Laurelhill Community College

Key Stage 5

Curriculum Booklet

2026-2028

Contents

Item		*Page*
Thinking Ahead to 6th Form		3
Admission Criteria		3-4
Collaboration with Lisburn Area Learning Community (LALC)		4
Apply to Sixth Form in Laurelhill Community College		5
Subject Combinations and Possible Progression Routes		6-7
Expression of Interest Form		8
Understanding Sixth Form Qualifications		9
Pathway 1 – Subject Information		
Courses Delivered in Laurelhill Community College		10
Art & Design	(A-Level)	11
Business Studies	(A-Level)	12
Digital Technology	(A-Level)	13
English Literature	(A-Level)	14
Environmental Technology	(A-Level)	15
Health & Social Care – Single Award and Double Award	(A-Level)	16
History	(A-Level)	17
Medical Science	(BTEC)	18
Music Performance	(BTEC)	19
Performing Arts	(BTEC)	20
Public Services	(BTEC)	21
Religious Studies	(A-Level)	22
Sport - Single Award	(BTEC)	23
Courses Delivered in Other Schools within The Lisburn Area Learning Community		24
Child-Care	(BTEC)	25
Engineering	(BTEC)	26
Hospitality	(BTEC)	27
Information Technology	(BTEC)	28
Life & Health Sciences	(A-Level)	29
Mathematics	(A-Level)	30
Media	(A-Level)	31
Moving Images Arts	(A-Level)	32
Technology & Design	(A-Level)	33
Travel & Tourism	(BTEC)	34
Pathway 2 – Football Education Academy – Sport and Sport Coaching		35-37
UCAS Tariffs		38
Pastoral Organisation		39
Learning Agreement		40

Education Authority, South Eastern Region
Laurelhill Community College
22 Laurelhill Road | Lisburn | BT28 2UH
Tel: 028 9260 7351
E-mail: info@laurelhill.lisburn.ni.sch.uk
Principal Mrs Nicola Stevenson

Dear Parent/Carer

As students progress towards the end of their year 12 courses they inevitably begin to plan for the next phase of education, training or employment.

Many students have clearly defined goals and ambitions, but others will be hesitant and uncertain about the path they wish to follow. We hope that many will remain here in Laurelhill Community College where they have experienced a supportive learning environment, if it is the correct pathway for their future.

This booklet has been designed to inform parents/carers and students of the range and content of post 16 courses we offer in Laurelhill Community College, as well as some information to support with future planning for beyond sixth form. Some information on the pastoral support provided in Laurelhill Community College's sixth form is also provided.

In Sixth Form, our courses build on the foundations laid in Key Stage 4 and although different styles of learning and teaching and assessment may emerge, what remains consistent is the desire of staff to produce relevant and supportive learning experiences to enable young people to unlock their potential and prepare them for high level apprenticeships, university, higher education, training, or employment.

All our students will be supported by the Curriculum, Careers, Sixth Form and Teaching staff to enable them to make the right subject choices for Sixth Form in Laurelhill Community College.

We wish you well.

K. McErlean
Senior Teacher for Curriculum

L. Duddy
Head of Sixth Form

J. Smyth
Head of Careers

Thinking Ahead to Sixth Form

This information is designed to give year 12 students and parents/carers information about the courses which are offered in Sixth Form from September 2026, and to provide some assistance in choosing suitable courses of study.

The decision to return to or join Laurelhill Community College for a further two years of education will depend upon outcomes in GCSE and GCSE equivalent courses.

It must be stressed that admission to Key Stage 5 courses is not automatic, and a points system will operate as outlined below.

College Points System:

GCSE and Level 2 GCSE Equivalent Results	Points
A* / 9 / L2 Distinction*	5
A / 7-8 / L2 Distinction	4
B / 6 / L2 Merit	3
C* / 5	2
C / 4 /L2 Pass/King's Trust Pass	1
D grade or below / Level 1 Pass/Merit/Distinction	0

GCSE Equivalent courses such as Occupational Studies, BTEC, PAL, OCN and King's Trust are not always considered as a suitable basis for A Level Courses. Consideration of these courses will be made on an individual basis.

Admission Criteria for September 2026

Laurelhill Community College Students:

- Students must have a minimum of 5 C grades or above at GCSE level, including at least a Grade C in GCSE English **and** Mathematics.
- Students must have a minimum of 7 points using the College Points System.
- Students must also meet the essential criteria set out for each subject.

External Applicants:

- External applicants may be accepted into Laurelhill Community College Sixth Form if there are places available within the school's approved Enrolment Number and in the subjects each applicant chooses.
- The applicant must have a minimum of 5 C grades or above at GCSE level, including at least a Grade C in GCSE English **and** Mathematics.
- The applicant must have a minimum of 7 points using the College Points System.
- The applicant must also meet the essential criteria set out for each subject.

Important Points to Note:

1. Class sizes will normally be limited to 20 students.
2. If a course is oversubscribed, places will be awarded to those with the best overall GCSE profile.
3. If a course is undersubscribed and does not run because of this, the College will be in contact to discuss a suitable alternative course.
4. Places on LALC (Lisburn Area Learning Community) courses are sometimes limited due to the collaboration of several schools. If there is a high demand for a limited course, places will be awarded on to those who best meet the entry criteria for the subject and those with the best overall GCSE profile.
5. Students applying for Sixth Form must have good attendance, demonstrate a willingness to engage in meaningful independent learning and must have a positive behaviour record.
6. If a student does not have a GCSE background in a subject that has been available at GCSE but wishes to study it at Level 3, the student will be looked at on an individual basis.

Collaboration within Lisburn Area Learning Community (LALC)

At Laurelhill Community College we wish to provide a curriculum that is both broad and balanced to facilitate the abilities and aspirations of all our potential sixth form students.

In order to extend the range of subjects we provide, Laurelhill Community College is part of the Lisburn Area Learning Community. This partnership with other schools and Further Education (FE) providers within the Lisburn Area increases the number of subjects that are available for students to select from.
It is recommended that out of the 3 subjects that students choose for sixth form, only one LALC subject is chosen.

Transportation to the selected schools is provided Laurelhill Community College.

Participating organisations include:

Fort Hill Integrated College	Lisnagarvey High School	Malone College
South Eastern Regional College	St Colm's High School	St Patrick's Academy

Details on the courses delivered through other schools within the LALC and where they are delivered can be found on pages 23-33.

Applying to Sixth Form in Laurelhill Community College

Immediately:

1. Complete an Expression of Interest form.
    a. For internal applicants, these will be given to you at the Options Afternoon and must be returned to form tutors by the outlined date.
    b. For external candidates, these are available from the College Office, available for download on the College website and are also available on the options afternoon, if you have been in attendance. They should be returned for the attention of Head of Sixth Form to the school office or via post to Laurelhill Community College, 22 Laurelhill Road, Lisburn, BT28 2UH, or via email at lduddy434@c2kni.net
2. Attend a 6th Form and Careers advice interview in April (Internal candidates) or June (External candidates).

On GCSE results day:

1. Internal Candidates - Complete the application form along with a designated teacher after collecting your results.
2. External Candidates – Go to main reception with your GCSE results. You will be interviewed by a member of the Senior Leadership Team and will complete an application form with them.
3. Most candidates find out if they have secured a place that day. If further discussions are required, the College will be in contact on the same day.

Choosing Courses:

When choosing the courses which you are going to study in 6th Form there are several important factors you should consider:

- Think about the style of assessment in the subjects you are considering and whether this style of assessment matches your skillset.

- Ensure you are choosing subjects that you have an interest in and will enjoy as it is important that you remain engaged and motivated throughout the two-year course.

