PRIESTLEY COLLEGE WARRINGTON

Prospectus 2025

INSPIRE. CHALLENGE. SUPPORT.

WELCOME TO PRIESTLEY COLLEGE

We pride ourselves on being your college of choice, providing you with academic and vocational pathways as well as the option to combine these approaches or take a T-Level.

Priestley is a vibrant, diverse and modern college where every learner really does matter. We take great pride in creating a supportive atmosphere that allows students to achieve their full potential whilst also creating memories they will never forget.

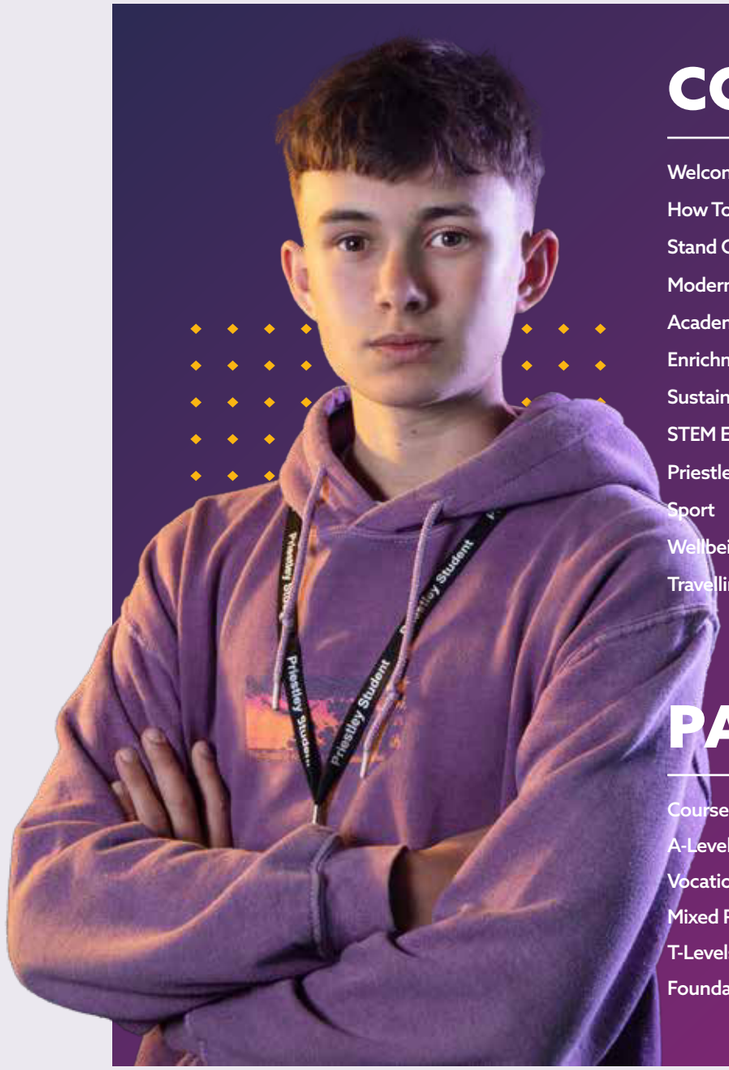
We want your college days to be as happy as they are successful so if this sounds like the kind of place where you believe you will thrive, please visit us at one of our open events to see Priestley for yourself.

OUR VISION

To provide an excellent post-16 educational experience that transforms life chances and opportunities and responds to the needs of the community we serve.

OUR MISSION

To inspire, challenge and support students to excel in learning and in life.



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HOW TO APPLY...

Demand for places at Priestley College has been exceptionally high in recent years. We recommend you apply for your place early to avoid disappointment.

There are several key steps to follow:

Submit an application
This process should be completed online and by our 28th February 2025 application deadline.

Attend an admissions one-to-one
This is an informal meeting to discuss your choices and our expectations. Parents can join you for this discussion.

Accept your place
You will need to accept an offer of a place following your admissions one-to-one to secure your place and then focus on getting the best GCSEs possible.

DATES TO REMEMBER!

Open events are your opportunity to see Priestley's campus for yourself and to speak to teachers and students about the college experience.

You might have picked up this prospectus at an open event, but that doesn't mean you can't plan a return visit to ask more questions or soak up more of the campus atmosphere. Book your place for the following open events:

OPEN EVENTS
Wednesday 2nd October
5.30pm to 8.00pm
Thursday 3rd October
5.30pm to 8.00pm
Saturday 9th November
10.30am to 12.30pm
Wednesday 20th November
5.30pm to 8.00pm

STAND OUT FROM THE CROWD

Priestley is all about creating opportunities for its students to enhance their college experience and set them apart from their peers. Here are just some of the ways we do this.

Personal Development Programme
A timetabled session focussed on personal development, helping you develop life and employability skills, financial knowledge as well as your study and social capabilities. These weekly sessions also give you time to reflect on your performance.

University Connections
There will be opportunities to visit universities and to speak with representatives from universities as they regularly visit college. Curriculum-focused activities linked to university are also arranged.

Careers Programme
Our Careers Advisers will help you plan your future in one-to-one meetings, employers attend an annual careers fair at Priestley and we dedicate a week to career prospects with guest speakers and workshops. Students participate in a balanced tutorial and careers programme in line with Gatsby benchmarks.

Industry Partnerships
Our Employer Board helps us understand the qualities businesses are looking for and potential gaps in the local jobs market. Work placements can often be life-changing for our students.

