

Qualification Information Evening

Mrs Sally Ambrose – Assistant Head teacher - Curriculum

Mr Nigel Barlow - Assistant Head teacher - Pastoral

Sophie Brunton – Yr 10 Creative and Media Diploma student



SCHOOL PRAYER

Living God creator of us all,
We thank you for your love that strengthens
each of us.

Help us to value ourselves and others,
To rejoice in the opportunity to learn,
To care for the environment we share
And to build up the community in which we live.
We ask for your blessing on the students, the
staff and all who support Tring School.

We offer this prayer in the name of
Jesus Christ, our lord,
Amen



Aims of the Evening

- Inform parents of the **range of Level 2** qualifications available to the students.
- Explain the **tariff** attached to the different type of qualification.
- Examine the method of assessment for each qualification.
- Dispel the **myth** that some qualifications are better than others.



Chapter one - Currency

- Point scores and their grade equivalents



A fast and changing World

- The *Currency of progression* has changed.
- At the end of Yr6, students achieve a point score.
Point scores are converted to indicate a students potential.
 - Level 4c = 25 points
 - Level 4b = 27 points
 - Level 5b = 33 points
- Students performance in the KS2 SATS are reported as an Average point score, plotted onto a graph and expected rates of progression are calculated.
- The process is repeated at KS3.

This information will be used to guide the students towards the appropriate pathways.



A fast and changing World

KS4

- Students achievements are now often referred to as a **point score** rather than a grade.