- It is essential that you meet the requirements for entry to the course as stated in the Subject Information section. Entering a course without meeting the requirements could mean that you underperform in the course.

- It is also important that you carefully consider the combination of subjects to ensure you obtain the correct qualifications to access the progression route relevant to your chosen career or further education pathway. The table on the next page shows sample subject combinations and related career pathways. It may help you when making your choices.

Subject Combinations and Possible Progression Routes

Subject combination	Progression Routes	Career Pathways
Health and Social Care - Double Award Medical Sciences	HND/C course Foundation degree Degree course	Nursing Social work/Social policy Social policy
Business Studies IT (BTEC) Travel and Tourism	HND/C course Degree course	Marketing and Advertising Accountancy Travel industry
Art and Design Performing Arts Music Performance	HND/C course Foundation degree Degree course Degree followed by PGCE	Theatres Radio and TV Design Performer Sound Engineer Teacher
Business Studies Travel and Tourism Digital Technology	HND/C course Degree course	Hotel industry Visitor attraction Travel industry Business Management Marketing Small Business Owner
English Literature History Art and Design	Foundation degree Degree course	A Level subjects which are suitable for many career pathways
Business Studies Travel and Tourism Sport – Single Award	HND/C course Foundation degree Degree course	Leisure industry Travel Marketing
English Literature Performing Arts Art and Design	Foundation degree Degree course Degree followed by PGCE	Theatre Radio/TV Set design Teacher/Music Tutor
Music Performance English Literature Performing Arts	HND/C Foundation degree Degree	Music Performing Art Theatres Teacher – Primary and Secondary
Environmental Technology Travel and Tourism Digital Technology	HND/C Foundation Degree Degree	Civil Engineering Environmental Planning
English Literature History Religious Studies	HND/C Foundation degree Degree Degree followed by PGCE	Teacher Mediator Newspaper Journalist Youth Worker Civil Service Communications Officer Human Resources
Child-Care Performing Arts Health and Social Care - Single Award	HND/C Foundation Degree Degree	Teacher Day-care setting manager Early childhood studies
Technology and Design Engineering	HND/C Foundation Degree	Product Design Civil Engineering

Business Studies	HLA Degree	Design Engineering Environmental Planning Officer Town Planner Sustainability Officer/Consultant
Sport – Single Award Medical Science Business Studies	HND/C Foundation Degree Degree Degree followed by PGCE	Sports Marketing Sports Development Officer P.E. Teacher Fitness Manager Strength and Condition Coach Personal Trainer Community Sports Coordinator
Child-Care Health and Social Care - Double Award	HND/C Foundation Degree Degree	Nurse (Adult, Mental Health, Learning Disability) Social Worker / Family Support Worker Early Years Practitioner Youth Worker Public Health Officer
IT (BTEC) Digital Technology Environmental Technology	HND/C Foundation Degree Degree	IT Director Cyber Security IT Business Analysts, Architects and Systems Designer Programmers and Software Developer Web Designers IT Computer System Installers and Servicers
Business Studies IT (BTEC) Digital Technology	HND/C Foundation Degree Degree	Digital Marketing Data Technician IT Support
Mathematics Engineering Environmental Technology	HND/C Foundation Degree Degree	Manufacturing Technician Maintenance Technician Accountant Electrical Engineering
Public Services Religious Studies History	Foundation Degree Degree	Criminology Police Officer Fire Service Armed Forces
Religious Studies History Business Studies	Foundation Degree Degree	A-level subjects which are suitable for many career pathways
Media Studies Moving Images Arts Art and Design	HND/C Foundation Degree Degree	Art Therapist Graphic Designer Screen Writer Producer Film Director Editor Production Manager
Hospitality Business Studies Travel and Tourism	HND/C Foundation Degree Degree	Hotel Property Manager Event Manager Visitor and Tourism Executive Tourism Officer Corporate Event Manager

Laurelhill Sixth Form

Expression of Interest
2026-2028
Deadline: 13th March 2026

Internal applicants – return to form tutor

Name:	
DoB:	
Address:	
E-mail:	
Current school/ LCC Form Class	

Career and Education Aspirations:

In order of preference (1-4) please indicate your preferred route after year 12:

Laurelhill Sixth Form		***Other School Sixth Form***		***Further Education College***		***Employment***	

List 3 careers you are considering for the future:

1.	***2.***	***3.***

Choosing Subjects:

If studying on Pathway 1, indicate your choice by ticking 3 subjects. Only one subject per group can be selected. Alternatively, tick to indicate if you prefer Pathway 2.

*Courses = LALC courses. These will be studied at another school in the Lisburn Area Learning Community or in SERC.

**If you wish to study Double Award Health and Social Care, you must tick Health and Social Care in both group 3 and group 4 and then choose 1 other subject from group 1 or 2.

Pathway 1							
Group 1		*Group 2*		*Group 3*		*Group 4*	
***Child-Care** (BTEC)		**Medical Science** (BTEC)		**Business Studies** (A Level)		**Art and Design** (A Level)	
English Literature (A Level)		***Engineering** (BTEC)		**Environmental Technology** (A Level)		**Health and Social Care** (A Level Single)	
***Hospitality** (BTEC)		**History** (A Level)		****Health and Social Care** (A Level Double)		**Public Services** (BTEC)	
***Life and Health Sciences** (A Level)		***Information Technology** (BTEC)		**Music Performance** (BTEC)		**Digital Technology** (A Level)	
***Mathematics** (A Level)		***Moving Image Arts** (A Level)					
***Media Studies** (A Level)		**Performing Arts** (BTEC)					
Religious Studies (A Level)		***Travel and Tourism** (BTEC)					
Sport – Single Award (BTEC)							
***Technology and Design** (A Level)							
Pathway 2							
Football Education Academy: Triple Award Sport (BTEC)							

Comments: (Is there a combination you would like that is unavailable, or a subject you would like offered?)

Understanding Sixth Form Qualifications

All subjects offered in Laurelhill Community College Sixth Form are Level 3 qualifications and are either A Levels or BTECs, which are A Level equivalent courses. All the courses offered are on the Northern Ireland Qualifications Framework and therefore, are fully recognised courses across the UK.

A Levels

'A' (Advanced) Level qualifications are two-year courses. A Level courses are either "General A Levels" or "Applied A Levels". This is determined by the assessment methods used. Some A Level courses are assessed through 100% examination while others are a combination of examination assessment along with controlled assessment. This is work that is internally assessed and then externally moderated. In most A Levels, students complete an AS (Advanced Subsidiary) qualification in year 13 followed by an A2 qualification in year 14. Combined, these result in the overall A Level qualification. There are some A Levels which do not follow this pattern. Media is an example of this where the combined A Level is spread across two years. There are details on each subject page of how the subject is assessed.

The A Levels offered are:

English Literature	Life and Health Sciences	Mathematics	Art and Design
Media Studies	Moving Images Arts	Religious Studies	Digital Technology
Technology and Design	History	Business Studies	Environmental Technology
Health & Social Care – Single Award		Health & Social Care – Double Award	

BTEC Nationals Qualifications

BTEC Nationals Qualifications are Level 3 qualifications (A level equivalent) and provide students with the opportunity to access, evaluate and measure their own progress. The qualifications are divided into separate units which are individually assessed.
The level 3 grading system is PASS, MERIT, DISTINCTION and DISTINCTION*. These grades equate to A Level grades as below:

BTEC Grade (Level 3)	A Level Grade
Distinction *	A*
Distinction	A
Merit	C
Pass	E

The BTEC Nationals Qualifications offered are:

Child-Care	Hospitality	Sport – Single Award	Sport – Triple Award
Medical Sciences	Engineering	Information Technology	Public Services
Performing Arts	Travel and Tourism	Music Performance	

These qualifications form an alternative path to higher education. Both Queen's University and the University of Ulster validate these qualifications. In addition, they can be used for entry to any UK institution of higher education.

