





Assistant Principal – Head of Sixth Form

Mr Lee Huckle

Taking the Next Step

Option pathways after year 11



Sixth Form

Level 3 courses:

A Levels
L3 BTEC's
L3 Applied



College

Level 2 and 3 courses:

GCSEs
A Levels
L3 BTECs
L3 Applied
T Levels



Apprenticeships

Linked to college and
work places

Please speak to the careers advice team for further guidance.


In 2024, SWA Sixth Form was joint first in the Central Bedfordshire Local Authority



Year 13 Results	2024
A*-A or equivalent	30%
A*-B or equivalent	60%
A*-C or equivalent	83%
A*-E or equivalent	98%

B- Average grade achieved in 2024.

We are an aspirational Sixth Form

A collage of various school-related photographs serves as the background. It includes students in a classroom, a group of students in a hallway, a student in a lab coat working in a chemistry lab, a student in a floral dress standing next to a presentation board, and students in formal attire. The text is overlaid on blue semi-transparent boxes.

“ Leaders and teachers have high expectations for pupils in the Sixth Form. ”

OFSTED 2023

“ Members of the school community are proud of the school’s involvement in Sport and the Arts ”

OFSTED 2023)

“ Sixth Form students lead tutorial sessions for younger pupils as part of The Society programme. ”

OFSTED 2023

“ Sixth Form students enjoy a wide range of extra-curricular clubs and activities. ”

OFSTED 2023

EPQ: To what extent the perceptions of witches, witchcraft and magic changed?
Imogen Addison

BEST
BEDFORDSHIRE
SCHOOLS TRUST

Destinations 2024

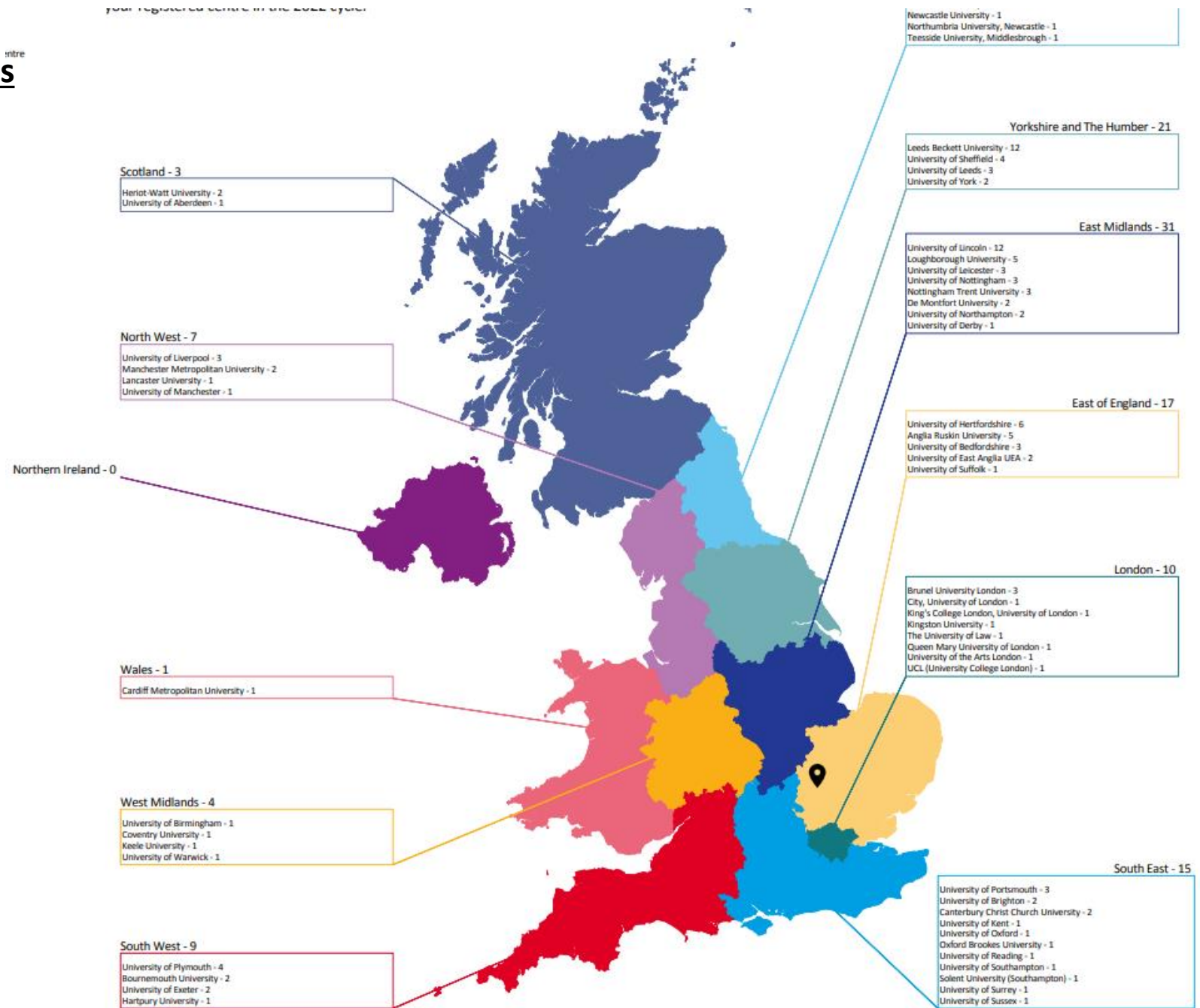
Destination	Number
University	124
Degree Apprenticeship	15
Other Apprenticeship	7
Employed	8
Seeking Employment	8
College	0
Training	0
Services	0
Gap Year	9
Repeat Yr13	2



