

COURSE GUIDE

2026

2027

gateway.ac.uk



OPEN EVENTS

THURS 6TH NOV '25
5PM-7PM

SAT 8TH NOV '25
10AM-1PM

**THURS 12TH
FEB '26**
5PM-7PM

www.gateway.ac.uk



With high student achievement and progression, an Ofsted 'Good' rating, and a wide range of subjects and courses from A-Level and Vocational Level 3 to T-Levels, GCSE and Entry Level, Gateway College is **#MORETHANACOLLEGE**

Follow us on our social media platforms or go to our website to find out the latest news and information about activities and events:



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WAYS TO APPLY

Apply Online

Visit www.gateway.ac.uk and complete our online application form.

Apply by Post

Send a postal application form to:
Student Services, Gateway College,
17 Colin Grundy Drive,
Leicester, LE5 1GA.

Apply in Person

You can drop in and apply at:
Gateway College, 17 Colin Grundy
Drive, Leicester, LE5 1GA.

Find out more

For more information about how to
apply, please email
studentservices@gateway.ac.uk.

Every effort has been made to ensure the information contained is correct at the time of going to print. For the most current information go to www.gateway.ac.uk or email marketing@gateway.ac.uk for alternative formats.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Thank you for considering Gateway College as the important next step in your education. As a Sixth Form College specialising in the education and progression of 16-19 year olds, there is so much that we can offer you. We have a strong reputation in supporting our students with the change from secondary school to sixth form and for challenging you to achieve more than you ever hoped. Starting with our expert advice and guidance, we will help you to choose the right subjects and pathway that will enable you to achieve your career goal and develop the skills and attitudes that will make you successful in your future, whatever your starting point.

Our results are good with many of our courses in the top 10% nationally for both achievement and value added, some are number 1. We are delighted that our strengths have been recognised by OFSTED who visited us in March 2025 and graded the college as Good. Coming to Gateway will give you access to our wide network of former students, employers and universities who all help to provide expertise, work experience, talks and mentorship to support your development.

JAMES BAGLEY
PRINCIPAL OF GATEWAY
SIXTH FORM COLLEGE



WHY CHOOSE GATEWAY?

Gateway Sixth Form College has a long tradition of transforming young people's lives and preparing them for success. The College began as a boys Grammar School in 1928 and has evolved to become the modern, mixed Sixth Form College it is today.

In March 2025, Gateway Sixth Form was awarded a 'Good' grade 2 by Ofsted and continues to make significant gains year on year, resulting in exceptional exam results and student progression. The College strives to be outstanding and has received the following awards: Gold Mental Health Award for Schools, the Silver Artsmark Award, The Industry Choice Award for the NextGen VFX programme of study, the Sixth Form Colleges Association Award for Sustainability, the Eco-Schools Award for Sustainable Senior Leader, the Eco-Schools Award for Collective Values, Eco Schools Green Flag Award with Merit and a Tiny Forest, and was runner up for the Sixth Form Colleges Association Award for Curriculum Innovation.

In 2020 Gateway became one of the three founding members of the Better Futures Multi-Academy Trust (BFMAT) in association with Coventry University. The College delivers a mix of A levels, T levels, vocational qualifications from entry level to level 3 and GCSEs in maths and English. We are proud to play a role within our community and the communities we engage with across the city and county, inspiring young people to achieve their very best.



Better Futures
Multi-Academy Trust

Coventry University



For more information visit www.gateway.ac.uk

APPLICATION PATHWAYS



"Gateway College prepared me for the challenges and opportunities of the real world. My teachers were incredibly supportive and always believed in me, even when I didn't. Their guidance made a difference in shaping my future helping me grow both academically and personally."

Sumayyah, A Level Alumni

Undertaking a Level 6
Business Finance Degree
Apprenticeship, (BSc
Leadership and Business
Management), with the BMW Group

01

LIAISON - September to December '25

Engagement with schools by Gateway staff and student representatives to explain the application process and answer any questions regarding the College and entry in 2026.

02

OPEN DAYS - 6th November '25, 8th November '25 and 12th February '26

All are welcome to this free event. Meet staff and students, find out about courses, enrichments and support and see the first-rate facilities. Follow on social media for more details.

03

APPLY - November '25 to July '26

Students should apply online using the PS@16 system or directly through our website. Application forms can be obtained at www.gateway.ac.uk or email studentservices@gateway.ac.uk.

04

INTERVIEW - February to May '26

Applications are assessed, references are followed up and some students may be invited for interview if required. Conditional offers are made to successful applicants.

05

DECISION - February to July '26

Applicants should decide whether to accept or decline their offer and notify the College of their decision.

06

WELCOME - June '26

Applicants are invited to a Welcome Event with taster sessions and activities to ensure they have picked the right courses.

07

ENROLMENT - August '26

Successful applicants are invited to attend an enrolment appointment to register on their chosen programme of study, receive their timetable and induction details. Every student will receive an individual appointment.

We are proud to serve our communities and to create outstanding life opportunities for young people.