In pathway 1, students can study a combination of both A Level and BTEC courses, all A Level courses or all BTEC courses. This decision should be made based on future aspirations and the GCSE results obtained.

PATHWAY 1

A range of A Level and BTEC courses to choose from. In order to increase our curriculum provision, a number of these courses are delivered in Laurelhill Community College with some other courses being delivered in other school settings within the Lisburn Area Learning Community.

Courses Delivered in Laurelhill Community College

Art & Design	(A-Level)	11
Business Studies	(A-Level)	12
Digital Technology	(A-Level)	13
English Literature	(A-Level)	14
Environmental Technology	(A-Level)	15
Health & Social Care – Single Award and Double Award	(A-Level)	16
History	(A-Level)	17
Medical Science	(BTEC)	18
Music Performance	(BTEC)	19
Performing Arts	(BTEC)	20
Public Services	(BTEC)	21
Religious Studies	(A-Level)	22
Sport - Single Award	(BTEC)	23

Art & Design (A-Level)

A Level Art & Design comprises of four units that are internally assessed and externally moderated.

It allows students to engage in integrated critical, practical, and theoretical study in art and design. It gives students a sound basis for progression to higher education courses in art and design or study related to other areas of the creative industries.

This qualification is available as one of the following:

- A general art and design qualification (Art, Craft and Design – Combine Studies)
- A specialism in photography and lens-based media (Photography and Lens-Based Media)
- A specialism in three-dimensional design (Three-Dimensional Design)
- A specialism in textiles (Textiles)

Course Content

The structure of the AS and A2 courses

AS (year 13)

- AS 1: Experimental Portfolio. Students develop, explore and record ideas. 50% of AS 20% of A level
- AS 2: Personal Response. Students present a personal outcome. This is brought to completion during a 10-hour controlled test. 50% of AS 20% of A level

A2 (year 14)

- A2 1: Personal and Critical Investigation. A Written investigation of 1000–2000 words 20% of A2 12% of A level & an experimental theme-based portfolio which supports the thematic outcome of the next part of the course, 40% of A2 24% of A Level
- A2 2: Thematic Outcome. Students present an outcome in response to the theme. This is brought to completion during a 15-hour controlled test. 40% of A2 24% of A level

Related Career Path

The creative industries are a fast-growing area of the economy and are key to economic success. Northern Ireland and the UK have an established reputation in these industries. The study of Art and Design creates a pathway to a future career in a creative-industries related field.

Further Education

Many of our former students have gone on to study within the field of Art and Design at university which has led to successful careers in the creative and artistic industries.

Entry Requirement

A minimum of a grade C* in GCSE Art and Design. A C* grade in a related subject may be considered on a case-by-case basis.

Business (A-Level)

In today's economic climate, a business-related subject is an important and worthwhile qualification. Advanced Level Business offers students a highly sought-after qualification with many transferable skills. Advanced Level Business helps pupils understand more about how businesses operate. This subject applies knowledge to real life businesses, not just textbooks.

Course Content

Advanced Level Business students complete **four** units over the two years. This is the equivalent to one A Level.

Year 13 (AS Level)

- Unit 1 Business Opportunities
- Unit 2 Business Functions

Year 14 (A2 Level)

- Unit 3 Business Analysis and Strategy
- Unit 4 Business in a Changing World

Related Career Path

Studying a business qualification opens doors into a wide range of employment paths e.g., Marketing, Customer Care, Teaching, Human Resources, Advertising, Accounting, Retail Management, Administration, Receptionist, Civil Service.

Higher Education

Most Business students leave to start a university degree or go directly into employment, utilising the many transferable skills acquired studying business.

Entry Requirements

GCSE Business Studies and/or GCSE Business Communication Systems are desirable but **not** essential.

Digital Technology (A-Level)

Digital Technology explores how information and communication technology is used to store, process and present information efficiently and accurately. This qualification is for students who are interested in current and emerging technologies and the impact they have on our business and social lives and who wish to utilise them effectively. It is likely to appeal to all, but particularly those students who enjoyed studying Digital Technology, Mathematics, Statistics, Double Award Science or Technology and Design at GCSE. . It is recommended to revise/ study three hours per week for this subject in addition to timetabled lessons and time spent on homework. A Level Digital Technology is recognised by UCAS, with up to 56 points allocated.

Course Content

The structure of the AS and A2 courses

AS (year 13)

- AS 1: Approaches to System Development. 50% of AS 20% of A level
- AS 2: Fundamentals of Digital Technology. 50% of AS 20% of A level

A2 (year 14)

- A2 1: Information Systems. 40% of A level
- A2 2: Application Development. 20% of A level

Related Career Path

There is a wide range of digital technology related courses available for further study at university. By completing the full GCE (both the AS and A2 courses) you will receive a good foundation to go on to further study at higher education.

A Level in Digital Technology provides a foundation for a wide variety of careers in the technology sector, covering roles in software development, data analysis, system design, locally and abroad. Belfast is a top global destination right now for Cyber security and fintech, employing over a thousand staff in high quality and highly paid jobs.

Further Education

Many of our former students have gone on to study any IT based third level course at university which has led to successful careers in the tech sector.

Entry Requirement

A minimum of a grade C in GCSE Digital Technology or GCSE Business and Communication Systems. A minimum of a Grade B in GCSE English and Maths.

English Literature (A-Level)

English Literature contributes to an understanding of spiritual, moral, ethical, social, and cultural issues. Students will be given opportunities to engage creatively with a substantial body of classical and contemporary texts. In addition, students will increase their critical understanding of the changing traditions of English Literature by reading widely and independently.

Course Content:

AS Part 1: The Study of Poetry 1900 – Present and Drama 1900 to Present

- Students explore and respond to a range of poetry by two poets (Robert Frost and Seamus Heaney) that they have studied. Students learn to analyse, evaluate, and compare.
- Students communicate their knowledge and understanding of a play (Tennessee Williams, "A Streetcar Named Desire") by a modern dramatist.
- External written examination: 2hrs.

AS Part 2: The Study of Prose Pre 1900

- Students communicate their knowledge and understanding of a novel (Mary Shelley's "Frankenstein").
- External written examination 1hr.

A2 Part 1: Shakespearean Genres

- Students analyse a single play from a chosen Shakespearean genre – Tragedy, Comedy, Problem Plays or Last Plays ("Othello"). Each question offers an extract as a basis for answering the question on the play.
- External written examination: 1hr 30mins.

A2 Part 2: The study of Poetry Pre 1900 and Unseen Poetry

- Students explore and respond to a range of poetry by a poet (John Donne) they have studied. They draw on the skills developed in their AS study of poetry.
- Students demonstrate critical skill and personal engagement in response to an unseen poem. Students analyse poetic methods to determine how poets shape meaning.
- External written examination: 2hrs.

A2 Part 3: Internal Assessment

- Students draw on skills developed in their AS study, in particular the study of prose pre 1900 in Unit AS 2, to effectively communicate their knowledge and understanding of the novel form. This unit encourages independent study, wider reading, and enjoyment of modern literature.
- Students engage in a detailed study of two novels, one of which must be a twenty-first-century novel. We encourage students to select their own novels, with teacher guidance and support. Students also explore the contexts in which each novel was written and analyse connections across the texts. The internally assessed essay helps students develop research abilities and writing skills.
- Students complete a 2500-word essay.

Related Career Path

The course offers opportunities to explore and develop literary interests and promotes an awareness of the socio-economic, political, historical, and cultural contexts which influence literature. Career paths which rely on communication, interpersonal and analytical skills can be enhanced by a study of English Literature.