Please visit the alumni area of the Sixth Form webpage to view videos of many of our students and what they went on to do:

<https://www.samuelwhitbread.org.uk/page/?title=Alumni&pid=133>

University Destinations 2024



The Sixth Form Alliance

Alumni

Inviting back alumni students to speak with our students from a wide variety of destinations: universities, apprenticeships and jobs



Universities

Inviting in Universities to speak with our students: Russell Group and Local.

University visit and taster days: University of Hertfordshire and Bedfordshire.



Employers

Inviting in local, national and international employers to speak about future options.



Parents/Carers

Inviting in parents/carers to speak with students about their pathways to different careers.



Apprenticeship Providers

Inviting in apprenticeship providers to advise and guide on apprenticeships: FCDO, MBDA, Unilever, Specsavers, Glaxo, Network Rail.



Courses on offer

A Levels:

Fine Art
Biology
Business studies
Chemistry
Computer science
Dance
Drama & Theatre Studies
English Language & Literature
English Literature
Film Studies
French
Geography
Graphic Communications
History
Mathematics
Further Mathematics
Music

Philosophy, Religion and Ethics
Physical Education
Physics
Politics
Product Design
Psychology
Sociology
Spanish

35 Courses

BTECs, Alternative Academic Qualifications (AAQs) and Applied Level 3:

Applied Science	Media
Business (Single)	Music Technology
Food and Nutrition	Sport (Single, Double & Triple)
Health and Social Care	
Information Technology	



Warning: Courses with low demand on the first day of the academic year in September, may be cut.

Entry and Course Requirements



- **Five** grade 5s minimum for entry to A Level courses
- **Six** Grade 4s minimum for entry to BTEC/Applied courses
- Each subject has its own entry requirement and Average Point Score (see page 8, 9 and 10 in the handbook)

Subject/Course	Average Points Score – Guidance	Minimum Entry Requirements
Film Studies	4.2	Grade 5 in GCSE English Language and Literature If studied GCSE Film Studies a grade 5 is needed
Applied Diploma Level 3 Food & Nutrition	4.0	Grade 4 in GCSE English Language or Literature Two grade 4s in sciences Grade 5 in GCSE Food or a merit grade in level 2 hospitality and catering.
French	5.3	Grade 6 in GCSE French
Geography	4.7	Grade 5 in GCSE Geography Grade 5 in GCSE Maths Grade 5 in GCSE English Language or Literature
Graphic Communication	4.2	Grade 5 in GCSE Art, Graphic Communications or DT Graphics.
BTEC Level 3 Health & Social Care (AAQ)	4.0	Grade 4 in GCSE English Language and Literature. If BTEC Health & Social Care is taken at Level 2, a Level 2 Merit must be achieved.
History	4.7	Grade 5 in GCSE History Grade 5 in GCSE English Language and Literature
BTEC Level 3 Information Technology (AAQ)	4.0	Grade 4 in GCSE Maths Grade 4 in GCSE English Language and Literature If studied BTEC IT a Merit grade is needed.
Mathematics	5.3	Grade 7 in GCSE Maths OR Grade 6 and pass entry test. Grade 6 in GCSE Physics
Further Mathematics	6.1	Grade 8 in GCSE maths Grade 6 in GCSE Physics If Level 2 Further maths is completed, a pass grade is needed.
BTEC Level 3 Creative Digital Media Production	4.0	Grade 4 in GCSE English Language and Literature. If studied BTEC Media at GCSE a Merit grade is needed.





