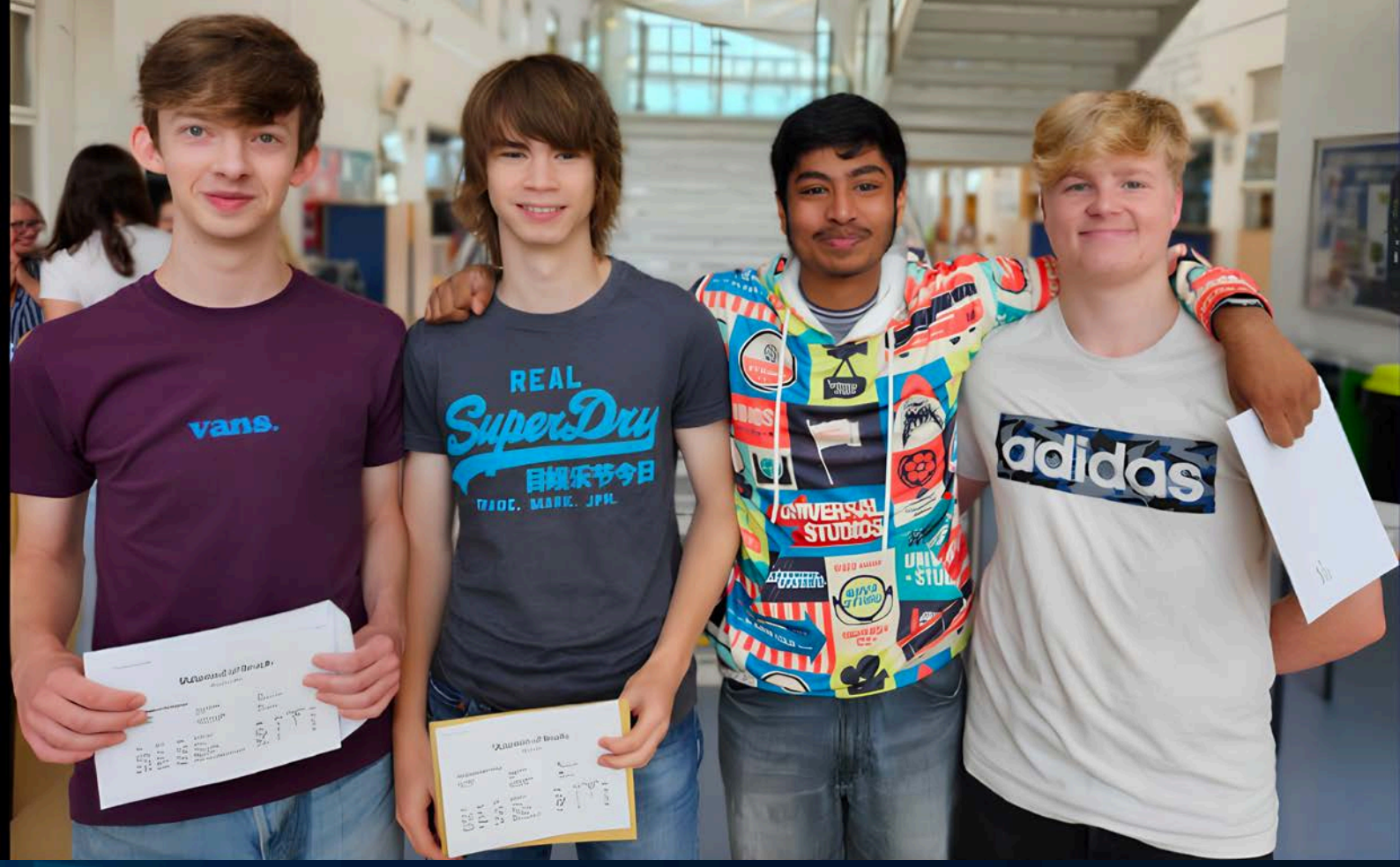
Successful outcomes reflect this support. In the last few years hundreds of students have secured places at university. Included are students who have gone on to study at Oxford and Cambridge and also onto competitive courses like Medicine, Veterinary Science and Performing Arts at prestigious schools. Many more have gone on to secure vocational positions including on competitive apprenticeship schemes, thanks to the links and support provided by our AED and Futures teams.



'My time at Budmouth Sixth Form equipped me with numerous skills, many of which could not be learnt just from studying. The support and interest I received from teachers and staff was invaluable. At Budmouth, there is ongoing encouragement from everyone around you which helped me to push myself further and become a Solicitor by completing a degree apprentice at one of the UK's top law firms rather than going to university. I received, like all students, great interest from teachers in what I was hoping to do next and for many students who are unsure oF what they want to do, there are lots of insight events and work experience programmes to try out in order to work out whether a certain field might be suitable. The range of knowledge that I gained from my courses frequently sparked my interest into further research.

Alumni, Solicitor Degree Apprenticeship





Where will the future take you?

Aspirations Employability Diploma (AED)

Sixth Form students benefit from dedicated careers guidance and employability opportunities through the Careers Hub and Centre of Excellence, supported by the Budmouth Next Step Programme.

Budmouth Academy is committed to developing confident, ambitious young people with a strong sense of purpose, equipping students with the skills, knowledge and experiences needed to succeed in further education, training and employment.

The Centre of Excellence delivers the Aspirations Employability Diploma (AED), a practical, hands-on programme designed to develop students as young professionals. Through personalised training and real-world experiences, students build essential skills, attitudes and attributes, preparing them for success in an ever-changing world of work.

As part of the AED, students have the opportunity to apply for a fully funded, week-long trip to NASA. Successful applicants demonstrate how the experience will support their personal development and how they will use their learning to benefit others.

The Centre of Excellence also oversees the prestigious Sir Samuel Mico Scholarship Awards, providing successful applicants with valuable paid work placements to develop professional skills and gain meaningful workplace experience.

The Careers Hub provides students with personalised guidance and support to explore their future pathways, including university courses, apprenticeships, employment and work-based training.

All students have access to a Level 7 qualified Careers Adviser, offering impartial advice and guidance to support informed decisions about their futures. Students also benefit from access to Unifrog, an online careers platform that supports research into university courses, apprenticeships and career opportunities, alongside practical guidance with applications and personal statements.

Our structured two-year Careers Hub programme involves local and national employers and provides a wide range of opportunities, including workplace visits, employer talks, university visits, Oxbridge preparation and online workshops.

Our ambition is to equip every student with the skills, confidence and attributes needed to succeed as future leaders, entrepreneurs and professionals in an increasingly digital and evolving world of work.

Further information is available on the Budmouth Academy website or by contacting Baron Miles at bmiles@budmouth-aspirations.org.

YOUR WORLD

'Extra Curricular Activities'















During Sixth Form at Budmouth, students will have access to a vast range of extra- curricular opportunities that will help build self-confidence, leadership skills, active citizenship and enterprise capabilities.

- Elected Student Union – organising socials, inter-tutor competitions and fundraising events
- Whole Sixth Form fundraising for the Murugi Community Trust, which aims to relieve poverty, advance education and improve health in the Murugi community, Kenya
- Paired-reading scheme – matching Sixth Formers with Year 7 readers
- Assemblies with a variety of external speakers, including Stand Up To Racism Dorset, Safe Drive, Dorset Fire Safety as well as employers and universities.
- Leavers' Dinner
- Rights Respecting Schools Ambassadors
- Scholarship Programme in partnership with the Sir Samuel Mico Trust
- Cultural Exchanges
- Fully funded trip to NASA
- Internships – providing unique work experience and transferable skills.
- Voluntary activities
- Duke of Edinburgh Awards-including Bronze, Silver and Gold
- Ten Tors Teams
- Combined Cadet Force (CCF)
- Drama Productions
- New York, Bath and Iceland trips
- Learn to play an instrument
- How to cook healthy food on a budget
- Sports Teams and Coaching opportunities
- Amnesty International
- Young Enterprise
- Sixth Form Enrichment- our offer grows each year and students can request specific opportunities and opt to study an additional qualification that carries UCAS points.

'In the Sixth Form, 'There is a strong focus on community service' and 'teachers are skilful in providing appropriate work that is demanding for students, and in providing additional support when needed.'

(Ofsted, 2024)

YOUR SPACE

'room to grow'

Sixth Formers benefit from their own bespoke KS5 spaces, which have been designed to support both collaborative and silent study.

Students have free access to revision materials, past papers and study guides, to ensure they have no barriers to their revision.