Duke of Edinburgh Award
Each year around 50 students achieve Gold or Silver awards, developing great new personal skills and making friends for life as they head out on expeditions in the great outdoors.

Maths and Science Olympiads
Our Maths and Science students enter olympiads to test themselves against peers from around the country in these challenging competitions.

Music and Performance Groups
Hone your talents and perform in front of an audience, whether that be at weekly open mic sessions in the Viola Beach Café or in larger performances.

Specialisms
Students studying an A-Level, Vocational or Mixed Pathway can take a specialism as one of their four courses at Priestley. Specialisms are designed to provide the in-depth knowledge and skills linked to a potential career or progression route. We have split these into different areas of expertise to support your study programme and bolster your prospects after college. The areas are Academic / Professional / Performance / Sport.

MODERN CAMPUS

Priestley has a welcoming campus similar to one you would find at a university. There is a space to benefit every learner, whether you are looking for somewhere to study, a place to meet friends or a corner for self-reflection.

Crescent Building
The Crescent Building is home to a wide range of subjects, everything from History to Public Services. It is also home to a hospital ward used by our Health students and an early years education suite.

Lewis Carroll Building
With eight classrooms over two floors, this state-of-the-art facility is home to the IT courses and 200 computers. It is also where you will find the new Business Suite.

Learning Resource Centre
The LRC has silent study areas, seating for those working in groups and more than 150 computers. The LRC is open for private study until 6pm Monday to Thursday during term time. It is home to our Study Base, Wellbeing Team and Careers Hub.

Priestley School Of Performance
The Costello Theatre comes into its own on performance nights creating an atmosphere akin to a professional theatre.

View our college map on page 36

Media Suites
Media students benefit from the use of editing suites and a broadcast room where podcasts can be recorded as well as a range of HD cameras and other equipment.

Art & Design Centres
A range of specialist equipment for all students across the Art & Design courses including sewing machines, high-specification PCs with industry-standard multimedia software and a 3D printer.

Science & Engineering
All science laboratories are equipped with university-standard apparatus for Biology, Chemistry, Electronics, Physics and Applied Science. Our new Engineering suites also have a wide range of technology to ensure a modern learning experience.

Scan the QR code to take a virtual tour of our campus!

Languages
Priestley has dedicated rooms to house its one-to-one speaking lessons for French, Spanish and German. Students use Chromebooks and use a range of language learning platforms to optimise learning opportunities inside and outside the classroom in Modern Languages.

Sports Centre
The centre houses a basketball court and gym as well as classrooms for those studying our range of sport courses. We also have astroturf and grass pitches and use other facilities around Warrington to ensure the best for our students.

Café Culture
Our two cafes are run by Change Please Coffee - a social enterprise that gives all its profits to help homeless people – supplies the coffee at Priestley. That means every time you buy a drink you will be making a difference! Cashless Catering allows students to pay for meals using their ID card / debit card. Your account can be topped up online or at one of the top-up machines in college.

Outdoor Spaces
There are several spots around the campus where you can relax outside. There is some undercover seating linked to the Crescent Café, a mini outdoor theatre surrounded by greenery as well as a large space in the centre of campus with benches and tables – you can also enjoy a spot of table tennis here as well and buy snacks from the pod.

ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

Priestley will help you make a compelling application to the UK's most competitive universities and ensure you are prepared for the rigour of studying at one of these institutions.

The Graduate
Anyone aiming for Oxford, Cambridge or a Russell Group university should select The Graduate programme at Priestley. It will help you develop the skills you need to apply for competitive degrees and employment in leading companies. It offers:

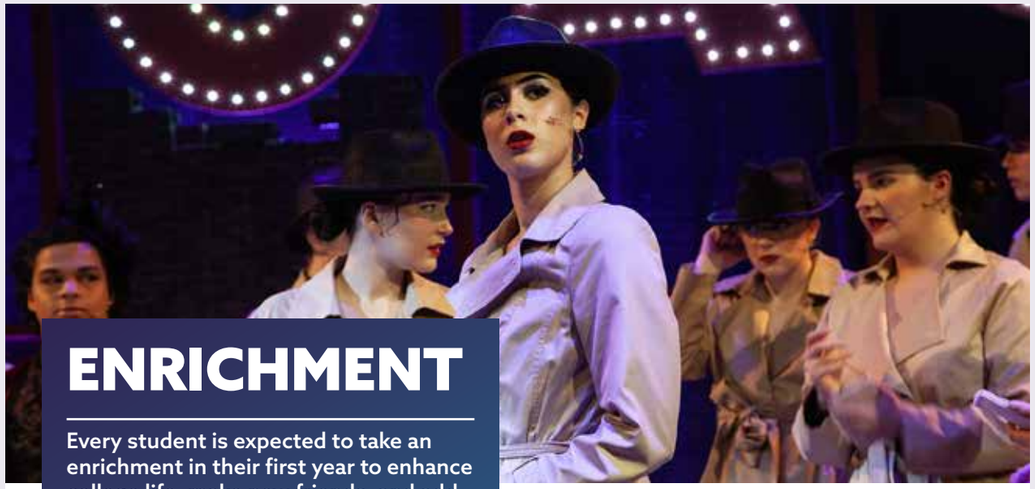
- Weekly sessions with the Graduate Tutor to complete activities that bolster your academic skills outside of the standard curriculum.
- One-to-one support helping you consider degree choices, personal statements and mock interviews.
- Trips to universities such as Oxford and Cambridge, helping you picture yourself in these incredible settings.
- Lecture Series featuring career researchers, professionals and lecturers who challenge students' intellectual curiosity.
- Specialist feedback on university applications to ensure you are competitive among your peers.
- Even more mentoring and tutorial opportunities.

