

# Caedmon College Whitby Policy Document – Accepting new students onto Sixth Form Courses

## College Governance Status

This policy was re-issued in May 2014 and was adopted by Governors on 26 June 2014. It will be reviewed every three years or as required in the light of new guidance or legislation.

Review dates	By Whom	Approval date
May 2017	Staff and Governors	5 June 2017
May 2020		

Signed by the Chair:



## **ACCEPTING NEW STUDENTS ONTO SIXTH FORM COURSES**

**AIM: to match each student to the course appropriate to the individual.**

The number of students who achieve success in one or two years' time is very much dependent upon them starting out on the correct course for them. We offer a full range of courses in the Sixth Form, from Foundation Level Learning for Progress to advanced courses at GCE A-Level. We should be able to provide for the vast majority of students who wish to come to us. It can be very difficult for you to decide in isolation whether a student will cope with your course. The following information may be helpful:

### **A-Level and BTEC Level 3**

It is our experience and the experience of others that the vast majority of successful advanced level students start their course with a **minimum of five GCSEs at grade C/4 or higher**. Any student who approaches you with less and asks to start an advanced course would have to be a very special case indeed to be accepted.

Once you have accepted that an advanced course is possible, and an A-Level /Level 3 course is being considered, you might like to use the information supplied by ALIS as an aid to predicting the level of success possible:

1. All students will come to you with their average GCSE score. This has been found by Newcastle University to be the best predictor of A-Level grades.
2. The regression line chart can be used to read off the average A-Level grade that will be achieved by the student in your subject based on their average GCSE score. Some of the students will be shocked by the low level of some of the predictions. See example.
3. Again using the average GCSE score, you can use the Chances chart to give the probability of different grades in your subject for each individual student.

Obviously all students need to be aware of the importance of their attitude to hard work. The predicted grades can be improved upon (they are just averages) with good application, while grades can be lower if students do not work. The grades can only be an indication.

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## **Summary**

When a student approaches you about following a particular course you should ask for the following information:

1. How many GCSEs have you achieved at grade C or above, or do you have a BTEC qualification already?
2. What is your predicted GCSE score for this subject?

This, of course, is in addition to any specific questions you may have about your course.