All Sixth Form students also have access to Google Chromebooks throughout the day and can sign out devices to use both in school and at home, for the duration of their time with us, to suit their preferred form of notetaking.

Students also have their own newly-renovated cafe and access to free hot beverages in the main library whilst they work.

Here are just a few of the other facilities the Sixth Form has to offer:

- Four Floodlit Tennis and Netball Courts
- Two Floodlit 4G Astroturf Football/Hockey Pitches.
- Art and Photography Studios
- The Careers Hub
- Dance, Drama and Music Studios
- Design and Technology Building
- Extensive Playing Fields
- Budmouth's main Library and additional Sixth Form Private Study Rooms
- Combined Cadet Force (CCF) Assault Course
- SEN Base
- Access to Chromebooks for Google Classroom

"When I started Sixth Form I had no idea which direction I wanted my life to take but with the help of my teachers and support staff, who enabled me discover my strengths and interests, I now feel happy and fulfilled with the degree I'm pursuing. Studying my A-Levels at Budmouth gave me the confidence and independence to set me up for my future."

Alumni, currently studying English Language and Linguistics at the University of Southampton.



STUDENT GOVERNANCE

'dare to imagine, involve yourself'

The Student Union are an elected committee of passionate and diligent individuals dedicated to making Budmouth Sixth Form an enjoyable and beneficial experience for all.

Across the span of the year, the union are responsible for organising a variety of events that actively bring together our students and offer new bonding experiences such as BBQs, escape rooms, shopping trips, quizzes, bingo nights and perhaps most importantly, the Sixth Form Leavers' Dinner.

In Sixth Form we believe that healthy competition between tutors encourages hard work and team spirit. For this reason, we host multiple inter-tutor competitions which involve sporting events, costume days and bake-offs.

As preparation for student life post-18, Budmouth dedicates Wednesday afternoons to providing students with a selection of Enrichment activities. These can include arts and sports clubs, online learning courses, music, golf, community projects, cooking courses, Young Enterprise or university preparation. Our aim is to get everyone included in something aside from general study.

Following your time spent at Budmouth, the union encourage pupils to keep in touch and updated with their progress. It is common that past students return to the college and offer a variety of speeches and Q&A's regarding their experiences following Sixth Form which can include university life and job opportunities.

Students benefit from not only having Year 13 subject ambassadors who can provide tips and advice, but also growing access to our Alumni network.



"The Futures programme helped me to choose the career path I wanted to take, suited to my natural strengths, and gave me the opportunity to meet ASM's Head of Human Resources for the UK and work alongside her. I used all the work I had been doing with her and within the Aspirations Employability Diploma (AED) to get a 4 week paid scholarship working at ASM which helped me to then get my current role as a Human Resources Apprentice. I am now in a full time job gaining work experience while completing a Human Resources qualification with plans to do a higher qualification and degree. If I could give any advice to a Sixth Form student it would be to make the most of the CEIL and to explore your options. I had complete support for what I needed.
(Alumni)

SIXTH FORM COURSE INFORMATION 2027 - 2028

SIXTH FORM

Excellence through opportunity

BUDMOUTH ACADEMY WEYMOUTH

AN ASPIRATIONS ACADEMY

SIXTH FORM OFFER 2027-2028

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

To join Budmouth Sixth Form, students must have studied a minimum of eight GCSE or vocational subjects and achieved at least five grades at 4–9, including vocational Level 2 Pass qualifications or above (equivalent to GCSE grade 4). Students must also meet the specific entry requirements for their chosen courses.

PROGRAMME OF STUDY

Students can study A Levels, vocational qualifications or a combination of both, subject to option blocks.*

Most students will study a minimum of three subjects, although some vocational qualifications are equivalent to more than one A Level. Students who achieve exceptionally high GCSE results may consider a two-year programme consisting of four A Levels or a combination of A Levels and vocational qualifications equivalent to four subjects.

Students who have not achieved a grade 4 in GCSE English and/or Mathematics will be required to continue studying these subjects as part of their Sixth Form programme.

BEYOND SUBJECT LESSONS: THE SIXTH FORM TIMETABLE

Alongside their chosen courses, all students will attend:

- Our compulsory Aspirations Employability Diploma (AED).
- Daily morning tutor curriculum and registration sessions.
- Daily Drop Everything and Revise (DEAR) sessions.
- Daily timetabled independent study periods.
- A wide range of timetabled enrichment opportunities.

Throughout the application process, students will receive guidance and support to help them make informed decisions about their subject choices and future post-16 pathways.

**Please note: The academy reserves the right to amend option blocks in response to course demand.*

SUBJECT ENTRY REQUIREMENTS 2027-2028

A Level Subjects	Subject Specific Entry Requirements
Biology	Grade 6 in GCSE Biology or 6-6 in Combined Science
Chemistry	Grade 6 in GCSE Chemistry or 6-6 in Combined Science
English Language	Grade 6 in GCSE English Language
English Literature	Grade 6 in GCSE English Literature
Film Studies	Grade 6 in GCSE English Literature or Language
French	Grade 6 in GCSE French
Further Maths	Grade 7 in GCSE Maths (must be studied alongside A Level Mathematics)
Geography	Grade 6 in GCSE Geography or Grade 6 in English if not studied GCSE Geography
History	Grade 6 in GCSE History or Grade 6 in English if not studied GCSE History
Mathematics	Grade 6 in GCSE Maths
Physics	Grade 6 in GCSE Physics or Grade 6-6 in Combined Science plus a Grade 6 in Maths
Psychology	Grade 6 in GCSE English Language and Maths
Sociology	Grade 6 in GCSE English

Vocational Subjects	Subject Specific Entry Requirement
Art and Design	Grade 4 in GCSE Art
Applied Science	Grade 4 in GCSE Science and Maths
Business	Grade 4 in GCSE English and Maths
Accounting and Finance	Grade 4 in GCSE Maths
Education Studies	Grade 4 in GCSE English
Engineering	Grade 4 in GCSE or Level 2 Pass in a Design Technology Subject
Health & Social Care (Double)	Grade 4 in GCSE English
Performing Arts	Grade 4 in GCSE Dance, Drama, Music or English
Sport (Triple)	Grade 4 in GCSE PE or Level 2 Pass in BTEC Sport
Sport (Single)	Grade 4 in GCSE PE or Level 2 Pass in BTEC Sport

CONTENTS

Accounting and Finance: Vocational 12
Applied Science: Vocational 13
Art & Design: Vocational 14
Aspirations Employability Diploma: Compulsory Study 15
Biology: A Level 16
Business: Vocational 17
Chemistry: A Level 18
Education: Vocational 19
Engineering: Vocational 20
English Language: A Level 21
English Literature: A Level 22
Film Studies: A Level 23
French: A Level 24
Geography: A Level 25
Health & Social Care: Vocational (Double) 26
History: A Level 27
Mathematics: A Level 28
Mathematics (Further Mathematics): A Level 29
Performing Arts: Vocational 30
Physics: A Level 31
Psychology: A Level 32
Sociology: A Level 33
Sport: Vocational (Triple) 34
Sport: Vocational 35

**Please note: the school reserves the right to change the option blocks and subjects, depending on demand for courses.*

ACCOUNTING & FINANCE
VOCATIONAL

V-Levels offer a flexible, career-focused alternative at Level 3 – they combine applied learning with sector-based knowledge to help you explore careers without specialising too early. They are designed to provide clear progression routes into higher education, apprenticeships, and careers, helping you take your next step with the knowledge, skills and confidence to succeed.

Accounting and Finance is for students who are interested in how organisations use financial information to make decisions. You will develop applied skills in interpreting, analysing and communicating financial and accounting information in realistic organisational contexts.

At a glance:

- Level 3 qualification
- 60% non-exam assessment
- 40% exam
- Same size as an A Level
- Attracts UCAS points for entry into Higher Education

KEY AREAS OF STUDY:

Use financial information to support decisions
- How different types of business organisations use sources of financial and accounting information to make decisions that will help achieve objectives.

Analyse financial position and performance
- Interpreting financial statements using financial ratios to compare performance and trends over time.

Evaluate financial decision-making
Using budgets, contribution and margin analysis and investment appraisal techniques to evaluate decisions

Communicate financial information
Communicating financial and accounting information clearly and transparently to a range of different stakeholders.

TAUGHT THROUGH:
Case studies, discussions, independent research, documentaries, visiting speakers, regular assessment.