- Sixth form Colleges **Association Award for Sustainability**
- Sixth Form Colleges Association **Award for Curriculum Innovation** (runner up)
- Eco-Schools **Award for Collective Values**
- Eco-Schools **Green Flag Award with Merit**
- **Finalists in the UK Maths Trust** (UKMT) Regional Maths Challenge
- Winner of **Industry Choice Award** and **Student Choice Award** for the NextGen VFX Programme of Study as voted for by industry professionals and peers three years in a row
- Selected for **Sixth Form Colleges Association national exhibition**
- **First Sixth Form College** to be designated to deliver **T Levels in the city**

- **Only Sixth Form College** in the city to deliver **NextGen Games Animation and VFX** programme
- East Midlands host for **The BBC Dragons Den Post-Mortem Live Experience**
- Selected to deliver **Project Search** – innovative DFN programme partnering with industry leaders to support students with complex needs into work
- **Nominated host** for schools regional **STEM Challenge** event for four years running



Better Futures
Multi-Academy Trust

Coventry University

CASE STUDY: XOREEN

Where did you study before Gateway College?

"I lived and studied in the Philippines at the FEU, (Far Eastern University), before I came to the UK and joined Gateway College."

What are you studying?

"GCSE English, GCSE maths and Level 2 Health and Social Care."

Why did you choose Gateway Sixth Form College?

"Gateway offers the courses and support I need to be able to progress and help me to get into the career I want to do in the future."

What are your career goals for the future?

"I want to achieve a lot of things, especially in my career. I want to work so that I can support my family and help my parents so that we can be financially stable and not have to worry about money."

What advice would you give to year 9, 10 and 11 students who are making their future choices?

"Just because it is hard it doesn't mean it is not worth having. If you have set your heart on something, a goal, a dream, don't let anyone tell you otherwise that it's not good. It's your future. DREAM BIG!"

'Life isn't about waiting for the storm to pass; it's about learning to dance in the rain.'

What do you most enjoy about being at Gateway?

"The staff and teachers are really nice. Whenever you need help in anything they're there to help out."



ENTRY REQUIREMENTS



“Students enjoy their time at college. They feel well supported and safe. They attend well, are motivated and feel that staff genuinely want them to succeed.”

Ofsted Inspection, March 2025.
Awarded Grade 2 'GOOD'

LEVEL ACADEMIC OR VOCATIONAL PATHWAY

3

You will usually need to have achieved 5 or more GCSE grades 9 - 4 including English Language and Maths. Some courses may have additional entry requirements.

Progression to: University, Higher/Degree Apprenticeships, Employment

LEVEL T-LEVELS

3

You will need to have achieved 5 or more GCSE grades 9-4 including English Language and Maths.

Progression to: University, Higher/Degree Apprenticeships, Employment

LEVEL T-LEVEL FOUNDATION

2

You will need 4 GCSEs at Grade 9-4 including either GCSE Mathematics or English Language at Grade 4. Minimum grade 3 in the other GCSE or core subject.

Progression to: T-Level at Level 3

LEVEL VOCATIONAL PROGRAMME

2

GCSEs at grade 3 or 2, or Pass in a Level 1 Vocational Programme, including English Language and Maths (grade D/3) or Functional Skills Level 1.

Progression to: Level 3, Apprenticeship or Employment

LEVEL ENTRY AWARDS + CERTIFICATES (foundation learning)

1

GCSEs at grade 2 and 1, including English Language and Maths or Functional Skills or Entry Level success.

Progression to: Level 2

LEVEL ENTRY LEVEL 2 (foundation learning)

1

GCSEs at grade 1 or other qualifications or assessment.

Progression to: Level 1

STUDY PROGRAMMES

As we grow our provision, new Programmes of Study may be introduced after we have printed this prospectus. For the most up-to-date list of courses at Gateway College please scan the QR code or go to our website: www.gateway.ac.uk

PAGE	POST A LEVEL / LEVEL 3
30	One Year Post Level 3 Qualification • Pre-Degree Foundation Studies in Art and Design

PAGE	LEVEL 3: ACADEMIC PATHWAY
32	A Levels and Applied Academic Qualifications which are equivalent to A Level tariffs. Two Year Advanced Level. Choose 3 to 4 subjects. • Accounting • Art • Biology • Business Studies • Chemistry • Criminology • Economics • English Language • English Literature • Fashion & Textiles • Health & Social Care • Law • Maths • Mathematical Studies (Core Maths) • Media Studies • Physics • Psychology • Sociology

PAGE	LEVEL 3: VOCATIONAL PATHWAY
34	Two Year Advanced Level Choose 1 subject • Art & Design • Business • Creative Digital Media Practice • Health & Social Care • Information Technology (IT) • NextGen Games Animation & VFX • Applied Science

PAGE	LEVEL 2: T LEVEL FOUNDATION PROGRAMME
38	• Management & Administration • Digital • Education* • Health* • Science* *GCSE Biology is embedded within these Foundation programmes.

PAGE	LEVEL 3: T LEVELS
40	• Digital Business Services: <i>Pathway into IT</i> • Digital Support Services: <i>Pathway into IT</i> • Education & Early Years: <i>Pathway to Early Years Educator</i> • Health: <i>Pathway into Adult Nursing</i> • Management & Administration: <i>Pathway into Business</i> • Science: <i>Pathway into Laboratory Science</i>

PAGE	LEVEL 2: GCSE
44	• English Language • Maths

PAGE	LEVEL 2: VOCATIONAL
46	• Art and Design • Business • Health & Social Care • IT • Media • Science

PAGE	ENTRY LEVEL 1, 2 & 3
48	• Business Administration • Employability Skills • English Functional Skills • Health & Social Care • Information Technology (IT) • Maths Functional Skills • PSHE (Personal, Social, Health & Economic Education)

