

# Picking subjects at A Level and making an "Informed Choice"

September 2024 Entry

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# Welcome

Welcome to this guide which will hopefully allow you to make and informed decision when completing the daunting task of picking the subjects you're likely to study at A Level with us at Netherthorpe.

I hope, by visiting our open evening, you're already in agreement that Netherthorpe Sixth Form is a fantastic place to study and that you're as excited to start with us as we are to have you join us.

The information from this guide has been collated from multiple sources and is correct at the time of production (November 2023). I would always recommend students, particularly those looking to study at University, check the entry requirements for the course/career they are wanting to pursue.

As part of our applications process we will ask you if you have any career ideas in mind. The reason we do this is to allow us, as part of the application process, to help you ensure you pick the correct subjects. This is something our staff will discuss with you when we invite you in for an informal chat about your application early on in 2024.

Please take the time to have a look at the essentials and helpful subject pick when making your application and also take a few minutes to read the "3 vs 4 A Levels" section.

Please email <u>SixthForm@netherthorpe.derbyshire.sch.uk</u> if you have any questions and I look forward to receiving your application to us.

Greg Mason Director of Post 16

Netherthorpe Sixth Form

# 3 vs 4 A Levels

To put this simply Universities and Employers only ever want 3 A Levels, fact. Even the top universities in the country such as Oxford or Cambridge only list 3 on their entry requirements.

This is always a divisive discussion. Often students will be of the view that if they have 4 A Levels it makes them "look better" to universities or employers. Sadly, this is one of those myths that isn't true. When looking at your entry criteria universities will only look at the best 3. If the best one isn't an essential subject it may cause a problem.

Whilst some students that pick 4 subjects go on to do very well with them and have achieved 4 outstanding results, some sadly find the workload too much and it can result in them underperforming in 1 or more of their subjects. Sadly, this is something that still has to be disclosed on all future applications.

There is, however, an exception to picking 3 A Levels and that is Further Maths. The nature of this subject allows for students to complete an AS Level exam at the end of Y12 and then not continue the course into Y13 if they so wish. To allow this to happen Further Maths needs to be picked as a 4<sup>th</sup> Subject.

Some students feel that it gives them more points for university. This can be the case, however, not all universities want points. A lot, particularly on very competitive courses, will opt for Grades and as such getting BBBB instead of the AAB that's required won't help sadly. As such it's very much worth having a look at a few courses with universities and see what they need for you to study with them.

A great place to check is <u>www.ucas.com</u>. This website not only has information on university courses but also looks at different levels of apprenticeships and careers as well.

Our view is only pick 3. It will not limit you in any way. If anything, it gives you more time to work on your subjects and ensure you perform better. If you're Netherthorpe Sixth Form 5

still unsure just ask when we invite you in for a chat. You can change your subjects at many different opportunities right up until September 2023.

If you do need any further advice prior to applying though just email us on <u>SixthForm@netherthorpe.derbyshire.sch.uk</u> and we'll be happy to help as best we can.

# I'm not sure what I want to do after Sixth Form

No problem. You're certainly not alone! Even if you hear your friends confidently laying out their career plans for the future it doesn't mean that they will definitely go down that route. People's views change as time goes on.

This booklet just has a look at a few different routes based on what you might like doing at the moment. Think about your latest Year 11 report, which subjects do you like and are they the ones that you are doing your best in? Could you see yourself studying those subjects and looking at the career options that go with them?

We'll run you through some options here which we've taken from the Russell Group's Informed Choices service (<u>www.informedchoices.ac.uk</u>). Have a look at them and use them as a rough guide only. You can combine subjects from different pathways to leave your options a little more open too.

As a Netherthorpe Sixth Form student we provide fantastic careers advice and can offer appointments with our external careers advisor who visits on a weekly basis.

We will provide support for whatever your destination whether it's University, Apprenticeships, Employment or even studying abroad or taking a Gap year.