NEXT STEPS:

Higher education degrees linked to finance and business, such as Accounting and Finance, Business, Marketing, Business Analytics or Project Management

Apprenticeships in areas such as Accounting, Financial Services, Marketing, Business Administration, Project Management or Operations Management

Where could you go?
Careers in accounting, finance, banking, business analysis, financial services and professional services

KEY INFO

Tutor:
Annabelle Caldwell
acaldwell@budmouth-aspirations.org

Entry Requirements:
Grade 4 or above in GCSE Maths.

Assessment:
40% exam
60% Non-Examined Assessment (NEA)

APPLIED SCIENCE
VOCATIONAL

This course is a fantastic alternative for those who excel at coursework and either enjoy Science or need a science qualification for their future plans. This qualification imparts fundamental experimental techniques and allows students to explore and critically evaluate the context of science in the modern world.

KEY AREAS OF STUDY:

Certificate in Applied Science (2 Modules)

1. Fundamentals of science: This will allow you to develop an understanding of key concepts relating to Biology, Chemistry and Physics (Examined).

2. Investigating science: You gain the opportunity to undertake the role of a research scientist, following standard procedures to complete a scientific investigation (Coursework).

Extended Certificate in Applied Science (3 Modules)

1. Science in society: Understand the use of the media to communicate scientific ideas and theories.Examine the role of scientists and how what they do it linked to ongoing scientific developments. (Examined)

Two of the following coursework units:

- Analytical Techniques in Chemistry
- Environmental studies
- Forensic Biology
- Medical Physics

TAUGHT THROUGH:

Investigations; independent study; discussion; talks; tutorials; practical sessions and seminars.

NEXT STEPS:

What could you be?

Nursing; Microbiologist; Nursery Nurse; Textiles; Forensics; Radiology; Midwifery; Law; Geography; Teaching and other careers.

Where could you go?

Prepares you for a career in the science industry or industries that use scientific knowledge and skills. It will also prepare you to take on learning and training in further and higher education.

Recent Student destinations:

Studying Applied Sciences, Forensics, Midwifery, Paramedical degrees, Law, Geography, English Language, Geology, Building and surveying and Electro-technical systems.

KEY INFO

Tutor:

Samantha Wiles
swiles@budmouth-aspirations.org

Mal Lea
mlea@budmouth-aspirations.org

Entry Requirements:

Grade **4** or above in GCSE Science and Maths.

Assessment:

Certificate:

- 1 Exam
- 1 Piece of coursework

Extended Certificate:

- 1 Exam
- 2 Pieces of coursework

ART AND DESIGN
VOCATIONAL

This is suitable for a Post-16 students who want a coherent, hands-on introduction to art and design.

KEY AREAS OF STUDY:

Comprises 4 units in total (3 mandatory units and 1 optional specialist unit).

Assessment Split: 83% mandatory content with 58% external assessment and 42% internal portfolio coursework.

What Do Students Study & How Is It Taught?

Foundational Building Blocks: All students complete the mandatory synoptic unit Visual Recording and Communication (120 GLH), exploring drawing, observation, and visual language.

Specialist Pathways: Students tailor their course by choosing a specialist practical unit from options including:

- Photography
- Graphic Design
- Interactive Design
- Fine Art
- 3D Design & Crafts
- Textiles & Fashion

TAUGHT THROUGH:

Practical studio sessions, physical or digital sketchbooks, client briefs, and direct employer involvement such as gallery visits, studio workshops, and practitioner mentoring.

Why choose this course:

Balanced Assessment: Combines practical portfolio coursework with set external assignments, removing the pressure of relying solely on written end-of-year exams.

Strong Employability: Research shows 62% of large UK companies recruit employees holding Vocational qualifications.

NEXT STEPS:

What could you be?

Careers: Direct pathway into creative industry apprenticeships or roles such as Graphic Designer, Visual Communicator, Photographer, or 3D Designer

Where could you go?

Higher Education: Entry into BA (Hons) degrees in Graphic Design, Photography, Architecture, Fashion, Game Design, Web Design, or Media Production.

Recent Student destinations:

Studying Applied Sciences, Forensics, Midwifery, Paramedical degrees, Law, Geography, English Language, Geology, Building and surveying and Electro-technical systems.

KEY INFO

Tutor:
Terri Smale
tsmale@budmouth-aspirations.org

Entry Requirements:
Grade 4 or above in GCSE Art or Photography

ASPIRATIONS EMPLOYABILITY DIPLOMA (AED)

The Aspirations Employability Diploma (AED) is a cornerstone of our No Limits curriculum. It gives students a rich, real-world understanding of the modern workplace and equips them with the skills, knowledge, and character needed to thrive — not just in education and employment, but in all aspects of adult life. The programme focuses on three key aims:

- **Personal Growth and Self-Awareness** – understanding strengths, interests, and goals to make informed, confident decisions about the future.
- **Professional and Employability (Power) Skills** – developing essential skills such as communication, collaboration, creativity, critical thinking, and learning to learn through practical experiences.
- **Connection to and Knowledge of Business and Industry** – gaining insight into different sectors, building professional networks to support future success, and developing knowledge of finance, budgeting, global business, project management, marketing, design, and more.

KEY AREAS OF STUDY:

Students complete four core components:

1. **Introductory Training & Self-Reflection** – developing core power skills, goal setting.
2. **Project-Based Learning** – real-world challenges working alongside employers
3. **One-to-One Mentoring** – personalised coaching to support growth and progress.
4. **Employer Interview & Presentation** – a professional-style final assessment

The AED ensures every student leaves us with **confidence, experience, and purpose** — ready to take the next step into university, apprenticeships, or employment.

TAUGHT THROUGH:

Workshops; Employer Projects; Mentoring; Reflection Journals; Presentations; Visits; Real-World Challenges; Professional CV Creation; NASA trip; Scholarships.

INDUSTRY CONNECTIONS:

The AED programme is enriched through partnerships with a wide range of employees at national and international organisations, giving students real-world insight, mentoring, and project opportunities. These include:

Engineering, Construction, Technology & Defence:
Johnson Matthey; Magicard; Atlas Elektronik UK; BAE Systems; Boeing UK; Jacobs Goring; WSP; Core Power Energy; Parker Hannifin; Leidos; Tilbury Douglas; ARM WSP; Atkins Realis; Safety Engineering Consulting; Repair Cafe

Science, Energy & Environment:
UK Atomic Energy Authority; Environment Agency; UK Agritech Centre; Portland Port

Business, HR, Finance & Law:
BDO UK; Albert Goodman; Burges Salmon; Bond Turner; Druces LLP; Colliers International; S&P Global; The Access Group; R Human Resources

Healthcare, Medicine & Wellbeing:
Buckingham Medical School; GWP Medical; Ardens; NHS Healthcare; The Garden Doc; Occupational Therapy Services; Health & Wellbeing Glasgow; DCH

Media, AI, Design & Creative Industries:
Future PLC; MyMenuWeb; WeCreateCo; Talk-Straight; Adarga Vantage

Sport and Culture:
AFBC; Arts Development Company; B-Side

Retail, Food & Hospitality:
IKEA; Seasalt Cornwall; Specsavers; HIT Training; McVities

Public Sector, Local Government & Charities:
Home Office; HM Revenue & Customs; Environment Agency; Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government; Canal & River Trust; Pineapple Project; Weymouth Town Charities; Edge Foundation

These partnerships provide AED students with authentic workplace challenges, professional mentoring, and industry insight, helping them build skills, confidence, and networks for success after Sixth Form.

KEY INFO

AED Lead:
Claire Hughes
chughes@budmouth-aspirations.org

Assessment:
Portfolio and oral presentation, supported by employer involvement and real-world evidence developed through the year.
No formal examination.

AED is a compulsory course - 4 hours per week until autumn half-term, then 1 hour per week for students taking four courses (others remain on the 4-hour timetable)

BIOLOGY
A LEVEL

'Biology' is the Greek for 'study of life'. It is a vast science ranging from molecular structures and metabolic processes in cells, to the classification, behaviour and interactions of different species. Be prepared to learn the diverse language of biology, whilst studying biochemical and physical aspects of the structure and function of different organisms.

KEY AREAS OF STUDY:

Year 1:
Biochemistry, exchange surfaces, transport in animals, transport in plants, communicable disease, disease prevention and the immune system, biodiversity, classification and evolution.