Further Education

Many of our students may aspire to study English or Arts/Humanities-based degrees at university. Several former students have pursued courses in English Literature therefore opening numerous career opportunities.

Entry Requirements

GCSE English Grade C* grade is essential and GCSE English Literature Grade C is desirable.

Environmental Technology (A level)

This is a technology and science-based specification that focuses on technological solutions to the energy and environmental problems facing the world today. It highlights the need to manage our planet's resources more effectively and explores how our society will make the transition to a more sustainable way of living.

Course Content *(including assessment)*
This course includes a wide range of both technology and science-based content that is assessed through both internal and external assessment. This combination of assessment styles provides variation in how students can demonstrate their knowledge and understanding of the topics below.

Students study 2 units at both AS and A level:

AS (50% of overall A level grade)
AS1: The Earth's Capacity to Support Human Activity

- This is assessed through a 1.5 hour written exam
- It is worth 50% of AS grade and 25% of overall A level grade

AS2: Renewable Energy Technologies

- This is an internally assessed unit which involves the writing of a technical report based on a case study
- It is worth 50% of AS grade and 25% of overall A level grade

A2 (50% of overall A level grade)
A2 1: Building and Managing a Sustainable Future

- This is assessed through a 2 hour written exam
- It is worth 25% of overall A level grade

AS2: Environmental Building Performance and Measurement

- This is an internally assessed unit which involves the writing of a technical report based on a local building
- It is worth 25% of overall A level grade

Related Career Paths and Further/Higher Education
Environmental Technology will help students to make informed decision in everyday life and will lead to a range of opportunities in both higher education and employment in areas such as Civil Engineering, Environmental Planning/Management, Environmental Engineering, Conservation, Research positions, Civil Service/Government Positions etc.

Entry Requirements
Minimum Grade C in GCSE English and Maths is essential and a minimum C grade in one of the following is desirable: Technology and Design, DA Science, Geography.

Health and Social Care (A-Level)

Single Award/Double Award

The AS and A Level specification in Health and Social Care encourages candidates to:

- Develop and sustain an interest in health, early years care and education, social care and issues affecting the care sector
- Acquire knowledge and understanding of health, early years care and education
- Develop skills that will enable them to make an effective contribution to the care sector including skills of research, evaluation and problem solving in a work-related context
- Prepare for further study and training

Course Content

Single Award (1 A Level)	Double Award (2 A Levels)
AS 1 Promoting quality care (Internal Assessment) AS 2 Communication in Health, Social Care and Early Years Setting (Internal Assessment) AS 3 Health and Well Being (2hr Exam)	AS 1 Promoting quality care AS 2 Communication AS 3 Health and Well Being AS 4 Safeguarding Children AS 5 Adult Service Users AS 6 Holistic Therapies
A2 1 Applied Research (Internal Assessment) A2 3 Providing Services (2hr Exam) A2 4 Health Promotion (Internal Assessment)	A2 1 Applied Research A2 2 Body Systems Physiological Disorders A2 3 Providing Services A2 4 Health Promotion A2 5 Supporting the Family A2 7 Human Nutrition and Health

Career Paths

Further Education Routes

Social Work, Nursing, Teaching, Health related career pathways, Social policy, Health Promotion

Entry Requirements

Preference may be given to those students with the highest total points using the College Points System. Although GCSE Health and Social Care is not an entry requirement, if a student has studied GCSE Health and Social Care, their outcome will be taken into consideration on a case-by-case basis.

Desire to work in a health-related career.

History (A-Level)

Studying 'A' Level History provides pupils with the opportunity to explore key political, economic, and social events which have helped shape our world today. It builds upon understanding of the past and allows us to understand the impact of these events on our world today.

We learn about key historical figures and gain an understanding of how one person or event can shape the course of History. From studying the past, we can gain a greater understanding of the world in which we live.

Course Content

The course allows students to consolidate their knowledge and understanding gained at GCSE. This provides students with a solid foundation of knowledge on which they can build. Skills of source analysis and interpretation will be enhanced.

Student's study **two units** at both **AS** and **A2** level:

AS (40% of final A Level award)

AS 1 Germany 1918 – 1945 Weimar and Nazi Germany (20%)

AS 2 Russia 1914 – 1941 (20%)

A2 (60% of final A Level award)

A2 1 Clash of Ideologies 1900 – 2000 (20%)

A2 2 Partition of Ireland 1900 – 1925 (40%)

Assessment: 100% Examination

Related Career Paths

History is much more than learning about the past. It provides students with a wide range of skills which are transferable and highly sought by employers. Students can develop highly effective research skills and learn to prioritise and evaluate information. They can develop the self-confidence to form their own opinions and arguments which can be illustrated with both evidence and historiography. They will be able to write their arguments in a clear and coherent manner. Such skills are highly desired by employers and will benefit students in further education.

Many History students pursue interesting and rewarding careers e.g., police, media, politics, teaching, lecturing and business. As Professor Nicholls of Manchester University states: "With a history degree you can aspire to be prime minister, overlord of the BBC, famous lawyer, diplomat, accountant, famous comedian, business multimillionaire or celebrated pop musician." His research into the careers of thousands of History graduates has shown a disproportionate number of high-fliers. "Not only do History graduates enter a wide range of careers, but many also rises to the top."

Entry Requirements

A minimum of Grade B in GCSE History is desirable. Although History is not an entry requirement, if a student has studied GCSE History, their outcome will be taken into consideration on a case-by-case basis. A strong GCSE English grade is advantageous.

Medical Science (BTEC)

360 GLH- equivalent to 1 A-Level
Students will study three mandatory units and one optional unit.

Aim of the Course

This course provides a broad basis of study for the health and health Science Sector. It has been designed to support progression to higher education when taken as part of a programme of study that includes other BTEC Nationals or A-Levels.

Course Content

This is a 2 year course consisting of four units, 2 of which are exam based and 2 coursework.

Mandatory units:

Unit 1 Human anatomy, physiology and pathology	Externally assessed exam 25%
Unit 2 Health issues and scientific reporting	Externally assessed 33%
Unit 3 Practical Microbiology & Infectious diseases	Internally assessed 25%
Unit 4 Diseases, disorders, treatments & therapies	Internally assessed 17%

Related Career paths

With the focus on human physiology, health and disease, this course prepares students for work and/or further study in the health and social care sector. When combined with other qualifications within a two-year study programme, such as AS/A Levels or a BTEC National Foundation Diploma or a BTEC National Diploma in a complementary sector, learners can progress into higher education, such as:

- BSc (Hons) in Occupational Health if taken alongside Health and Social Care
- BSc in Nursing or Midwifery if taken if taken alongside Health and Social Care
- BSc (Hons) in Sport Science if taken alongside, for example, a Pearson BTEC Level 3 in Sport
- BSc (Hons) in Nursing if taken alongside A Levels in Psychology and Health & Social Care

Entry Requirements

- Minimum Grade C in English, Maths and C* in Science GCSE
- Desirable (and advisable): Grade CC minimum in Double Award Science and/or having taken Higher tier Biology at GCSE

Music Performance (BTEC)

This course is designed to develop a variety of key skills required to be a successful music performer. Students must be prepared for performing to an audience and be able to speak about their musical performances with confidence.

Course Content *(including assessment)*
This programme of study gives a broad overview of the Music sector, with a focus on performance, including musical skills development and professional practice. There are three mandatory units:

- Practical Music Theory and Harmony
- Professional Practice in the Music Industry
- Ensemble Music Performance

There is also one optional unit to be completed. This will be either Composing or Solo Performance.

This course is equivalent to one A Level.