PAGE	ENTRY TO WORK
50	• Life Skills • Multi Skills

PAGE	PROJECT SEARCH
52	• Health & Safety • Interview Skills • CV Writing • Dress to Impress • Communication Skills • Healthy Lifestyles • Travel Training • Units to Develop Wider Employability Skills

MEETING THE NEEDS OF YOUR FUTURE

Gateway has forged strong relationships with employers, community groups, universities and funders to ensure students are provided with the best possible opportunities to place them at the forefront when considering their future progression. Innovative partnerships with Coventry University, De Montfort University, the University of Leicester, T level Industry placement providers, NextGen Academy and University Hospitals Leicester (UHL) to name but a few, have created diverse learning experiences.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Bespoke industry placements and insights are embedded across the entire curriculum. These experiences prepare students for their next steps, creating opportunities for future progression, learning and employment and enabling young people to make informed choices about their future.

CAREER AND PROGRESSION ADVICE

The Careers Service at Gateway offers tailored 1:1 career advice and guidance with our qualified team. There are also opportunities to attend university taster days, access to apprenticeship providers, employers, academics and industry professionals. Careers and progression activities take place throughout the academic year, including a large Higher Education (HE) Fair.

The Careers Service has strong relationships with both local and national universities, including those from the Russell Group. These provide opportunities for students at the College and also on their campuses. Students take part in Oxford and Cambridge taster days to raise aspirations and application standards.

Visit www.gateway.ac.uk/about-us/careers-progression for more.

WORK PLACEMENT AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

At Gateway we understand that students need more than just excellent results to stand out to a prospective employer or to gain their first choice of university. Our Careers and Employability Team skilfully develop a comprehensive package of relevant work-related opportunities for every student to gain valuable additional skills and insight into the sector of work they are interested in. Careers activities include employability tutorials, interactive workshops and visits to skills and careers fairs in addition to industry placements where required.

The Careers Strategic Plan is set out to reflect the expectations of the Gatsby Benchmarks, allowing us to provide excellent careers and employability provision. We use Labour Market Information and Destination Data when supporting students to make informed career decisions, creating a successful careers and employability programme to cater for students from across the curriculum.

The College has good links with a wide network of local employers and community organisations who also offer students work placements, industry visits, speakers, masterclasses and information stands in the College.

In addition to this, students can participate in programmes designed to bridge the journey from education to employment such as our new T levels programme (Page 36) and the Supported Internship Programme (Page 52).

The College has relevant, up-to-date information to support students in areas such as making a university application, Personal Statement writing, finding the right apprenticeship and studying abroad.



For more information visit www.gateway.ac.uk

LEARNER EXPERIENCE

ENRICHMENT PROGRAMME

Offered to students to enhance their ability to progress, this includes:

- | | | |
|---|--|---|
|  The Phoenix Plus
Personal Development
Programme sponsored
by Coventry University |  College Cultural
Events Team |  Gym |
|  Badminton |  Cricket |  LGBTQ+ |
|  Basketball |  Debate Society |  Science Club |
|  Chess Club |  Football |  Student Union |
| |  Fundraising
for Charitable
Organisations |  Table Tennis |
| | |  Volunteering |

GATEWAY ATTRIBUTES

- | | | |
|---|--|--|
|  Get things done |  Communicate
effectively |  Think creatively |
|  Adapt my approach |  Act with integrity |  Remain positive |

THE STUDENT EXPERIENCE TEAM

The Student Experience Team is dedicated to ensuring you have an exceptional time at Gateway College. The Head of Student Experience, Pastoral Leaders (PLs), and Pastoral Mentors (PMs) focus on offering support, guidance, and helping you make the most of your Programme of Study (PoS). Gateway College is proud of the care and support we provide and the positive impact it has on students.

For access to additional support, careers advice, or counselling, the Student Experience Team is your first point of contact. You'll have a weekly group tutorial and regular 1-1 sessions with a dedicated staff member to help keep you on track. Guest speakers will share valuable insights, and your achievements will be recognised with celebration assemblies and prizes. The team also supports you through UCAS, helps you explore university options, apprenticeships, or the world of work - whatever your path may be.

SCHOOL TRANSITION

We aim to develop the full potential of every student. We care about each individual, which is why we work closely with your school so that you will have a smoother transition into college life. We attach great importance in helping each of you to achieve your full potential and a wide range of support is available to ensure you reach your goals.

NUS

Membership of the National Union of Students (NUS) is available to all Gateway students.

STUDENT SERVICES

Open throughout the College day, the team provide advice and guidance on a range of issues, including how to apply for financial support with meals, transport and equipment.

FINANCIAL HELP

The Government provides funding to support students experiencing financial hardship whilst studying at the College. All students are invited to apply. Visit www.gateway.ac.uk/students/money-matters for more info.

STUDENT VOICE

Each academic year students are elected by their peers to represent their views as part of the Student Union (SU). This is the voice of the student body where issues and concerns are raised and discussed. They convey the student experience to the College Board of Governors and play a central role in the development of key strategies for students. They also arrange trips and fundraising events.

All students are invited to provide regular feedback on the SWAYA platform, allowing them to shape their own experience and provide the Senior Leadership Team with valuable insights to guide decision making.

“As a member of the Student Union I attend training programmes at Coventry University and many other venues. I assist in Student led learning, developing enrichments and much more. I would advise all students to get involved in governance, it develops your skills.”

