



2 Professional Programmes

A flexible package of studies

Professional Programmes at the College are an exciting opportunity to take part in a flexible package of studies that are in addition to your A Level studies and that will help you to prepare for your application to specific courses and careers.

Each programme will be followed for one lesson per week for between 13 and 16 weeks and we will tailor the programme to meet your needs as far as possible.

The Professional Programmes are specific career sessions.

For 2017, programmes may be offered for entry into the following professions:

- Medical - doctors, veterinary scientists, dentists
- Healthcare - physiotherapists, nurses and other health professions
- Law - solicitors, barristers
- Business and Finance
- Teaching/Education
- Media
- STEM: Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths

All students who follow a Professional Programme will benefit from:

- specific career information and guidance
- a programme of speakers and activities
- visits/taster days to universities or employers (signposting or organised visits)

It may be possible for some students to benefit from work experience and/or volunteering opportunities.

Open Evenings

Thursday 20th October 2016 5.30 - 8.30pm &
Tuesday 15th November 2016 5.30 - 8.30pm

Opportunities to develop skills

You will be timetabled for at least one session per week. This includes opportunities to develop the skills to:

- research career opportunities
- compare the structure of different courses
- produce an impressive personal statement
- manage the application process
- perform effectively at interview where appropriate

You will be helped to prepare for the variety of additional tests that are used to select between able candidates in some of these increasingly competitive fields, e.g. the UK-CAT Clinical Aptitude Test or Skills Tests for teaching.

The student experience as a whole:

- The Professional Programme will run alongside your A Level or Vocational courses
- You will review your progress regularly with your teachers and tutor
- Details about your participation in the Professional Programme can be used to enhance College references and the personal statement that support your application to university
- In 2015-16, all students who gave feedback felt that the programmes were worth attending

Open Events

Thursday 9th March 2017 4.30 - 6.30pm &
Thursday 25th May 2017 4.30 - 6.30pm

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The Medical Professional Programme

The College has an excellent reputation for career guidance and support for students and is, therefore, well placed to provide additional opportunities for students who wish to apply for fiercely competitive Higher Education courses, including Medicine, Veterinary Science and Dentistry.

- The programme focuses on skills for working in medicine, dentistry and veterinary medicine. It also covers how to prepare for a successful university application
- Additional talks from admissions tutors, university departments, practising professionals and students who are currently applying for or studying these subjects at university

Participants in the Medical Programme should have at least 4 A* grades (or equivalent) at GCSE

“Very useful in understanding that high grades aren’t the only thing required to get into a competitive course.”

The Healthcare Professional Programme

This programme will offer you extra opportunities that could get you noticed by admissions tutors or employers in an increasingly competitive world.

- The programme focuses on skills for working in Healthcare. It also covers preparation for a successful university/apprenticeship application
- There are additional talks from practising healthcare professionals, university admissions tutors and students who are currently studying at university
- Work experience and/or volunteering is strongly encouraged and extra opportunities may include trips e.g. to universities

The Law Professional Programme

The College has an excellent reputation for supporting and extending our most able students, therefore, we are well placed to provide additional opportunities for students who wish to apply for a highly competitive course such as Law.

Structure of Programme

The programme involves one lesson per week and includes:

- presentations by visiting speakers on topics related to careers in Law, including admissions tutors and practising professionals
- visits to universities and places of work where appropriate e.g. through work shadowing
- support with your personal statement and interview techniques where appropriate



“The College has an excellent reputation for supporting and extending our most able students.”

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The Media Professional Programme

If you are interested in a career in this area, this professional programme will offer you opportunities that could make your UCAS personal statement and reference different from other applicants and get you noticed by admissions tutors.

The programme involves one lesson per week taught by a specialist adviser and includes:

- career opportunities in Media, and the skills needed to get into this highly competitive industry
- additional talks from admissions tutors, university departments, practising professionals in newspapers, TV and radio



Extra opportunities may include optional trips and visits to support your studies e.g. to universities, Worcester News, Media City in Salford.



The Business Professional Programme

This programme will offer you extra opportunities that could get you noticed by admissions tutors or employers in an increasingly competitive world.

The programme involves one lesson per week with an experienced teacher plus:

- additional talks from, for example: admissions tutors, university departments and practising professionals from different areas of business
- opportunities for 1:1 interviews to discuss your career choices plus support with your personal statement and interview techniques

In addition to this, you will be offered trips and visits to support your studies and extra opportunities, e.g. to a university business school; to PriceWaterhouseCoopers, a large international accountancy firm.



The Teaching and Education Professional Programme

This programme will be suitable for you if you are considering becoming a teacher or are interested in pursuing another professional role in Education.

You will opt for one lesson a week for:

- lessons with an experienced teacher. These include routes into education, the nature of work in education and making informed choices about Higher Education institutions and courses
- additional talks from, e.g. admissions tutors, university departments, practising professionals and students
- opportunities for 1:1 interviews to discuss your career choices plus support with your personal statement and interview techniques

In addition you will have the opportunity to do work experience, participate in voluntary work and develop skills which will enhance your application, including practice with the new skills test.

The STEM Professional Programme

This is a programme for students interested in careers in Science, Technology, Engineering and/or Maths. The programme aims to prepare students for application to university or to STEM apprenticeships and includes speakers from the professions and from university academics or admissions tutors. The programme will be led by an experienced careers adviser or science teacher, with signposting to additional activities and opportunities. Lessons run in the autumn term followed by informal 1:1 support throughout the application process. Students have also recently visited The Festival of Innovation, an Eco-House and Birmingham University.



“getting information early gave me ideas about
what to do next – a focus point.”

For further information contact
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