### Science & Maths

Degrees in sciences, technology, engineering and maths are sometimes referred to as STEM degrees. For these courses, universities often expect you to have studied specific subjects at school or college, or a specific combination of subjects. The sciences – chemistry, biology or physics – and maths, including further maths, are a good place to start.

While some courses want applicants, who have focused on these sorts of subjects at sixth form or college, it's worth bearing in mind that others may

prefer applicants to have studied a variety of subjects. For example, one or two science subjects, plus art, English, music, history and/or a language. Make sure you check specific course requirements carefully.

Many STEM degrees fall into one of three disciplines: biological and life sciences, physical sciences (which includes engineering) and medicine, dentistry and veterinary sciences.

**Biological & Life Sciences** 

Biochemistry, biomedical sciences, environmental sciences, (physical) geography and pharmacology are some examples of biological and life sciences degrees. Some of these courses are geared towards specific careers, for example, working as a pharmacist or dietician, while others place a strong emphasis on research, such as biochemistry or pharmacology.

Taking chemistry and biology at school can help students access a wide range of these degrees.

#### **Physical Sciences**

Physics, materials science, forensic, archaeological sciences and geology are just some examples of physical sciences degrees.

Students interested in these types of courses may be expected to have studied maths, physics, biology and/or chemistry, although you may also be able to take an arts subject, for example, or a language. Check individual universities' requirements carefully.

#### Medicine, dentistry & veterinary sciences

Medicine, dentistry and veterinary science degrees are competitive.

For medicine, if you do chemistry, biology and one from maths or physics you will keep all the medical schools open to you. If you do chemistry and biology,

you will keep open the vast majority. If you do chemistry and one from maths and physics, you will significantly reduce your range of choices.

For dentistry, most courses require chemistry and biology, but some require maths or physics as well.

For veterinary science, taking chemistry and biology and one from maths or physics should leave all universities offering this subject open to you. For some courses, it may be possible to include a non-science or non-maths subject in your overall combination but check carefully.

Some medicine and dentistry courses also use admissions tests such as the UK Clinical Aptitude Test (UKCAT) or the Biomedical Admissions Test (BMAT). Work experience can also help you better understand these professions and give another dimension to your university application.

Find out more from British Medical Association, British Dental Association or British Veterinary Association.

### Social Sciences

Social sciences include anthropology, business, economics, (social/human) geography, law, politics and sociology. These degrees involve the study of human society and social relationships.

The topics social scientists study vary a lot, which means that subject requirements vary a lot too. For example, maths may be considered good preparation for courses that involve frequent use of statistics, such as economics, but won't be necessary for others. For some social science degrees, such as geography, some universities may expect you to have taken the same subject at school, while others won't. Other courses have no requirements but may suggest subjects that could be useful.

#### Creative Arts

Music, photography, art, dance, drama, film-making, design and fashion are all examples of creative arts degrees. Studying similar subjects at school or college may be useful and you should consider what other preparations can support your choice. This could involve taking music performance grades, building up an art portfolio through a foundation course or attending an audition, workshop or interview. Whatever subject you're choosing, make sure you check what additional experience and skills are required to study it.

Humanities (The Study of Human Culture)

Humanities degrees involve the study of human culture. English literature, history, philosophy and geography are some examples.

Some courses may require you to have studied the subject at sixth form or college, which is often the case with history and English literature. Others have no specific requirements but may suggest taking related subjects as good preparation. Maths can be useful for some subjects, for example if you are interested in pursuing a degree in philosophy.

#### Languages

At university you can study languages from around the world, from French, German or Spanish, to Russian and Japanese. There are also opportunities to study a language alongside a second subject as part of a joint honours degree.

Some courses will require you to have experience of that particular language. For others, experience studying a different language may be enough and you may be able to start a new language from scratch. Joint language degrees (such as French and Spanish, for example) do not always require you to have studied both before you get to university. Check the subject requirements for individual courses carefully.