Michael, Member of The Student Union

For more information visit www.gateway.ac.uk

STUDENT WELFARE

Gateway Sixth Form College is positively committed to ensuring that people with disabilities, including those with learning differences and mental health needs, are supported in accessing opportunities for learning at the College.

The College will as far as possible through reasonable adjustments, change practices or environments to remove any disabling effects or barriers to participation in order that students can fully participate in the education, facilities and services provided by the College.



EQUALITY, DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION

Gateway Sixth Form College is committed to providing an environment which values all individuals equally. The College encourages full participation by all, focusing on maximum achievement for each individual. Everyone at Gateway Sixth Form College has the right to freedom from discrimination at all times, regardless of disability, ethnicity, religion, gender or sexuality.

Any form of verbal or physical behaviour which undermines an individual's sense of worth or feeling of security will not be tolerated. We pride ourselves on having staff from a range of backgrounds who can help translate information into different languages and act as role models.

PREVENT DUTY

Section 26 of the Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015 places a duty on educational bodies to have 'due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism'.

At Gateway, we incorporate our duties under the Government's Prevent agenda within our approach to Safeguarding.

COUNSELLING SERVICE

Gateway Sixth Form College's Counselling Service is confidential and non-judgemental. The Counsellor can provide help and support for students experiencing a particular difficulty in their life with relationships, College, health etc.

SAFEGUARDING

Gateway Sixth Form College has a statutory and moral duty to ensure that the College functions with a view to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of the young people and vulnerable adults studying at the College.

We take the safety of our students very seriously. This includes health and safety practice on College premises and students' own personal safety and wellbeing. You can speak to a member of the Safeguarding Team at any time if you have any worries or concerns about your own or anyone else's safety and wellbeing.

Our Safeguarding Team are well trained and experienced in supporting students with a range of personal issues including domestic violence, sexual exploitation, forced marriage, homelessness and any concerns relating to extremism or radicalisation.

FUNDAMENTAL BRITISH VALUES

These values are defined as 'democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect and tolerance for those with different faiths and beliefs'.

Gateway Sixth Form College encourages its students and staff to respect other people with particular regard to the protected characteristics set out in the Equality Act 2010.

STUDENT SUPPORT

LEARNING DISABILITIES & LEARNING DIFFERENCES

Gateway Sixth Form College provides high quality teaching and learning, working with a wide range of students in a supportive and caring environment. The College has a fully integrated provision for students with learning disabilities, learning differences and mental health needs. Student needs can vary greatly; we make all reasonable adjustments possible to enable you to access your chosen course.

Please declare your learning disability, learning difference or additional needs on your application form and at the interview so that the appropriate support can be planned. When support is requested, the Learning Support Team will assess and allocate support.

ENTRY LEVEL, LEVEL 1 AND ENTRY TO WORK

Here at Gateway Sixth Form College we offer courses at Entry Level and Level One. These courses are suitable for students who may have struggled at school for different reasons and are not yet ready for Level Two or employment. They offer the chance to try out different vocational subjects whilst at the same time developing English and Maths skills.

We know it is also important to develop the right attitude and skills for progression to further study and work and to assist in this, a range of enrichments are provided. Students will be allocated a Personal Tutor to support them in their transition from school to College who will be able to help set targets and provide motivation.

“Staff provide good support for students with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND) by adjusting seating plans, arrival times and activities to ensure participation.”

Ofsted Inspection, March 2025. Awarded Grade 2 ‘GOOD’



WE OFFER THE FOLLOWING SUPPORT

- 1 to 1 in class support
- Shared in class support
- 1 to 1 out of class support
- Specific learning difference e.g. Dyslexia
- Physical disability
- Specialist ICT equipment
- Literacy and Numeracy workshops to improve standard of work
- Personal care
- Special exam arrangements
- Specialist software/ specialist ICT equipment
- Visual impairment
- Hearing impairment
- Study skills/time management
- Counselling



For more information visit www.gateway.ac.uk

CASE STUDY: FARJEEN

Where did you study before Gateway College?

"Moat Community College"

What are you studying?

"A Level Textiles

A Level Health and Social Care

WJEC Level 3 Criminology (A Level equivalent)"

Why did you choose Gateway Sixth Form College?

"I went to the Open Day and the teachers were friendly and willing to help."

What are your career goals for the future?

"I would like to study and pursue a career in Criminology or Law. I am researching universities and higher degree apprenticeships with the support of the Careers Team."

What advice would you give to year 9, 10 and 11 students who are making their future choices?

"Try your best and remember that a few years of hard work is worth the freedom for the rest of your life once you have achieved your goals."

What do you most enjoy about being at Gateway?

"How friendly the teachers are, they are always smiling and ready to help. And, every student is sweet. With the right friend group, you will be influenced to achieve a lot."



FACILITIES & RESOURCES

LEARNING RESOURCE CENTRE

The Learning Resource Centre (LRC) is at the heart of the College located in 'The Street' and holds a stock of over 20,000 books, magazines, daily newspapers and a Careers Library to support students' studies. The LRC is a flexible study area with individual study tables, a reading area, small group working areas and a silent study area. There are 21 computers, 12 fixed laptops, a bank of mobile laptops available for loan and wireless phone chargers for use. There is also an Independent Study Centre with computers and study tables for 100 learners on the Mezzanine Floor. We have an Independent Study Centre with computers and study tables for 100 learners in addition to our Learning Resource Centre.