Oxford and Cambridge
Priestley is a North West hub for OxNet – a programme run by the University of Oxford and Pembroke College that aims to make higher education more accessible. OxNet is unapologetically academic and together we run a rigorous programme featuring seminars and conferences. You will also have access to specialist STEM and languages support sessions, academic talks, experimental facilities and the latest research. Priestley acts as Pembroke's North West Centre for Languages, and MFL students benefit from exclusive access to higher education events.

Choose Priestley and you will also benefit from our link with Cambridge as we take part in HE+, a year-long programme that includes a residential at the university, academic extension classes, subject masterclasses, information and guidance sessions.

Law
Secure an insight into legal professions by taking part in trips and Mooting competitions as well as working with local magistrates. You will receive help preparing for specialist university entrance tests.

Medicine
Prepare for a career in Medicine, Dentistry or Veterinary science with the help of Priestley's Pre Med course. Hear from guest speakers including practitioners and current medical students as well as former students and visiting university speakers.



ENRICHMENT

Every student is expected to take an enrichment in their first year to enhance college life, make new friends, and add to personal statements and CVs.

Activities vary each term, but we also listen to your suggestions. Some of our recent enrichments include:

- Pre-Law
- Biology Essay Club
- Christian Union
- Dungeons and Dragons
- Commercial Dance
- Mandarin (Chinese)
- King Arthur - Real or Myth?
- Insider's Guide to London
- Philosophy and Debate Society
- Installation Art
- Geology Workshop
- German Conversation (for German students)
- Spanish Conversation (for Spanish students)
- 80s Movie Club
- Priestley Pride

As well as the timetabled sessions, there are countless other opportunities to enhance your college experience including:

Musicals & Performances
Priestley School of Performance produce the highest standard of shows, the most recent of which were Chicago and a powerful dance showcase telling the story of 9/11.

Art & Design Summer Show
The Summer Show gives Art & Design students the chance to showcase their work in an exhibition viewed by members of the public.

Live Music
Performers have numerous opportunities to show off their skills including weekly open mic sessions on the Viola Beach Stage.

Travel Well
Our students are real globetrotters with different curriculum areas travelling all over the world - everywhere from the theatres of Broadway to the rainforests of Ecuador.

SUSTAINABILITY HONOURS PROGRAMME

As Priestley works towards becoming a sustainable college, we have introduced the Sustainability Honours Programme to equip students with the skills they need to thrive in this growing and vital industry.

The programme has been developed with our employer and education partners to equip students with the knowledge, skills, values and attitudes that empower them to contribute to sustainable development within their lives, society and future careers.

Students who embark on this programme will become sustainability change-makers who can reflect on the social, cultural, economic and environmental impact of their decisions, behaviours and actions.

With a deeper understanding of local and global sustainability challenges and priorities, they are better placed to initiate and promote sustainable development within communities and the workplace.

Learning focuses on UNESCO's Sustainable Development Goals and, with the support of specialist teachers, students independently examine the application and relevance of these goals to their lives and the subjects they study, with opportunities to extend knowledge, application and expertise through competitions, enrichment options, work experience, Higher Education initiatives, and various research, community, and employer projects.

Students will graduate from college with either Bronze, Silver, or Gold Honours, depending on the number of sustainability awards they achieve. More details will be shared with you when you join us or via our website.

GOLD-STANDARD STEM EDUCATION

Priestley is in the top 10% of providers of Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths education in the country. Our STEM-assured status has been described as the national 'gold standard' for these subjects.

It means we attract some of the brightest young minds to study these subjects as our results and achievements across Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths demonstrate.

Priestley's STEM status is determined by the quality of its teachers, facilities such as university-standard laboratories and the technology centre, as well as our links with major employers.

More than 60 organisations provide work experience, workshops or assignments including Oxford University, the Environment Agency, Sellafield, Barclays, Warrington Borough Council and the MoD.

Priestley's STEM Successes

Maeve Lacey, who studied A-Level Biology, Chemistry and Maths, secured a prestigious Nuffield Placement at Manchester University. She spent two weeks conducting research with professionals – Maeve was one of only around 1,000 sixth formers to be offered a placement.

Sadie Johnstone, who studied A-Levels in Biology, Chemistry, and Maths, was one of the best performers in the Cambridge Chemistry Challenge, scoring a gold in the challenge set by one of the world's leading universities.

See more Success at priestleyprospectus.co.uk

PRIESTLEY SCHOOL OF PERFORMANCE

The perfect start towards fulfilling a career on stage or behind the scenes.

Alumni from the Priestley School of Performance can now be seen on screens and stages around the world.

So, if your dream is to be a professional actor, dancer or musician – or if you want to be one of the people behind the scenes helping make the magic happen – then Priestley will help you get there.

Our alumni have been involved in major Netflix productions, have long-running parts on some of the UK's biggest shows and toured the world in rock bands as well as behind-the-scenes technicians.

A unique combination of inspiring courses, dedicated theatre and rehearsal spaces, music studios and experienced teachers mean Priestley students leave fully-prepared for their next steps, whatever path they choose.

We have the talent and technology to produce professional-standard shows, which happens several times in the year. This kind of experience is invaluable and unites students from across the cohort in creating something special.