### Combined Degrees (Studying more than 1 subject at University)

Many degrees are available as part of a joint, multiple or combined honours programme, where students take more than one subject at the same time, combined into a single degree. Common examples include French and Spanish, maths and computer science or politics and international relations. Some degree courses allow students to create bespoke programmes incorporating both arts and sciences subjects. These kinds of options offer students a range and depth of knowledge with greater control over their own learning. You will be expected to meet the requirements of all the subjects you wish to combine.

# Subject pathways

The following pages will run through a number of different career pathways and provide suggestions for useful combinations when thinking about that pathway yourself. The information is provided from the Russell Group's Informed Choices service (<u>www.informedchoices.ac.uk</u>). Please make sure you look at all information such as UCAS before making your final choices and don't just look at 1 university. You'll need to pick 5 when applying to have a look at a few different places.

If you know what career you want to study this section will hopefully provide you with sufficient information to pick your subjects when applying to Netherthorpe Sixth Form.

Notes	Essential	Helpful/Useful
Accountancy This subject involves studying corporate finance and reporting, financial markets, and business law. It also covers economics and statistical analysis. Please note: while Maths is very useful in	None usually	Maths (not essential but could be very useful)
accountancy, it's only essential for one or two universities.		
Actuarial Science This subject applies mathematical skills to social sciences to solve important problems for insurance,	Maths is usually essential.	Social Sciences may be useful but not essential. Subjects like Sociology, Psychology, Politics or Geography.

### Accountancy & Actuarial Science

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government, commerce, industry and academic research.	
An interest in mathematics and analysis of statistics is a must. Useful skills include the ability to apply logic and the manipulation of data.	

# Aeronautical Engineering

Notes	Essential	Helpful/Useful
This type of engineering includes research, design, development, construction, testing, science and technology	Maths and Physics	Design and Technology: Engineering may be useful but not essential.
of aircraft.		

### Archaeology

Notes	Essential	Helpful/Useful
This subject involves	None but BSc routes	Biology, Chemistry,
the study of ancient	usually require a	French, Geography,
societies, through	Science subject – check	History, Maths,
historical sites,	out some courses	Physics, Philosophy &
structural remains,	when deciding at	Ethics & Spanish may
bones, tools and other	UCAS.	help but aren't
artefacts, and can use		essential. Check
the past to tackle the		science requirements
challenges of the		with particular courses
present.		though.

### Architecture

Notes	Essential	Helpful/Useful
This brings together	Usually none	There are usually no
elements of maths and		essential subjects, but
engineering, as well as		an art/science mix in
creativity and an		preferred. A portfolio
understanding of		is essential.
modern technology,		Maths may help.
social issues and		
cultural trends.		

### Art & Design

Notes	Essential	Helpful/Useful
This subject provides	Usually none but art	Art.
an opportunity to learn	and design subjects are	
about the theory and	preferred.	History may be of use
practice of art and		if looking at an Art
design and develop		History route plus it
creative and analytical		gives the added bonus
skills. This can involve		of increased written
working in a range of		skills.
media, such as		
drawing, painting,		
digital media and		
photography.		
Most entrants onto art		
and design degrees will		
have done a one-year		
art foundation course		
after completing sixth		
form.		

### Biochemistry

Notes	Essential	Helpful/Useful
This looks at the	Chemistry is usually	One of these subjects
chemical processes	essential for all	could be used as a
that exist within living	courses.	second science:
organisms, bringing		Biology
together biology and		Physics
chemistry. It covers a		Maths
range of disciplines		
such as genetics,		
microbiology, forensics		
and plant science.		
Some universities may		
also ask for a pass in		
the practical element		
of each science taken.		

# Biology (Including Zoology and Marine Biology)

Notes	Essential	Helpful/Useful
This is the study of life	Biology is usually	A second science is
and living organisms.	essential for all	usually required, such
Along with biological	courses.	as:
sciences, it covers a		Chemistry
range of specialist		Computer Science
subjects, from		Geography
anatomy to ecology		Maths
and microbiology to		Physics
zoology.		Psychology
		But check with
In addition to the		individual universities
subject combinations		to be sure.
below, you may find		
that a few universities		

specify two sciences as	
part of their offer.	

