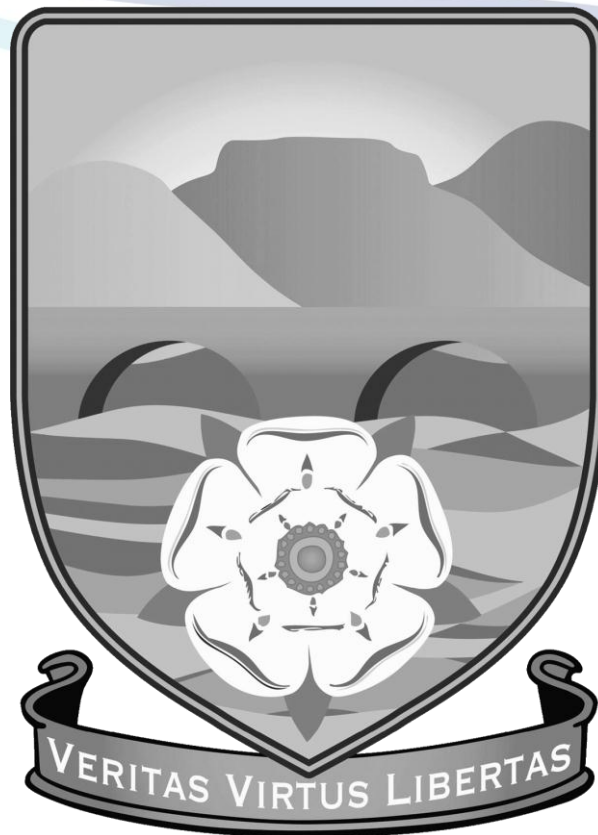


Settle College Sixth Form



Courses 2011

Settle College Sixth Form



Post-16 Choices Booklet



THE SIXTH FORM TEAM

Director of Sixth Form	Mr M Beer
Assistant Head of Sixth Form	Mr S Murphy
Post-16 Careers/Work Experience	Mr L Edwards/Ms H Fawcett
Tutors	Dr Williets Ms Holdsworth Ms Scott Ms Quick Ms Fisher

These members of staff will be able to help you if you have any questions regarding Post-16 courses.

INTRODUCTION

This booklet has been written to help you to make an informed choice about your immediate future. It raises issues which you should think about and discuss with your parents before you make a final decision; it gives information about the courses offered at Post-16; it outlines the subjects available and it tells you something about Post-16 life at Settle College.

Information and advice to supplement this booklet is widely available. Parents and friends can be helpful, although their views may not always be up-to-date. You should take your questions about Post-16 courses to Mr Beer, Mr Murphy or the Subject Leader of the subject concerned.

You can see Mr Beer and Mr Murphy in the office in the Sixth Form Centre, leave a message with Mrs Rushton in the Main School Office or email m.beer@settlecollege.n-yorks.sch.uk to arrange a meeting.

The Careers Room is a good starting point for research into careers and courses - it is open at lunch times and after College. You can also address

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your careers questions to Mr Edwards who liaises with Connexions to provide careers support.

Remember that, in the end, the decision is yours and you owe it to yourself to become as well informed as possible. Education is a life-long process, but decisions at this stage may well have far-reaching effects.

The Settle College Sixth Form

In May 2010 Settle College Sixth Form was graded as ‘good with outstanding features’ by OFSTED. Amongst other things OFSTED commented on the ‘exceptional range of opportunities’, the ‘excellent relationships and high levels of mutual respect’, the ‘calm, purposeful atmosphere for learning’ and the fact that ‘students are well cared for and guided by staff who know them well’. We were very pleased to receive such a positive assessment and our intention is to continue to build on this to ensure that we can be judged as outstanding across the board.

Our aim is to encourage excellence and offer a wide range of opportunities to our Sixth Form students.

Why should I stay on?

If you fall into one of the following categories, you should think seriously about a Post-16 course at Settle College:

- You need advanced qualifications before you can begin your chosen career or a course at University.
- You want more time to consider your future whilst adding to your academic qualifications.
- You want to improve your chances whilst waiting until you are old enough to begin training for your career.

All students will be given the opportunity to receive some managerial work experience and to improve their GCSE qualifications in English and Mathematics.

What all Post-16 students have in common is their realisation that the better qualified they are, the higher they are likely to climb in their career and the greater their earning potential. Once you have left College it becomes more

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difficult to gain qualifications.

What do Post-16 students do?

If you are thinking of continuing your full-time education at Settle College you will no doubt see this as an opportunity to gain further examination qualifications. The pursuit of qualifications is an important part of student life, but there's more to it than that!

