



Dear Parent,

Sixth Form Taster Day Friday 09 July 2021

Every year The Carlton Academy Sixth Form runs a Taster Day for Year 10 to provide students with the opportunity to experience life as a Sixth Former. This year, the Taster Day takes place on **Friday 09 July**. The day is specifically designed to support the transition from Year 11 GCSE studies into further education (A-Levels and BTEC Level 3 courses) and helps students to make informed decisions about Post-16 options.

I believe The Carlton Academy Sixth Form should be the natural Post-16 choice for students in Year 11. The day provides an excellent opportunity for students to try out and 'taste' the full range of A-Level and BTEC courses offered in the Sixth Form. Students get the opportunity to try out sessions in four different subjects on the day – students pick subjects they may be keen to study and also subjects they may be unfamiliar with. We do understand that Sixth Form is not the most appropriate route for all of our students but this day allows students to see what we offer at The Carlton Academy Sixth Form. Additional opportunities will be given to students on the next ECO Day regarding other Post 16 options.

On the day, Year 10 students will be treated as Sixth Formers in the school. The day is a normal school day so attendance is compulsory but students are not required to wear school uniform. Please note that although there is no uniform in the Sixth Form we do not allow students to wear shorts, strappy tops (including tops showing the stomach area) or baseball caps. The students are able to use the designated Sixth Form areas within the school such as the Study Centre.

Students will have an assembly on Monday 28 June introducing them to the Taster Day and will be asked to opt for their taster subjects during tutor time. The deadline to have this done by is **Friday 2 July**. Students will be provided with an overview of all of the subjects that we offer along with information about what each one entails. This is also attached to this letter for your information.



Y10 Taster Day Options

The day will start at **8:50 in the Theatre**. Students then need to select a subject for periods 2 to period 5. The options can be found below.

Period 2	Period 3	Period 4	Period 5
Applied Science	Applied Science	Biology	Art Graphics
Biology	Art Graphics	Business	Biology
DT	Business	Chemistry	Business
English Literature	Chemistry	English Literature	Chemistry
Food and Nutrition	Computer Science	French	Drama
Geography	Drama	Geography	DT
History	DT	History	English Language
Health & Social Care	English Language	Health & Social Care	Fine Art
IT	Fine Art	Maths	Food
Maths	Food and Nutrition	PE	French
Media	French	Physics	Health & Social Care
Music	History	Politics	IT
PE	Media	Philosophy, Religion and Ethics	Maths
Photography	Music	Psychology	Media
Psychology	PE	Sociology	PE
Sociology	Photography	Spanish	Politics
Spanish	Psychology		Philosophy, Religion and Ethics
	Sociology		Psychology

We do hope that this experience will give students a clearer idea of their future aspirations. If you wish to contact the school with any queries about the Year 10 Taster Day or the Sixth Form application process, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Many thanks



Ms K Armitage
Head of Post-16

Sixth Form Subject Information

Applied Science

Applied Science covers Biology, Chemistry and Physics therefore this is for students who wish to carry on Science into Post 16 but do not want to do the pure A level options. During the course, students will study units in Applications of Science, Scientific Procedure and Technique and Laboratory Techniques. The programme consists of coursework and examinations so is designed for students who prefer more of a coursework approach to assessment.

Biology

Through studying Biology, you will develop many different skills. You will develop practical skills required to manipulate scientific equipment with precision to gather accurate results. You will also develop analytical skills required to analyse and evaluate data and draw conclusions. Problem-solving skills, also, which allow you to apply the knowledge that you have gained to unfamiliar situations. Over the two-year course you will study the fundamentals of Biology, Exchange surfaces and transport in plants and animals, biodiversity, homeostasis and communication and Ecology.

Business Studies

In Business Studies you will become knowledgeable about how businesses operate and you will understand how the businesses and governments drive our world economies. You will look at competition, finances and marketing to name but a small section of the subject content you will cover.

Chemistry

The course involves the study of organic and inorganic chemistry. It gives the knowledge required to study any type of Chemistry at university. Popular topics include: atoms and groups, chains and energy resources, rings, analysis, equilibrium and energetics.