IT FACILITIES

Gateway has over 500 PCs in classrooms and the LRC. In addition to these, there are over 100 laptops for students to use as additional learning resources. A Web Filtration System operates on the College network protecting students from accessing restricted websites and content. Computer Suites and the LRC utilise Net Support School software to monitor and manage activity.

Students can access any of the software installed on the network, for example, MS Office 365 and Adobe software. They can also download Microsoft Office 365 onto their own devices completely free of charge for the duration of their time at Gateway.

Printers and Multi-Functional Devices (MFD's) are situated in the LRC, Independent Study Centre and the IT Suites.

INFORMATION AND DATA ENVIRONMENT

Gateway has several computerised systems which allow staff to calculate students' target grades based on their GCSE results and provide Individual Learning Plans for each student which detail their attendance, punctuality, attitude to work, subject targets and assignment deadlines.

From this information we can assess whether the student is working at their full potential or if support is required. These highly detailed monitoring systems have been critically important in understanding how our students are progressing and what we can do to help them achieve. This information is shared with parents and guardians.

WE OFFER THE FOLLOWING FACILITIES

- 3D Design Workshop
- Accessible Kitchen
- Art and Design Studios
- Canteen
- Conference Space
- Fashion and Textiles Workroom
- Gym
- Independent Study Spaces
- Learning Resource Centre (LRC)
- NextGen Games Design Studio
- Multi-Media Animation and Video Suite
- Photography Studio
- Podcast Recording Studio
- Reflection Rooms
- Science Laboratories
- Sports Hall and MUGA Pitch
- T Level Business Centre
- T Level Early Years Crèche and Education Centre
- T Level Health Suite
- T Level IT Hub



CHOOSING YOUR PATHWAY

Deciding what and where to study next is a big decision. With so much choice, it can be overwhelming. This Course Guide has been designed to take you through the decision-making process step-by-step to ensure you make the right decision for YOUR future.

Now that we have invited you to our Open Events, introduced you to our Principal and some of our students, shared our results and outstanding facilities with you, the next section will take you through our Learning Pathways and Programmes of Study.

For more information about courses, go to our website: www.gateway.ac.uk

WHAT CAREER ARE YOU INTERESTED IN?

Think about what careers you are interested in and research what subjects are needed for these.

WHAT SUBJECTS ARE YOU INTERESTED IN?

Which subjects do you enjoy and perform well in? Have you considered studying something new? There are lots of new subjects you can choose at Gateway College as well as ones that you already know. Your GCSE results will also help you to pick your courses and plan your progression pathway.

HOW DO YOU LIKE TO LEARN?

Do you like exams, coursework or prefer work placements?

WHERE DO YOU LIKE TO LEARN?

You don't have to be in a traditional classroom anymore, at Gateway there are lots of different environments that you can learn in including classrooms, science labs, art studios, photography workshops, IT, media and games design studios, podcast and recording studios, a replica hospital ward or a children's crèche or even in the workplace.

CASE STUDY: TAMJID

Where did you study before Gateway College?

"Crown Hills Community College"

What are you studying?

"Level 3 NextGen Games Animation and VFX"

Why did you choose Gateway Sixth Form College?

"They are the only college that offer the course that I wanted to do and had the same support I needed for visually impaired students."

What are your career goals for the future?

"Either 3D Modelling for Games or Architecture."

What advice would you give to year 9, 10 and 11 students who are making their future choices?

"Choose a subject YOU want to do. Don't follow anyone else's choices!"

What do you most enjoy about being at Gateway?

"I love my course and being part of the Student Union."



ACADEMIC, VOCATIONAL OR T LEVELS?

At Gateway College we offer three separate pathways at Level 3 for students to choose between; the Academic Pathway, the Extended Diploma Vocational Pathway and the T-Level Pathway. The pathways are very different and your choice will depend on a number of factors including, how you enjoy learning, your level of achievement, the subject and your career aspirations.



HOW DO THE THREE PATHWAYS COMPARE?

	Academic Pathway Level 3: Two Year Advanced Level	Extended Diploma Pathway Level 3: Two Year Vocational	T-Levels
Duration	2 years	2 years	2 years
Entry Requirements	Most courses require 5 or more GCSE grades 9-4 including English Language and Maths however some vary, such as in the Sciences.	5 or more GCSE grades 9-4 including English Language and Maths	5 or more GCSE grades 9-4 including English Language and Maths
Courses	Choose 3 to 4 courses	Choose 1 course	Choose 1 course
Assessment	Exams at the end of the 2 year programme	A combination of coursework during the 2 year programme with some exams	A combination of coursework and workplace assessment during the 2 year programme with some exams
Progression Opportunities	University, Higher/Degree Apprenticeships, Employment	University, Higher/Degree Apprenticeships, Employment	University, Higher/Degree and NVQ Apprenticeships, Employment
For more information	Go to Page 33	Go to Page 35	Go to Page 37

LEVEL 3 PRE DEGREE

“Governors are truly invested in the college. They bring relevant skills and experience to challenge and support the leadership team effectively.”

Ofsted Inspection, March 2025.
Awarded Grade 2 ‘GOOD’

PRE-DEGREE FOUNDATION STUDIES IN ART AND DESIGN

This is a one year course, students must be 17 or over to apply. Students choose this course after completing their Level 3 qualification(s) to prepare them for applying for a creative degree course at university.