As well as studying in your chosen area you will follow an **Extended Studies Programme** provided to ensure that all students follow a balanced curriculum. You have the opportunity to choose from a wide variety of Enrichment activities that, this year, include Essential World Film, Open University Courses (further details p7), Football, Basketball, Badminton, Fitness, Ultimate Frisbee, Public Art Project and the AQA Baccalaureate (further details p7).

The Extended Studies Programme also includes Personal, Social, Citizenship and Health Education (PSCHE) and is designed to enable you to develop your skills in such areas as:

- effective studying
- making written applications for university and jobs
- interview skills
- self confidence and well-being
- career planning
- effective communication

This programme also includes seminars from visiting speakers and a Sixth Form Enrichment Day programme. The programme has included a variety of activities ranging from University Open Day visits to seminars on the Middle East Conflict, Driving Safety, Politics in Britain in the 21st Century and Health Clinics.

We also ask our Sixth Form students to take an active leadership role within the College; this will include an hour a week of Community Help, negotiated by students, but often involving helping in a lower school lesson or extra-curricular activities like sport or drama clubs. Positive involvement in a wide number of activities is highly regarded by our staff, by University Admissions Tutors and by Personnel Officers.

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The nature of Post-16 work requires you to do more **independent work** than at GCSE. You must be willing to put in time over and above that required for lessons and you must begin to take some responsibility for your own knowledge and understanding.

Generally students are in Sixth Form lessons for 20 hours per week. You should expect to put in another 20 hours of independent study. In other words Post-16 education should occupy as much time as a full-time job. You need to bear this in mind when taking on part-time work.

You are responsible for planning the use of private study time. Learning to work effectively without supervision is an integral part of Post-16 life. You are also encouraged to take an interest in student affairs through the **Post-16 Committee**, and to play a full part in the wider life of the community. Although such activities are voluntary you should try to make a positive contribution to the well-being of the whole community.

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Sixth Form Work Experience – Management Shadowing

We aim to provide students on all Post-16 courses with the opportunity to take part in both block and extended work-experience schemes. The work experience is usually more vocationally oriented than that in the pre-16 part of the College. This means that your chosen placement will usually be directly linked to the work you intend to pursue as a career. Students are encouraged to be ambitious in their applications and the focus is on arranging a management shadowing placement. The value of effective work experience cannot be stressed too highly. For many careers and University courses this type of work experience is an entry requirement.

Examples of previous work experiences include:

BBC Newsroom, BBC TV Centre London

Airedale Hospital

RAF Leeming

North Yorkshire Police

Local Schools

Edinburgh Hospital

German Primary School

National Parks

Lancaster Chamber of Commerce

Manchester Royal Infirmary

Yorkshire County Council

Craven District Council

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Post-16 Curriculum

The Post-16 Curriculum is becoming increasingly varied and flexible and Settle College is pleased to be able to offer students the opportunity to study choices from a very wide range different subjects. These include a range of A Level and BTEC Diploma courses to enable students to find a suitable combination and balance of curriculum. Assessment and examination varies from subject to subject and you will find more information about each in the subject choices booklet. Use this, along with conversations with your subject teachers and Subject Leaders, to research your choices carefully.

Courses available from September 2011

The courses available are as follows:

- Art (AS and A2)**
- Applied Art and Design (AS and A2)**
- AQA Baccalaureate**
- Biology (AS and A2)**
- Chemistry (AS and A2)**
- Citizenship (AS and A2)**
- Cope Award**
- Economics and Business Studies (AS and A2)**
- English Language (AS and A2)**
- English Literature (AS and A2)**
- Extended Project Qualification (A2)**
- French (AS and A2)**
- Forensic Science (BTEC National Certificate and Subsidiary Diploma)**
- Further Mathematics (AS and A2)**
- Geography (AS and A2)**
- History (AS and A2)**
- ICT (AS and A2)**
- ICT (BTEC National Subsidiary Diploma and Diploma)**
- Mathematics (AS and A2)**
- Media Studies (TV and Film Production) (BTEC National Subsidiary Diploma and Diploma)**
- Open University Modules**
- Performing Arts (AS and A2)**
- Physics (AS and A2)**

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Product Design (AS and A2)

Psychology (AS and A2)

Sport (BTEC National Subsidiary Diploma and Diploma)

Open University Modules

We are also pleased to offer Open University modules for students who will benefit from study at an undergraduate level and are achieving well in their AS and A2 courses. These modules provide an opportunity for you to deepen your learning and pursue specialist interests as well as trying something completely new. The modules on offer include Arts and Humanities courses, Business and Management, Computing and ICT, Education, Engineering and Technology, Environment, Health and Social Care, Languages, Law, Maths, Social Science and Sport. Students will be given further details in the Autumn term of Year 12.