Computer Science

This course introduces you to the rapidly developing world of programming. You will study a wide range of areas that will consist of: principles that underpin Computer Science, the fundamentals of Computer Systems, IT Systems Security and Encryption, and Website Development.

Design and Technology

This course gives you the chance to get creative and innovative as you develop your product design skills and learn about the complex relationships between design, materials, manufacturing and marketing.

Drama and Theatre Studies

On the course, you will gain a theoretical appreciation and working understanding of the art of performance, consider analytical and historical understanding of a range of play texts, as well as the practical experience of exploring and performing a broad range of plays for formal and public examination.

English Language

Language is woven into every aspect of our lives. This course will help you to deepen and develop your analytical skills, enabling you to study language beyond its surface meaning, as well as understanding how language is constructed and used to create meaning and influence perception and behaviour, both in the spoken and the written word. At A level you will study Textual Variety and Representation, Children's Language Development, Language Diversity and Change, Language Discourses, Writing Skills, Language Investigation and Original Writing.

English Literature

You will study a range of texts, including a Shakespeare play, pre 19th century drama and poetry, and two prose texts. You will also be required to complete two pieces of coursework one of which can, but does not have to be re-creative writing.

Fine Art

The course involves the completion of several different projects that include extensive preparation work, sketchbook work, a study of materials and techniques and an appreciation of the work of other artists and what their experience has to offer in terms of the development of a personal vision. The work at A Level is intended to extend and develop students' own interests and enthusiasms.

Food Science and Nutrition

This course will support someone who benefits from applied learning, i.e. through the acquisition of knowledge and understanding in purposeful, work-related contexts, linked to the food production industry.

French

The A level French course builds upon and deepens the knowledge you have already gained in Key Stages 3 and 4. In addition to exploring GCSE topics in more depth – such as family structures, technology, and diversity – you will learn more about French culture through the study of a film and a book, as well as completing an Independent Research Project on a topic you choose. You will also improve your fluency in spoken and written French, offering opportunities to live and work abroad later in life.

Geography

Geography is a fantastically broad subject which draws together many ideas and issues and builds a deep understanding. Geography is highly regarded by employers owing to the large variety of transferable skills and knowledge it creates. You will study 6 interesting topics:

- Changing Places
- Hazards
- Water and Carbon Cycles
- Global systems and Global Governance
- Coastal Systems and Coastal Landscapes
- Contemporary Urban Environments

You will also complete coursework worth 20%, which may involve a residential fieldtrip.

Art Graphics

This course offers learners an opportunity to fully develop and explore the chosen specialism of Graphic Communication whilst expanding knowledge, understanding and skills in a range of specialist areas. You will experience project themes in one or more areas of Graphic Communication, such as with image and typography, illustration, advertising, packaging, experimental imagery, signage and abstract approaches.

Health and Social Care

This course is ideal for those students who know that they want a job which involves helping people in some way, even if they are not sure which type of employment they wish to enter. The vocational placement part of the course gives students the opportunity to gain an insight into a number of different job roles, as well as allowing individuals to gain the actual hands on experience that is so important to universities and employers. The course is very generic, allowing students to study a variety of different topics. The topics are wide ranging and include human growth and development, psychological and sociological perspectives, communication, safeguarding, equality and rights and infection prevention.

History

You will study three really interesting periods in great depth:

- The Tudors, 1485-1603 (examined at the end of Year 13 and worth 40% of your mark)
- Weimar & Nazi Germany 1918-45 (examined at the end of Year 13 and worth 40% of your mark)
- Tsarist and Communist Russia 1855-1964 (this is a coursework element and worth 20% of your mark)

Through the study of these topics, you will learn to become critical thinkers; the course would allow you to evaluate evidence, understand different perspectives and come to reasoned and well-informed judgements.

IT

This course introduces you to the rapidly developing world of IT. You will study a wide range of subjects that will consist of Communication and Employability Skills for IT, Computer Systems, E-Commerce, Website Production, Digital Graphics and Business Resources.

