

# PROGRAMMES OF STUDY AT THE SIXTH FORM COLLEGE, COLCHESTER

## College Mission

*The College's mission is to provide suitably qualified 16 to 19 year olds wishing to pursue full time academic general education in the Colchester area with a supportive and inclusive environment, in which they are able to acquire the necessary qualifications, talents and skills vital for success in adult life.*

The Sixth Form College, Colchester, specialises in providing high quality full-time, general academic education programmes of study for 16-19 year olds, combined with excellent pastoral and safeguarding care, personal development opportunities and a fantastic range of wider opportunities (*in normal times*) including for work-related learning, preparation for progression and for life as responsible citizens in society. We encourage our students to set their sights high and expect them to study relatively demanding programmes and to engage in a broad range of activities to encourage the development of a range of skills essential to success in study, employment and life, including time management, resilience, communication and collaborative working skills as well as responsibility for study and own progress.

## Programmes of Study

The College offers our students three alternative full-time academic programmes of study – all supported by a programme of pastoral care and personal development:

### 1. A Level Programme

For most students this is a two-year academic programme, which forms part of a pathway from school to university or employment. Students may flexibly choose to study 4 A Levels or 3 A Levels and a 4<sup>th</sup> academic choice or additional or complementary study option depending upon their GCSE results, aims and interests. The Additional Study and Extra Curricular Activities Programmes provide significant choice of wider activities.

### 2. The International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme (*withdrawn to new students September 2020, Year 2 completing 2020/21*)

This is a two-year academic programme, which serves as an alternative to A-Level study and forms part of a pathway from school to university or employment. The IB Diploma programme is of interest to those students who wish to maintain a broad range of subjects and who have an interest in global issues. Students will study six subjects which must include one from each of five groups and will also complete three other components: Theory of Knowledge, Extended Project and Community, Activity and Service projects (CAS). Many of the CAS activities can be drawn from the Additional Studies and Extra-Curricular Activities Programmes.

### 3. Advanced Foundation Programme

This is a one-year programme which, in the first instance, offers students with academic potential the opportunity to do further work at GCSE or level 2 - often with a view to then progressing onto A-Level courses in the following year. The Additional Studies and Extra-Curricular Activities Programme is available for all AFP students and many choose the skills-based qualification 'Lessons in Financial Education' option as a complementary course.

Within each academic programme of study students are able to choose an individual combination of courses that meets their needs, interests and aspirations, and which offers the opportunity for success and progression. See the College Prospectus for full details.

Applicants are asked to apply for just one of the academic programmes, which is then discussed at interview. However, there is the flexibility to change to another programme thereafter, including after GCSE results are received. Where GCSE results require a rethink of appropriate study programme options this is discussed and normally a new programme is agreed. Normally a number of students will switch from the A Level to the Advanced Foundation Programme, while others may simply change one A Level subject choice to another or to a GCSE, for example in Mathematics or English if a pass grade has not been achieved at school.

As part of their overall full-time education and experience, all students will add to their academic programme of study a programme focused upon their personal development, including pastoral care and a tutorial programme designed specifically for 16-19 year-olds and will be supported in a number of areas such as identified learning or health needs, work-related learning and preparation for progression. In addition, students will be offered opportunities for wider experiences through fieldwork and trips and our wide selection of Additional Studies and extra-curricular activity options. All academic courses and the Tutorial programme incorporate work-related learning opportunities and consideration of E & D and British Values. Vocational or supplementary support arrangements are in place for a range of career pathways, including medicine and health, teaching, finance, law, sport and media.

**STUDENT OPTIONS FOR PROGRAMMES OF STUDY AT CSFC**  
**ENROLMENT as at September 2020**

P E R S O N A L  D E V E L O P M E N T / S A F E G U A R D I N G	<b><u>A Levels/Applied</u></b> <b><u>Generals</u></b>	W O R K  R E L A T E D  L E A R N I N G	P E R S O N A L  D E V E L O P M E N T / S A F E G U A R D I N G	W O R K  R E L A T E D  L E A R N I N G
	<b>Yr1</b>			
	3 (or 4) academic subjects (2-year programme with summer exams in year 2)			
	+			
	Tutorial/Pastoral Programme			
	+			
	Additional Studies and extra-curricular options			
	+			
	Support as required			
	↓			
<b>Yr2</b>				
3 (or 4) academic subjects (mocks in January)				
+				
Pastoral Programme				
+				
Additional Studies and extra-curricular options				
+				
Support as required				
↓				
HE, FE, GAP Year, Employment				