Head Students

Nathan Cant and Nicola Grundeligh

SWA Core Mission: At Samuel Whitbread Academy we strive to develop healthy, resilient and independent learners, who read confidently for both learning and pleasure, and who participate in culturally enriching and diverse experiences.

Personal Development



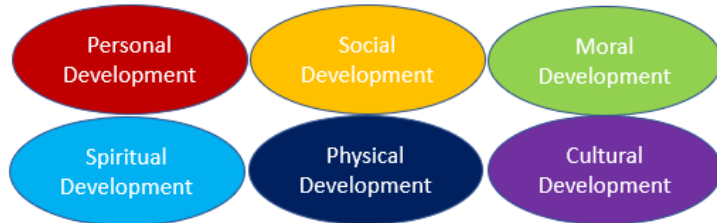
EQUALITY
TEAMWORK
DETERMINATION
INTEGRITY
EMPATHY
INGENUITY
RESPECT

Academic Development

VESPA

Vision
Effort
Systems
Practice
Attitude

Cultural Capital Development



B

Believe

Have a belief in yourself in academic and extra-curricula areas of your life. Have the belief you can achieve your aspirations and aim high.

A

Achieve

Achieve your personal academic and extra-curricular aims in school and out of school.

S

Succeed

Motivate and dedicate yourself to your academic studies so you succeed in achieving your targets and also enhancing your wider life skills.

E

Exceed

Go above and beyond. Don't see a target grade as the limit. Push beyond that. Exceed your own and others expectations of you in your academic and extra-curricular areas.

Extra-curricular, Super-curricular and Enrichment



Extra Curricular and Enrichment: Sports Academies



OPPORTUNITY • ACHIEVEMENT • EXCELLENCE

**Northampton Saints Rugby
Development course**

**Whitbread Netball Academy
partnered with Saracens
Mavericks**

**Samuel Whitbread Football
Academy**

Please take a look at the Sixth Form web pages for further details and videos of the sports academies or visit the sports academies near the gym tonight.

<https://www.samuelwhitbread.org.uk/page/?title=Whitbread+Sports+Academy&pid=>



Assistant Head of Sixth Form
Head of Year 12
Mr Carl Tonking

Making the Transition



Support for our students:

- Interventions (1:1, lunch, afterschool)
- Dedicated CEIAG Coordinator (4YPUK) and PASO
- Counselling
- Peer Mentoring
- 16-19 Bursary fund
- Special Educational Needs Support
- Aspiration and aiming high support – The Sixth Form Society
- Student leadership roles: school leadership team, Society leadership team, prefects, tutor group reps.

Work experience opportunities



- One week is allocated at the end of the summer term of year 12 for ALL students to go on work experience.
- The work experience needs to be planned and organised by the student – the school does not do this for you.
- The sixth form team will make visits or phone calls to check students at their work experience placement

If you would like more advanced information on the year 12 work experience week please speak with Mrs Freeman in the careers fair in the sports hall or email lfreeman@bestacademies.org.uk

Sixth Form Dress Code – Professional

Lanyards are a compulsory part of the Sixth Form dress code and must be worn around the neck and visible at all times whilst on school site. This is for safeguarding reasons.

Dress down days – will be arranged alongside non-uniform days with the rest of the academy.

Examples of acceptable attire	Examples of unacceptable attire
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Trousers, dress and/or skirt with a formal jacket (jacket not compulsory).• Smart chinos, white/black denim trousers/shorts• Tailored knee length shorts• Long or short sleeve shirts. Optional tie can be worn.• Smart collared polo shirt/top.• V-neck sweaters and jumpers.• Cultural clothing.• Footwear must be suitable for walking at school, including evacuating onto the field in case of an emergency. If worn, sandals must enclose the heel securely with a back. Students participating in practical lessons such as science, engineering, food or similar must have covered feet in laboratories for safety reasons.• Optional attire: Specific clothing for the sports academies (rugby, football, netball and dance) must have the school logo present on all items and be sourced from the sports academies agreed suppliers, and only school branded sports attire can be worn at the academy.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Blue jeans/denim, including ripped jeans/trousers.• Tracksuits.• Combat trousers.• Collarless shirts or casual sports T-shirts.• Sweatshirts and non-school hoodies• Skirts and shorts that are not on or just above the knee.• See through items of clothing.• Crop tops and tank tops• Strapless tops (a shoulder strap must be present).• Baseball caps and hats.• Clothing with slogans/logos.• Flip-flops, sliders, crocs, slippers and high heeled shoes.• If you are not part of the sports academies (rugby, football, netball or dance), you should be abiding by the professional dress code and should not be in SWA branded sports attire when not playing sport.



