



Blue Coat Church of England Academy

Welcome to Blue Coat Academy



Our Values

Wisdom, Endurance, Service, Kindness and Hope

“Exercise your freedom by serving God, not by breaking the rules. Treat everyone you meet with dignity. Love your spiritual family. Revere God. Respect the government.”

1 Peter 2:16-17

Blue Coat Church of England Academy is an inclusive Christian learning environment where the uniqueness of each individual is celebrated, nurtured and realised. All members of the school community are encouraged to achieve the highest standards and become full contributors to society as confident and caring individuals.



We are a rights respecting school and students at Blue Coat Church of England Academy are part of a strong, inclusive community, where the inherent dignity of every child is valued. Students have a strong voice and are regularly consulted about the development of our school. Students speak positively about the strong relationships within our school and the respect shown with in our Blue Coat Family.

Times of the school day



The academy day begins at 8.35am and finishes at 3.00pm. Pupils attend form time from 8.35 till 9.00. The school day consists of 6 lessons – each lasting for duration of 50 minutes, a 20-minute morning break and a 40-minute lunch break. Please note that students are not allowed off the academy site during the day. Students should buy food from the canteen or bring a packed lunch which they may eat in the school canteen.

Registration	8.35
Lesson 1	9.00
Lesson 2	9.50
Break	10.40
Lesson 3	11.00
Lesson 4	11.50
Lunch	12.40
Lesson 5	1.20
Lesson 6	2.10
End of school	3.00

Students are expected to arrive at school on time every day.

If your child is late to school, they will receive L mark and will have to do a 30 minutes detention after school.

Students are expected to attend school every day unless they are ill.

Students' safety on school site



During winter months when the days are shorter and it gets darker early, pupils need to leave the site by 3.30pm unless attending supervised extra curriculum clubs.

In summer months this is extended.

All homework is uploaded onto the school's homework site: Satchel One. All children are given a login for the site.

If your child needs help with homework we also run a Homework Club every day in the LRC from 3pm to 4pm.

The LRC is available before school from 8am till 8.30am and after school till 4pm. Pupils can use computers and printers and a member of staff is available to help as well.

Blue Coat Academy offers free breakfast for pupils in the canteen every morning.

The Breakfast Club is free to all pupils and runs from 7.30am till 8.30am.

We also offer free bagels at 3pm.



Reporting absence from school



If your child is ill and cannot come to school, you need to telephone to tell us before 8.40am.

*You can leave a message on our answer phone or with our receptionists.
School telephone number: 01922 720 558*

You need to tell us your child's name and why they are off school.

Leave of Absence Request

In accordance with the law the Academy will not authorise a leave of absence in term time except in exceptional circumstances. All requests must be made to the principal in writing, in advance of the absence and providing as much information as possible regarding the circumstances of the request.

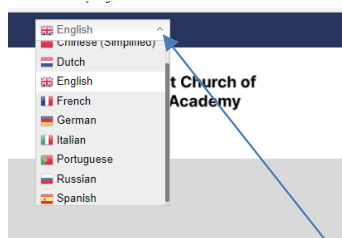
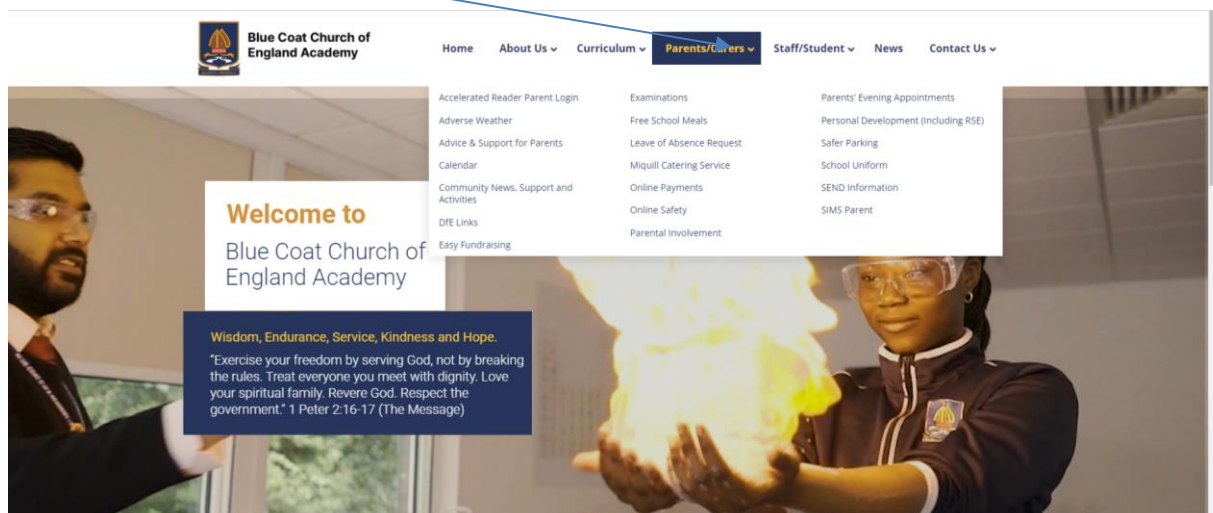
Term dates are available on the school website. Parents/Carers wishing to know dates before they are published should contact the Academy for more information.