The Pre-Degree Foundation course at Gateway College has an excellent reputation, with 100% of students successfully obtaining a place at university or in employment in a related field e.g. Graphic Design, Illustration, Surface Decoration, Fashion Design, Textile Design, Costume Design, Decorative Artefacts, Product Design, Jewellery, 3D, interior design, Architecture, Fine Art and Photography.



@artdesign_gatewaycollege



100%

SUCCESS RATE

LEVEL 3 ACADEMIC PATHWAY

A Level Results are above the national average across ALL subjects

June 2025



Choose 3 subjects from the courses below to create your own bespoke Programme of Study. Gifted and talented students may choose 4 subjects if recommended at interview.

ACCOUNTING

A Level

ART

A Level

 @artdesign_gatewaycollege

BIOLOGY

A Level

BUSINESS STUDIES

A Level

CHEMISTRY

A Level

CRIMINOLOGY

Level 3 (Equivalent to 1 A Level)

ECONOMICS

A Level

ENGLISH LANGUAGE

A Level

ENGLISH LITERATURE

A Level

FASHION AND TEXTILES

A Level

HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE

Level 3 (Equivalent to 1 A Level)

LAW

A Level

MATHS

A Level

MATHEMATICAL STUDIES (CORE MATHS)

Level 3 (Equivalent to 1 A Level)

MEDIA STUDIES

A Level

PHYSICS

A Level

PSYCHOLOGY

A Level

SOCIOLOGY

A Level

LEVEL 3 VOCATIONAL PATHWAY

Gateway saw a 12%
increase in high grades
across A Level and
Level 3 Vocational
course profiles

June 2025

Gateway College offers a range of Vocational Level 3 Extended Diploma courses. Students will choose only one subject from the list below to study in depth over two years.

Each course is equivalent to three A Levels.



ART AND DESIGN

Level 3 (Equivalent to 3 A Levels)



@artdesign_gatewaycollege



INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (IT)

Level 3 (Equivalent to 3 A Levels)



BUSINESS

Level 3 (Equivalent to 3 A Levels)



NEXTGEN GAMES ANIMATION AND VFX

Level 3 (Equivalent to 3 A Levels)



CREATIVE DIGITAL MEDIA PRACTICE

Level 3 (Equivalent to 3 A Levels)



@gatewaycollege_nextgen



APPLIED SCIENCE

Level 3 (Equivalent to 3 A Levels)



HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE

Level 3 (Equivalent to 3 A Levels)



T-LEVELS

THE NEXT LEVEL QUALIFICATION

EQUIVALENT TO 3 A LEVELS

T-Levels are an alternative to A levels, apprenticeships and other 16 to 19 courses. Equivalent to 3 A levels, a T-Level focuses on vocational skills and can help students into skilled employment, higher study or apprenticeships.

A 45-DAY INDUSTRY PLACEMENT

Each T-Level includes an in-depth industry placement that lasts at least 45 days. Students get valuable experience in the workplace; employers get early sight of the new talent in their industry.

80% CLASSROOM, 20% WORK

T-Level students spend 80% of the course in the classroom, learning the skills that employers need. The other 20% is a meaningful industry placement, where they put these skills into action.



100% Pass rate for ALL T Levels

June 2025

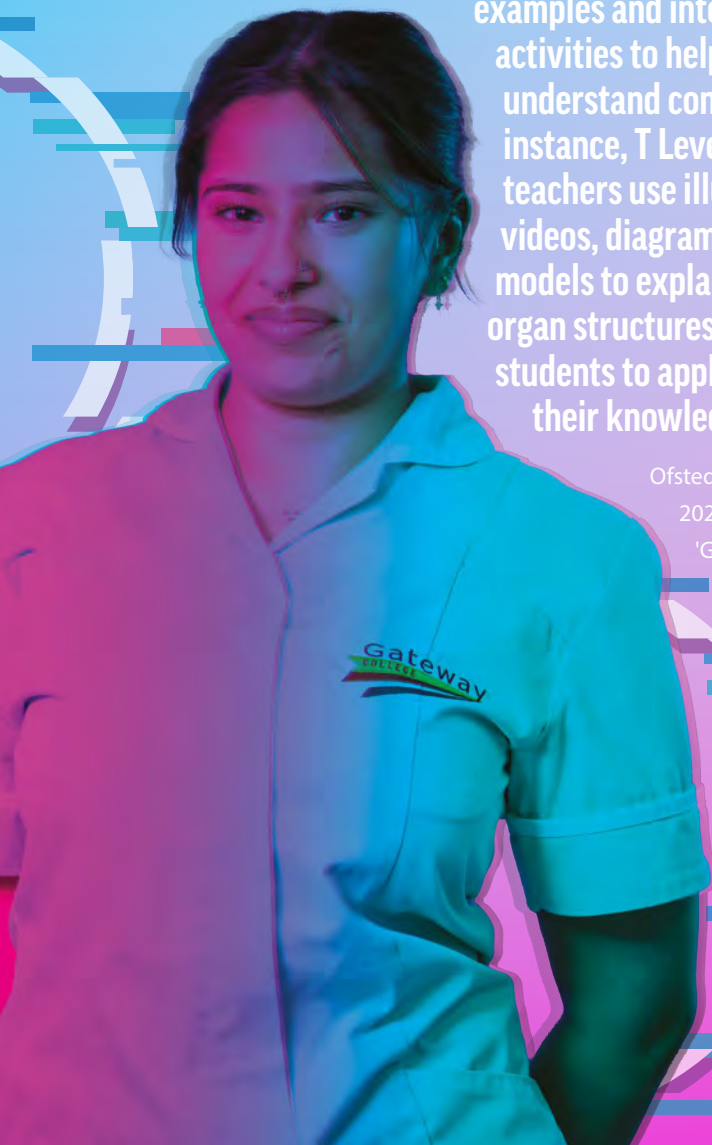


T-LEVELS

THE NEXT LEVEL QUALIFICATION

“Teachers use suitable explanations, examples and interactive activities to help students understand concepts. For instance, T Level Health teachers use illustrations, videos, diagrams and models to explain internal organ structures, which helps students to apply their knowledge.”