With the opportunity to go to Broadway and to learn from visiting drama and dance companies, the Priestley experience really is one not to be missed.

priestleyschool ofperformance

Rambert grades

Paige steals the show
Former Priestley student Paige Fenlon wowed audiences and critics when she took to the stage at the Palace Theatre in Manchester. Paige, who studied Musical Theatre, Dance, and Drama at Priestley, was praised for making the role of Vivian her own after taking on the iconic lead part in Pretty Woman. Speaking after her debut Paige said: "Priestley helped me to find my voice."

Giant leap into the future for Ava
Ava Moseley, who studied Dance A-Level and BTEC, has joined some of the world's finest young performers at London Contemporary Dance School – one of the UK's top conservatoires. She was chosen ahead of hundreds of others from around the world. "My approach is that if I work hard and put in the effort I will achieve my goals and I think this proves it," she said.

Music industry visits Priestley
Experts from the world of Music visited Priestley College to educate and inspire a new generation of talent. Priestley hosted the event, which was organised by Liverpool Sound City. XS Manchester radio presenter and BBC producer Shell Zenner hosted some of the workshops and interviewed a range of musical talent who supported the event. Among them was Priestley alumna – and guitarist with the band Crawlers – Amy Woodall.

SPORTING SUCCESS

Sport Priestley students enjoy consistent success winning national trophies, securing international scholarships and excelling in their studies.

Academies
Train like a professional while receiving an outstanding education by joining one of our academies in either Rugby, Football (men's and women's), Netball, and Basketball.

Represent Sport Priestley
Take advantage of opportunities to compete regionally in a variety of sports from netball to badminton, cross country to swimming. Represent the North West at the AoC Sport National Championships.

Coaching and Refereeing
Develop your leadership, coaching and refereeing skills and qualifications with the support of our partnerships including the TCAT Sport Hub, Warrington Wolves, School Games and WASSP.

Trips and Visits
Recent trips have included Old Trafford, a US football tour, warm weather training at La Santa in Lanzarote and outdoor adventure in the Lake District.

ELITE SPORTS+

If you are competing at the highest level join the Elite Sports+ programme to ensure you can excel in both your sport and studies.
Benefits include:

- Flexible lunch and snack times
- Support with personal nutritional plans, training and physiological needs
- Fast-track lunch queue pass
- Access to specialist equipment and facilities, including gym
- A timetable that accommodates your training and competitions
- Tailored revision timetable, support and workshops
- Student/staff mentor support, including careers advice

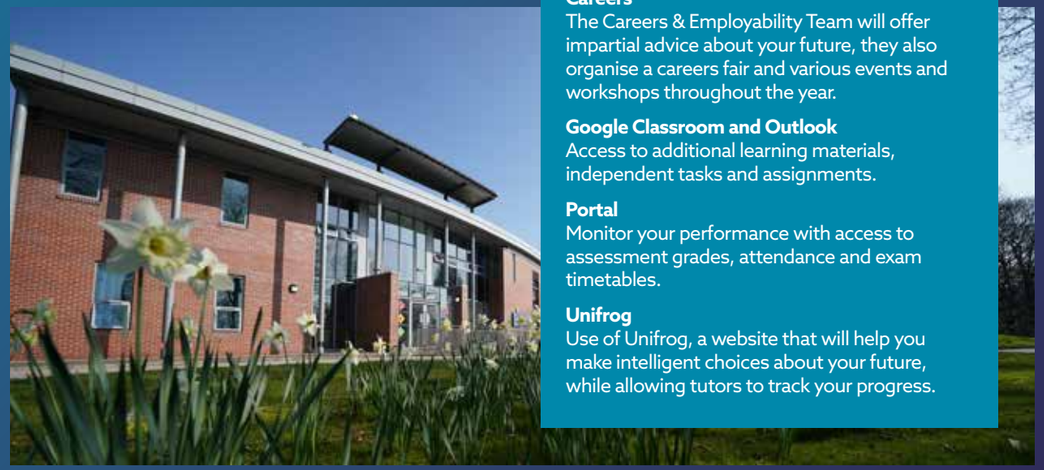
WELLBEING, SUPPORT AND GUIDANCE

You will be supported every step of the way at Priestley whether that be with your wellbeing, general college life or future career.

Your mental health and general wellbeing are two of our biggest priorities as we want your time at college to be as happy as it is successful.

There is a network of support from your own Progress Tutor to the team in our Wellbeing Hub who include a wellbeing practitioner and counsellor.

Priestley also has staff trained as Mental Health First Aiders and student mental health ambassadors who raise awareness across the college.



Your network of support at Priestley College also includes:

Student Services
A one-stop shop for all your support needs.

Study Support
Help with study skills, workload and revision as well as any special learning requirements, including if English is not your first language.

Careers
The Careers & Employability Team will offer impartial advice about your future, they also organise a careers fair and various events and workshops throughout the year.

Google Classroom and Outlook
Access to additional learning materials, independent tasks and assignments.

Portal
Monitor your performance with access to assessment grades, attendance and exam timetables.

Unifrog
Use of Unifrog, a website that will help you make intelligent choices about your future, while allowing tutors to track your progress.

TRAVELLING TO PRIESTLEY COLLEGE

Travelling to Priestley is simple. The college is just a few minutes walk from Stockton Heath and a short walk from the town centre. We are found just off the A49 (Wilderspool Causeway)

Priestley currently runs a number of free, direct bus services with Warrington's Own Buses and Selwyns.