Mathematics

The A Level course begins by recapping and extending some aspects of GCSE algebra. This leads students into the Pure Mathematics element of the A Level, which is a selection of high level algebra including Euclidean Geometry, Calculus and Trigonometry. Students will also study statistics, different types of probabilities and mechanics.

Media Studies

You will develop an appreciation for and deep understanding of media and its role, both historically and contemporarily in society, culture, politics and the economy. The theoretical framework for A level Media Studies asks you to investigate texts through the lenses of Language, Representation and Audience and Industry. You will study a broad range of topics, from magazines and print adverts to webpages, film and video games. The course assessment structure consists of two exam papers (35% each) and coursework (30%) that requires you to apply what you have learned by creating a cross-media product in response to a brief.

Music

A written examination testing listening skills, knowledge and understanding and requiring students to write in depth about a set work and music from a selected area of study. The study of compositional techniques, or composition using and developing the student's own musical ideas, or an arrangement of a given piece of music. Demonstration of performing skills as soloists, in ensembles and/or using music technology.

PE

In PE you look at anatomy and physiology, skill acquisition, sport psychology, exercise physiology and sport and society. In A level PE, you will be assessed on your own individual sport that you play to a high level outside of school. In BTEC Sport, you will be able to lead younger students through fitness tests and make recommendations on how they can improve their fitness for the sport that they play.

Philosophy Religion and Ethics

You study 'Philosophy of religion', 'Religion and ethics' and 'Developments in religious thought'. In 'Philosophy of religion' learners will study philosophical issues and questions raised by religion and beliefs. These include arguments regarding the existence or non existence of God and the problems of evil and suffering in the world, as well significant wider philosophical concepts and the works of key philosophical thinkers both ancient and modern. The study of 'Religion and ethics' is not only about moral theories but applications of these theories to modern issues such as euthanasia and human sexuality. 'Developments in religious thought' provides an opportunity to study one religious tradition exploring religious beliefs, values, teaching and practices as expressions of human identity.

Photography

Learners will experience one or more areas of Photography, such as with portraiture, landscape photography, commercial photography, still-life photography, documentary photography, experimental imagery, editorial photography, photographic installation, the photographic process and the moving image.

Physics

This course will appeal to students who have an interest in developing their knowledge and understanding of Physics. Physics tries to explain all parts of the Universe - from the biggest to the smallest, from the way they interact with each other to the results of these interactions. If you've ever had an interest in how things work or wondered why the Universe behaves as it does, then you should be studying Physics.

Politics

Students will explore the way in which both the UK and USA are governed, and will draw comparisons and contrasts between them. We will study how leaders are elected and how they use their skills to lead. A study of political ideas including liberalism, conservatism and socialism and one other ideology to be selected will underpin the course. This course aims to bring real issues alive in the classroom, with independent thought, debate and discussion encouraged.

Psychology

Psychology involves the scientific study of the human mind. As a science subject, we explore what contributes to human behaviour and how factors can influence the way we think. We carry out mini research practicals to investigate specific topics in the course such as memory. In addition to this, A Level students will study topics such as Social Influence, Attachments, Biopsychology, Relationships and more. A suitable psychology student will have a keen interest in Maths and Science and be able to write in a coherent way. You will contribute to class discussions and learn how to form critical analysis of theories and studies. Psychology can lead to many careers in healthcare, education, law, therapy, business and marketing to name just a few.

Sociology

We examine the culture we live in and look at a variety of viewpoints including your own. When you study Sociology, you will begin to see the world in a very different way. Sociology encourages you to question everything! During your time studying Sociology we look at the key areas of Education, Culture and Identity, Media and Crime and Deviance. Everything we do in Sociology involves asking WHY?

Spanish

During your GCSEs you have developed some vital skills to be able to communicate in a Foreign Language. At this stage, in A Level, we will present you with cultural knowledge for you to critically analyse and evaluate the new content learnt. Spanish will turn into a creative

subject in which communicating turns into a live debate on knowledge with no right and wrong answers but about how well informed you are to share your points of view using your developed speaking skills