There is internal and external assessment for this course. Learners must achieve a near pass or above in all mandatory external units and achieve a pass or above in all mandatory internal units. There are two external assessments as follows:

Professional Practice in the Music Industry
Task set by Pearson and completed under supervised conditions in a two-week period.
Ensemble Music Performance
Task set by Pearson and completed under supervised conditions. There is a written and performance element to this task.

Related Career paths
Students who study this course could choose to pursue a career in the Music industry. Examples of career paths would be performing, teaching, composing, music production, marketing, PR or music journalism.

Further/Higher Education
The content of this qualification has been developed in consultation with academics to ensure that it supports progression to higher education. Employers and professional bodies have also been involved to confirm that the content is appropriate and consistent with current practice for learners planning to enter employment directly in the Music sector.

The qualification carries UCAS points and combines well with a large number of subjects. For learners who wish to study an aspect of music in university, opportunities include:

- BMus (Hons) in Music
- BA (Hons) in Performing Arts
- BA (Hons) in Music Industry Management
- BA (Hons) in Music Business and Arts Management

Learners should always check the entry requirements for degree programmes with specific higher education providers.

Entry Requirements
Minimum Grade C in GCSE Music is desirable although not required. No prior study of Music is needed. A proficient performance level is required, and this may be assessed through an audition prior to a place being granted on this course.

Performing Arts Practice – Acting (BTEC)

There are two learning and teaching modules assessed through four assessment units, with each assessment unit attracting a grade. Learners must complete all mandatory assessment units and achieve a Pass grade or above in at least three assessment units.
This Performing Arts course is equivalent to 1.5 A Level grades. Learners will cover 4 units over two years and there is no written exam unit.

Year 13

Module B Acting Skills Development	B4 Exploring Performance Styles
Module F The Performing Arts Industry	F16 Planning a Career in the Industry

Year 14

Module B Acting Skills Development	B5 Creating Performance Material
	B6 Performing as an Actor for an Audience

Learners taking this qualification will study two mandatory learning and teaching modules:
• **Skills Development (Module B)**
• **The Performing Arts Industry (Module F)**
The mandatory content allows learners to concentrate on the development of their technical performance skills and creation techniques and relate them to the performing arts industry.

The course focuses on the development of performing arts skills such as:
• management of projects
• self-analysis and reflection
• appreciation of the performing arts industry and their future role in it

This course will enable students to acquire a range of practical skills, develop professional performance standards and gain a broad understanding and appreciation of the acting profession.

Related Career Path
Successful students may wish to pursue a career in the world of theatre, TV, film, radio, and entertainment. Employment opportunities also exist in arts administration, teaching, marketing, and arts therapy.

Further Education This qualification carries UCAS points and is recognised by higher education providers as contributing to admission requirements to many relevant courses. Learners can progress to higher education degree programmes, such as:

- BA (Hons) English with Theatre and Performance
- BA (Hons) Acting and Performance

Learners should always check the entry requirements for degree programmes at specific higher education providers.

Entry Requirements
Minimum Grade C in GCSE Drama or Merit in BTEC Level 2 Performing Arts is desirable. A proficient performance level is required, and this may be assessed through an audition prior to a place being granted on this course.

Public Services (BTEC)

This qualification is designed to support students who are interested in learning about the uniformed protective services sector. The uniformed protective services are defined as armed services, police, fire and rescue service and custodial services.
It gives students a broad basis of study, designed to support progression to higher education when taken as part of a programme of study that includes other appropriate BTEC Nationals or A Levels.
This course is the equivalent to 1 A-Level and students will study two mandatory units and two optional units.

Course Content

This is a 2-year course consisting of four units, 1 of which is exam based and 3 coursework.

Mandatory Units (67%)	**Optional Units (33%)** Students will study two optional units from the list below. One in year 13 and the other in year 14.
Unit 2 (Year13) Behaviour and Discipline in the Uniformed Protective Services Externally assessed **exam** **Unit 5** (Year14) Teamwork, Leadership and Communication in the Uniformed Protective Services **Coursework** Internally assessed	**Unit 13** Introduction to Criminology **Coursework** Internally assessed **Unit 15** Police Powers and the Law **Coursework** Internally assessed **Unit 19** Professional Development in the Uniformed Protective Services **Coursework** Internally assessed

Related Career Paths:

Successful students may wish to pursue a career in one of the uniformed protective services sectors such as the Police, Army, RAF or Fire Service.

Further Education:

This qualification carries UCAS points and is recognised by higher education providers as contributing to higher education degree programmes such as;

- BA (Hons) in Criminology and Psychology
- BA (Hons) in Social Work
- BA (Hons) in Policing
- LLB (Hons) in Law
- BSc in Nursing or Midwifery

Students should always check the entry requirements for degree programmes with the providers.

Entry Requirements:

C* in English Language is desirable. If over-subscribed, preference may be given to students who have studied GCSE History or Business Studies or have a desire to work in a uniformed protective services sector.

Religious Studies (A Level)

The CCEA GCE Religious Studies specification offers an academic approach to the study of religion, ethics, and philosophy. It gives students opportunities to develop their knowledge and understanding of religion.

The aims of the course are to develop interest and enthusiasm for religious studies, relate their studies to the local cultural and religious environment and to the wider world. Reflect on their own values, opinions, and attitudes. Advance their independent learning, critical thinking, and problem-solving skills. Develop advanced study skills and demonstrate through written communication that they can understand and evaluate key concepts.

Course Content

The course allows students to develop their knowledge and understanding gained at GCSE level and build upon that foundation.

Student's study **two units** at both **AS** and **A2** level:

AS (40% of final A Level award)

AS 1, An Introduction to the Gospel of Luke (20%)

AS 7, Foundations of Ethics with Special Reference to Issues in Medical Ethics (20%)

A2 (60% of the final A level award)

A2 1, Themes in the Synoptic Gospels (30%)

A2 7, Global Ethics (30%)

Assessment: 100% Examination

Related Career Path / Further Education

Religious Studies is a versatile subject that develops a student's ability to develop critical thinking skills, present arguments, develop communication skills and consider other points of view – all these skills are valuable for further education.

The A Level in Religious Studies offers an understanding and appreciation of human cultural, social and religious diversity.

Religious Studies is a relevant qualification for any job which involves working with other people.

The skills developed by studying Religious Studies are particularly useful for future careers in law, education, social work, politics, medicine, administration, or the media.

Entry Requirement

A minimum of Grade B in GCSE Religious Studies is **desirable** but not essential. A strong GCSE English grade would be helpful.

Sport (BTEC) – Single Award

Course Overview
The BTEC Level 3 National Extended Certificate in Sport (equivalent to 1 A level) is comprised of 4 units outlined below:

Unit 1 Anatomy and Physiology
Assessment – External Exam

This will be taught throughout the year and be assessed through an external exam in May.
You will have a chance to repeat the exam, if necessary, the following January.

Weighting; 30%
Exam marked out of 80
Time: 1.5hrs

Unit 2 Fitness Training and Programming for Health, Sport and Wellbeing
Assessment – External Exam

This will be taught in Year 14 and the exam will take place in January

Part A is a case study supplied prior to the exam
Part B is the exam using 4 pages of notes

Weighting: 30%
Exam marked out of 60
Time: 2.5hrs

Unit 3 Professional Development in the Sports Industry
Assessment – Internally Assessed

This unit will be taught and marked through a series of assignments set by your teacher.

Weighting: 20%

Unit 5 – Application of Fitness Testing
Assessment – Internally Assessed

This unit will be taught and marked through a series of assignments set by your teacher

Weighting: 20%

Entry Requirements:
Grade C in GCSE Physical Education, or, Level 2 Sport at Pass grade or above.