Walsall Council has the authority to fine parents/carers for holidays taken during term time.

If you wish to request an absence, please complete the form available on school's website or from the school reception and hand in to the Academy at the earliest opportunity to allow for it to be considered with due care and attention.

School Website

You will find all the useful information on our school website. There is a section specifically for parents/carers.



The information is also available in some of the foreign languages.

Pastoral Care

Students are divided into year groups.

Each year group has its Head of Year.

Each year is divided into form groups.

Your child will meet their form tutor every morning from 8.35 to 9am.

If you have any concerns about your son or daughter their Heads of Year should be your first point of contact.



The highlight of the week is our weekly Friday assembly in St. Matthew's Church where we listen and learn about our school values, celebrate, and commemorate important events and worship together.

The Pastoral Team:

Mrs Cockayne

Mr Hendy

Mr Pittaway

Mr Wrighton

Ms Vernon



Heads of Year in Key Stage 3 (years 7,8,9)

Mr Wrighton – Head of Key Stage 4 (years 10 and 11)

Ms Vernon - Head of 6th Form (years 12 and 13)

Safeguarding Team

This is the school's Safeguarding Team. If your child has any concerns, they can speak in confidence to a member of the Safeguarding Team.



Mrs Billingham-Hill



Mrs Garratt



Mrs Bird

School Uniform



All students must wear a white shirt.

Students must also wear the Academy tie. This can be purchased from the Academy.

Students should wear a blue blazer. The Academy badge should be sewn on the front pocket.

Boys should wear black trousers.

Girls can wear black trousers or a black skirt.

All students should wear black shoes.

All students should wear black socks.

All students must wear a dark blue or a black coat. Coats should be logo-free without any letters or decoration.

Hooded tops, 'bomber jackets' and leather, plastic or denim materials are not permitted.

Hair is to be kept tidy and extremes of hairstyle (e.g. sculpturing, hair dyed bright colours) are not permitted.

Make-up or nail varnish should not be worn.

Students with pierced ears are permitted to wear one small stud in each ear.

Nose studs and other facial piercings are not to be worn.

Students may wear wrist watches but other jewellery should not be worn, except where it has been approved by the Principal.

Smart Watches are not permitted in school.

PE kit:

Academy's blue T-shirt

Academy's jogging bottoms/leggings

White socks

Trainers

For colder days – Academy's fleece



School Equipment

All students should bring a bag to school.



All students should bring a pen, a pencil and a ruler to school.



The Curriculum

Key Stage 3

In years 7 and 8 every student studies:

Art, Design Technology, Drama, English, French, Geography, History, ICT, Mathematics, Music, Physical Education, Religious Studies and Science.

One lesson of English per week is dedicated to Accelerated Reader in the Learning Resource Centre. All students are tested to determine their reading age and where necessary may be selected to receive intense reading intervention with our specialist Literacy Intervention Co-ordinator.