- P1 - Helsby and Frodsham
- P2 – Runcorn, Widnes, Penketh
- P2A – Widnes, Penketh
- P4 – Culcheth, Birchwood, Padgate
- P5 – Irlam, Cadishead, Hollins Green
- P5A – Martinscroft, Woolston, Bruche
- P6 – Goldborne, Newton-le-Willows, Winwick
- P8 – Lymm, Grappenhall, Stockton Heath
- P9 – Weaverham, Cuddington, Northwich, Great Budworth
- P18 - Burtonwood, Callands

Warrington's Own Buses offers a Touch & Go Pass that gives you discounted travel, seven days a week, on all regular bus services run by the company, including all Priestley buses. You can find more details on the company's website.

DRIVING TO COLLEGE

A number of students drive to college, but we have very limited parking and are not currently permitted by the council to increase the number of spaces available for students. Our student car park operates on a first come, first served basis. Once those spaces are taken the car park will close and an LED sign will notify students. We would then encourage students to use the Loushers Lane Recreational Ground or one of the other local car parks that we have arranged, which are listed on the Travel page of the college website.

WALKING TO COLLEGE

We are within walking distance of the town centre, the interchange and the two main train stations. Visit priestley.ac.uk/travel to find out more about walking and cycling to college.

COURSE BUILDER

Not sure which path to take?

Try out our Course Builder to work out what study programmes are available to you at Priestley College.

The tool allows you to create your perfect study programme. You can then email these choices to yourself or apply for your chosen programme.

Scan here to find out more

COURSE PATHWAYS

How to choose the right course for you?
Priestley's wide variety of courses and flexible timetable give you the best chance of creating your perfect Level 3 study programme.

First you need to decide the type of programme you want to study. There are four pathways available to you at Level 3 and for anyone not ready for those courses we offer a number of Level 2 options as part of a Foundation Programme.

** All entry criteria accurate at the time of print. We will update students regarding any changes.*

A-LEVEL

Jacob Lang chose A-Levels at Priestley because he believed that pathway was the best way to improve his future prospects. Hear him talk about his A-Level experience so far studying Computer Science, Drama, Electronics and Film Studies.

Find out more on page 18

VOCATIONAL

Amber Bloomfield has enjoyed a busy first year at Priestley studying a range of vocational subjects. She chose this pathway because she prefers coursework to exams and believes that is the best way for her to get the grades she needs for university.

Find out more on page 24

MIXED

Mary Balcombe saw the benefit of pursuing a mixed programme at Priestley and believes it is preparing her for university. She is developing revision skills for her A-Level exams and BTEC coursework is helping her fine-tune essay writing.

Find out more on page 29

T-LEVEL

Alfie Walters opted for a T-Level because the option of a work placement appealed to him, but he did not feel ready for an apprenticeship. Listen to him talk about the experience so far and the support available at Priestley.

Find out more on page 30

FOUNDATION

Sophie Colledge used a Level 2 programme as a springboard to Level 3. She has enjoyed the freedom of being at college and has really appreciated the support that is available across Priestley from wellbeing to careers.

Find out more on page 32

A-LEVEL

Priestley offers a wide range of academic courses that prepare you for university.

AS-Levels are the first year of an A-Level and, at Priestley, are qualifications in their own right.

In Year 2 many of you will narrow your programme to three A-Levels that most suit your needs. However, your AS qualification will still carry UCAS points.

Taking four AS-Levels in Year 1 gives you a greater breadth of subject areas.

Benefits of AS / A-Levels include:

- AS grades demonstrate to universities your progress since GCSE and are a good way to assess your strengths
- This pathway shows a breadth of knowledge and skills
- A-Level success shows a grasp of academic study

Qualification:	**A-Level**
Choose From:	**38 subjects**
Course Length:	**2 Years**

WHAT WILL I NEED?

- Minimum of three GCSEs at Grade 5 or above and three GCSEs at Grade 4 or above
- GCSE English required at Grade 4 or above
- GCSE Maths - see subject guidance

Scan the QR code, to explore detailed information about the A-Level courses we offer

See A-Level courses on Page 20

A-LEVEL SUCCESS

317 A*& A GRADES

In 2024 A-level students secured 317 A* and A grades

664 HIGH MARKS

Our Class of 2024 collected 664 A*s to B grades in A-Levels and EPQ

440+ TOP PLACES

Russell Group universities made more than 440 offers to the Class of 2024

Course title	Overview
Architecture	Explore how architecture works in this A-Level which is perfect for any aspiring architects, interior architects, urban planners or landscape architects.
Biology	Success in Biology can lead to a wide range of careers spanning Medicine, Veterinary Science, Pharmacy, Scientific Research or Environmental Science to name just a few.
Business	Gain an insight into issues affecting 'Business' in current times. Discover what it takes to become an entrepreneur or a manager while developing an understanding of business activities.
Chemistry	Chemistry is the only compulsory science for anyone wanting to study Medicine, but it is much more besides.
Classical Civilisation	Classics is a solid academic subject which can serve as a strong grounding for a variety of careers such as writing, the Security Services and business.
Computer Science	Computer Science is relevant to the modern and changing world of computing. It is a practical subject where you can apply knowledge gained to write code, design websites and interrogate databases.
Dance	A stimulating and exciting exploration into the world of professional dance, this course will prepare you for further dance studies at university.
Drama	Previous students who have wanted to pursue a career in acting have gone on to study at some of the top theatre schools in the country.
Economics	Anyone with a good understanding of the economy will find rewarding occupations in banks and financial institutions, manufacturing and service companies, the media, and the government.
Electronics	You will develop problem solving and circuit design skills, as well as some programming, and the course fulfils entry requirements for many engineering degrees.

