A Level Entry Requirements 2027-2028

The core entry requirement for A Level study at York College is a minimum of **four GCSEs at grade 5 with GCSE English Language and Maths at Grade 4**. This does not include GCSE equivalents (e.g. BTEC courses). Short course GCSE is counted as half of a full GCSE. Due to funding changes made by the Education and Skills Funding Agency in February 2024 it will not normally be possible for students to resist a GCSE in English or Maths alongside an A Level programme. Please note the entry requirements can be subject to change. You can study 3 A Levels or 2 A Levels and 1 AAQ (Mix) Subject.

In addition, students will need to meet the subject specific requirements below:

A Level Subject	Specific Subject Requirements (extra to core requirements)
Art & Design (Fine Art)	Grade 5 or above in either Art, Textiles or Graphics and an approved digital portfolio.
Art & Design (Photography)	Grade 5 or above in either Art, Textiles or Graphics and an approved digital portfolio.
Art & Design (Textiles)	Grade 5 or above in either Art, Textiles or Graphics and an approved digital portfolio.
Biology	Grade 5 on the higher paper in Maths, 5 in Biology (if taken) otherwise 5 in Additional or 55 in Double Science.
Business	Grade 5 or above in Business if taken.
Chemistry	Grade 5 on the higher paper in Maths, 5 in Chemistry (if taken) otherwise 5 in Additional or 55 in Double Science.
Computer Science	English Language at grade 5 or above. Maths at grade 6 or above. GCSE Computer Science is not a prerequisite but is an advantage.
Core Maths Certificate Level 3	Grade 5 or above in Maths.
Design Technology: Engineering Route	Science at grade 4 or above. Grade 5 or above in Maths on the Higher Paper.
Design Technology: Product Design Route	Maths at grade 5 or above on the Higher Paper and a creative GCSE such as Product Design, Design Technology or Art & Design.
Drama & Theatre Studies	English Language or Literature at grade 5 or above and a grade 5 in GCSE Drama (if taken). An approved digital audition.
Economics	Grade 5 or above in GCSE English Language and Maths.
English Language & Literature	English Language at grade 5 or above.
English Language	English Language at grade 5 or above.
English Literature	English Language at grade 6 or above.
Environmental Science	Grade 5 or above in Maths, English Language and Sciences or 55 in Double Science.
Film Studies	Core Entry Requirements
French	Grade 6 or above in GCSE French.
Further Mathematics	Grade 6 in Maths. You must take A Level Maths with Further Maths.
Geography	GCSE English Language at a grade 5 or above. GCSE Science at grade 4 or above. GCSE Geography at grade 5 or above (if taken).
German	Grade 6 or above in GCSE German.

History (Ancient)	Grade 5 in either History (if studied), English Language, or Religious Studies.
History (Late Medieval & Early Modern)	Grade 5 in either History (if studied), English Language, or Religious Studies. (Cannot be studied with Modern History)
History (Modern)	Grade 5 in either History (if studied), English Language, or Religious Studies. (Cannot be studied with Early Modern History)
Law	English Language at grade 5 or above. Alternatively, if you have a grade 4 in English Language you will need to have a grade 6 in either GCSE History or Religious Studies.
Mathematics	Grade 6 or above in Maths.
Media Studies	GCSE English Language at grade 5 or above.
Music	Be able to play an instrument (including voice), to at least grade 5 standard and be at, or working towards, grade 5 standard in music theory. (If you have not followed the grading route, applications will still be considered.) An approved digital audition is required.
Music Technology	Core Entry Requirements and a Guidance Discussion is required.
Philosophy, Ethics & Religion A Level	Grade 5 in either GCSE English Language, History or Religious Studies.
Physical Education	Grade 5 or above in GCSE English, Maths and Science. You must also play competitive sport outside of school and be able to evidence this.
Physics	GCSE English Language at grade 5 or above. Grade 6 in Maths and a 5 in Physics (if taken), otherwise a 5 in Additional or 55 in Double Science. It is strongly recommended that you study A Level Maths alongside A Level Physics.
Politics	Grade 5 or above in either English Language, History or Religious Studies.
Psychology	Grade 5 in English Language, Maths and Science.
Sociology	Grade 5 in English Language, History or Religious Studies.
Spanish	Grade 6 or above in GCSE Spanish.

AAQ (Mix) subject entry requirements can be found on the next page.

A Level AAQ (Mix) options are equivalent to one A Level. You can take two A Level subjects and one AAQ (Mix) subject.

The core entry requirement for A Level and 'Mix' study at York College is a minimum of **four GCSEs at grade 5 with GCSE English Language and Maths at grade 4.** This does not include GCSE equivalents (e.g. BTEC courses). Short course GCSE is counted as half of a full GCSE.

In addition, students will need to meet the subject specific requirements below:

AAQ (Mix) Subject	Specific Subject Requirements (extra to core requirements)
Accounting & Finance Mix	No information until after the end of July 26, as this will be a V Level.
Applied Science Mix	GCSE English Language and Science at grade 5 or above.
Criminology Mix	English Language at grade 5 or above.
Early Childhood Development Mix	Core Entry Requirements
Enterprise Mix	Core Entry Requirements
Engineering Mix	Maths at grade 5 or above on the Higher Paper.
Health Mix	Core Entry Requirements
Marketing Mix	Core Entry Requirements
Medical Science Mix	GCSE Science grade 5 or above
Sport & Health Mix	Core Entry Requirements