PATHWAY 1

A range of A Level and BTEC courses to choose from. In order to increase our curriculum provision, a number of these courses are delivered in Laurelhill Community College with some other courses being delivered in other school settings within the Lisburn Area Learning Community.

Courses Delivered in Other Schools within the Lisburn Area Learning Community (LALC)

Child-Care	(BTEC)	25
Engineering	(BTEC)	26
Hospitality	(BTEC)	27
Information Technology	(BTEC)	28
Life & Health Sciences	(A-Level)	29
Mathematics	(A-Level)	30
Media	(A-Level)	31
Moving Images Arts	(A-Level)	32
Technology & Design	(A-Level)	33
Travel & Tourism	(BTEC)	34

Child-Care - Children's Play, Learning and Development (BTEC)

Please note, the specification used by SERC will be updated in September due to changes beling made by the awarding body, but content of the course should remain largely unchanged.

This qualification gives an introduction to study of the sector. It is intended as an Applied General qualification and is equivalent in size to one A Level. It supports access to a range of higher education courses, possibly but not exclusively in the early years sector, if taken alongside further Level 3 qualifications. The content of this qualification has been developed in consultation with higher education to ensure it supports progression. In addition, employers and professional bodies have been involved in order to confirm that the content is appropriate for those interested in working in the sector. Learners will complete 50 hours' work experience in the sector.

Course Content

3 Mandatory Units:

- Children's Development
- Communication and Numeracy
- Play and Learning

1 Optional Unit can be selected:

- Physical development, care and health needs
- Keeping children safe
- The Early Years Foundation Stage

This qualification is assessed through two externally assessed units and two internally assessed units.

Related Career Path and Further Education

This qualification is primarily designed to support progression to employment via higher education. However, this qualification will also be relevant for those who choose to progress directly to employment in the following areas:

- Care Worker
- Child Minder
- Nursery Nurse
- Play Group, Nursery or Creche Assistants
- Out of School Childcare Worker

Entry Requirement

This will be at the discretion of the host school.

Engineering (BTEC)

Please note, the specification used by SERC will be updated in September due to changes beling made by the awarding body, but content of the course should remain largely unchanged.

This is BTEC Level 3 Extended Certificate provided by SERC. This qualification is intended for post-16 learners who want to continue their education through applied learning and who aim to progress to higher education and ultimately employment. It aims to provide a coherent introduction to study of the engineering sector. The Extended Certificate is equivalent in size to one A Level.

Engineering covers a broad variety of roles, and it involves the application of scientific principles and practical knowledge to transform ideas and materials into products and systems.

Course Content

Engineering principles

Engineering mathematics

Health and safety

Teamwork: interpreting and creating computer-aided engineering

Design and manufacture of products.

Related Career Path

Successful candidates would be able to enter employment in various positions in the Engineering Industry or progress into Higher Education.

Entry Requirements

This will be at the discretion of the host school.

Hospitality (BTEC)

Please note, the specification used by SERC will be updated in September due to changes beling made by the awarding body, but content of the course should remain largely unchanged.

This is BTEC Level 3 Subsidiary Diploma provided by SERC. The course is designed to equip students with the knowledge, understanding and skills required for success in immediate employment or for progression to a Foundation Degree. Students will develop transferable skills enabling them to meet the challenges of changes in business practice and the hospitality industry.

Course Content

Modules studied include:

- The Hospitality Industry
- Providing Customer Care
- Alcoholic Beverage Service
- Contemporary World Food
- Personal Selling
- Promotional Skills for Hospitality

Related Career Path and Further Education

This qualification allows students to progress to employment via higher education but is also suitable for those who choose to progress directly to employment in the following areas:

- Front Office Administration
- Front of House Hospitality
- Restaurant Supervisor
- Events Organiser
- Bar Supervisor
- Hotel Co-ordination

Entry Requirement

This will be at the discretion of the host school.

Information Technology (BTEC)

Information Technology (IT) involves the use of computers in industry, commerce, the arts and elsewhere. IT includes aspects of IT systems architecture, human factors, project management and the general ability to use computers. Increasingly businesses are implementing IT strategies to manage and process data both to support many business processes and to deliver new opportunities. This qualification has been developed in consultation with academics to ensure that it incorporates the most up-to-date knowledge and skills to enable progression to higher education. In addition, employers and professional bodies have been consulted on the content development to confirm its relevance to current industry practice used in IT and related occupational disciplines.

Course Content

Mandatory Units:

- Information Technology Systems
- Creating Systems to Manage Information
- Using Social Media in Business

Optional Units

One unit is selected from the following options:

- Data Modelling
- Website Development

This qualification is assessed through two externally assessed units and two internally assessed units.

Related Career paths and Further Education

The qualification, when studied with other level 3 qualifications, is aimed at progression to higher education. However, it also enables students to develop the knowledge and skills needed for entry level roles related to IT, including vocational apprenticeship roles and trainee/entry level roles such as a social media specialist, content developer, web developer or business analyst.
When studied at further or higher education, careers in the IT industry include; IT Helpdesk/Support, Business Analyst, Web Developer, Web Designer, Games Developer/Tester, Computer Network Specialist, Database Administrator, Software Developer, App Developer, Computer Hardware Engineer, Computer Systems Analyst, Information Security Analyst, IT Project Manager, Information Systems Management, Cloud Computing Engineer and Telecommunications Specialist.

Entry Requirements

This will be at the discretion of the host school.

Life and Health Sciences (A Level)

Life and Health Sciences specification was developed with industry in response to the needs of the growing life and health sciences sector in Northern Ireland. It builds on the knowledge, understanding and skills developed in KS3 Science and Double Award Science.

Course Content

The course is divided into 16 units: 6 units are available at AS level and 10 units at A2 level.

Compulsory Units include:
AS 1: Experimental Techniques

AS2: Human Body Systems

AS3: Aspects of Physical Chemistry in Industrial Processes

A2 1: Scientific Method, Investigation, Analysis and Evaluation

A2 2: Organic Chemistry.

Assessment methods:

Content	Assessment	Weighting
Unit AS 1: Experimental Techniques	Internal assessment Core unit	33.34% of AS 13.34% of A level
Unit AS 2: Human Body Systems	External written examination Core unit 1 hour 30 mins	33.33% of AS 13.33% of A level
Unit AS 3: Aspects of Physical Chemistry in Industrial Processes	External written examination Core unit 1 hour 30 mins	33.33% of AS 13.33% of A level
Unit A2 1: Scientific Method, Investigation, Analysis and Evaluation	Internal assessment Core unit	20% of A level
Unit A2 2: Organic Chemistry	External written examination 1 hour 45 mins Core unit	20% of A level

Relate Career Paths and Further Education

It gives students a sound basis for progression to higher education courses in Life and health science related industries. These make up over 25% of Northern Ireland's total economic output and include a diverse range of public and private businesses and employment opportunities, including pharmaceutical, chemical, agricultural, dental, nursing, environmental and allied health professions.

Entry Requirements

A minimum GCSE CC grade in Double Award Science is desirable.

Mathematics (A-Level)

This qualification aims to encourage students to: understand mathematics and mathematical processes in a way that promotes confidence, fosters enjoyment and provides a strong foundation for progress to further study. It also allows students to extend their range of mathematical skills and techniques, understand progression in mathematics and how different areas of mathematics are connected. Students will apply mathematics in other fields of study and be aware of the relevance of mathematics to the world of work and to situations in society in general. Furthermore, students will use their mathematical knowledge to make logical and reasoned decisions in solving problems both within pure mathematics and in a variety of contexts, and communicate the mathematical rationale for these decisions clearly.

