

Subject requirements for studying A levels

1. A minimum score of 5 from 7 GCSEs to include English, Maths, and science along with four other GCSE grades or equivalent (not including short courses).
2. Specific grades for certain subjects (see over page)

To calculate your average GCSE points score you need to add your qualification points together and divide by 7, as this is the number of subjects you will include in the calculations. You will use the GCSE scores in the calculation for the majority of subjects; for GCSEs done last year or that are still graded, convert the grades to a score using the table opposite. Short courses are not included in the average GCSEs calculation and BTEC Level 2 Certificates and OCR National Certificates are given one grade as follows:

GCSE grade	Points
A*	8
A	7
B	6
C	5
D	4
E	3
F	2
G	1

- Distinction - 7
- Merit - 6
- Pass - 5

For example, if you achieved the results in the grid below, your average points score would be 5.1, meeting the first target for eligibility to study A-levels at Harlow College

Subject	Score	Grade	Points
GCSE English	5		5
GCSE English Literature	4		4
GCSE Maths	5		5
GCSE Science	6		6
GCSE Additional Science	5		5
GCSE French	6		6
GCSE Psychology		C	5
GCSE Geography - not counted as 7 better grades		C	
OCR National Certificate ICT Level 2 - not counted as 7 better grades		Pass	
			Total = 36
			$36 \div 7$ (the number of subjects counted) = 5.1

Work out your average point score below.

Subject	Score	Grade	Points
GCSE English (Language or Literature)			
GCSE Maths			
GCSE Science			

Total =

Total ÷ 7 (the number of subjects counted) =

	Specific subject requirements
Art	GCSE Art at score of 5 or above <i>You may be asked to produce examples of your work</i>
Biology	GCSE Core and Additional Science at score of 6 or above and GCSE Maths at score of 5 or above. If doing triple science, Biology and one other science at score of 6 or above and GCSE Maths at score of 5 or above
Business Studies	GCSE Maths & English Language or English Literature at a score of 5 or above
Chemistry	GCSE Core and Additional Science at grade 6 or above and GCSE Maths at score of 6 or above. If doing triple science, Chemistry and one other science at score of 6 or above and GCSE Maths at score of 6 or above
Computer Science	GCSE Maths score 6 and Computer Science or ICT at score of 6 or above
English Language	GCSE English Language at score of 5 or above
English Literature	GCSE English Literature at score of 5 or above
Extended Project Qualification (EPQ)	GCSE English Language or English Literature at a score of 7 or above; a total of 7 GCSEs at a score of 7 or above. This subject does not replace an AS and is only for the most academically able learners
French	Score of 7 or above in French
Further Mathematics	GCSE Maths at score of 8 or above and a pass in an entrance assessment. <i>Learners must take A level Mathematics alongside Further Mathematics</i>
Geography	GCSE English Language or English Literature at score of 5 or above; GCSE Geography at score 5 or above preferred. <i>It is not essential to have studied Geography to GCSE.</i>
History	GCSE English Language or English Literature at score of 5 or above; GCSE History at score of 5 or above preferred. <i>It is not essential to have studied History to GCSE.</i>
Law (BTEC Certificate)	GCSE English Language or English Literature at score of 5 or above
Mathematics	GCSE Maths at score of 7 or above and a pass in an entrance assessment.
Media Studies	GCSE English Language or English Literature at score of 5 or above

Philosophy	GCSE Maths & English Language or English Literature at a score of 6 or above
Photography	GCSE English Language or English Literature at score of 5 or above
Physics (it is advised that students study AS Maths)	GCSE Core and Additional Science at score of 6 or above and GCSE Maths at score of 7 or above. If doing triple science, Physics and one other science at score of 6 or above and GCSE Maths at score of 7 or above
Politics (aka Government & Politics)	GCSE English Language or English Literature at score of 5 or above
Psychology	GCSE English Language or English Literature at score of 5. Maths at score 5 <i>or</i> a Science at score of 5 or above
Sociology	GCSE English Language or English Literature at score of 5 and above

If an individual subject fails to recruit sufficient students it may not run.

If you have any queries please contact the Sixth Form Office on 01279 868087