Some students may also attend lessons in English as an Additional Language and Key Skills, as necessary for their specific needs.

In Year 9 every student studies:

Computing, English, Geography, History, Mathematics, Religious Studies and Science.

Students also study a selection from the following taster options in 3D Design, Art, Automotive Studies, Business Studies, Dance, Drama, Food Technology, French, Health & Social Care, Media Studies, Music, Spanish, Sport and Textiles.

Some students may also attend lessons in English as an Additional Language and Key Skills, as necessary for their specific needs.

For all students in years 7-11 PSHE is taught through three exciting personal development days, appropriate to their year group. Students will enjoy a variety of sessions based around the themes of Personal safety, Health, Relationships, Work, Finance, Citizenship and Community. Students will be encouraged to research and debate topics. Sessions are run by Academy staff, outside professionals such as the police, school nurses, primary care trust and theatre groups. The school are also supported by Street Teams who help us raise awareness and tackle online issues (e-safety) and child sexual exploitation.

Key Stage 4

In Years 10 and 11 every pupil studies:

English Language, English Literature, or ESOL option for English for new arrivals to the country, Mathematics, Physical Education, Religious Studies, and either Combined Science or Triple Science (Biology, Chemistry and Physics.)

Additionally, students choose to study up to three from the following:

3D Design, Art, Automotive Studies, Business Studies, Computing, Drama, French, Geography, Hair & Beauty, Health & Social Care, History, Hospitality & Catering, ICT, Media Studies, Music, Performing Arts, Sport and Textiles.

Some students may also attend lessons in English as an Additional Language, Key Skills and ASDAN as necessary for their specific needs.

PSHE is taught through three exciting personal development days, appropriate to their year group. Students will enjoy a variety of sessions based around the themes of Personal safety, Health, Relationships, Work, Finance, Citizenship and Community. Students will be encouraged to research and debate topics. Sessions are run by Academy staff, outside professionals such as the police, school nurses, primary care trust and theatre groups. The school are also supported by Street Teams who help us raise awareness and tackle online issues (e-safety) and child sexual exploitation.

Key Stage 5

In Years 12 and 13 pupils have the option to study a range of subjects from the following Level 3 courses:

Applied Science, Biology, Business Studies, Chemistry, English Literature, Health & Social Care, History, ICT, Law, Mathematics, Media Studies, Philosophy of Religion, Physics, Psychology, Sociology, Sport and Sports Leadership.

We also offer a range of Level 1 and Level 2 courses:

Level 2: Application of Science, English, Law, Mathematics, Media Studies and Travel & Tourism.

Level 1: Functional Skills in English Language, ESOL for new arrivals, Functional Skills in ICT, Functional Skills in Mathematics and Introduction to the Hospitality Industry.

All students also have the opportunity to resit GCSE English and/or GCSE Mathematics if they want/need to improve upon their Y11 result.

All students are allocated a Religious Education lesson at least once a week and some students may also attend lessons in English as an Additional Language, Key Skills, Citizenship, Step up to Work, Work Experience as necessary for their specific needs.

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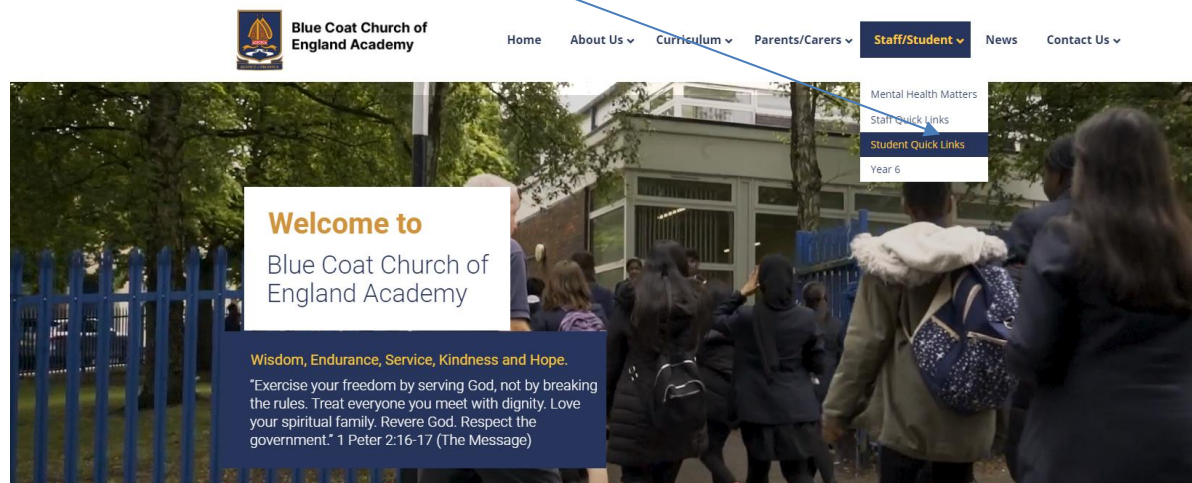