A* = 58 Points

D = 34 Points

A = 52 Points

E = 28 Points

B = 46 Points

F = 22 Points

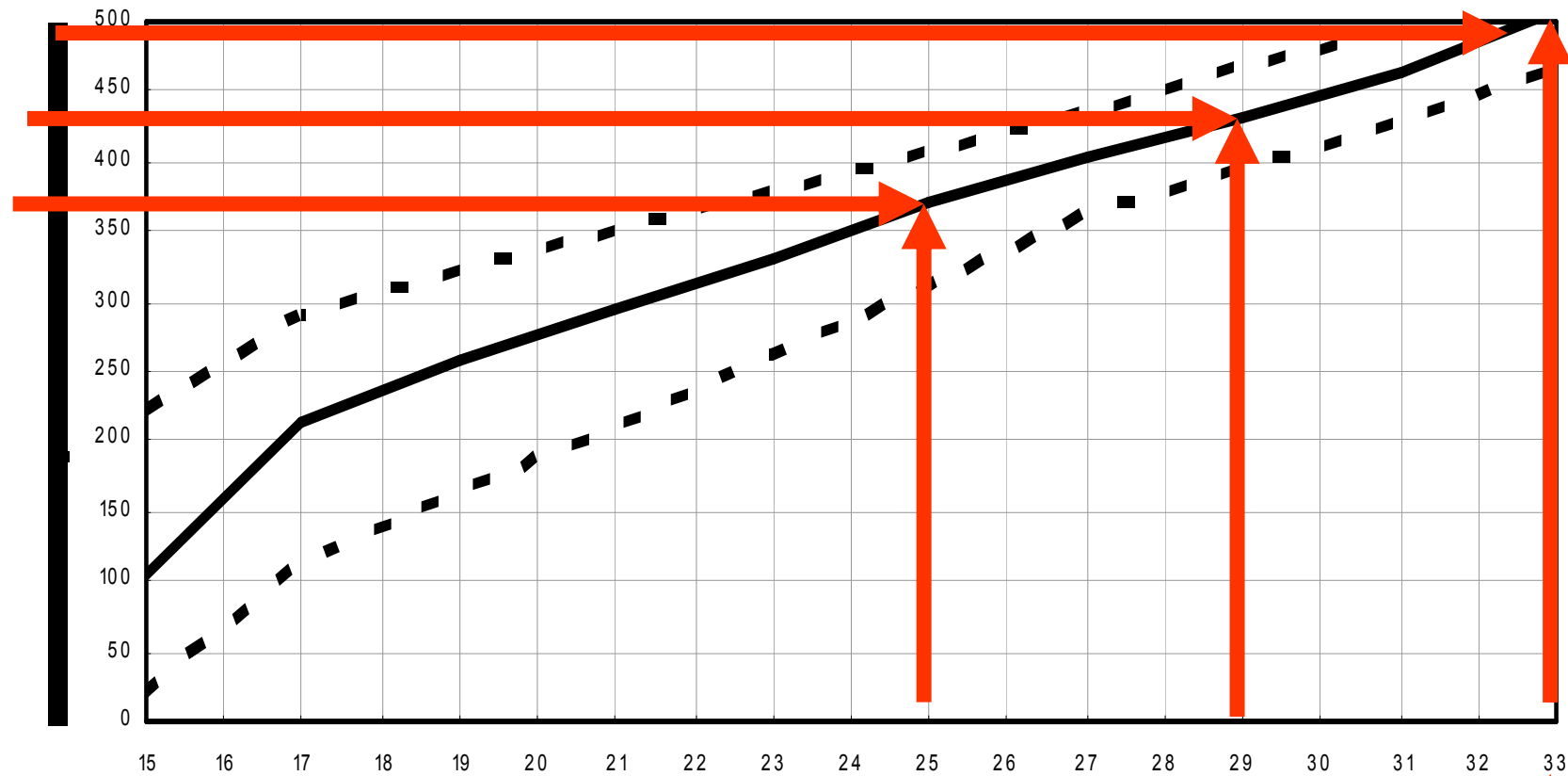
C = 40 Points

G = 16 Points

Average point scores are used to sum up overall achievement.



2009 GCSE & Equivalent Capped GCSE Points (plus bonus English & Maths) Value
 Added Line



and
 below

Average 2004 Key Stage Points Score

4c

4a

5b



and
 above

KS 5 Progression

Students wishing to study Level 3 courses (A levels):

- Will need to achieve a **minimum of 320 points**, based on their **eight** best GCSE results
- We expect English and Maths to be included in these
- We also expect that students will achieve a minimum of a Grade B in those subjects they wish to study at Level 3

If you wish to study four Level 3 courses:

- You need to achieve a minimum of **372 points**

If you obtain less than 320 points you can study level 2 courses

GCSE point scores

A*	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
58	52	46	40	34	28	22	16



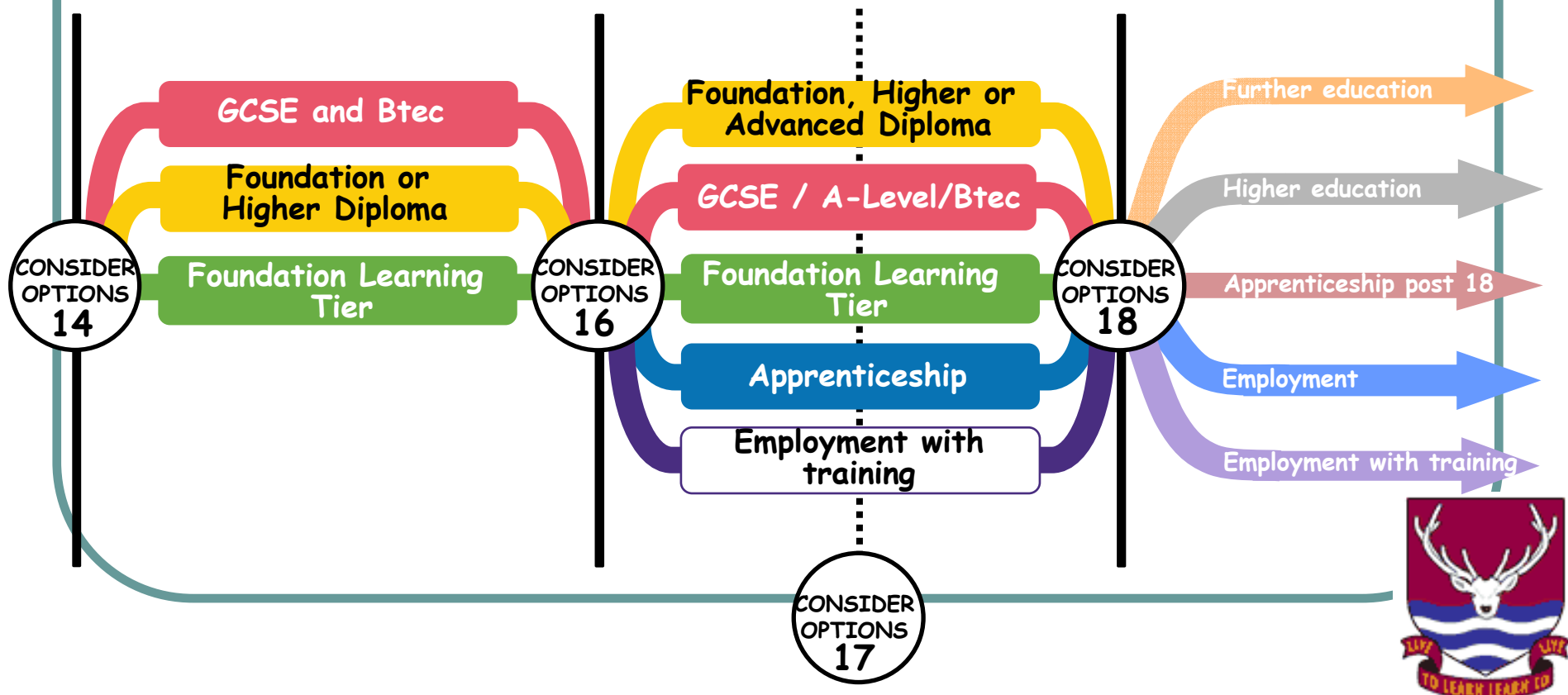
Chapter two

- The range of Qualifications



New pathways

The qualifications currently available are being brought together into a series of distinct pathways:



The Qualifications Framework

- **Entry Level** (a stepping stone to GCSE standard)
- **Level 1** (e.g. GCSE Grades D-G, BTEC Introductory, Leadership Awards, Level 1 Diplomas)
- **Level 2** (e.g. GCSE Grades A*-C, BTEC Diploma or BTEC Certificate, OCRs, Level 2 Diplomas)
- **Level 3** (e.g. IB, A-Levels, BTEC National Level 3s, Level 3 Diplomas)

Further levels are not relevant to school



Types of courses on offer

1. General Qualifications i.e. GCSEs

- A wide range of **GCSEs**

2. Vocational qualifications

- **BTEC Diploma** (equivalent to 4 GCSE grades)
- **BTEC Certificate** (equivalent to 2 GCSE grades)
- **OCR Nationals** (equivalent to between 1 – 4 GCSE grades)
- **Diploma Qualification** (L2 is equivalent to 7 A*-C GCSE grades
L1 is equivalent to 5 D- G GCSE grades)

3. Occupational qualifications

- **National Vocational Qualifications (NVQs)** offered by West Herts. College
- Entry Level through to Level 2 – e.g. Catering, Health and Beauty, Construction, Art, Media & Design, Child Care and many more.



Main differences between GCSEs and Vocational courses

GCSEs

- Theoretical approach
- Written exam at the end of the course
- Graded =
A*, A, B, C, D, E, F,
G, U
- Worth 1 GCSE

Vocational (BTECs/OCR)

- Practical/ applied/ hands on
- Produce a portfolio of work (mostly internal marking). No exam
- 1. Distinction + (GCSE Grade A*)
- 2. Distinction (GCSE Grade A)
- 3. Merit (GCSE grade B)
- 4. Pass (GCSE grade C)
- 5. Fail (GCSE grade U)
- Worth between 2 and 4 GCSEs



Main differences between GCSEs and Vocational courses

Diploma Qualification

You can study a Diploma at three levels: Foundation, Higher and Advanced.

The Foundation Diploma is the same as 5 GCSEs at grades D to G

The Higher Diploma is the same as 7 GCSEs at grades A* to C

The course qualification is divided into Principal Learning, Work Experience, Student Project and Functional Skills.



Diploma Qualification

- Courses available in
 - Business, Admin & Finance
 - Creative and Media
 - Engineering
 - ICT
 - Hospitality
 - Sport and Active Leisure



Example of a Sport course

Health and Safety topic - Identifying and implementing Health and Safety Procedure.

GCSE PE

-Examination questions requiring students to recall factual understanding of policies and how sporting organisations follow Health and Safety procedure.

BTEC PE-

- Coursework requiring students to place themselves in a scenario, as a Health and Safety Officer of Watford Football Club- describing and evaluating the Health and Safety procedures followed.

Diploma in Sport and Active Leisure-

Students visit Watford Football Club and conduct the Health and Safety audit of the Health and Safety procedures.



Level 2 Qualification tariff

Qualification	Grading	Point Score		
GCSE	A*, A, B, C, D, E, F, G L2 L1	58 – 16 (6 Points between each grade)		
Applied GCSE	A*, A, B, C, D, E, F, G L2 L1	58 – 16 (6 Points between each grade)		
BTEC Certificate	Distinction	58	116	232
	Merit	46	92	184
	Pass	40	80	160
NVQ	L2	80 - 104		
	L1	32-79		
Diploma Qualification	A*	290		
	A	260		
	B	230		
	C	200		



Chapter 3

- Curriculum offer at Tring School



14 – 19 REFORM

‘One of the main reasons for failure or underachievement are courses that fail to meet the needs, interests and aptitudes of students’

QCA GUIDANCE ON PROGRESSION



A new approach.

Our curriculum provides a range of different qualifications for different students;

to help all of our learners to meet the challenges of life in our fast-changing world."

Working in collaboration with Senior Teachers and Parents our students will be guided onto a pathway which best suits their individual needs.



A Curriculum with Flexible Pathways

- Based on KS2 targeted APS.
- Takes into consideration the students preferred learning and assessment style.
- Provides coherent pathways for all abilities.
- Feeds into selection of pathway at KS5
- Stretches the able.
- Builds on the strong Core Curriculum.
- Addresses the number of GCSE Qualifications students of different abilities have to study.
- Provides a cohesive curriculum for students on personalised programmes, ensuring they don't miss key lessons in other subjects.



Some things stay the same...