### **Biomedical Science**

Notes	Essential	Helpful/Useful
This looks at how	Biology	Maths and Physics.
biology-based science		PE may be useful as a
can be applied for	Chemistry is essential	third option if
medical use. This type	for quite a number of	Maths/Physics aren't
of course provides a	courses.	required.
general grounding in		
physiology,		
pharmacology, cell		
biology, anatomy		
and/or genetics, for		
example.		

### Business Studies & Marketing

Notes	Essential	Helpful/Useful
This degree course can	None	Business Studies,
be theoretical,		Maths, ICT, Politics,
covering economics,		Sociology may all help
politics and sociology,		but usually aren't
or more focused on		essential.
the skills and practices		
of business – such as		
accounting, finance,		
marketing, logistics		
and human resources.		
Some universities may		
require GCSE maths at		
grade 7 or 6.		

### Chemistry

Notes	Essential	Helpful/Useful
This is the study of	Chemistry. Usually	Some courses may like
matter – what it's	Maths as well. Maths is	a second Science.
composed of and its	essential if looking at	Biology or Physics may
structure, properties	Chemical engineering.	be useful. Physics more
and its reaction and		so if looking at
changes when exposed		Chemical Engineering.
to different situations.		

# Civil Engineering

Notes	Essential	Helpful/Useful
This degree teaches	Maths and possibly	Biology
the skills needed to	one from the	Chemistry
work as a civil	Helpful/Useful section	Geography
engineer. This means	depending on course	Physics
being involved in the	requirements.	
design, construction		
and maintenance of		
roads, bridges,		
pipelines, processing		
plants, buildings and		
harbours. It involves		
the application of		
physics, maths and		
mechanics to		
structural design.		

### **Computer Science**

Notes	Essential	Helpful/Useful
This degree involves	Maths and Computer	Some may put
studying how	Science	Computer Science as
computer programmes		not essential however
work, how users		it will provide a
interact with them and		significant advantage.

designing new systems	
using programming	
languages. It also	
involves working on	
new technology such	
as 3D printing and	
artificial intelligence.	

### Dentistry

Notes	Essential	Helpful/Useful
This course, typically	Biology & Chemistry	Computer Science,
lasting five years, is the	are usually essential.	Maths or Physics could
first step to qualifying		also be useful.
to practice as a dentist.		
It involves studying		
anatomy, physiology		
and biochemistry		
alongside placements		
to learn practical skills,		
such as taking a		
medical history,		
conducting dental		
examinations and		
deciding on		
appropriate treatment.		
Alongside good grades		
in the right subjects,		
some dentistry courses		
use admissions tests		
such as the UK Clinical		
Aptitude Test (UKCAT)		
and the Biomedical		
Admissions Test		
(BMAT). Check specific		
entry requirements		
carefully.		

Undertaking work	
experience can also	
help you better	
understand the	
profession and give	
another dimension to	
your university	
application.	
Find out more about	
becoming a dentist	
from the British Dental	
Association.	
Our Headteacher	
personally mentors'	
students with their	
applications to	
Medicine, Dentistry &	
Veterinary Science and	
even supports students	
onto these courses in	
other schools.	

### Drama

Notes	Essential	Helpful/Useful
A degree in drama can	An arts or humanities	Many universities do
cover a whole range of	subject is usually	not require specific
disciplines, such as	essential	subjects at advanced
analysing plays,		level, but some do so
performance skills,		check carefully. Some
musical theatre,		universities may ask
costume design or		you to attend an
stage management.		audition, workshop or
		interview.
		A range of different
		extra-curricular

activities can help you prepare for auditions,
such as drama and
dance groups.

### Economics

Notes	Essential	Helpful/Useful
Economics is the study	Maths	Politics, Business
of how people		Studies or Geography
produce, use and		may be useful.
distribute resources. It		
requires analytical		
thinking and covers		
politics, marketing and		
geography.		

