## Holy Cross sixth form College



## Subject Entry Requirements – for Level 2 & Level 3 courses starting in September 2017

It is very important that you read the information detailed below so that you are aware of the entry criteria for the particular subjects that you have applied for, as the entry requirements for some subjects may have been altered since publishing our prospectus. Please also refer to the 'Information for Applicants' booklet and the 'Tariff table' (available to download via Admissions portal) about how many and what types of course to study, depending upon your GCSE grade profile in August. Where there is a GCSE English requirement to start a course, either English Language or Literature will be accepted.

Level 3 courses			
Subject / Course	MINIMUM general entry requirement	GCSE English and/or Maths requirement	Further information
L3 A Level Accounting	If you have studied GCSE Business or BTEC equivalent, a grade C/pass	You must have a grade 4 or above in GCSE English <u>and</u> a grade 5 or above in GCSE Maths	If you are aiming at a career in     Accountancy, you will require grade 6 in     both GCSE Maths and English Language
L3 A Level Ancient History	If you have studied GCSE History a grade C	You must have a grade 4 or above in GCSE English	Please discuss at enrolment if you wish to study this course alongside Modern History A level
L3 BTEC Applied Science (Single- Extended Certificate & Triple- Extended Diploma)	<ul> <li>You must have grade C or above in GCSE         Core and Additional Science</li> <li>Or an A*-C grade in GCSE Applied Science</li> <li>If you have studied BTEC Science a pass         grade</li> </ul>	You must have a grade 4 or above in GCSE Maths	<ul> <li>If you have taken other Science qualifications, you will need to discuss this with us</li> <li>The single award is equivalent to 1 A level</li> <li>The triple award is equivalent to 3 A levels</li> </ul>
L3 A Level Art and Design	<ul> <li>You must have a grade C in an Art &amp; Design subject (Art, Graphics, Photography, etc.) or a related area, such as Design Technology</li> <li>If you have studied L2 BTEC Art and Design/Art and Design Extended Certificate/Art and Design Diploma a Pass grade</li> </ul>	A grade 4 or above in GCSE English is recommended	Students without GCSE in Art or a related subject will need to present a folder of work for negotiation, which must include at least one drawing made from direct observation

Level 3 courses			
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L3 A Level Art & Design (Graphics)	<ul> <li>You must have a grade C in an Art &amp; Design subject (Art, Graphics, Photography, etc.) or a related area, such as Design Technology</li> <li>If you have studied L2 BTEC Art and Design/Art and Design Extended Certificate/Art and Design Diploma a Pass grade</li> </ul>	A grade 4 or above in GCSE English is recommended	Students without GCSE in Art or a related subject will need to present a folder of work for negotiation, which must include at least one drawing made from direct observation
L3 A Level Art and Design (Photography)		A grade 4 or above in GCSE English is recommended	You do not have to have any previous qualifications of photography or drawing skills for this course
L3 A Level Art and Design (Textiles)	<ul> <li>You must have a grade C in an Art &amp; Design subject (Art, Graphics, Photography, etc.) or a related area, such as Design Technology</li> <li>If you have studied BTEC Art and Design/Art and Design Extended Certificate/Art and Design Diploma a Pass grade</li> </ul>	A grade 4 or above in GCSE English is recommended	Students without GCSE in Art or a related subject will need to present a folder of work for negotiation, which must include at least one drawing made from direct observation
L3 A Level Biology	<ul> <li>If you have studied GCSE Biology a grade B at the higher level paper</li> <li>If you have studied GCSE Science a grade C in Core Science</li> <li>and a Grade B in Additional Science (at the higher tier)</li> </ul>	You must have a grade 4 or above in GCSE English <u>and</u> a grade 4 or above in GCSE Maths	<ul> <li>If you have taken other Science qualifications, you will be required to discuss this with us</li> <li>It is also strongly recommended that Chemistry is also taken</li> <li>In the new A Level Biology course there will be a minimum 20% weighting of Maths skills within the assessment</li> </ul>
L3 A Level Business	If you have studied GCSE Business or BTEC equivalent, a grade C/pass	You must have a grade 4 or above in GCSE English <u>and</u> a grade 4 or above in GCSE Maths	
L3 BTEC in Business (Single- Extended Certificate)	If you have studied L2 BTEC Business a pass grade	You must have a grade 4 or above in either GCSE English or GCSE Maths	This course is equivalent to 1 A level
L3 A Level Chemistry	<ul> <li>If you have studied GCSE Chemistry a grade B</li> <li>If you have studied GCSE Science a grade C in Core Science</li> <li>and a Grade B in Additional Science (at the higher tier)</li> </ul>	You must have a Grade 5 or above in GCSE Maths	<ul> <li>If you have taken other Science qualifications, you will need to discuss this with us</li> <li>In the new A Level Chemistry course there will be a minimum 20% weighting of Maths skills within the assessment.</li> </ul>