Homework

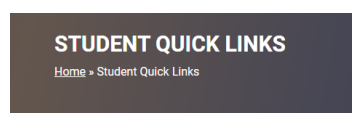
The school uses Satchel One website for your child's homework. It is where your child's teachers record and set homework.

To access Satchel One, you need to go to Blue Coat Academy's website and click on Staff/Student Links. Choose Student Quick Links.

satchel:
one

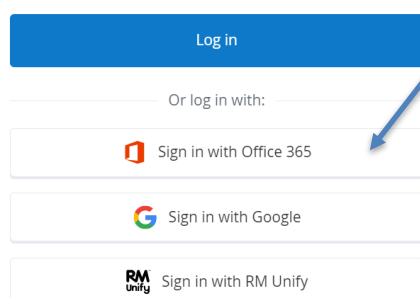


Then you need to click on Team Satchel.



[Student Email](#)
[Team Satchel](#)
[Unifrog](#)
[Mathswatch](#)
[Mathswatch User Guide](#)
[Times Tables Rockstars](#)
[Google Classroom](#)
[Google Drive](#)
[ASDAN Login](#)
[RESPECT ALL](#)
[Revision - BBC Bitesize](#)
[Revision - S-Cool](#)
[Revision - How to make a timetable](#)
[Kerboodle](#)
[UCAS](#)
[Active Learn](#)

To log in you need to click 'Sign in with Office 365'. The username is the child's school e-mail address, and the password is the same they use to log in to school computers.



Independent Study

There are many websites your child can use to accelerate their progress. Here are some examples.

Maths

For maths, pupils have individual logins for these websites:

<https://vle.mathswatch.co.uk/vle/>

<https://play.ttrockstars.com/auth/school/student>

They can also use the following for independent work:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/zqhs34j> (KS3 maths)

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/examspecs/z9p3mnb> (KS4 maths)

www.mathsgenie.co.uk

Science

Science independent study websites:

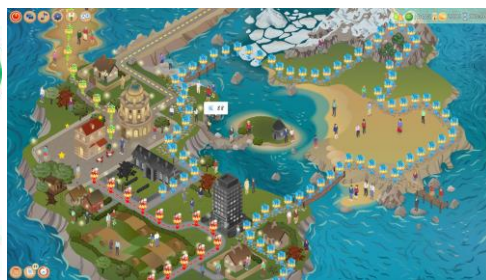
<https://www.kerboodle.com/users/login> (they have kerboodle logins)

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/znq4d2p> (KS3 Science)

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/zp266yc> (KS4 Science)