Ofsted Inspection, March 2025. Awarded Grade 2 'GOOD'.



STUDY T-LEVELS AT GATEWAY COLLEGE

We are proud to be the only Sixth Form College in the City to offer T-Levels to students. Opportunities are available at both Level 2 and Level 3.

The Level 2 T-Level Foundation Programme is a direct pathway to the Level 3 T-Level and should only be chosen with this intention. The Level 2 lays the groundwork for the Level 3 and provides students with the tools required to progress.

The Level 3 T-Level pathway is a combination of both classroom-based learning, exams and industry placement that will provide technical and specialist 'on the job' knowledge and experience.

T-Levels were launched by the Department For Education (DFE) in September 2020 as a response to skills gaps identified by industry leaders. These unique programmes of study have been designed in unison with educators and business to ensure young people are work-ready in a competitive global marketplace.

On completing a T-Level, students may progress on to an apprenticeship, a higher degree apprenticeship, university or related employment.

LEVEL 2: T LEVEL FOUNDATION PROGRAMME

To be taken as a pathway to a Level 3 T-Level.

 **MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATION**

 **DIGITAL** + Certificate in Data

 **EDUCATION***

 **HEALTH***

 **SCIENCE***

*GCSE Biology is embedded within these Foundation programmes



T-LEVELS

THE NEXT LEVEL QUALIFICATION

LEVEL 3: T LEVELS

Students may apply for a Level 3 T-Level directly or progress from the Level 2 T-Level Foundation Programme.

Students will choose one subject from the menu opposite. Each course is equivalent to 3 A Levels and is a combination of both classroom-based learning, exams and an industry placement that will provide technical and specialist 'on the job' knowledge and experience.

T-Levels were launched by the Department for Education (DFE) in September 2020 as a response to skills gaps identified by industry leaders. These unique programmes of study have been designed in unison with educators and business to ensure young people are work-ready in a competitive global marketplace.

On completing a T-Level, students may progress on to an apprenticeship, a higher degree apprenticeship, university or related employment.

"I've loved my course. My teachers were brilliant and the careers team helped me to secure an Industry placement at the Department for Education (DFE) which was an incredible experience. It's been the most fun two years of my life."

Muhammad, T Level Management and Administration graduate progressing to University of Leicester to Study BSc Finance

LEVEL 3 (Equivalent to 3 A Levels)

 **DIGITAL BUSINESS SERVICES** (Pathway to IT)

 **DIGITAL SUPPORT SERVICES** (Pathway to IT)

 **EDUCATION AND EARLY YEARS** (Pathway to Early Years Educator)

 **HEALTH** (Pathway into Adult Nursing)

1. Adults
2. Midwifery
3. Mental Health

 **MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATION** (Pathway into Business)

 **SCIENCE** (Pathway into Laboratory Science)



CASE STUDY: MICHAEL

Where did you study before Gateway College?

"Fulhurst Community College"

What are you studying?

"Level 3 T-Level Digital Business"

Why did you choose Gateway Sixth Form College?

"Because it is more than an academic institution, it is a big family that nurtures students from being teenagers to becoming responsible adults. It is flexible and has a positive atmosphere. It is not just high school all over again"

What are your career goals for the future?

"I would like to do a degree apprenticeship"

What advice would you give to year 9, 10 and 11 students who are making their future choices?

"Get involved! Don't stick on one path and be rigid. Attempt many things and be around ambitious people. It will better guide your choices"

What do you most enjoy about being at Gateway?

"Gateway is a home outside of home. I have love being part of the Student Union and I enjoy the relationships I share with teachers and colleagues, and I enjoy the company of friends. Gateway is a very positive environment"



LEVEL 2 GCSE

“In GCSE mathematics, teachers adjust course plans based on students’ existing knowledge to meet their individual needs.”

Ofsted Inspection, March 2025. Awarded Grade 2 ‘GOOD’.

We understand how important it is for students’ progression to achieve a grade 4 or above in their GCSE English and Maths. By attaining these grades, students are able to proceed to a Level 3 qualification and from here onto a range of opportunities which will enhance their career options and life prospects.

The value of this cannot be underestimated, and at Gateway we have recognised this by investing in focussed teaching and outstanding support for our students.

 **ENGLISH LANGUAGE**
GCSE

 **MATHS**
GCSE



In the top 10% nationally for GCSE outcomes



LEVEL 2 VOCATIONAL



100% Pass rates in
many of our Level 2
courses including
Art and Design,
Health and Social
Care, IT

This is a one year programme and students take one Level 2 subject alongside their GCSE Maths and/or English re-sit if required.