Transportation for 2025-2026

Please note that sixth form students **are not guaranteed** a place on the school bus. A concession is sold when there is a spare seat on a non-registered route and are sold on a **first come first served basis** so please aim to have your form completed and payment made by around mid-August. A concession will be honoured to the end of the term in which it is purchased.

To apply for a concessionary pass you will need to email Central Bedfordshire transport - mainstream.transport@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk requesting them to post a form out to you. All application forms will be sent out on the same day first class to give equal opportunity. This form is to be used for those students who wish to travel to school by bus, but who **do not qualify** for any kind of free or subsidised transportation.

Please direct any transport queries you may have to swa-transport@bestacademies.org.uk

Please see the transport section of the Sixth Form webpage and Mr Whittle on the transport stall in The Street.



Associate Principal – Head of Sixth Form

Mr L Huckle

Application Process



Next steps

- Discuss your choices with family, teachers and course leaders
- Speak to department leaders and students
- Think about your **future!**
- What courses do you need for your next step?
- Please apply online by 3rd February 2025.

Application forms can be found here:

<https://www.samuelwhitbread.org.uk/page/?title=Applications+%26amp%3B+Admissions&pid=59>

SIXTH FORM HANDBOOK 2025 - 2026

SUBJECT PROSPECTUS 2025 ENTRY

INTERNAL APPLICATION FORM

EXTERNAL APPLICATION FORM

Where can I find more information?

- Handbook or Prospectus
- Course leaders
- Website

https://www.samuelwhitbread.org.uk/site/data/files/sixth_form/applications/4713DCC092F18F8D8BFAD75D87B38E6D.pdf

HISTORY

Content and Aims

The study of History develops students' powers of analysis and their ability to organise material and write clearly and logically. It is concerned with real people and society, as well as the interpretations of evidence and the skills of rational argument. It is a popular choice in the sixth form.

Key Features

Three examinations and one coursework question.

- **Unit 1** - Britain transformed, 1918-1997. A study in breadth, in which students will learn about the extent to which Britain was transformed politically, socially and culturally in the years 1918-1979. Also students will study what impact Thatcher's government had on Britain 1979-1997.
- **Unit 2** - The USA, c1920-55: boom, bust and recovery. A study in depth of economic and social change in the USA from the post-war boom of the 1920s, through depression, recovery and war, to the transformation of many aspects of US society in the years immediately after 1945 – source-based paper.
- **Unit 3** - The witch craze in Britain, Europe and North America c1580-1750. A study of the witch craze that took hold in the late sixteenth century.
- **Unit 4** - Coursework. A question on debates on the Holocaust

Career Considerations

A level History is a springboard to a wide range of degrees and careers, such as banking, insurance, the civil service, management and journalism. It is recognised as a qualification for entry to most degree courses, and is especially desirable for a career in law.

In studying History students develop a number of skills that are transferrable into a variety of career options. The practise of applying past lessons to resolve present problems, and the ability to be have an analytical view when faced with a variety of situations and challenges, would be relevant in the fields of business, politics, marketing, advertising and public relations. The research skills and historical understanding would allow students to pursue careers in teaching, academia, archiving and heritage.

Student Quote

"History is a guide to navigation in perilous times. History is who we are and why we are the way we are."