Course title	Overview
English Language	Explore how English Language is used to persuade, inform, instruct, advise and entertain different audiences. Find out how it has changed over the centuries.
English Language and Literature	Discuss your views with like-minded students as you delve into literary and non-literary texts from different genres and periods.
English Literature	Improve your understanding of literary contexts through class discussion and exploration of novels, poetry and drama from the 15th to the 21st century.
Environmental Science	Take this A-Level to gain a deep scientific understanding of current issues such as global warming, extinction, alternative energies and resources.
Film Studies	Develop your appreciation of film while preparing for a future in the industry. You will study Cinema as a medium, developing critical analysis and personal reflection.
Fine Art	If you enjoy an experimental approach to using a wide range of media including painting, print, mixed media and digital imagery then you will thrive on this A-Level.
French	At Priestley class sizes are small and weekly one-to-one sessions with a tutor allow you to develop your skills with confidence. You will learn about French society as well as the language.
Further Mathematics	The course covers Further Pure, Further Statistics and Further Mechanics. In Further Pure you will cover topics such as complex numbers, matrices, proof and vector geometry.
Geography	Learn about tectonic processes, glaciated landscapes as well as globalisation and the regeneration of places. In Year 2 study water and carbon cycles, energy security, climate change as well as geopolitics
Geology	This course will give you a comprehensive understanding of how life has evolved throughout Earth's history.

Course title	Overview
German	You will perfect your skills with the benefit of weekly, one-to-one speaking sessions with a tutor. You will learn about the country as well as the language.
Graphic Design	You will build a strong portfolio that will allow you to apply for top university places or go on to work in advertising, website design, illustration, computer game design, publishing or printmaking.
History	You can choose either Early Modern History or Modern History. History is well-respected by universities and employers because of the analytical skills you develop so it can open many doors.
Law	This A-Level will introduce you to English law and the legal process. It is a highly-respected qualification and is certainly not limited to those who wish to pursue a legal career.
Mathematics	Maths is highly-regarded, complements all other courses. You will study algebra, coordinate geometry, polynomials, trigonometry, logarithms and calculus.
Media Studies	You will study television, film, radio, newspapers, magazines, advertising, online social and participatory media, video games and music videos. You'll investigate media language, representations, industries and audiences.
Music	Excellent preparation for further study in Music and a career in the industry or just to develop your musical skills and knowledge. It will expand your awareness of different music styles.
Philosophy	Are you a deep thinker ready to tackle the big questions? Philosophy challenges you to do exactly that asking 'What do good, bad, right and wrong really mean?' 'Is the concept of God incoherent?' and 'What is mind?'
Photography	You will learn how to use your camera to respond to creative assignments, composition as well as refining your images sensitively, using a computer to digitally edit images.
Physical Education	Gain an insight into sports performance and cover a diverse spectrum of topics from Movement Analysis and Technology in Sport to Skill Acquisition and Sports Psychology.

Course title	Overview
Physics	Over the full A-Level you will study mechanics, electricity, waves, particles, radiation, nuclear structure, electric, gravitational and magnetic fields. You might even study Astrophysics.
Politics	Demystify the world of the Prime Minister, politicians and Parliament with this A-Level. It might be your first step to entering government yourself, but the A-Level is highly-respected and can lead to university.
Psychology	Explore the 'scientific study of human behaviour and experiences' Cover topics on memory, disorders and functions of the brain and in Year 2 psychological knowledge in areas of mental health, crime and child development.
Religious Studies	Tackle great philosophical theories, become an enlightened thinker and learn more about ethics with a particular focus on Buddhism. In Year 2 you will go into further depth on the religion.
Sociology	Learn about issues such as gender equality, education, crime prevention strategies and demographic changes. You will develop skills of analysis and evaluation.
Spanish	During the course you will learn the Spanish language through interesting topics such as technology, women and LGBT rights, idols, Spanish festivals and traditions.
Textiles and Fashion	Experiment with different fabrics and mixed media as you gain the skills and knowledge you need to thrive in the industry. Learn how to create exciting surfaces and textures using different techniques.
3D Product Design & Technology	You will study different construction materials, design solutions, different products and how they relate to modern manufacturing.

STUDENT INSIGHT

Rowan Morley

Studies: Biology, Chemistry, Economics, Politics
Previously From: Cardinal Newman Catholic High School

VOCATIONAL

An exciting pathway to suit those who prefer coursework over exams.

Our Vocational pathways are varied and far reaching. They can prepare you for university and careers as diverse as the police, theatre set designing or sports coaching to name just a few.

BTECs, OCRs, RSLs and Cambridge Technicals will give you the skills and knowledge you need to break into a particular industry. They can also lead you to university or apprenticeships.

Some exams are required in most Vocational courses, but the majority of assessment is based on practical learning and coursework.

Vocational courses can be studied to different levels and the depth of the course will determine how much of your timetable your subject requires.

In some cases this will allow you to combine a Vocational course withan A-Level.

Qualification:	**BTECS, OCRs, RSLs & Cambridge Technicals**
Choose From:	**27 subjects**
Course Length:	**2 Years**

WHAT WILL I NEED?