GCE Mathematics builds on learning from Key Stage 4 and gives students opportunities to continue to develop the Cross-Curricular Skills and the Thinking Skills and Personal Capabilities, such as:
• Use mathematics to analyse and solve challenging problems
• Represent situations mathematically
• Use technology effectively
• Make deductions, inferences and conclusions
• Interpret solutions effectively

Course Content

Year 13
• Pure Mathematics e.g. algebra, sequences, vectors etc.
• Applied Mathematics e.g. statistics, mechanics, etc

Year 14
• Pure Mathematics e.g. geometry, differentiation, integration etc.
• Applied Mathematics e.g. moments, probability, impulse and momentum etc.

This qualification is assessed through:
• Pure Mathematics: Two examinations (60% of A-Level)
• Applied Mathematics: Two examinations (40% of A-Level – 20% Mechanics, 20% Statistics)

Related Career and Education Paths

Those who qualify in Mathematics are in the fortunate position of having a wide range of career choices. The ability to use logical thought, to formulate a problem to allow for computation and decision-making, to make deductions from assumptions and use advanced concepts, are all enhanced by a Mathematics degree. It is for this reason that mathematicians are increasingly in demand. With a Mathematics degree, you could enter Finance, Statistics, Engineering, Computing, Teaching or Accountancy with a success not possible to other graduates. This flexibility is even more important nowadays as we remain uncertain as to which areas will be the best for employment in future years. Computer Science has a considerable mathematical component which is becoming more important for developers to prove that software meets its specification.

Entry Requirements

A grade in GCSE Mathematics, including M4 and M8.

Media Studies (A-Level)

Through this A-level qualification, learners study a range of media forms in terms of a theoretical framework which consists of media language, representation, media industries and audiences. The following forms are studied through applying all areas of the framework: newspapers, magazines, television, online, social and participatory media. Advertising and marketing, film, music video, radio and video games are studied in relation to selected areas of the framework.

Aim of the Course

The media play a central role in contemporary culture, society and politics. They shape our perceptions of the world through the representations, ideas and points of view they offer. The media have real relevance and importance in our lives today, providing us with ways to communicate, and the ability to participate in key aspects of society. This course offers learners the opportunity to develop a thorough and in depth understanding of these key issues, using a comprehensive theoretical framework and a variety of advanced theoretical approaches and theories to support critical exploration and reflection, analysis and debate. The study of a wide range of rich and stimulating media products is central to the specification, offering opportunities for detailed analysis of how the media communicate meanings in a variety of forms. Learners will be offered a choice of briefs and forms within which to work, enabling them to explore and pursue their own media interests.

Course Content

(1) Media Products, Industries and Audiences
This is a 2hr 15min written exam which is worth 35% of the overall A-level grade.

(2) Media Forms and Products in Depth
This is a 2hr 30min written exam which is worth 35% of the overall A-level grade.

(3) Cross Media Production
This is an internally assessed unit which is based on a brief set by the exam board and it is worth 30% of the overall A-level grade.

Related Career paths

The media industries employ large numbers of people worldwide and generate significant global profit. This course can lead to careers in areas such as TV, radio, film or social media content writing, production and direction, researcher roles, journalism etc.

Further/Higher Education

This A-level qualification can lead to entry into the following areas at both further and higher education level: Advertising, Film studies, Communications, Advertising & Marketing and many more.

Entry Requirements

This will be at the discretion of the host school.

Moving Image Arts (A-Level)

Moving Image Arts offers you the unique opportunity to attend film school in school. It features projects and portfolio work which will help you to develop and refine your skills as a filmmaker. Areas of study encompassing a variety of different film styles and movements will broaden your experience of audio-visual culture and help to inform, inspire and contextualise your own creative ideas. MIA is an ideal choice for students wishing to pursue a career in the creative industries. It develops critical and creative abilities in all of the key creative areas of film production, including writing, directing, editing, producing and production design. While all students' creative work is grounded in film analysis from a range of disciplines and contexts, the subject also fosters and encourages independence, originality and experimentation.

This course is unique in the UK, giving students the opportunity to develop and refine their creative, technical and expressive skills as filmmakers and explore and analyse film styles and movements from around the world. Students develop an advanced critical and applied understanding of film language, exploring both formalist and realist styles and techniques taken from a variety of world film movements, practitioners and contexts.

Course Content

Year 13
- Realist and Formalist Techniques and the Classical Hollywood Style: Foundation Portfolio
- Critical Response

Year 14
- Creative Production and Research: Advanced Portfolio
- Advanced Critical Response

This qualification is assessed using:
- Two units of portfolio work (60% of A-Level)
- Two examinations (40% of A-Level)

Related Career and Education Paths

During this course, you will develop a range of skills that are valued in any career path that you pursue, for example team-working, organisational, and problem-solving skills. If you decide you would like to pursue a career in this area, there are many options at university to follow. For example:
- Film Production
- Video Arts Production
- Film and Video Arts Film
- Radio and Television Studies
- Broadcast Media
- Digital film and Animation

Entry Requirements

This will be at the discretion of the host school.

Technology and Design (A-Level)

The CCEA GCE Technology and Design specification encourages students to recognise and overcome challenges and constraints when working towards making high quality products.

This course encourages students to draw on their knowledge, understanding and skills in making processes and apply these to a range of technological and design activities. Students use digital technologies and information handling skills to enhance their technological and design capability. They also develop higher order thinking skills, such as creative thinking and problem-solving. This qualification gives students a sound basis for progression to higher education.

Course Content

The AS units include a common core of Design and Materials and a specialized study of Systems and Control (either electronic and microelectronic systems or mechanical and pneumatic systems); or Product Design.

The A2 units explore Systems and Control (either electronic and microelectronic systems or mechanical and pneumatic systems) or Product Design in greater detail than at AS level. The A2 course includes an internally assessed 'design-and-make' task.

In Year 13 there is a 2-hour exam worth 20% of the A-Level course and a design and make project which includes a ten-page A3 portfolio, also worth 20% of the course.
In Year 14 there is a 2-hour exam worth 30% of the A-Level course and a design and make project which includes a twenty-page A3 portfolio, also worth 30% of the course.

Related Career and Education Paths

Technology & Design can be used along with a combination of other subjects to lead into many different higher education courses or career paths such as:

- Engineering
- Product Design
- Graphical Design
- Fashion Design
- Architecture

Entry Requirements

This will be at the discretion of the host school.

Travel and Tourism (BTEC)

This qualification has been designed to provide an all-round introduction to the travel and Tourism sector and it is equivalent to 1 A-Level. It covers key knowledge and practical skills with a vocational focus.

Tourism is a vibrant, growing industry, particularly in Northern Ireland, where 40,000 people are employed in the Travel and Tourism sector. In this course you will have the opportunity to learn about an industry full of possibilities, to study places you may have only seen on TV and film and gain skills that are transferable to any sector of employment.

Course Content

Units Covered:
Unit 1: The World of Travel and Tourism

Unit 2: Global Destinations

Unit 3: The Principles of Marketing in Travel and Tourism

Unit 9: Visitor Attractions

You will be assessed throughout this course by a variety of assessment methods. Unit 1: is an external exam sat in January.
Unit 2: is an external task with research time given in class to make notes which can be brought into the task itself.
Units 3 and 9 are coursework -based assessments which will take the form of reports and presentations.

Related Career and Education Paths

Tourism and Hospitality has a huge scope for employment. By 2025 the UK tourism industry will be worth over £257 billion, around 10% of the UK GDP. The industry supports 3.8 million jobs and has a huge impact on the UK economy. It allows you to progress to Further/Higher Education, where you could study degrees or foundation degrees such as International Tourism Management, Aviation Management or Event Management. The course can also lead directly into a career in the airline industry, event management, within the cruise sector, marketing, as a resort representative or in a travel agency.