Dr J Haynes
Edexcel

SUITABILITY

- APS 4.7
- Grade 5 in GCSE History
- Grade 5 in GCSE English Language and Literature

EXAMINATION & ASSESSMENT BREAKDOWN

- 80% external exam
- 20% coursework

Website

<https://www.samuelwhitbread.org.uk/page/?title=KS5+Curriculum+%26amp%3B+Courses&pid=231>



KS5 Curriculum & Courses

The curriculum in the Sixth Form is one that provides:

1. Academic success
2. Stimulation and challenge
3. Choice and diversity
4. Progression onto a range of post Sixth Form options
5. Access for all who meet the entry requirements
6. Encouragement for independent and life-long learning

The size of the Sixth Form means our curriculum offer at post 16 is second to none, with **38** Level 3 courses on offer. We recommend students study three courses, except those studying Further Mathematics and the most able students, who often take four. Alongside these courses, we offer a range of enrichment courses including: Extended Project Qualification (which is highly regarded by universities), Level 3 mathematical studies and many more timetabled and non-timetabled enrichment opportunities such as Duke of Edinburgh.

For curriculum information on all of our KS5 subjects, including what students will learn in year 12 and 13, please read the Sixth Form Subject Prospectus [here](#).

For more in-depth information about the KS5 courses that we offer please visit the exam board websites. Each course in the subject prospectus indicates the examination board.

APPLIED SCIENCE BTEC

ART A LEVEL

BIOLOGY A LEVEL

BUSINESS BTEC SINGLE & DOUBLE

BUSINESS STUDIES A LEVEL

CHEMISTRY A LEVEL

COMPUTER SCIENCE A LEVEL

DANCE A LEVEL

DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY A LEVEL

DRAMA & THEATRE STUDIES A LEVEL

ENGLISH LANGUAGE & LITERATURE A LEVEL

ENGLISH LITERATURE A LEVEL

Online applications need to be received by 3rd February 2025

Contact the Sixth Form



- swa-sixthformadmissions@bestacademies.org.uk
- Miss Collins – Administration and applications
icollins@bestacademies.org.uk
- Mrs Bonham – Pastoral and Academic Support Officer
cbonham@bestacademies.org.uk
- Mrs Hoad – Assistant Head of Sixth Form – Head of Year 13
shoad@bestacademies.org.uk
- Mr Tonking - Assistant Head of Sixth Form – Head of Year 12
ctonking@bestacademies.org.uk
- Mr Huckle – Associate Principal – Head of Sixth Form
lhuckle@bestacademies.org.uk
- Website: www.samuelwhitbread.org.uk
- Facebook: SWA Sixth form

Please watch our other Sixth Form videos on the website here:

<https://www.samuelwhitbread.org.uk/page/?title=Sixth+Form+Open+Evening&pid=144>

CAREERS FAIR

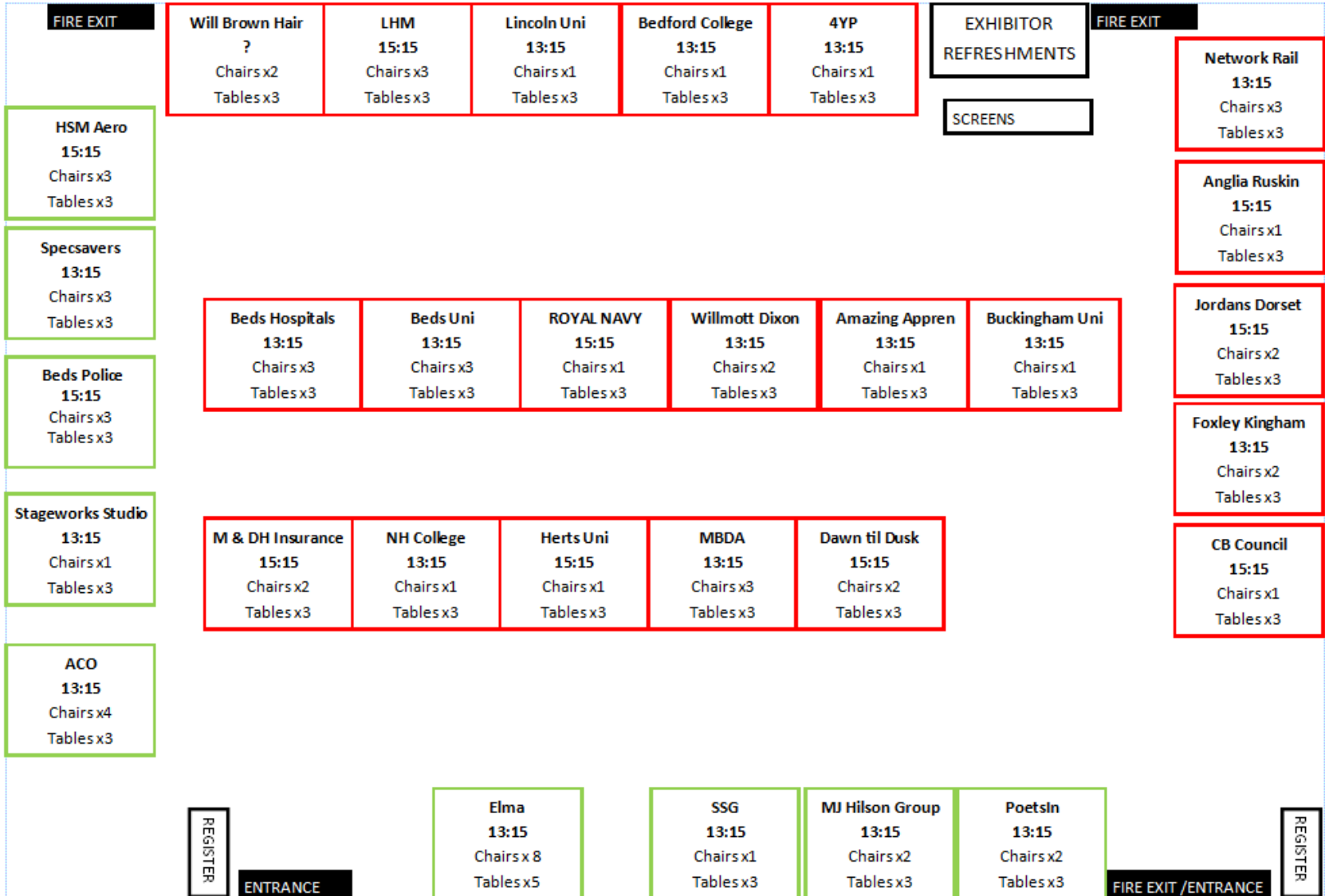


**Thursday 14th November
4:00pm - 7pm in the Sports Hall**

- Are you aged 13-18?
- Are you thinking about your next steps after GCSE or A level?
- Are you wondering what the local area has to offer in terms of employers?
- Are you a parent/carer and would like to know what apprenticeships or jobs are available for your child?
- Come along to our Careers Fair to meet representatives from a wide variety of industries & companies.



We believe that being able to offer students the opportunity to talk and discuss their career aspirations with top employers is beneficial for their future planning.



FIRE EXIT

Will Brown Hair ?
Chairs x2
Tables x3

LHM
15:15
Chairs x3
Tables x3

Lincoln Uni
13:15
Chairs x1
Tables x3

Bedford College
13:15
Chairs x1
Tables x3

4YP
13:15
Chairs x1
Tables x3

EXHIBITOR REFRESHMENTS

FIRE EXIT

Network Rail
13:15
Chairs x3
Tables x3

HSM Aero
15:15
Chairs x3
Tables x3

Specsavers
13:15
Chairs x3
Tables x3

Anglia Ruskin
15:15
Chairs x1
Tables x3

Beds Hospitals
13:15
Chairs x3
Tables x3

Beds Uni
13:15
Chairs x3
Tables x3

ROYAL NAVY
15:15
Chairs x1
Tables x3

Willmott Dixon
13:15
Chairs x2
Tables x3

Amazing Appren
13:15
Chairs x1
Tables x3

Buckingham Uni
13:15
Chairs x1
Tables x3

Jordans Dorset
15:15
Chairs x2
Tables x3

Beds Police
15:15
Chairs x3
Tables x3

Foxley Kingham
13:15
Chairs x2
Tables x3

Stageworks Studio
13:15
Chairs x1
Tables x3

M & DH Insurance
15:15
Chairs x2
Tables x3

NH College
13:15
Chairs x1
Tables x3

Herts Uni
15:15
Chairs x1
Tables x3

MBDA
13:15
Chairs x3
Tables x3

Dawn til Dusk
15:15
Chairs x2
Tables x3

CB Council
15:15
Chairs x1
Tables x3

ACO
13:15
Chairs x4
Tables x3

REGISTER

ENTRANCE

Elma
13:15
Chairs x 8
Tables x5

SSG
13:15
Chairs x1
Tables x3

MJ Hilson Group
13:15
Chairs x2
Tables x3

Poetsln
13:15
Chairs x2
Tables x3

FIRE EXIT / ENTRANCE

REGISTER



BELIEVE • ACHIEVE • SUCCEED • EXCEED