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L3 A Level Computer Science		You must have a grade 4 or above in GCSE Maths	<ul> <li>It is not essential to have studied         Computing/IT at GCSE</li> <li>Skills in Maths and written English,         including reading on a regular basis,         would be an advantage for the theory         part of the course</li> <li>It is possible to study both IT and         Computer Science if the required entry         criteria for both courses is met</li> </ul>
L3 AS Level Critical Thinking		You must have a grade 4 or above in GCSE English <u>and</u> a grade 4 or above in GCSE Maths	<ul> <li>Students considering medicine, law, dentistry, veterinary science, and Oxbridge entry may wish to consider this course. In all such cases this will necessitate a discussion at enrolment</li> <li>Critical Thinking is taken in addition to your other 3 main A level subjects</li> </ul>
L3 A Level Dance	If you have studied GCSE Dance a grade C	You must have a grade 4 or above in GCSE English	Previous dance experience is essential
L3 A Level Drama and Theatre Studies	If you have studied GCSE Performing Arts/Drama a grade C	You must have grade 4 or above in GCSE English	You must also have a strong interest in performance-based work and be willing to take part in a number of public performances
L3 A Level Economics		You must have a grade 4 or above in GCSE English <u>and</u> a grade 5 or above in GCSE Maths	An interest in current affairs is advisable
L3 A Level English Language		You must have grade 4 or above in GCSE English Language	English Language & Literature combined GCSE (known as GCSE English) is not recommended for an English A Level
L3 A Level English Literature		You must have grade 4 or above in GCSE English Language <u>and</u> a grade 4 or above in GCSE English Literature	English Language & Literature combined     GCSE (known as GCSE English) is not     recommended for an English A Level
L3 A Level English Language and Literature		You must have grade 4 or above in GCSE English Language <u>and</u> a grade C or above in GCSE English Literature	English Language & Literature combined GCSE (known as GCSE English) is not recommended for an English A Level

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L3 A Level Film Studies		You must have grade 4 or above in GCSE English	An interest in English Literature is desirable
L3 A Level French	You must have grade B at GCSE French	You must have grade 4 or above in GCSE English	
L3 A Level Geography	If you have studied GCSE Geography you must have a grade C	You must have grade 4 or above in GCSE English	
L3 A Level Geology	<ul> <li>You must have achieved a grade C in GCSE Core Science</li> <li>and a grade C in GCSE Additional Science (at the higher tier).</li> </ul>	You must have grade 4 or above in GCSE Maths	<ul> <li>It is not essential to have studied Geology/Geography at GCSE</li> <li>If you have taken other Science qualifications you will require to discuss this with us</li> </ul>
L3 A Level German	You must have grade B at GCSE German.	You must have grade 4 or above in GCSE English	
L3 A Level Government and Politics		You must have grade 4 or above in GCSE English	You must have a strong interest in current affairs
L3 BTEC Health and Social Care	<ul> <li>You must have grade C in a Single Award Science or equivalent.</li> <li>If you have studied GCSE Health and Social Care you must have a grade C (or grade CC if a double award)</li> <li>If you have studied L2 BTEC Health and Social Care a pass grade</li> </ul>	You must have a grade 4 or above in GCSE English	This course is equivalent to 1 A level
L3 A Level History	If you have studied GCSE History, you must have a grade C	You must have a grade 4 or above in GCSE English	Please discuss at enrolment if you wish to study this course alongside Ancient History A level
L3 BTEC in Information Technology (Single- Extended Certificate)	If you have studied L2 BTEC IT a pass grade	You must have a grade 4 or above in either GCSE English or GCSE Maths	<ul> <li>It is recommended that you have a grade         4 or above in English as you must have         skills in written English and undertake         reading on a regular basis in order to be         successful in the theory part of the         Course         It is not essential to have studied         Computing/IT at GCSE         This course is equivalent to 1 A level</li> </ul>

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L3 A Level Law  L3 BTEC Applied Law (Single-Subsidiary Diploma)		<ul> <li>You must have grade 4 or above in GCSE English</li> <li>You must have a grade 4 or above in GCSE English</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>It is not essential to have studied Law at GCSE</li> <li>You must be comfortable with expressing legal argument in essay format</li> <li>This course is equivalent to 1 A level</li> </ul>
L3 A Level Mathematics	A combined GCSE points score of 5.0 or above	<ul> <li>You must have a grade 6 or above in GCSE Maths</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Your combined GCSE points score will be calculated at enrolment based on success in your GCSE's</li> </ul>
L3 A Level Further Mathematics	<ul> <li>To study Further Maths, a student must also be studying Maths A Level</li> <li>A combined GCSE points score of 6.0 or above</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>You must have a grade 7 or above in GCSE Maths if this is part of a 3 A level timetable.</li> <li>A grade 8 or 9 in GCSE Maths will be required if Further Maths is to be part of a 4 A level timetable</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Discussion must take place with a Maths teacher at enrolment if you wish to consider Further Maths.</li> <li>Your combined GCSE points score will be calculated at enrolment based on success in your GCSE's</li> <li>Further Maths is a full-time A level like any other, so Maths and Further Maths count as two subjects</li> <li>For some students it may be appropriate to take an AS in Further Maths – depending upon career choices. Again this will be discussed with the Head Of Subject depending upon individual circumstances.</li> <li>Further Maths is usually taken by academically strong students with high ability in Maths.</li> </ul>
L3 AS Mathematics over 2 years (Maths Pathways)	A combined GCSE points score of 5.0 or above	You must have a grade 5 or above in GCSE Maths	<ul> <li>Discussion must take place with a Maths teacher at enrolment if you wish to consider Maths pathways</li> <li>If you have a grade 5 and a GCSE points score less than 5.0, then the suitability of the course can be discussed with the HOS and a decision made at enrolment.</li> <li>Your combined GCSE points score will be calculated at enrolment based on success in your GCSE's</li> </ul>