Year 2:
Communication and homeostasis; excretion as an example of homeostatic control; neuronal and hormonal communication; plant and animal responses; photosynthesis; respiration; cellular control, patterns of inheritance; manipulating genomes; cloning and biotechnology; ecosystems; populations and sustainability. There is also an assessed practical skills component where students complete a minimum of 12 practical activities to gain experience of experimental biology; completing these will gain the Practical Skills Endorsement, and elements of these will be assessed via all of the examinations.

TAUGHT THROUGH:
Small group and class discussion; individual and group practical activities; peer and self-assessment tasks; independent research; student presentations; exam technique and study skill activities.

NEXT STEPS:

What could you be?
Pharmacist; Doctor; Dentist; Veterinary Doctor; Physiotherapist; Environmental Scientist; Geneticist; Speech Therapist; Nurse; Midwife.

Where could you go?
University of Birmingham; University of Bristol; University of Cambridge; Cardiff University; University of Edinburgh; University of Exeter; Imperial College London; University of Leeds; University of Liverpool; University

Recent Student destinations:
Bristol - Veterinary Science; Nottingham - Medicine; Birmingham - Medicine; Bristol- Environmental Geoscience; Plymouth - Biological Sciences; Southampton - Zoology; Aberystwyth - Zoology; Bournemouth - Forensic Science; Bath - Pharmacy; Bangor - Marine Biology; Bristol - Biomedical Science.

KEY INFO

Tutor:
Joanne Quarmby
jquarmby@budmouth-aspirations.org

Dr. Matthew Williamson
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Louise Grech
lgrech@budmouth-aspirations.org

Entry Requirements:
Grade 6 or above in GCSE Biology or 6-6 or above in Combined Science.

Assessment:
- Three written exams
- Plus the practical skills endorsement

BUSINESS
VOCATIONAL

This course will provide you with the relevant skills to pursue a career in business, work with a social enterprise, create a start-up, to work in a large corporate company, or continue with a pathway to university.

Explore, challenge and develop your understanding of the business world by learning about funding, identifying potential markets, business set up loans, costing, marketing strategies, business planning, pitching, research techniques, enterprise skills and by developing innovative ideas. You will also develop the ability to plan and shape your business ideas by considering start-ups, marketing and how to sell your ideas to potential sponsors and partners.

During the course, you will develop a range of practical skills and theoretical knowledge in the areas of enterprise, finance, marketing and team building in business.

KEY AREAS OF STUDY:

Year 1:
The business environment
Marketing and market research

Year 2:
Working in business
Customers and communication
Project management

TAUGHT THROUGH:

Case studies, roleplays, discussions, independent research, documentaries, visiting speakers, regular assessment.

NEXT STEPS:

What could you be?
Marketing assistant, human resources manager, finance manager, project manager, market researcher, customer service operative, retail manager.

Where could you go?
JP Morgan Investment Bank, Dorset County Council, University of Bournemouth, University of the West of England, University of Bath, Portsmouth University.

Recent Student destinations:
Dorset County Council - apprenticeship. Atlas UK Elektronic Ltd - project management apprenticeship. University of Bournemouth - Business degree.

KEY INFO

Tutor:
Annabelle Caldwell
acaldwell@budmouth-aspirations.org

Entry Requirements:
Grade 4 or above in GCSE English and Maths.

Assessment:
- 2 external exams
- 3 internally assessed pieces of coursework

CHEMISTRY
A LEVEL

Chemistry is a very vibrant subject; it deals with an atomic and molecular scale interpretation of the world around us and is often called the Central Science because it bridges and infiltrates all branches of Science.

KEY AREAS OF STUDY:

Year 1 - Periodic table and energy:
The periodic table and periodicity, Group 2 and the halogens, qualitative analysis, enthalpy changes, reaction rates and equilibrium (qualitative). Core Organic Chemistry Hydrocarbons, alcohols and haloalkanes, organic synthesis, analytical techniques (IR, MS).

Year 2 - Physical Chemistry and Transition Elements:
Reaction rates and equilibrium (quantitative), pH and buffers, enthalpy, entropy and free energy, redox and electrode potentials, transition elements. Organic Chemistry and Analysis - Aromatic compounds, carbonyl compounds, carboxylic acids and esters, nitrogen compounds, polymers, organic synthesis, chromatography and spectroscopy (NMR).

TAUGHT THROUGH:
Individual and group practical activities; peer and self-assessment tasks; exam technique seminars/class activities; research; discussion; presentations.

NEXT STEPS:

What could you be?
Chemical Engineer; Dentist; Research Chemist; Doctor; Pharmacist; Environmental Scientist; Vet.

Where could you go?
University of Birmingham; University of Bristol; University of Cambridge; Cardiff University; University of Edinburgh; Imperial College London; University of Leeds; University of Liverpool; University of Manchester; University of Nottingham; University of Oxford; University of Sheffield; University of Southampton.

Recent Student destinations:
Oxford - Chemistry; Nottingham - Chemistry and Molecular Physics; Nottingham - Medicine; Bath - Pharmacy; York - Chemistry; Bath - Chemistry; Cambridge - Natural Sciences; Bristol - Veterinary Science.

KEY INFO

Tutor:
Susie Lock
slock@budmouth-aspirations.org

Emma de Mecquenem
ede.mecquenem@budmouth-aspirations.org

Sammy Wiles
swiles@budmouth-aspirations.org

Entry Requirements:
Grade 6 or above in GCSE Chemistry, or 6-6 or above in Combined Science.

Assessment:
- 3 written exams
- Plus the practical skills endorsement

EDUCATION
VOCATIONAL

The V level in Education will give you the skills and knowledge in how people learn, develop and achieve. You will develop applied knowledge and skills in learning and development, supporting learners, understanding educational settings, and exploring the factors that influence educational outcomes in a range of real-world contexts. This course is accepted by universities and provides you with the vocational experience to go onto a apprenticeship.

KEY AREAS OF STUDY:

- Plan learning sessions that help all learners make progress.
- Learn how to communicate clearly with parents, carers and professionals to support students' learning.
- Adapt lessons so every student can join in and make progress.
- Plan and carry out safety checks for learning activities in different environments.
- Use assessment to help students set goals and improve their learning.

TAUGHT THROUGH:

Seminars; discussion; independent research; regular assessment; presentations; visiting speakers; documentaries, experience in the workplace.

NEXT STEPS:

What could you be?

In teaching, educational psychology, mental health support, digital learning consultation, youth work, community education and education leadership.

Where it could take you:

Higher education degrees: linked to education and child development subjects, such as Education Studies, Primary Education, Early Childhood Studies, Childhood and Youth Studies, Special Educational Needs and Inclusion, Psychology, Sociology, Social Policy and Child Development. Apprenticeships in early years education, teaching assistance, community education, childcare, learning support and youth work .

KEY INFO

Tutor:
Kelly Andow
kandow@budmouth-aspirations.org

Entry Requirements:
Grade 4 or above in GCSE English.

Assessment:
- Exam
- Coursework

ENGINEERING
VOCATIONAL

This Level 3 Engineering qualification combines engineering theory with practical, applied projects to prepare students for higher education and future engineering pathways.

Students develop the mathematical, mechanical and electrical/electronic knowledge that underpins modern engineering, then apply it through practical design, manufacture and testing activities. The course builds problem-solving, communication, project-planning and safe-working skills alongside technical understanding.

The qualification includes written examinations and practical, coursework-style assignments that are assessed by teachers and moderated by Cambridge OCR. The Extended Certificate includes two exams, a core practical engineering unit and two specialist options. The Certificate is equivalent in size to an AS Level and is designed to be taken alongside other Level 3 subjects. The Extended Certificate is equivalent in size to an A Level and offers a broader engineering programme with specialist unit choices.

KEY AREAS OF STUDY:

- Engineering mathematics, mechanical principles and electrical/electronic systems
- Materials, manufacturing processes, sustainability and product performance
- Product analysis, technical drawing, CAD and prototype manufacture
- Practical engineering projects such as building circuits, producing components and evaluating solutions

Specialist options may include:

- 3D Computer Aided Design (CAD) and simulation
- Programmable electronics and microcontroller systems.
- Mechanical product design and redesign
- Computer Aided Manufacture (CAM), CNC machining and 3D printing
- Electrical devices and circuits

TAUGHT THROUGH:

Practical sessions; theory; work experience; student presentations; industrial visits.

NEXT STEPS:

The qualification supports progression to degrees and other higher-level study in areas such as Mechanical Engineering, Manufacturing Engineering, Electronic Engineering, and Electrical and Electronic Engineering. It also develops transferable skills valued in university and employment, including independent learning, teamwork, research, creativity and time management.

What could you be?