- Minimum of six GCSEs at Grade 4 or above
- GCSE English recommended - see course profile
- GCSE Maths - see course profile

Scan the QR code, to explore detailed information about the Vocational courses we offer

See Vocational courses on Page 26

VOCATIONAL SUCCESS

100% PASS RATE

29 Vocational courses saw a 100% pass rate in 2024

62% HIGH GRADES

Class of 2024 secured 62% high grades in Extended Diplomas

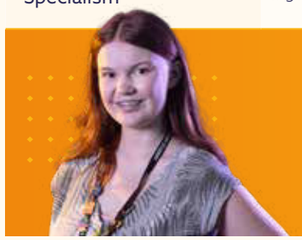
500+ RIGHT CHOICE

More than 500 students chose this pathway

Course title	Overview
Applied Science	Take an exciting look at science through a mixture of theory, practical work and your own research. You'll complete case studies, assignments and projects linked to real-life workplace challenges.
Applied Human Biology	Further your understanding of Biology by learning more about humans: from conception through aging, in sickness and in health. You'll cover topics such as genetics, cell biology, organ systems & immunology.
Art and Design Foundation	You will learn through a wide range of experimental workshops covering drawing, conceptual thinking, painting, sculpture, textiles, life drawing, fashion, photography, graphic design and architecture.
Art, Design and Communication	This course also gives you the chance to exhibit your work in public venues and covers everything from drawing, painting, textiles and ceramics to photography and illustration.
Business	This course is a chance to learn more about everything from business to finance, accounts, marketing and more. Enhance your practical skills by running a mini enterprise.
Computer Game Development	Our award-winning Game Development course is a proven way for young people to break into the competitive, billion-pound industry.
Criminology	Investigate what happens at a crime scene or during course proceedings on this course, which will prepare you for studying Criminology at university or a career in criminal justice.
Dance	During the course, you will explore a diverse range of movement styles and performance techniques. Passion and ambition are essential to enhance your dance skills and enjoy showcasing your talents.
Early Years, Childcare and Education	The course covers the role of childcare and education practitioners and includes a work placement. Trips include to The Children's Museum, Disneyland Paris and universities.
Engineering	We can tailor a programme to meet your needs and combine this course with AS subjects such as Electronics, Graphic Design, 3D Design and many more. It is the ideal choice if you do not want to take a purely AS-Level programme.

Course title	Overview
Football - Sports, Coaching & Development	Combine your passion for playing football with a sound theoretical underpinning that will help you succeed in a career in sport. There will be opportunities to develop your ability to play, coach and officiate football and futsal.
Graphic Design & Photography	Practical design projects set by industry professionals – who in the past have included Sky TV, Barclays, Professional Imagemaker magazine – will give you a unique insight into the world of work.
Health and Social Care	This is the ideal qualification for those who want a broad background in health and social care. You will study nutrition, anatomy and physiology, equality, mental health, positive relationships in care and infection control.
Information Technology	You will thrive on this course if you enjoy studying how computers are used within IT systems, enjoy problem solving and finding IT solutions.
Journalism	It is an introduction to journalism and covers what you need to know about the profession in the 21st century. You'll hear from journalists working in the media today and attend industry conferences.
Law	You will learn vocational skills such as writing legal letters. Students can progress onto a law apprenticeship or job as a paralegal. You could also do a Law or a related degree such as Criminology.
Mathematical Studies (Core Maths)	Strengthen your maths and gain numeracy skills that will help you compete for jobs with better salaries. This course complements many other subjects including Geography, Business Studies, Psychology and Economics.
Media Studies	This course will allow you to develop your knowledge and understanding of the media industry and enables you to focus on a specialist area after an initial introduction to a wide range of disciplines.
Music	We offer numerous pathways in vocational Music focusing on Performance or Production. We recommend reading the full course profiles on our website and speaking to a Music teacher at an open event / interview evening about which option is best for you.
Musical Theatre (Performing Arts)	You will take part in lots of public performances including two full-scale musicals. There will be the chance to take part in workshops with industry professionals and several study visits including our annual trip to Broadway, New York.

Course title	Overview
Production Arts	This course is excellent preparation for a career in everything from Stage Management to lighting design, sound design, puppet construction and theatrical and SFX Makeup. At college you will have the chance to add a touch of magic to our ambitious performances.
Public Services	You will cover team leadership, citizenship, physical preparation, aspects of the legal system and go on numerous expeditions. You can also go to university to study degrees such as Public Services, Policing, Criminology and Law.
Sport	It can be combined with two or three AS-Levels, Fitness Instruction and/or a sports academy giving you some nice options. Students go on to pursue careers in teaching, sports rehabilitation, coaching, fitness and sports development.
Sport and Exercise Science	The Sport and Exercise Science BTEC covers a range of topics from Anatomy to Psychology, Sports Injuries, Biomechanics, Exercise Physiology and Sports Massage. It prepares you for appropriate university degrees and during the course you will benefit from work experience.
Sports Coaching & Development	Combine your passion for practical sport with a sound theoretical underpinning that will help you succeed in a career in sport. You will benefit from work experience and the BTEC includes access to National Governing Body coaching/officiating courses.
Sports Academies *Specialism	We have academies for Football, Rugby League, Basketball, Netball, Volleyball and Futsal. Join an academy to compete at regional and national level. You will receive an outstanding education alongside excellent coaching in your sport.
Extended Project Qualification (EPQ) *Specialism	You will be assessed based on a dissertation or investigation about a topic of your choosing. You'll carry out detailed, balanced research and practise structuring a convincing academic argument.



STUDENT INSIGHT

Amy Whitfield

Studies: Musical Theatre, History, Pyschology
Previously From: St Edmund Arrowsmith Catholic High School

MIXED PROGRAMME

At Priestley, students have the unique opportunity to combine A-Levels with vocational options, creating a well-rounded and versatile experience.