English

www.learningvillage.net

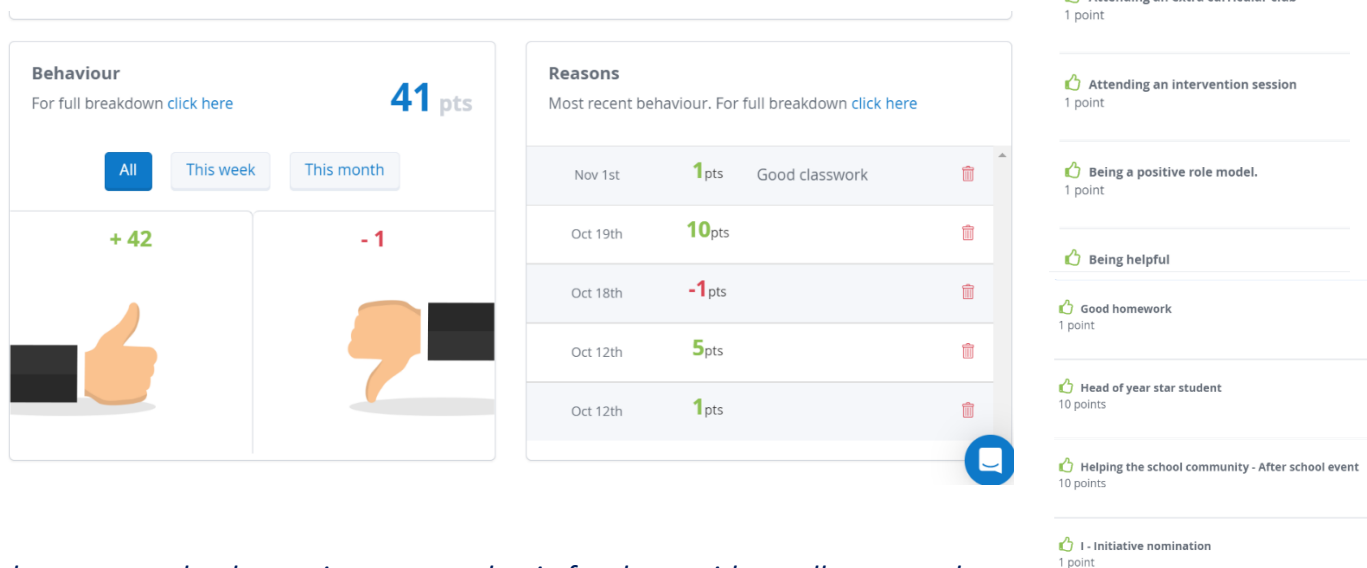


Our school has a subscription to use The **Learning Village**. It is engaging, fun and immersive. There are over one thousand lessons and activities the students go through step by step and develop their spelling, pronunciation, vocabulary and expand their subject specific knowledge. The learners have their own logins and passwords, the results are recorded, and prizes given every two weeks for those who excel.

The students can use The Learning Village website at school, at home using a laptop or a computer or they can download an app.

Rewards and sanctions

Students are rewarded points for a variety of reasons: achievement, progress, attendance, behaviour, effort, service to school and service to wider community. These are recorded on Satchel One.