Mechanical Engineer; Electronics Engineer; Systems Engineer; Civil Engineer; High Level Apprentice.

Recent Student destinations:

Loughborough University; Bournemouth University; Southampton University; Bristol University; Local Electronics Companies (Ultra Electronics / ASM).

KEY INFO

Tutor:
Matthew Walker
mwalker@budmouth-aspirations.org

Entry Requirements:
Grade 4 in GCSE or Level 2 Pass or above in a Design Technology subject.

Assessment:
Year 1:
1 Written Exam.
1 Externally Assessed Coursework Unit.
Year 2:
1 Internally Assessed Coursework Unit.
1 Externally Assessed Examination (8 hours)

ENGLISH LANGUAGE
A LEVEL

This is a fascinating course that looks at how language works in different contexts, challenges stereotypes and explores the impact of new technologies on language changes. We explore a huge range of ideas such as: why have young people stopped using full stops to end messages on social media? Do men and women speak differently and if so, how and why? Why do so many people dislike the Brummie accent? Advanced skills in English are attractive to almost all employers.

KEY AREAS OF STUDY:

Text Variations and Representations: This topic leads to paper 1 of the A Level. We look at a broad variety of texts, from comic strips to websites, to explore how texts aim to suit their purpose and audience. In year 13, you will learn about how children learn to use language.

Language Diversity: This topic leads to paper 2 of the A Level. We look at how language is used differently by different speakers. Highlights include exploring accent and dialect, Multicultural London English and how and why language has changed over time.

Investigating Language: Linguistic research project using skills acquired across A Level.

TAUGHT THROUGH:

Seminar; discussion; peer and self-assessment; independent research; text annotation; essay writing; student presentations.

NEXT STEPS:

What could you be?

An A level in English demonstrates your advanced skills in communication and literacy. These skills are valued highly by all employers, so all career paths are potentially open to you!

Recent Student destinations:

University of Plymouth – Game Art and Design
University of Winchester – Social Work
University of Manchester – English Language
Cardiff University – Modern Languages and Translation
Kings College London - Psychology

KEY INFO

Tutor:
Brandon Turner Frank
bturner-frank@budmouth-aspirations.org

Entry Requirements:
Grade 6 or above in GCSE English Language.

Assessment:
- 80% Exams - Paper 1 (2 hours 30 mins) 40 %
  Paper 2 (2 hours 30 mins) 40 %
- 20% Coursework (Language in Action)

ENGLISH LITERATURE
A LEVEL

A **two-year programme of study that covers the themes of Love Through the Ages and Modern Times, Literature from 1945 to the present day.**

KEY AREAS OF STUDY:

Year one: AQA English Literature A 7711 This will include texts around the overarching theme of Love Through the Ages. We will study *Othello, Atonement, The Great Gatsby* and pre- 1900 poetry. Time is spent developing reading skills and independent thinking about literature.

Year two: AQA English Literature A 7712 In the second year of the course we will study the theme of modern times: literature from 1945 to the present day. This will include The *Handmaid's Tale, Feminine Gospels and A Streetcar Named Desire.*

The examination will include unseen texts. The course also includes an Independent Critical Study component which consists of a 2500-word comparative essay of two texts. The NEA accounts for 20% of the final grade.

TAUGHT THROUGH:

Seminar; discussion; peer and self-assessment; independent research; display work; student presentations

NEXT STEPS:

What could you be?

Teacher; Public Relations Officer; Journalist; Media Producer; Advertising Copywriter and a variety of careers.

Where could you go?

Oxford University - English Language and Literature; Durham University - English; University of Bristol - English.

Recent Student destinations:

Exeter University - English Literature; Warwick University - Creative Writing; Goldsmiths, University of London-English Literature; University of Liverpool - English Literature and History; University College, London - English Literature.

KEY INFO

Tutor:
Lucy England
lengland@budmouth-aspirations.org

Entry Requirements:
Grade 6 or above in GCSE English Literature.

Assessment:
- 2 exams (40% per paper)
- A 2500 word critical study of two texts (20 %)

FILM STUDIES
A LEVEL

Film is one of the main cultural innovations of the 20th century and a major art form of the last hundred years. This course is designed to introduce learners to a wide variety of films in order to broaden their knowledge and understanding of film and the range of responses films can generate.

This course offers opportunities to study mainstream American films from the past and the present as well as a range of recent and contemporary British films, American independent films and global films, both non-English language and English language. The historical range of film represented in those films is extended by the study of silent film and significant film movements so that learners can gain a sense of the development of film from its early years to its still emerging digital future. Studies in documentary, experimental and short films add to the breadth of the learning experience.

KEY AREAS OF STUDY:

Core Units:

- **Varieties of film and film making.** This component assesses knowledge and understanding of six feature-length films.
- **Hollywood 1930-1990** (comparative study)
- **British film since 1995** (two-film study)
- **Global filmmaking perspectives.** This component assesses knowledge and understanding of five feature-length films (or their equivalent).
- **Global film** (two-film study)
- **Documentary Film movements** – Silent cinema
- **Film movements** – Experimental film (1960-2000)

Production Non-exam assessment. Either a short film (4-5 minutes) **or** a screenplay for a short film (1600-1800 words) **plus** a digitally photographed storyboard of a key section from the screenplay and an evaluative analysis (1600 - 1800 words).

TAUGHT THROUGH:

Directed Learning; discussion and research; written responses and independent learning assignments; self and peer assessment; presentation and peer presentation; critical analysis of set texts.

NEXT STEPS:

What could you be?

Television/film production; Writer; Content Creator; Public Relations; Journalism; Teacher; Public Service.

Where could you go?

University for The Arts London; Bournemouth; Falmouth; Plymouth; Winchester; University of The South West.

Recent Student destinations:

Warwick University, Regents University, National Film School, Bournemouth University

KEY INFO

Tutor:
Steve Bassett
sbassett@budmouth-aspirations.org

Entry Requirements:
Grade 6 or above in GCSE English Literature or Language.

Assessment:

- 2 written exams
- 1 piece of coursework

FRENCH
A LEVEL

Develop your linguistic competence and knowledge of contemporary French culture and society through stimulating topics of genuine relevance to young adults, in a course that is highly valued by businesses and H.E. institutions. The individual research project for the speaking exam at A level will allow you to explore a subject of particular personal interest relating to France or the French-speaking world.

KEY AREAS OF STUDY:

Year 1: Aspects of French–speaking society: current trends The changing nature of family; the "cyber- society"; the place of voluntary work. Artistic culture in the French –speaking world A culture proud of its heritage; contemporary francophone music; cinema: the 7th art form Grammar Literary text or film.

Year 2: Aspects of French-speaking society: current trends Positive features of a diverse society; life for the marginalized; how criminals are treated. Aspects of political life in the French – speaking world Teenagers, the right to vote and political commitment; demonstrations, strikes; politics and immigration; who holds the power? Grammar Literary text or film Independent research project

TAUGHT THROUGH:

Grammar transition (GCSE to A Level); advanced listening – authentic news/ DVD/film; advanced reading – authentic on-line texts; topic specific vocabulary; translation techniques; independent research; opportunity for conversation classes which are compulsory.

NEXT STEPS:

What could you be?

Business Executive; International Lawyer; Banking and Finance; Translator; Journalist; Teacher; Government Services; Engineering; Travel Services.

Where could you go?

Most universities offer a variety of language degree courses.

Recent Student destinations:

University of Portsmouth - French and ab initio Spanish; University of Bristol - German and International Relations; Herriot-Watt - German/French Translation; University of York - German/English, German/Maths; University of Bath - Languages & European Studies; University of Leeds - Linguistics & French.

KEY INFO

Tutor:
Sophie Roberts
sroberts@budmouth-aspirations.org

Entry Requirements:
Grade 6 or above in GCSE French.

Assessment:
- 100% exams

GEOGRAPHY
A LEVEL

Geography aims to provide a broad ranging perspective on humans as both citizens and transformers of the face of the earth. The search for this understanding involves the thorough study of the physical earth, its habitation by humans, and the resulting diversity of regions and places.

KEY AREAS OF STUDY:

Year 1:
Physical Geography - Water and carbon cycles; coastal systems and landscapes; hot desert environments and their margins. Human Geography - global systems and global governance; changing places. People and the Environment - hazards; contemporary urban environments.

Year 2:
Physical Geography - hazards; cold environments; ecosystems under stress. Human Geography - contemporary urban environments; population and the environment; resource security. Geography fieldwork, investigation and skills are integral throughout both years.