ART AND DESIGN

Level 2 (Equivalent to 3 GCSEs)



@artdesign_gatewaycollege



BUSINESS

Level 2 (Equivalent to 3 GCSEs)



HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE

Level 2 (Equivalent to 3 GCSEs)



IT

Level 2 (Equivalent to 3 GCSEs)



MEDIA

Level 2 (Equivalent to 3 GCSEs)



SCIENCE

Level 2 (Equivalent to 3 GCSEs)



ENTRY LEVEL



“Students demonstrate exceptional respect and tolerance towards each other. They celebrate their diversity at an annual culture day. Students help to plan and run this festival-style event, performing dances, playing music and dressing in cultural attire. They enjoy a variety of foods and educational displays about different cultures.”

Ofsted Inspection,
March 2025. Awarded
Grade 2 ‘GOOD’.

We offer a range of pathways and courses for students who are studying at Entry Level and Level 1. Students take part in a consultation process to assess which course and pathway is the right one for them, plotting a progression route that will raise their aspirations, experience of learning and lead to a positive, purposeful outcome.

These courses are suitable for students who may have struggled at school for different reasons and are not yet ready for a Level 2 programme or employment. They offer the chance to try out different subjects whilst at the same time developing their core English and maths skills.

Students are allocated a Personal Tutor to support them in their transition from school to college and will help them to set targets and provide motivation.

BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

Level 1

EMPLOYABILITY SKILLS

Level 1

ENGLISH FUNCTIONAL SKILLS

Entry Level 1-3

HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE

Level 1 and 3

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (IT)

Level 1

MATHS FUNCTIONAL SKILLS

Entry Level 1-3

PSHE (PERSONAL, SOCIAL, HEALTH AND ECONOMIC EDUCATION)

Level 1

ENTRY TO WORK

“Students with high needs on supported internships build their skills and confidence in a supportive work environment.”

Ofsted Inspection, March 2025.
Awarded Grade 2 ‘GOOD’.

We offer a range of pathways and courses for students who are studying at Entry Level and Level 1. Students take part in a consultation process to assess which course and pathway is the right one for them, plotting a progression route that will raise their aspirations, experience of learning and lead to a positive, purposeful outcome.

These courses are suitable for students who are preparing to embark on the Project Search programme and to enter the world of work. Students will already have a good foundation of learning and will continue to apply their academic study within a vocational context, building on their personal and social development and skills for independence.

Students are allocated a Personal Tutor to support them in their transition from school to college and will help them to set targets and provide motivation.

 **LIFE SKILLS**
Level 1

 **MULTI SKILLS**
Level 1



For the most up-to-date course listing go to the website: www.gateway.ac.uk

PROJECT SEARCH

THE DFN PROJECT SEARCH

Gateway Sixth Form College are proud to have been selected to deliver the innovative DFN Project Search programme, partnering with a growing number of industry leaders to support students with complex needs into meaningful work.

From healthcare and hospitality, to catering and customer service, students will learn a wealth of skills and gain real life experience which can lead to paid employment.

Students are required to apply for this unique programme to ensure they are ready for the challenges and opportunities it presents. And, with the support of our skilled team of Job Coaches and specialist staff across a range of sectors, participants will undertake a 12-month Supported Internship made up of 3 different work placements, each one lasting for 10-12 weeks.

Whilst on placement, students will also attend Gateway for 1 day a week to study the following topics:

- Health and safety
- Interview skills
- CV writing
- Dress to impress
- Communication skills
- Healthy lifestyles
- Travel training
- Units to develop wider employability skills



ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

- No formal qualifications are needed
- You must have an EHCP
- You must be willing to undertake travel training or be travel trained
- You must want to gain employment
- Potentially 18 years of age to work in NHS

PROGRESSION

The course is not linked to a formal qualification. The aim of the course is that it will lead to paid employment.

MEET OUR STUDENTS

Read some student case studies here:
www.gateway.ac.uk/course/project-search



CASE STUDY: NEEV

Where did you study before Gateway College?

"Avanti Fields School"

What are you studying?

"Level 3 BTEC Business"

Why did you choose Gateway Sixth Form College?

"My friends recommended it to me, they told me how good the support is"

What are your career goals for the future?

"I would like to go to university to study a bachelor's degree in Marketing"

What advice would you give to year 9, 10 and 11 students who are making their future choices?

"Work hard and get good grades"

What do you most enjoy about being at Gateway?

"I have made many friends and been part of the photography, chess, and badminton clubs. I have also enjoyed doing my assignments for my course"

GETTING TO GATEWAY

ON FOOT

Gateway College is a 5 minute walk from Hamilton Town centre (via Tesco Hamilton) using the Gateway Bridge, and a 10 minute walk from McDonald's on the Hungarton Boulevard.

BY BIKE

The 'Sustrains' national cycle route, which runs parallel to Hamilton Way (A563) and across the Gateway Bridge, passes through the College site.

BY BUS

All of the main bus companies run services to Hamilton Centre:

Arriva: 58, 58a

First: 38, 38a

Centre bus: 40

UHL: Hospital hopper

BY CAR

To access the College from the city centre it is a 15 minute drive via the **A607, Melton Road**, and then turning right onto the **A563, Hamilton Way**, which forms the northern part of the Ring Road. Alternatively, the **A47, Uppingham Road**, can be used turning left onto the **A563, Colchester Road** and **Hungarton Boulevard**.



To work out your own route to Gateway, whether by foot, car, bike or public transport, go to: www.choosehowyoumove.co.uk



CONTACT US TODAY:

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Leicester, LE5 1GA

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