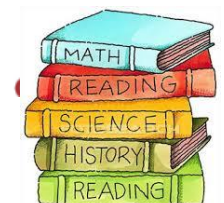
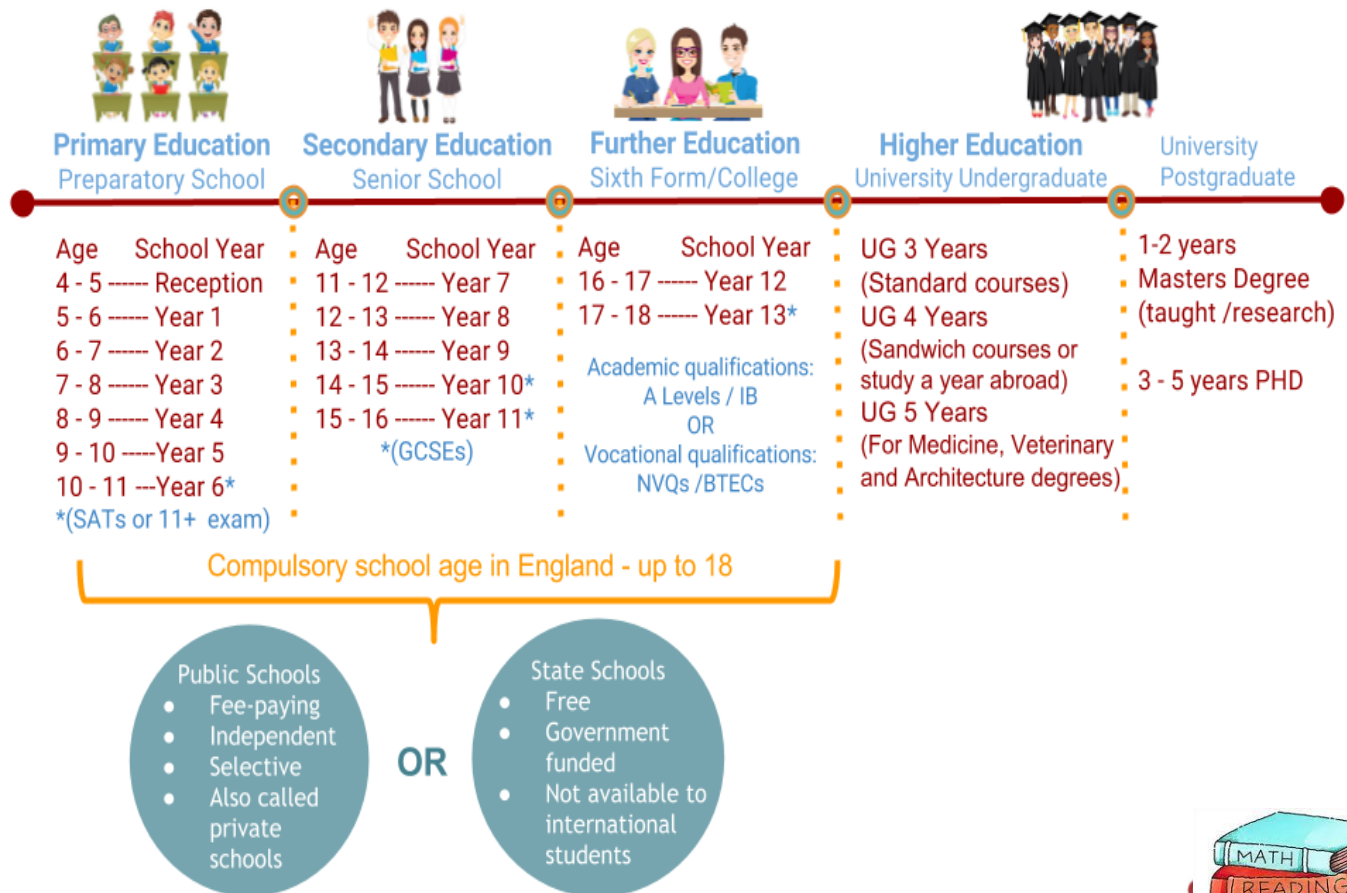
Each term our school organises a rewards trip for those with excellent attendance and behaviour. There are also termly year group awards assemblies, certificates, postcards, positive phone calls home, and a big celebration at the end of each year called Prize Evening where we celebrate the achievements of our pupils in each of their subjects.

English as an Additional Language Department (EAL)

In our school we have an EAL department that is dedicated to support children for whom English is not the first language. The department consists of an EAL teacher and EAL teaching assistants who are specialists in working with EAL children. We offer ESOL set for English in KS4 and KS5, one to one and small group intervention sessions, as well as teaching assistant's support in lessons. The staff in our department speak Polish, Slovak, Hungarian and Urdu and are available to help with translation during parents' meetings and with phone calls.



UK Education System



SATS: Statutory Assessment Tests

In Year 2 and Year 6, all pupils in England take national assessments – known as **SATs** – in English and Maths in the summer term.

GCSE:

A General Certificate of Secondary Education (**GCSE**) is a qualification normally taken by most UK students at the end of secondary school. It normally takes two years, and you take the final exams at the end of Year 11.

After year 11 students have a choice to study for A Levels, NVQ or BTEC qualifications. To be able to study A Levels, students need to get grades 5-9 in their GCSE exams.

A Levels:

A-levels are qualifications that are offered by schools and colleges for students aged between 16 and 19. These qualifications can lead to university, further study, training, or work. The grades students receive are A*-E, A* being the highest. Universities like Oxford or Cambridge require at least three A* or A grades. Many universities will accept students with A, B, C grades. It depends on each university. More information about universities you will find on the UCAS website. UCAS – Universities and colleges Admissions Service.

www.ucas.com

NVQ

NVQ stands for national vocational qualification. The **NVQ** is a work-based qualification which recognises the skills and knowledge a person needs to do a job. They are available in more than 1,000 subjects ranging from plumbing to hairdressing.