TAUGHT THROUGH:

Fieldwork; teacher and student led presentations; class discussions and debate; games and simulations; case studies; independent research; peer/self-assessment.

NEXT STEPS:

What could you be?

Cultural Geographer; GIS Analyst/ Programmer; Geoscientist; Teacher.

Where could you go?

Geography can be studied as either a Science or Humanity. Related degrees include Environmental Science; Urban Planning; Resource Management.

Recent Student destinations:

Southampton - Geophysical Sciences; Plymouth - Environmental Science; Manchester - Geography with International study.

KEY INFO

Tutor:
Martin Pick
mpick@budmouth-aspirations.org

Entry Requirements:
Grade 6 or above in GCSE Geography or Grade 6 or above in GCSE English if not studied GCSE Geography.

Assessment:
Year 2:
- Two written exams (40% each)
- Non Examined Assessment (20%)

HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE
VOCATIONAL (DOUBLE AWARD)

This is a two-year course and is the equivalent of two A Level qualifications. The Cambridge Advanced National Extended Diploma is a broad-based Health & Social Care course which will give you the skills and knowledge that you will need for a career in this industry.

Cambridge Advanced Nationals are accepted by the universities and are excellent grounding for a Health & Social Care- related degree, however, they will also give you the vocational experience for you to go straight into the workplace. With the demographics in the UK changing rapidly and the population living longer, the health and social care sectors will experience huge growth over the next few years. The Cambridge Technical Advanced National is graded as Pass, Merit, Distinction or Distinction*. The UCAS Tariff is in line with the GCE.

KEY AREAS OF STUDY:

Year 1: In year one you will study: Principles of health and social care, A Person-centred approach to care, Supporting people with mental health conditions.

Year 2: In year two you will study: Anatomy and physiology for health and social care, Supporting people with long term physiological conditions, Supporting people in relation to sexual health, pregnancy and postnatal health.

TAUGHT THROUGH:

Seminars; discussion; independent research; regular assessment; presentations; visiting speakers; documentaries.

NEXT STEPS:

What could you be?

Teacher; Adult Nurse; Children's Nurse; Mental Health Nurse; Mental Health Worker; Counsellor; Police Officer; Social Worker; Paramedic.

Recent Student destinations:

Southampton University; Bristol University; Bournemouth University; Cardiff University; Plymouth University; Dorset County Hospital.

KEY INFO

Tutor:
Kelly Andow
kandow@budmouth-aspirations.org

Entry Requirements:
Grade 4 or above in GCSE English.

Assessment:
- Exam
- Coursework

HISTORY
A LEVEL

Khrushchev, leader of the Soviet Union during the 1950s, once said "Historians are dangerous, and capable of turning everything topsy-turvy". History is one of the most flexible of A-levels to choose, providing pathways into numerous degrees and careers, while providing context and understanding to our modern world.

As historians we are compelled to experience events from the perspective, beliefs and prejudices of that time; and it is our ability as historians to construct arguments, analyse events and evaluate sources (in this the era of fake news) that would have worried Khrushchev so.

KEY AREAS OF STUDY:

Year 1:
Component 1K: The Making of a Superpower: USA 1865-1920
Component 2A: Royal Authority and the Angevin Kings 1154—1216
Component 3: Historical investigation covering a minimum 100 year span – own choice of topic.

Year 2:
Component 1K: The Making of a Superpower: USA 1865-1975
Component 2A: Royal Authority and the Angevin Kings 1154—1216
Component 3: Historical investigation covering a minimum 100 year span – own choice of topic.

NEXT STEPS:

What could you be?
Historian; Teacher; Civil Services; Marketing; Business; Lawyer; Journalist.

Recent Student destinations:
Reading - Ancient History & Archaeology; Coventry - History; Birmingham - History; Chichester - History; Canterbury - History; Southampton - Archaeology; Winchester - Archaeology.

KEY INFO

Tutor:
James Bezant
jbezant@budmouth-aspirations.org

Entry Requirements:
Grade 6 or above in GCSE History or Grade 6 or above in GCSE English if not studied History.

Assessment:
Year 2:

- 2 written exams (80% each)
- One coursework essay (20%)

MATHEMATICS
A LEVEL

KEY AREAS OF STUDY:

The A-level Mathematics course is split into two elements, pure Mathematics and applied Mathematics in the ratio 2:1.

Pure Mathematics involves extending student knowledge of algebra, trigonometry and graph work. It also introduces students to lots of new work, for example calculus, where techniques of integration and differentiation are used extensively in science and technology.

Applied Mathematics uses understanding of Pure Mathematics to solve problems in Mechanics and Statistics.

TAUGHT THROUGH:

Whole class discussion; independent learning; peer assessment; one-to-one tutorials; online learning; ICT based learning activities.

NEXT STEPS:

What could you be?

Teacher; Aeronautical Engineer; Accountant; Architect; Computer Programmer; Computer Games Designer; Doctor.

Where could you go?

Oxbridge; Warwick University; Durham University; Bath University; Exeter University; Southampton University; Officer in the Armed Forces.

Recent Student destinations:

Bath; Exeter; Southampton; Warwick; Birmingham; Oxford; Cambridge.

KEY INFO

Tutor:
George Stone
gstone@budmouth-aspirations.org

Entry Requirements:
Grade 6 or above in GCSE Maths.

Assessment:
Three written exams;

- **Paper 1:** Pure Mathematics (2 hours)
- **Paper 2:** Pure Mathematics (2 hours)
- **Paper 3:** Statistics and Mechanics (2 hours)

All exams allow the use of a calculator

MATHEMATICS - FURTHER MATHEMATICS A LEVEL

Students wanting to study Further Mathematics A level must also study Mathematics A level.

Further maths gives students an opportunity to study more areas of mathematics compared to just A level maths. Students study areas like complex numbers, matrices, polar coordinates and Maclaurin series. This course is ideal for students wanting to study maths or a maths related degree.

KEY AREAS OF STUDY:

Core Pure 1
Complex Numbers, Series, Roots of Polynomials, Volumes of Revolutions, Matrices, Linear Transformations, Proof by Induction, Vectors

Core Pure 2
Complex Numbers, Series, Methods in Calculus, Volumes of Revolution, Polar Coordinates, Hyperbolic Functions, Methods in Differential Equations, Modelling with Differential Equations

Decision
Algorithms, Graphs and Networks, Algorithms on Graphs, Route Inspection, Travelling Salesman Problem, Linear Programming, Simplex Algorithm, Critical Path Analysis.

Plus one further unit of study decided by the class and teacher towards the end of year 12 from the choice of:
Further Pure 1, Further Statistics 1, Further Mechanics 1 or Decision 2.

TAUGHT THROUGH:

Whole class discussion; independent learning; peer assessment; one-to-one tutorials; online learning; ICT based learning activities.

NEXT STEPS:

What could you be?

Teacher; University Lecturer/Professor; Actuary; Systems Analyst; Astronaut; Vet; Meteorologist; Secret Services.

Where could you go?

Oxbridge; Durham; Warwick; UCL; Bath; Exeter; Southampton.

Recent Student destinations:

Oxford; Cambridge; Bath; Southampton; Exeter.

"Mathematics is, in its way, the poetry of logical ideas."
Albert Einstein

KEY INFO

Tutor:
George Stone
gstone@budmouth-aspirations.org

Entry Requirements:
Grade 7 or above in GCSE Maths.

Assessment:
Four written exams:

- **Paper 1:** Core Pure (1.5 hours)
- **Paper 2:** Core Pure (1.5 hours)
- **Paper 3:** Applied option 1 (1.5 hours)
- **Paper 4:** Applied option 2 (1.5 hours)

PERFORMING ARTS
VOCATIONAL

Vocational Performing Arts is a great subject for anyone with a passion for creativity, self-expression, and performance. It suits students who enjoy working collaboratively, developing practical skills, and exploring a range of performance styles. Whether students are a confident performer or looking to build their stage presence, this course nurtures talent.

KEY AREAS OF STUDY

Mandatory Units

1. Prepare to work in the Performing Arts sector (course weighting 33.3%)
2. Proposal for a commissioning brief (course weighting 16.7%)
3. Influential Performance Practice (Course weighting 16.7%)
4. Combined Arts (Course weighting 16.7%)

Optional Units

5. Current issues in Performing Arts
6. Improvisation
7. Health and Fitness for Performance
8. Performing Repertoire (Course weighting 16.7%)

TAUGHT THROUGH:

A combination of workshops, rehearsals, performances, written assignments, and industry-focused projects. Students take part in practical classes, work in group and solo performances, and reflect on their creative process throughout.

