

The Upper School Curriculum

Our curriculum offer is divided into two pathways of equal status. They are:

The Academic Pathway

Students study three A-levels from a choice of: Art, Biology, Chemistry, English Literature, Film Studies, Geography, History, Maths, Physics, Psychology, Religious Studies and Sociology.

This pathway would typically lead to university and students should be aware that they require grade 6 in the subject they wish to study or equivalent if it is a new subject.

The Professional Pathway

Students study one A-level from the list above and a Level 3 BTEC from a choice of: Art & Design, Business, Health & Social Care and Sport.

This pathway can lead to university but may also serve better those looking for a more vocational route into the workplace. To support the workplace ethic of this pathway students will engage in a weekly work experience placement.

Academic Access

We acknowledge that some students are not quite ready for progression to Level 3 study at the end of Year 11. As a result we are able to offer a one year pathway with the aim of supporting students in their progression to either the Academic or Professional Pathway. This would see students studying for a Level 2 BTEC in Creative Digital Media and gaining support with English and Maths resits. It is widely reported how unlikely students are to pass their English and Maths GCSEs at the second time of asking. Nationally the figure is around 7%. At Colmers last year we achieved 100% success in English resits and 67% success in Maths resits. This course is not one students can apply for but is one we will advise for those who wish to attend our Sixth Form but who do not quite meet the entry criteria for the Academic and Professional Pathways.