Entry Requirements

This will be at the discretion of the host school.

PATHWAY 2

Football Education Academy

Triple Award Sport (BTEC)

Alongside the delivery and completion of this triple award qualification, students in the FEA also benefit from the delivery of practical football sessions and strength and conditioning sessions. They also take part in a Primary School coaching programme.

BTEC Level 3 National Extended Diploma in Sport – Triple Award

The BTEC Level 3 National Extended Diploma in Sport is equivalent to 3 A levels. The course is comprised of 14 Units outlined below.

3 Elements of Course
Theory – Triple Award BTEC Sport
Practical (Football, Circuits and S&C)
Primary School Coaching

Unit 1 – Anatomy and Physiology

Assessment – External Exam
This will be taught throughout the year and be assessed through an external exam in May.
You will have a chance to repeat the exam, if necessary, the following January.
1.5 hours exam which is marked out of 80

Unit 2 – Fitness Training and Programming for Health, Sport and Wellbeing

Assessment – External Exam
This will be taught in Year 14 and the exam will take place in January
Part A is a case study supplied prior to the exam.
Part B is the exam using 4 pages of notes.
2.5 hours exam which is marked out of 60

Unit 3 – Professional Development in the Sports Industry

Assessment – Internally Assessed
This unit will be taught and marked through a series of assignments set by your teacher.

Unit 5 – Application of Fitness Testing

Assessment – Internally Assessed
This unit will be taught and marked through a series of assignments set by your teacher.

Unit 4 – Sports Leadership

Assessment – Internally Assessed
This unit will be taught and marked through a series of assignments set by your teacher.

Unit 7 – Practical Sports Performance

Assessment – Internally Assessed
This unit will be taught and marked through a series of assignments set by your teacher.

Unit 8 – Coaching for Performance

Assessment – Internally Assessed
This unit will be taught and marked through a series of assignments set by your teacher.

Unit 22 – Business in Sport and Leisure Industry

Assessment – External Exam
This will be taught in Year 14 and the exam will take place in January.
Part A is a case study supplied prior to the exam and Part B is the exam using 4 pages of notes.
Marked out of 64 Time: 3 Hours

Unit 23 – Skill Acquisition in Sport

Assessment – Internally Assessed
This unit will be taught and marked through a series of assignments set by your teacher.

Unit 9 – Research Methods in Sport

Assessment – Internally Assessed
This unit will be taught and marked through a series of assignments set by your teacher.

Unit 17 – Sports Injury Management

Assessment – Internally Assessed
This unit will be taught and marked through a series of assignments set by your teacher.

Unit 18 – Work Experience in Active Leisure

Assessment – Internally Assessed
This unit will be taught and marked through a series of assignments set by your teacher.

Unit 19 – Sports Development

Assessment – External Exam
This will be taught in Year 13 and the exam will take place in January
Part A is a case study supplied prior to the exam.
Part B is the exam using 4 pages of notes.
Marked out of 64 Time: 3 Hours

Unit 25 – Rules and Regulations in Sport

Assessment – Internally Assessed
This unit will be taught and marked through a series of assignments set by your teacher.

Admission Criteria

- Minimum of grade C in GCSE English and Maths
- Minimum of C grade in GCSE Physical Education or Level 2 Pass in Occupational Studies Sport & Leisure
- Minimum of 5 points using the Laurelhill Community College Admissions Point Structure (see page 3)
- Ability to play football/partake in a sport at high level (desirable)

Please note – if an applicant is felt to be better suited to pathway 1, they may be steered in this direction.

UCAS Information for University Entrance in September 2026

UCAS Tariff Points

Pearson BTEC Extended Diploma QCF		Pearson BTEC Foundation Diploma QCF		Pearson BTEC Extended National Certificate QCF		A Level		AS Level		A Level (Double Award) Advanced VCE (Double Award)	
Grade	**Points**	**Grade**	**Points**	**Grade**	**Points**	**Grade**	**Points**	**Grade**	**Points**	**Grade**	**Points**
D* D* D*	168	D* D*	112	D*	56	A*	56	A	20	A* A*	112
D* D* D	160	D* D	104	D	48	A	48	B	16	A* A	104
D* D D	152	DD	96	M	32	B	40	C	12	AA	96
DDD	144	DM	80	P	16	C	32	D	10	AB	88
DDM	128	MM	64			D	24	E	6	BB	80
DMM	112	MP	48			E	16			BC	72
MMM	96	PP	32							CC	64
MMP	80									CD	56
MPP	64									DD	48
PPP	48									DE	40
										EE	32

Pastoral Organisation in Sixth Form

Pastoral Care: Mrs Beckett, Senior Teacher
(Deputy Designated Teacher)

Head of Sixth Form: Mrs Duddy

Form Tutors:
Year 13:
Miss Adair Watson, Mrs Heaney
Year 14:
Mrs Armstrong, Mrs Sneddon, Mrs Kearney, Miss McDowell

Pastoral Issues: *e.g., medical/attendance.*
Contact the Form Tutor or Leader of Key Stage 5

Curriculum Issues:
Parents are advised to contact subject teachers in the first instance. The next contact point is the relevant Head of Department followed by Mrs McErlean, Senior Teacher for Curriculum.

Learning Agreement

Upon entry into 6th form, all students must sign a Learning Agreement. The Learning Agreement outlines agreed guidelines which all 6th Form students must follow within the College. If students qualify, they may apply for EMA (Educational Maintenance Allowance). Payment of this will also be reviewed through the use of the Learning Agreement.

Sixth Form students receive an annual report in January of Year 13. These reports will indicate progress and attainment in each subject studied. Form Tutors will also comment on their contribution to the extra-curricular life of the College and on their personal interests and achievements.

In addition to the Annual Report students will be closely monitored in each subject via regular Tracking assessments, the results of which are shared with students and are reported to Parents. These allow staff and parents to address concerns over effort and underachievement early.

Sixth Form students are expected to adhere to the School Behaviour Policy and should strive to be good role models to younger students.

All 6th Form Students must continue to study 3 subjects over the course of Yr13 and Yr14.

Entry back into Yr14 is dependent upon Yr13 performance in ALL areas.

Laurelhill Community College

Learning Agreement

Student Name: _____

Part I
An Educational Maintenance Allowance will continue to be paid to you if:

a. You continue to be on an eligible course during the specified time.
b. There is verification of progress regarding Assessment – internal and external during the specified time period.
c. The College Annual Profile indicates potential success in AS/ A2/BTEC Examinations.
d. Attendance is deemed to be 92% or above.

Part II

- I will complete work to the best of my ability and meet deadlines for the submission of assignments in all Key Stage 5 subjects. I will use 'non-contact' time for study and preparation.
- I will attend the College consistently and be punctual for classes, inclusive of Registration beginning at 8.55am.
- A note **will** be brought explaining absence **upon return to the College**.
- I will set a good example to other students in terms of my behaviour and general demeanour in keeping with established College Policy.
- I will wear uniform in accordance with the requirements of the College Prospectus.
- I will not leave the College without permission from my Form tutor/Head of Year or in their absence, a Senior Teacher.
- I will attend specified evenings as required such as the annual Open Evening, Mock Interview afternoon, the College Production, Prize Night and Parents'/Options afternoons.
- I will comply with any reasonable request made by the teaching staff or the Sixth Form Supervisor.
- I understand that failing to comply with these principles may lead to the withdrawal of a place in Laurelhill Community College and the completion of courses elsewhere.

Student Signature: _____

Student Enrolled ☐ **verified by:** _____

EMA Registration Number (if applicable): _____

January Bonus Awarded ☐ **June Bonus Awarded** ☐