NEXT STEPS:

What could you be?

Career pathways include actor, dancer, choreographer, music/theatre technician, arts administrator, or teacher — as well as any role requiring confidence, communication, and creativity.

Where could you go?

This provides a strong foundation for further study in Performing Arts, Drama, Dance, Music or Theatre Studies at University or Drama School.

Recent Student destinations:

This is a new course for 2027

KEY INFO

Tutor:
Shelley Trott
strott@budmouth-aspirations.org

Entry Requirements:
Grades 4 or above in GCSE Dance, Drama, Music or English

Assessment:
Vocational courses offer a blend of internally assessed and externally assessed components.
You will complete a variety of portfolios, research tasks, presentations and performances over the 2 years.
Individual units will be graded as Near-Pass (NP), Pass (P), Merit (M) or Distinction (D).

PHYSICS
A LEVEL

'Physics', from the Greek word for nature, looks at matter and energy and how they interact. Physics seeks to answer the big questions in science ranging from sub-atomic particles to the entire universe.

KEY AREAS OF STUDY:

The course (A level physics OCR) comprises six modules:
Module 1: Development of practical skills in physics
Module 2: Foundations in physics
Module 3: Forces and motion
Module 4: Electrons, waves and photons
Module 5: Newtonian world and astrophysics
Module 6: Particles and medical physics

Year 1 content:
From **module 1:** Practical skills assessed in a written examination; Practical skills assessed in the practical endorsement.
From **module 2:** Physical quantities and units; Making measurements and analysing data; Nature of quantities.
From **module 3:** Motion; Forces in action; Work, energy and power; Materials; Newton's laws of motion and momentum.
From **module 4:** Charge and current; Energy, power and resistance; Electrical circuits; Waves; Quantum physics.

Year 2 content:
From **module 1:** Practical skills assessed in a written examination; Practical skills assessed in the practical endorsement.
From **module 5:** Thermal physics; Circular motion; Oscillations; Gravitational fields; Astrophysics and cosmology.
From **module 6:** Capacitors; Electric fields; Electromagnetism; Nuclear and particle physics; Medical imaging.

TAUGHT THROUGH:
Individual and group practicals; peer and self-assessment; exam technique seminars and class activities; presentations; visits to universities and an optional trip to France, Switzerland and the CERN Laboratory.

NEXT STEPS:

What could you be?
Scientific researcher; Engineer (Aerospace, Mechanical, Structural, Civil, Marine, Electric); Computer Scientist; Doctor; Veterinarian; Lawyer; Financier; Accountant.

Where could you go?
University of Birmingham; University of Bristol; University of Cambridge; Cardiff University; University of Edinburgh; University of Exeter; Imperial College London; University of Leeds; University of Liverpool; University of Manchester; University of Nottingham; University of Oxford; University of Sheffield; University of Southampton.

Recent student destinations:
Cambridge - Computer Science; Oxford Chemistry; Leicester - Mechanical Engineering; Nottingham - Chemistry and Molecular Physics; Nottingham - Physics with Theoretical Astrophysics; Durham - Natural Sciences; Cambridge - Natural Sciences.

KEY INFO

Tutor:

Sam Curran
scurran@budmouth-aspirations.org

Dr Joan Hall
jhall@budmouth-aspirations.org

Alastair Mitchell
amitchell@budmouth-aspirations.org

Ade Bungay
abungay@budmouth-aspirations.org

Entry Requirements:
Grade 6 or above in GCSE Physics, or Grade 6-6 or above in Combined Science plus a Grade 6 or above in GCSE Maths.

Assessment:
- 3 written exams
- Practical skills endorsement

PSYCHOLOGY
A LEVEL

The word Psychology is derived from two Greek roots: 'Psyche' meaning 'mind' or 'soul' and 'Logos' meaning 'study of'. Psychology therefore literally means study of the mind. A more recent interpretation, however, might be 'The scientific study of behaviour and mental processes' (Atkinson et al 1991). So, Psychology involves the study of the mind, the brain and the person. It seeks to understand why people behave in the way that they do.

KEY AREAS OF STUDY:

Year 1
In Year One of the A-level course students will study the various different approaches from which our behaviours can be explained, along with delving into the realms of Social Psychology and variables that affect obedience and conformity within our society. Students go on to learn about Cognitive Psychology, examining the process of remembering and forgetting along with the powerful yet fallible nature of eye-witness testimony.

The course also takes students through a development of their own childhoods in the topic of Attachment, examining those crucial early relationships and the impact these can have on our future selves. Students then go on to explore the causes and treatments of common Mental Health disorders and the development of our understanding of them throughout time.

Underpinning the course is the comprehensive study of research methods which includes considering the very nature of science itself and conducting their own investigations as well as considering the neurophysiological foundations of the mind and behaviour.

Year 2
The second year of Psychology really gives students the chance to develop their debating skills while honing their understanding of the nature–nurture debate and the implications of free will and determinism.

While learning about optional topics such as Forensic Psychology, Schizophrenia and Gender, students are really given the chance to develop their research skills while exploring the biochemical processes of these behaviours, giving them a holistic and scientific understanding of the world around them and the people interacting within it.

TAUGHT THROUGH:
Seminar, discussion, self and peer assessment; independent work, practical research projects.

NEXT STEPS: What could you be?
Careers related to psychology are extremely wide-ranging as many degree courses appreciate the scientific rigour and mathematical understanding that are associated with studying an A-level in Psychology and welcome the transferable skills. You may wish to work in a number of areas including the civil service, marketing, research, healthcare, medicine, education and business, or the psychology focused professions: Clinical Psychology, Educational Psychology, Counselling, Forensic Psychology and Neuropsychology.

Recent student destinations:
Experimental Psychology at University of Oxford, Psychology at Durham University, Psychology at King's College London, Medicine at University of Reading, Midwifery at UWE.

KEY INFO

Tutor:
Natasha Turner-Frank
nturner-frank@budmouth-aspirations.org

Entry Requirements:
Grade 6 or above in GCSE English Language and Maths.

Assessment:
Three evenly weighted exams, two hours each in length:
- **Paper 1:** Introductory Topics in Psychology
- **Paper 2:** Psychology in Context
- **Paper 3:** Issues and Options in Psychology

SOCIOLOGY
A LEVEL

Sociology is a great subject for anyone with an enquiring mind and an interest in discussion and healthy debate, giving you the opportunity to expand your understanding of the society you participate in and your relationship to it.

KEY AREAS OF STUDY

Year 1
Topic 1 - Family and Household: The role of the family in society; changes in family structure; position of children in society; demographic trends.

Topic 2 - Education with Methods in Context:
Theoretical debates about the role and purpose of education; an understanding of differential achievement; how sociologist's research: different research methods, their strengths and weaknesses. The application of sociological methods to the study of education.

Year 2
Topic 3 - Crime and Deviance with Theory and Methods: definitions of crime and deviance; the purpose of crime and deviance. Social distribution of crime and deviance; control, prevention and policing; globalisation and crime in contemporary society. Different theories of society, how sociologists view the purpose of sociology and the methods they use to research their ideas.

Topic 4 - Beliefs in Society: The relationship between science and religion; theories of the role and function of religion; the relationship between religion and social class, ethnicity, gender and age; Secularisation, Globalisation and fundamentalism.

TAUGHT THROUGH:
Seminars; discussion; independent research; self/ peer assessment; presentations; documentaries.

NEXT STEPS:
Sociology is a subject that offers a wealth of transferable skills. Sociology students are challenged on their views on topics debated in society and learn to evaluate evidence, think critically and craft arguments. Students go on to study Sociology at university or they can combine this subject with subjects rooted in psychology, philosophy, social policy education and criminology among others.. Furthermore students of A-level Sociology might be interested in pursuing a vocational degree course in social work or nursing. Sociology students would also be well suited in moving on to an apprenticeship in law, healthcare, administration and business or education. Careers utilising Sociology are diverse and include public services, education, social work or action research, civil service, international development work or roles in the charity sector/NGOs.

Enrichment:
We have links with many universities, many of whom visit as guest speakers and invite us to their taster days, including University of Exeter and University of Portsmouth, which is a great opportunity to hear about current research within the discipline and ask questions about careers. Guest speakers also include current and former MPs. Some year 12 students also choose to carry out work on behalf of Amnesty International for their enrichment activity.