Since their introduction, we have achieved a 100% success rate in Open University modules including the following examples: Archaeology; Molecular Science; Spanish; Italian; Empire of the Microbes; Perspectives on Leonardo da Vinci; Elements of Forensic Science and Understanding Cardiovascular Diseases.

AQA Baccalaureate

This qualification will be offered to students who have achieved a high level at GCSE. It incorporates your A Level choices, an Enrichment Diary and adds an additional AS qualification in Citizenship as well as an Extended Project which counts for half an A2 course. The AS Level qualification in Citizenship covers issues of Identity, Rights and Responsibilities, Democracy and Active Citizenship. Students choose their own title and research area for the Extended Project.

Settle College Sixth Form Centre

Sixth Form students enjoy a brand new Sixth Form Centre complete with wireless networking, a bistro facility and a bank of Sixth Form computers. These facilities provide an excellent learning space for study periods, a social space for break and lunchtimes and sustenance from the bistro to keep energy levels high. The Sixth Form Centre also serves as a cinema with projector and sound system for enrichment lessons.

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Sixth Form Library

The school library will be completely refurbished for September 2012 to include a designated Sixth Form Study Area with a bank of Sixth Form computers for Year 12 and Year 13 students.

Laptops for Students Scheme

We are pleased to work with the E-Learning Foundation to offer Sixth Form students a “Laptops for Students Scheme” which gives them access to the best educational software and equipment at home and at College. This scheme allows students to lease a netbook for the duration of their Sixth Form studies. Further details will be given to students in the Autumn Term of Year 12.

Sixth Form Bursary Fund

The 16-19 Bursary Fund exists to help students in financial need in Sixth Form education. This has replaced both the Education Maintenance Allowance and the discretionary Learner Support Funding. Further details will be given to students in the Autumn Term of Year 12.

Final Thoughts

Your personal enjoyment, previous successes and future aspirations will obviously influence your choice of subjects. However, you should check that your choice is consistent with the qualifications required for your intended career or course in Higher Education. The Director and Assistant Head of Sixth Form will be able to provide information about the requirements for particular Higher Education courses or careers. If your future is undecided, then choose a broadly-based but coherent combination of subjects which enables you to keep your options open. Do not be unduly alarmed if your future is unclear; for many careers and courses the level of achievement and the intellectual training involved in your Post-16 courses are more important than the actual combination of subjects.

Although your final choice of subjects may be delayed until you know the examination results in August, you should think about possible combinations in which you may be interested. In the Spring Term, you will have the

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opportunity to talk about your choices with a member of the Sixth Form Interview Team.

Excellence and Opportunity

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The Application Process 2011-12

Friday 16th December	Sixth Form Taster Day
Friday 20th January	Deadline for Application Forms
From Monday 5th March to Friday 16th March	Interviews for Year 11 Students to discuss Post-16 choices
Friday 27th April	Post-16 Offers Published
From Monday 30th April	Supplementary Interviews for students with option queries
May	Year 11 Study Leave for GCSE Exams
Thursday 23th August	GCSE Results Day
Friday 24th August	Year 12 Enrolment Day

Sixth Form Taster Day – Friday 16th December 2011

This day gives Year 11 students the opportunity to sample Post-16 courses. Students will hear from Post-16 students and the Sixth Form team about the life of a Sixth Form student and be able to speak to staff about their choices.

Application Form – deadline Friday 20th January 2012

When you have researched your choices you should complete an application form and return it by Friday 20th January 2012. This allows us to gauge the demand for courses as we plan the timetable for September 2012. There is space for reserve choices should you be undecided on your final combination of subjects. Whilst we can't guarantee that every student will be able to study their chosen combination, we have been very successful in the past in constructing a timetable that allows the vast majority of students to do so.

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Interviews

All applicants will be interviewed and parents are invited to attend. After the interview process has been completed offers will be published on Friday 27th April 2012.

GCSE results – Thursday 23rd August 2012

The College will be open on GCSE results day, Thursday 23rd August. When you come in to collect your results a Sixth Form staff team will be here if you need to discuss possible courses.

Enrolment Day – Friday 24th August 2012

All students need to enrol on 24th August and we are unable to guarantee places on specific courses if you do not enrol at this time. Please try to avoid being on holiday on this day. If this is unavoidable you must discuss your enrolment and subject choices with Mr Beer before the end of the Summer term.