### Education/Education Studies and Teaching

Notes	Essential	Helpful/Useful
This subject looks	There are no essential	For secondary teaching
beyond the teaching in	subjects usually.	it may be beneficial to
schools, colleges and		look at the subject you
universities to		may want to specialise
education across all		in.
social institutions,		
including the		
workplace and in		
families.		

# Engineering (General, Electrical or Mechanical)

Notes	Essential	Helpful/Useful
General engineering provides a broad core study of engineering while also enabling students to specialise in a specific area of interest.	Maths & Physics	A Second science such as Chemistry, Biology or Computer Science could be useful.

# English

Notes	Essential	Helpful/Useful
A degree in English language and literature is designed around reading texts analytically and critically, and looking at the signs and words surrounding us every day.	English Literature is usually essential.	English Language
Some English degrees focus equally on the literature and language sides, while others specialise in one or the other; this will usually be clear from the course title.		

### Environmental Science/Studies & Geology/Earth Sciences

Notes	Essential	Helpful/Useful
Environmental Science	Two of these subjects	
- This incorporates the	are usually essential:	
study of the Earth's	Biology	
physical, chemical and	Chemistry	
biological processes, as	Geography	
well as the social,	Maths	
political and cultural	Further Maths	
developments that	Physics	
impact the planet.	Psychology	
Geology/Earth		
Sciences - This is the		
study of how the earth		
was formed and		
shaped over time and		
has applications in		
environmental		
research, oil and gas		
exploration, the water		
industries, mapping		
and remote sensing		
and engineering.		

### Food & Nutritional Sciences

Notes	Essential	Helpful/Useful
This is the study of	Two sciences are	Food may help but
nutrition to optimise	usually essential,	isn't essential. PE may
health through food.	preferably Biology &	also support but isn't
Many nutrition and	Chemistry	essential.
dietetics courses		
include practical		
placements in		
hospitals and provide		
the opportunity to		

study alongside	
doctors, nurses,	
pharmacists and other	
health professionals.	

### Geography

Notes	Essential	Helpful/Useful
This subject explains	Geography	No specific other
the world around us		subjects.
and the impact of both		
natural and man-made		
factors and events.		
Options include		
physical geography		
(the study of physical		
processes and natural		
environments) or		
human geography		
(concerned with		
human societies and		
the relations between		
people and planet).		

### History

Notes	Essential	Helpful/Useful
This degree involves	History	No specific other
analysing the overall		subjects. Art may be
impact of historic		beneficial if studying
events, trends and		Art History or History
artefacts on the world.		of Art.

Notes Essential Helpful/Useful This subject (called There are usually no History, English Jurisprudence at the essential subjects, but (Literature), French or University of Oxford) essay-based subjects Spanish (these allow looks at almost every may be useful for study abroad as area of human life, part of a combined touching upon issues degree) may help for relating to business, some courses but economics, politics, aren't usually essential. Despite the the environment, human rights, myth Criminology or international relations Law. A Levels aren't required – The content and trade. of the Criminology A Level are covered in great depth through Sociology and Psychology.

#### Maths

Law

Notes	Essential	Helpful/Useful
This degree generally	Maths – Further Maths	Physics may be useful
involves a combination	may be essential at	but no other subjects
of pure (theory and	some top universities	are usually essential.
abstract) and applied		
(practical application		
to the world)		
mathematics, but		
some universities offer		
the chance to		
specialise in one or the		
other.		

### Media Studies

Notes	Essential	Helpful/Useful
This subject covers a	None usually	Media Studies, English
wide range of media		Language (This
degree courses. Some		becomes essential if
focus on media and		looking at Journalism)
culture in society while		
others include practical		
elements, such as TV,		
film and radio		
production, script		
writing or journalism.		