Trips offered in the past include a Sociology Conference in London and Shepton Mallet Prison.

What could you be?
Sociologist; Teacher; Criminal Justice System including Police Service; Social Worker; Marketing; Business; Law; Social Care.

Recent student destinations:
UWE; University of Manchester; University of York; BU.

KEY INFO

Tutor:
Hannah Evans
hevans@budmouth-aspirations.org

Entry Requirements:
Grade 6 or above in GCSE English.

Assessment:
Three written exams: 2 hrs each
- Paper 1: Education with Theory and Methods 33.33%
- Paper 2: Topics in Sociology: Families and Households; Beliefs in Society 33.33%
- Paper 3: Crime and Deviance with Theory and Methods 33.33%

SPORT
VOCATIONAL (TRIPLE AWARD)

This is a two-year course and is equivalent to 3 A levels. This course will give students the opportunity to gain a nationally recognised vocational qualification to enter training in the sport sector or to progress to higher education. This is the largest qualification in the suite of BTEC Nationals in Sport and is equivalent in size to three A Levels. It is best suited to learners who want to progress to higher education programmes in the sport and exercise science sector.

KEY AREAS OF STUDY

14 units of which 10 are mandatory and 4 are external.

Mandatory content (78%), external assessment (42%)

External assessment Anatomy and Physiology, Fitness testing and Training, Investigating Sport as a Business, Development of Sport.

Internal assessment unit examples OAA, Coaching for Sport, Sport Leadership, Work experience, practical sport, research methods, event organisation, Professional development in sport.

TAUGHT THROUGH:

Seminars; discussion; independent research; self and peer assessment; observation and analysis of practical skills; presentations and work experience.

NEXT STEPS:

What could you be?

Sports Science Research and Development; Sports Journalist; Armed Forces; Leisure/ Fitness Industry; Sports Photographer or Event Management.

Recent student destinations:

Plymouth University Plymouth St. Mark & St. John; Southampton University; Exeter University; Hertfordshire University.

KEY INFO

Tutor:
Luke De La Haye
ldelahaye@budmouth-aspirations.org

Assessment:
- External - 4 Units
- Internal - 10 Units

Entry Requirements:
Grade 4 or above in GCSE PE or Level 2 Pass or above in BTEC Sport.

SPORT
VOCATIONAL

This is a two-year course and is equivalent to one A level.

This new course will give students the opportunity to gain a nationally recognised vocational qualification to enter training in the sport sector or to progress to higher education. This qualification is equivalent to one A level and allows students to continue studying sports whilst also allowing for them to undertake studies in other subjects.

KEY AREAS OF STUDY

4 units of which 3 are mandatory and 2 are externally assessed. Mandatory content 83%, external assessment 67%.

External assessment.
Anatomy and Physiology, Fitness Testing and Training, Professional development in the sports industry.

Internal assessment.
Practical sports performance.

TAUGHT THROUGH:

Seminars, discussion, independent research, self and peer assessment and presentations

NEXT STEPS:

What could you be?

Sports coach, PE teacher, Physiotherapist, Sport development officer, sports science research and development, sports journalist. Army officer.

KEY INFO

Tutor:
Luke De La Haye
ldelahaye@budmouth-aspirations.org

Assessment:
- External Assessments - 2 Units
- Internal Assessment - 2 Units

Entry Requirements:
Grade 4 or above in GCSE PE or Level 2 Pass or above in BTEC Sport.

SIXTH FORM PROSPECTUS 2027-2028

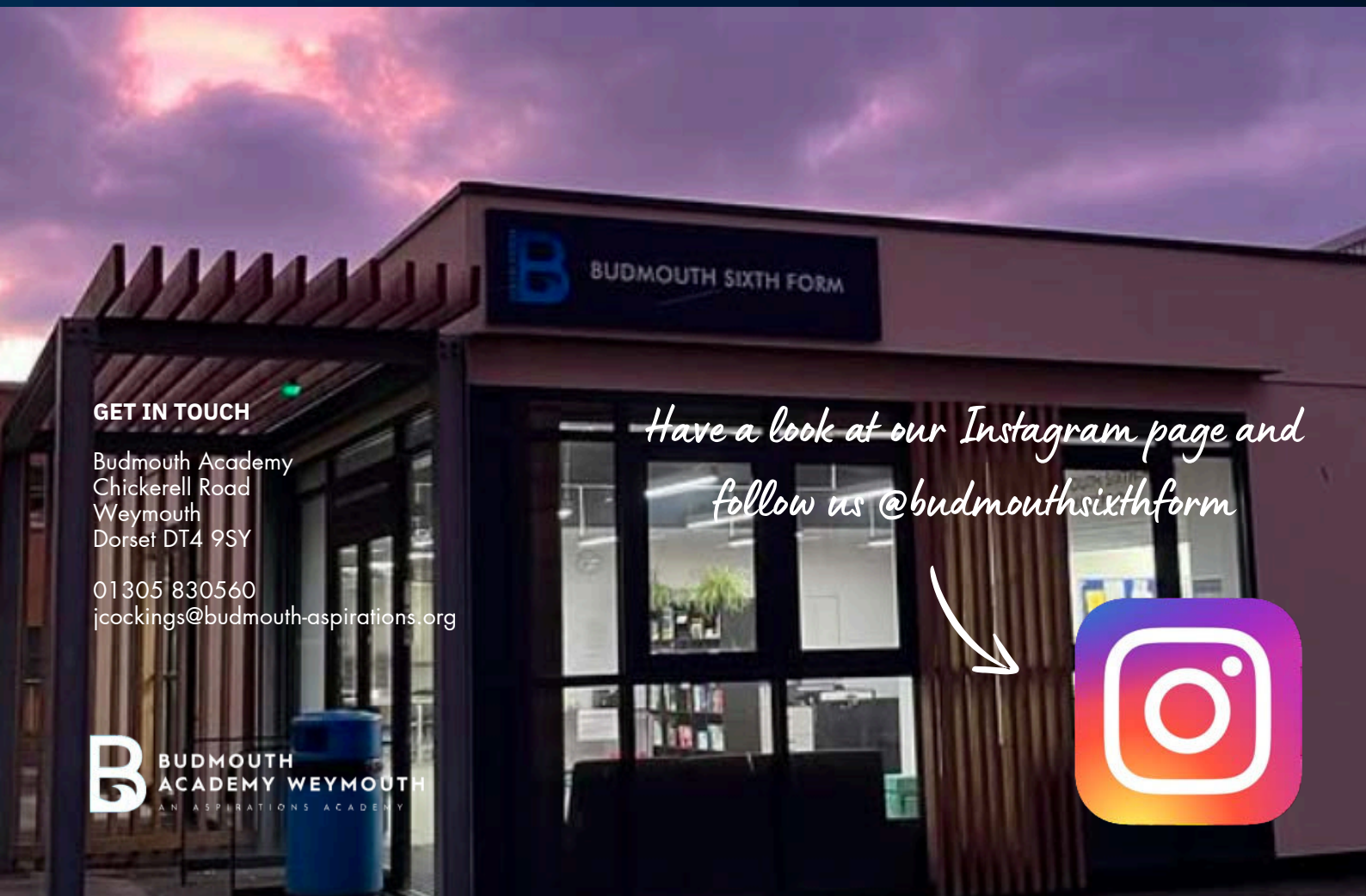
My most lasting memory of Budmouth Sixth Form is the teachers. They supported and inspired me, propelling me to achieve what they knew I could. This self-belief that they helped create has stuck with me throughout university and life beyond, and for that, I am truly grateful.

A lot changed during this time but what did not falter was the support that the teachers and staff at Budmouth showed me. If anything, this grew, and when I left, I was glad to have had their support and been a part of that student body. I would not be the person I am today without Budmouth, and it was the individuals who went out of their way that made it such a foundational experience.

Ethan, First Class Honours degree in English Literature from the University of York

"The CEIL (Centre of Excellence) helped me to choose the career path I wanted to take, suited to my natural strengths, and gave me the opportunity to work alongside ASM's Head of Human Resources. I used all the work I had been doing within the Aspirations Employability Diploma (AED) to get a 4 week paid scholarship working at ASM which helped me to then get my current role as a Human Resources Apprentice. I am now in a full time job gaining work experience while completing a Human Resources qualification with plans to do a higher qualification and degree. If I could give any advice to a Sixth Form student it would be to make the most of the AED and to really be open to exploring all of the different options.

Amelia, Human Resources Apprentice



GET IN TOUCH

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