This approach allows students to tailor their studies to their individual interests and career goals, blending the academic rigor of A-Levels with the practical skills and hands-on learning provided by vocational courses.

This is made possible because of the flexibility of the college timetable. You might combine an A-Level and BTEC for many reasons. It might be that the two subjects work well together or they could unlock your dream university place or career.

It might be that you simply enjoy one of the options and you want to combine them to ensure you have the best college experience. It is important to spend some time reading the full course profiles and checking which courses can be combined in order to build a full timetable.

You can do all this on our website where there is more information about course selection. Whatever your reasons for doing it, a mixed programme can lead to successful progression.

WHAT WILL I NEED?

- Minimum of two GCSEs at Grade 5 and four at Grade 4
- GCSE English at Grade 4 or above
- GCSE Maths - see course profile

STUDENT INSIGHT

Mary Balcombe

Studies:
Biology, English Literature and Health & Social Care

Previously From:
Bridgewater High School

T-LEVEL

The next level qualifications that give you skills to thrive in the workplace.

T-Levels are unique in that they have been created in partnership with employers and include a 45-day work placement. One T-Level is equivalent to three A-Levels and can lead to a degree apprenticeship or employment. They are different because around 80% of your time will be spent in the classroom with the remaining 20% being spent on a work placement.

Benefits of a T-Level include:

- Practical skills through classroom education and industry placements.
- Real-world experience making you job-ready upon graduation.
- Earn UCAS points for university

Please note that T-Levels are a full programme and cannot be combined with any other courses.

Qualification: T-Level
Choose From: 4 subjects
Course Length: 2 Years

WHAT WILL I NEED?

- Minimum of three GCSEs at Grade 5 or above and three GCSEs at Grade 4 or above
- GCSE English required at Grade 4 or above
- GCSE Maths - see course profile
- GCSE Science - see course profile

Scan the QR code, to explore detailed information about the T-Level courses we offer

See T-Level courses on Page 31

Course title	Overview
Digital Production, Design & Development	Cover programming, emerging issues and impact of digital, legislation and regulatory requirements, business context, data, digital environments and security.
Education and Childcare	Cover units on child development, supporting education and working with professionals as well as safeguarding, observing and assessing children and special educational needs and disabilities.
Engineering	You will cover workplace procedures and the maths and physics-based knowledge and skills of engineering practice. Core content includes everything from chemical engineering to manufacturing, health and safety and commercial awareness.
Health	Some of the core modules include health and wellbeing, anatomy and physiology as well as infection prevention.

FOUNDATION

Dream bigger with a Foundation Year.

The Foundation Programme will equip you not only with an academic qualification, but also paves the way to study A-Levels or Level 3 courses at Priestley.

By the end of your Foundation Year you will have the confidence, skills and aspiration to go further than you might have ever have dreamed.

Alongside your core Foundation Programme you will also be able to take one or more of the following:

- English / Maths Pre-GCSE
  If you obtain less than a Grade 3, or you need further support to develop your confidence and skills
- English and / or Maths up to GCSE
- A Specialist Project to help develop your study and research skills, based on a topic of your choice
- Work placement and Work-Related Learning
- GCSE Science (subject to demand)

Qualification: Level 2
Choose From: 7 subjects
Course Length: 1 Year

WHAT WILL I NEED?

- Minimum of one GCSE at Grade 4 or above and three GCSEs at Grade 3 or above
- Grade 2s in English Language and/or Maths

Scan the QR code, where you can explore detailed information about the Foundation courses we offer

See Foundation courses on page 33

Course title	Overview
Art & Design	Explore and develop your ideas and produce final outcomes in a project at the end of the year.
Computer Arts	Earn a BTEC Level 2 in Art & Design skills while through an HPQ build a digital world or complete a certification exam in Adobe Photoshop or Illustrator.
Health and Early Years	Our combined course is the perfect start for anyone considering careers in health or the education of children (up to 12 years old).
Media and Film	An introduction to media products and audiences, potentially leading to the creation of your own radio shows and setting up webcasts.
Public Services	Cover topics such as the role and work of the Public Services as well as the responsibility of protecting communities.
Science (Trilogy GCSE)	This is an exciting opportunity to improve your GCSE Science results in a year and lay the foundation for Level 3 study.
Sport	This Level 2 Certificate can lead to sports courses, First Aid, Duke of Edinburgh Award, and volunteering.

"Questions to ask..."

1.
2.
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4.
5.

Courses I'm interested in:

Dates to remember

Things I need to do

- [ ]
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× Key contacts:

Hear Georgia talk about her Priestley experience and how she has developed her passion for art at college.

Georgia Fewster

Studies:
Fine Art, Textiles & Fashion, Business and History

- C **Crescent Building / Main Reception**
- P **Priestley Building**
- CT **Costello Theatre**
- LRC **Learning Resource Centre**
- LC **Lewis Carroll Centre**
- S **Sports Centre / All Weather Pitch**
- D **Design Centre**
- A **Arts Centre**
- PA **Performing Arts**
- VB **Viola Beach Café**

Priestley College
Loushers Lane WA4 6RD

Phone: **01925 415415**

Email: **enquiries@priestley.ac.uk**

priestley.ac.uk

How To Find Us

From the town centre, go south on the Wilderspool Causeway along the A49 toward Stockton Heath. Turn left at the traffic lights, onto Loushers Lane. The college is 200 metres up on the left. Pedestrian access is also possible via Menin Avenue.

A digital version of this prospectus is also available: www.priestleyprospectus.co.uk

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