### Medicine

Notes	Essential	Helpful/Useful
This is a demanding	GCSE Grades are also	No specific subjects,
course, typically lasting	looked at as part of	however subjects like
five years, which looks	applications and	Physics or Maths will
at how the human	applicants without	never have a negative
body works, the	very high GCSE results	effect on an
principles of disease	(Grades 8 & 9) are	application.
processes and	unlikely to secure a	
introduces clinical	place.	
procedures. There is		
also the option to	Biology and Chemistry	
specialise in an area	are usually essential.	
such as anaesthetics,		
radiology, paediatrics		
or general practice.		
Medicine courses are		
competitive and		
course requirements		
vary. Alongside good		
grades in the right		
subjects, some		

Medicine courses use admissions tests such as the UK Clinical Aptitude Test (UCAT) and the Biomedical Admissions Test (BMAT). Check specific entry requirements carefully.	
Many different types of activity can support your application including volunteering, work experience and paid employment. Find out more from the Medical Schools Council.	
Our Headteacher personally mentors' students with their applications to Medicine, Dentistry & Veterinary Science and even supports students onto these courses in other schools.	

### Modern Languages

Notes	Essential	Helpful/Useful
A Language degree	French and/or Spanish	Language degrees can
develops written and		often be studied as a
spoken language skills,		combination route.
while learning more		This allows it to be
about different		combined with
Countries' history,		another subject. As
literature and culture.		such you'll need to
		meet the entry for that
Courses often include		subject too. Check the
time abroad studying		relevant subjects you
at a university or		want to combine it
teaching.		with.

### Music

Notes	Essential	Helpful/Useful
There are a wide range	Music is usually	
of music courses	essential; however, a	
available that offer the	lot of courses will	
chance to improve	accept a practical	
performance skills,	Grade 8 instead e.g.	
learn composing or	ABRSM.	
conducting or learn		
music production		
techniques. There is		
also the option to		
study a variety of		
musical styles including		
classical (early to		
contemporary), jazz,		
popular music and		
electronic music.		

# Nursing & Midwifery

Notes	Essential	Helpful/Useful
This subject teaches	There are usually no	Health and Social Care
students the clinical	essential subjects, but	as either the Single or
skills they need to	some courses may ask	Triple have proven
work as a nurse or a	for one from:	significantly useful in
midwife. Courses will	Biology, Chemistry,	the past for students
often be split between	Maths, Physics,	who have applied for
learning in university	Psychology.	this route.
and working in a		
hospital/other medical		
setting, or in the		
community.		

### Optometry

Notes	Essential	Helpful/Useful
This is the study of the science of the eye. Students learn how to examine eyes and correct sight problems, as well as identifying diseases such as diabetes, high blood pressure and glaucoma.	Two of these subjects are usually essential: Biology, Chemistry, Maths or Physics	

### Pharmacology

Notes	Essential	Helpful/Useful
This is a branch of	Biology & Chemistry	
medicine and is	are usually essential.	
concerned with the		
uses and effects of		
drugs and the way they		
interact with the		

human body. This	
includes gaining	
specialist knowledge of	
how drugs are	
developed for human	
use and how they can	
sometimes have	
unwanted effects.	

### Philosophy/Religious Studies/Theology

Notes	Essential	Helpful/Useful
This involves studying the ideas of great thinkers, examining their arguments and voicing your own opinions. Topics		Helpful/Useful Philosophy & Ethics, Politics and Sociology would all help. English Language and History may support
include ethics (the nature of right and wrong), metaphysics (the relationship between appearance and reality) and the mind (thoughts and feelings). Theology can mean analysing ancient religious texts or discussing contemporary global		along with Psychology.
politics, to look at how religion has shaped the world we live in and the impact it has on society today.		

### Sociology

Notes	Essential	Helpful/Useful
This is the study of	There are usually no	Sociology, History,
human social life and	essential courses	English, Geography,
you can expect to	however essay	French, Spanish,
cover topics such as	subjects are favoured	Psychology.
work, families, gender	more and sometimes	
roles, multiculturalism,	requested.	
media and culture, and		
globalisation.		
Courses combine		
sociological theory		
with developing		
research skills and can		
include options to		
study criminology or		
social policy.		

### Sports Science & Physical Education

Notes	Essential	Helpful/Useful
This focuses on the relationship between the body and exercise, using physiology, psychology, bio- mechanics and nutrition.	Two of the following are usually essential: Biology, Chemistry, Maths, PE, Physics or Psychology.	Taking part in events/teams outside of your studies will support an application to this area.