BTEC

BTEC stands for the Business and Technology Education Council. **BTECs** are specialist work-related qualifications. They combine practical learning with subject and theory content. There are over 2,000 BTEC qualifications across 16 sectors – they are available from entry level through to professional qualifications at level 7 (equivalent to postgraduate study).

Grades used to assess pupils' work at Key Stage 3 and 4 in English schools.

New grades
9
8
7
6
5 STRONG PASS
4 STANDARD PASS
3
2
1

All assessment is conducted using the GCSE 1-9 scale, with 9 being the highest grade.

Entry Level 3
Entry Level 2
Entry Level 1

For students who are not quite yet at GCSE level, their work is assessed using the Entry Level scale.

Functional Skills in English, Maths and ICT, Level 1 and 2 in year 12 and 13.

For those students who pass the Entry Levels exams (Entry 2 or 3) the school offers Functional Skills English, Maths, and ICT exams at two levels: Level 1 and Level 2. Level 2 qualifications are equivalent to GCSE grades 3-4.

The students can take the exams in year 12 or year 13.

More information on:

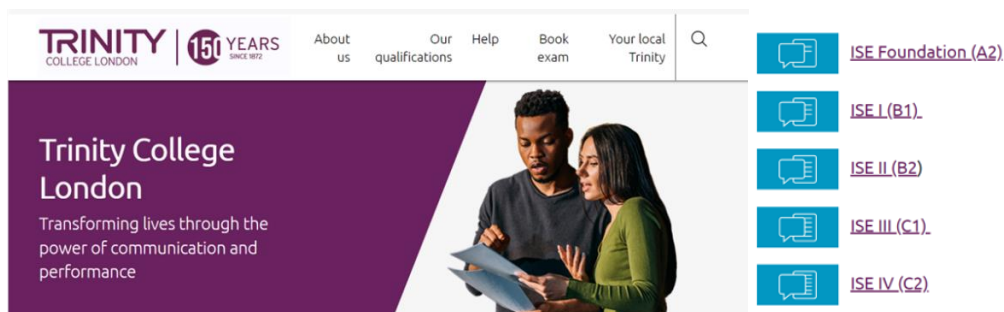
www.aqa.org.uk

Trinity College London Language Qualification.

Our school offers Trinity Qualifications in English called Integrated Skills in English, for those students who are recent arrivals from other countries and are not ready to sit GCSE English exams.

The exam consists of two parts, reading and writing, and speaking and listening. Students are being prepared to the exam in year 10 and year 11 by a specialist teacher.

Depends on the language acquisition of the students we offer exams at 3 different levels: ISE Foundation (Entry 2), ISE I (Entry 3) and ISE II (Level 1).



Home Language GCSE exams.

Students can take GCSE exams in their home language as well. To be able to do that, they must speak, read and write the language confidently.

The languages we offer are:

Arabic	Bengali	Chinese	French	German	Greek
Gujarati	Italian	Japanese	Hebrew	Panjabi	Persian
Polish	Portuguese	Russian	Spanish	Turkish	
Urdu					

You can find more details at:

www.aqa.org.uk

www.qualifications.pearson.com

6th Form – year 12 and year 13

Blue Coat Academy offers post-16 studies at our 6th form. For those who are new to the country or are not yet ready to enter college we can offer Level 1 courses where the students study English (either ESOL or Functional Skills), Maths, ICT, Hospitality and Catering, and Life Skills- ready to work course.

The aim of Level 1 group is to build the students' confidence, engage them in different extracurricular activities and prepare them to further studies or work.

Students follow personalised timetable, they learn how to organise themselves during independent study time, they also take part in various school and community events.

Blue Coat Church of England Academy
Birmingham Street
Walsall
West Midlands
WS1 2ND

Tel: 01922 720558
Fax: 01922 632326
Email: postbox@bluecoatacademy.org

