

The Ilfracombe Academy 16-19 Programmes of Study

At Ilfracombe Academy Sixth Form, students who enter the Sixth Form should do so from an informed viewpoint, whether studying academic, applied or technical qualifications. Through a careful selection process involving the open evening, carefully structured applications, and a detailed pathway meeting, students have a study programme shaped around their attainment to date. This is informed by mock results, education and career goals and refined, in light of achieved grades before commencing Post 16 study, during formal enrolment. The core aim of study programmes is the achievement of substantial academic qualifications in the form of A-levels and applied and technical qualifications.

Where students gain entry to Sixth Form without English or Maths GCSE graded 9-4, we timetable sessions for them with specialist teachers to complete their qualifications as soon as possible. Re-sits are offered in November and June exam sessions.

'*Life in All it's Fullness*' is an important theme at our school and in our Sixth Form, and our morning tutorial session is designed to support this through 1:1 discussions between tutors and tutees. From Monday to Wednesday sixth form students have 10 minute 'purpose' conversations with their tutors on rotation so that every student will meet with their tutor every 3-4 weeks. Tutors give guidance about UCAS, apprenticeships and careers and may refer students for targeted conversations with our careers lead or an outside careers agency. Tutor time is also used for independent study and enrichment and life-skills sessions. On Friday morning the sixth form team meet to give feedback on all discussions, identify necessary support and raise concerns; this allows a joined-up approach to safeguarding, next steps, study and academic support and allows us to ensure that all students are well known to us. Our pastoral support and personal development education is supported by assemblies, external trips and lectures. Individual meetings with tutors and the Sixth Form team support progression towards the student's next steps in the direction of higher education, apprenticeships and work.

Our Sixth Form study programmes should include work experience and non-qualification activities which complement the other elements of the programme and support the student to progress to further or higher education or to employment. The non-qualification activity should develop students' character, skills, attitudes and confidence. Our Sixth Form students are expected to take part in a number of activities which provide them with the opportunity to develop a range of personal skills, for example participation the Duke of Edinburgh or Young Enterprise.

Students in Year 12 are expected to actively seek work experience placements by the end of the Summer Term. This is an expectation rather than being simply encouraged.

All students attend a University and Apprenticeship fair in Year 12. A range of speakers and visits are organised to support students in choosing their pathway Post-18, and *Next Steps South West* are available for further support.

Study programmes are focused on progression to a student's next steps of education, whether that is through traineeship, apprenticeship, higher education or other employment. We work closely with local providers and nation-wide establishments, to offer students a

comprehensive view on apprenticeships and employment. University visits, outreach visits and careers fair visits completes our programme of information on the next steps.