### Physics

Notes	Essential	Helpful/Useful
This is the study of the nature and properties of matter and energy and has applications in	These subjects are usually essential: Maths & Physics	Further Maths.

cutting-edge	
technology such as	
medical imaging and	
laser communication	
systems.	

# Physiotherapy

Notes	Essential	Helpful/Useful
This combines theory	These subjects are	Some universities will
with learning practical	usually essential:	ask for a second
diagnostic and	Maths & Physics	science in addition to
treatment skills.		the Essential and may
Physiotherapists treat		have a list of the
patients with muscle		subjects they will
and skeletal injuries,		accept. Check their
neurological problems		individual
and breathing		requirements carefully.
problems.		

### Politics

Notes	Essential	Helpful/Useful
This is the study of	There are usually no	Politics, French,
how governments	essential subjects	Spanish.
work, how public		
policies are made,		
international relations		
and political ideas,		
from democracy to		
human rights.		

# Psychology

Notes	Essential	Helpful/Useful
This is the study of	One of these subjects	Any of these not taken
theories of behaviour	is usually essential:	in the essential
and how the brain		column:

Netherthorpe Sixth Form

works. Students will	Biology, Chemistry,	Biology, Chemistry,
develop the skills they	Computer Science,	Computer Science,
need to design	Geography, Maths,	Geography, Maths,
experiments and	Further Maths, Physics	Further Maths, Physics
collect data.	or Psychology.	or Psychology.
Many courses will also offer an opportunity to explore social sciences and humanities such as criminology or philosophy.		

### Veterinary Science

Notes	Essential	Helpful/Useful
This course takes five to six years to complete and provides the pathway to become professionally qualified as a veterinary surgeon. You'll first learn about the structure and functions of healthy animals before tackling the diseases that affect them, how to manage	Essential These subjects are usually essential: Biology & Chemistry	Helpful/Useful A third science may be required for some courses; others may allow another third subject.
these and the surgical know-how needed to treat domestic, farm or zoo animals.		
Veterinary science degrees are highly competitive. For these courses, taking		

chemistry and biology and either maths or physics should keep all universities offering this course open to you.	
There may also be admissions tests, such as the Biomedical Admission Test (BMAT), so check entry requirements carefully. Our Headteacher personally mentors' students with their applications to Medicine, Dentistry & Veterinary Science and even supports students onto these courses in	

# Next Steps and Application

Firstly, hopefully you've found this booklet useful and would like to now make an application to join Netherthorpe Sixth Form to get to the next stage of your journey.

Now you've had time to visit us and speak to our passionate staff and fantastic Sixth Form students as part of our open evening, you'll be able to take a look at completing your application to join us.

The first stage is online and there is a very quick form that gives us your contact details and allows us to see what subjects you'd like to take. From there we'll then send you a conditional offer pack out with lots of relevant and useful information. We'll also, early in 2023, invite you in for an informal chat to discuss your application. This is a great chance to answer questions you may have too.

In order to apply visit: <u>www.netherthorpe.academy/6thForm</u> and complete the online application form or scan the QR tag below.

The deadline for applications to be made to us is **Friday 12<sup>th</sup> January 2024.** 

We very much look forward to receiving your application, however, if you have any questions in the meantime then please just email <u>SixthForm@netherthorpe.derbyshire.sch.uk</u> and we'll help as best we can.





### Netherthorpe Sixth Form

Netherthorpe School Ralph Road Staveley Chesterfield S43 3PU

T: 01246 472220

E: <u>SixthForm@netherthorpe.derbyshire.sch.uk</u>

W: www.netherthorpe.academy/6thForm

O @Netherthorpe6fm

The information found in this booklet was correct from the sources given at the time of production (November 2023). Netherthorpe accepts no responsibility for checking all of the information in here on a course by course basis and we actively encourage students to look at their next steps and all possible routes to entry and the associated requirements before applying.