You will continue to study

- English Language (1 GCSE)
- English Literature (1 GCSE)
- Maths (1 GCSE)
- Double Science (2 GCSE's) or Triple Science
- ICT(1/2 GCSE)
- Religious Studies (1/2 GCSE)
- BTec Sport (1 GCSE)

This will gain you 7/8 GCSEs.



In addition, you will do...

- PSE
- Core PE (games)
- You are then able to select 4 further Option subjects from the organised blocks.



Courses on offer at Tring

- GCSE

Exam based

Art
Business Studies
Drama
Electronic Products
Food Technology
French
Geography
German
Graphics
History
Music
PE
Resistant Materials
Textiles

- Applied GCSE

Coursework and exam

Leisure & Tourism
Health & Social Care
Vocational History

BTEC

All coursework with regular feedback.

ASDAN

PE

Media Studies

Music

Work Skills



Diploma Qualification

- Courses available in
 - Business, Admin & Finance
 - Creative and Media
 - Engineering
 - ICT
 - Hospitality
 - Sport and Active Leisure



Sophie Brunton

Creative and Media Diploma



Introduction -

Creative and Media course is a mixture of
Photography, Video, Editing, Dance,
Drama, Art and Costume Design.



Where do we study?

We study at 3 different schools

- **JFK** (Photography, Videoing and Editing)
- **Hemel Hempstead School** (Dance and Drama)
- **Astley Cooper School** (Art and Costume Design)



The Diploma!

- The diploma takes up two of your options
- By the end of the course you could get up to 7 GCSE's.
- It is a lot of hard work, but a lot of fun.
- There are lots of people from different schools, which gives you the opportunity to make lots of new friends.
- The projects are mainly about improving your independent skills, so setting your own homework and finding out your own research.



What we are doing at the moment!

- On Tuesdays we are collected by a taxi at break time and taken to JFK for periods 3 and 4, where we are focusing on a mini project.
- We are exploring the work of our chosen practitioner to gain an understanding of their working techniques.
- The outcome: we will have our own artefact in the style of our chosen practitioner.



What we are doing at the moment!

- On Thursdays, we spend the whole day at one of the schools: Hemel Hempstead School, JFK or Astley Cooper School
- I am at Astley Cooper studying Visual Arts and the next half-term I will be at a different school.
- In Visual Arts we are creating a prop or costume for a character in A Midsummer Night's Dream.



Why did I choose the Diploma!

- It includes everything I wanted to do and more.
- I will end up getting more GCSE's rather than doing four in school options.
- I wanted to try something different, like photography and dance which you can't get a GCSE for in school.
- I think it will boost my confidence



Why should you choose this diploma?

This is a great opportunity if your interested going into a Creative and Media related career.

Where could this take you?

You could do the further Level 3 Creative and Media course for A level or do a L3 course in one specific area e.g. Photography, Dance, Drama etc



If you would like some more information on the Diploma

- Speak to Sophie at the end.
- Speak to me at the end.
- Attend an Diploma Information Evening in December at JFK School.



NVQ's at West Herts College

- We offer some students the opportunity to follow a NVQ L1/2 at West Herts College for one whole day.
- Courses range from - Hair and Beauty, Construction, Motor Vehicle repair, Ict, Uniformed Service, Catering, Child Care, Floristry and many more.



Young Apprentice Scheme

- Jaguar Land Rover are offering an excellent opportunity for a small number of students to complete an Apprenticeship scheme in Vehicle Maintenance and Repair.
- The course is equivalent to 5 A* - C GCSE grades.
- It replaces 2 GCSE Options within school.



Supporting your child in making the right choices

- What support will your child receive in making the right choices to meet their individual aspirations and interests?



What should they be thinking about?

- "Do I enjoy the subject?"
- "How will I be assessed?"
- "Will the subjects I want to choose compliment each other?"
- Talk to older students and the teachers who teach the subjects they are interested in
- Maximising their chances of getting 5 A* - C's
- "What do I want to do after GCSE's?"



How can you support them?

- Listen to them
- Don't pressure them into taking subjects they don't want to
- Tell them to come and speak to us
- Contact us directly
- Read the information that is sent home to you



What support will you get from us?

- Form Tutor- "Futures Information Form"
- Meeting with a senior member of staff
- Connexions Careers Advisor
- Options Booklet
- Year 9 Tracker
- Aim Higher Day
- Options Fair and Parents Evening



Important dates

- 29th September - Qualification Information Evening
- 22nd November - Which Way Now?
- 15/11- 19/11 - Complete Futures Information Form with Tutors
- 22/11 - 18/12 - Senior Teacher Interview
- 8th December - Year 9 Parents Evening

- 5th January - Options Fair
- 1st February - Option Forms to be submitted to Head of House.

- Summer term - Options confirmed



The end!

- Thank you!
- Any questions?