Level 3 courses			
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L3 A Level Media Studies		You must have grade 4 or above in GCSE     English	An interest in English Literature is desirable.
L3 A Level Music	<ul> <li>You must also be of approximately Grade 4 standard on your principal instrument or voice</li> <li>You must have gained Grade 4 in Music Theory</li> </ul>	You must have grade 4 or above in GCSE English	If you have not studied GCSE Music you may be considered for the course if you have a grade 5 or above qualification in Music Theory.
L3 BTEC Music Technology (Single-Subsidiary Diploma)		You must have a grade 4 or above in either GCSE English or GCSE Maths	<ul> <li>You should have a strong interest in music and recording technology</li> <li>Whilst playing an instrument may be beneficial for this course it is not a requirement</li> <li>This course is equivalent to 1 A level</li> </ul>
L3 A Level Physical Education	<ul> <li>If you have studied GCSE PE or BTEC equivalent, a grade C/pass</li> <li>You will require a grade C or above in Core or Additional Science</li> </ul>	You must have grade 4 or above in GCSE English	<ul> <li>You must be training and participating in one sport, in competitive fixtures at a club level or higher</li> <li>You must be free from long term injury and able to participate in practical assessments</li> </ul>
L3 A Level Physics	<ul> <li>If you have studied GCSE Physics you must have a grade B</li> <li>If you have studied GCSE Science you must have a grade C in Core Science</li> <li>and a Grade B in Additional Science (at the higher tier)</li> </ul>	You must have grade 5 or above in GCSE     Maths	<ul> <li>If you have taken other Science qualifications, you will need to discuss this</li> <li>Physics at A level has a strong mathematical component</li> <li>It is strongly recommended that you take Maths AND Physics, as without it, progression to a Physics / Engineering degree will be very difficult</li> </ul>
L3 A Level Psychology	You must have a grade C in GCSE Science or an equivalent Science course	You must have a grade 4 or above in GCSE Maths <u>and</u> a grade 4 or above in GCSE English	It is not essential to have studied     Psychology at GCSE
L3 A Level Sociology		You must have grade 4 or above in GCSE English	It is not essential to have studied     Sociology at GCSE

Level 3 courses			
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L3 A Level Spanish	You must have a grade B in GCSE Spanish	You must have grade 4 or above in GCSE English	
L3 A Level Religious Studies	If you have studied GCSE RE you must have	You must have grade 4 or above in GCSE	It is not essential to have studied RE at
	a grade C	English	GCSE

## We also offer a number courses for students who wish to improve their L2 profile and progress to L3 courses in the subsequent year

	Level 2 Course	es		
GCSE's	MINIMUM general entry requirements	Further Information		
GCSE Art & Design (Graphics/Photography)	4 A*-D GCSE grades (equivalents accepted)	Please note that both courses will be taught in one class, allowing students to choose with advice, which specification will be most suitable. For this reason it will not be possible to take both courses.		
GCSE English	4 A*-D GCSE grades (equivalents accepted)	Most colleges and universities require GCSE Maths as an entry requirement, as do many jobs and careers.		
GCSE Italian	You will need to have gained a grade B in another language at GCSE	This course is only available as part of a L3 study programme		
GCSE Maths	4 A*-D GCSE grades (equivalents accepted)	Most colleges and universities require GCSE Maths as an entry requirement, as do many jobs and careers.		
GCSE Psychology	4 A*-D GCSE grades (equivalents accepted)			
GCSE Philosophy & Ethics	4 A*-D GCSE grades (equivalents accepted)			
GCSE Sociology	4 A*-D GCSE grades (equivalents accepted)	New course- will only run if viable		
	BTECs			
BTEC Level 2 Applied Science (First Award)	4 A*-D GCSE grades (equivalents accepted)	<ul> <li>A GCSE Maths grade 4 is recommended to be successful.</li> <li>A GCSE Science grade D is also recommended - but not essential</li> </ul>		
BTEC Level 2 in Business (First Award)	4 A*-D GCSE grades (equivalents accepted).			
BTEC L2 Information Technology (First Award)	4 A*-D GCSE grades (equivalents accepted)	New course will only run if viable		

In exceptional circumstances a student may request to start a course without the exact entry requirements detailed above. These individual cases must be discussed with a member of the leadership team at enrolment.