The Gryphon School

Bristol Road
Sherborne
Dorset DT9 4EQ

T: 01935 813122
E: office@gryphon.dorset.sch.uk
www.gryphon.dorset.sch.uk

Sixth Form Entry Guidelines for September 2027

Basic entry criterion

Students need to achieve at least 5 good grades (GCSE grades of 4 or above including any BTEC grades at L2 Pass or above). One of those 5 good grades must include either Maths or English Language.

Pathways

Students will be placed on a programme in the Gryphon Sixth Form according to the grades they achieve at GCSE.

The **Oxbridge Programme** – minimum entry requirements = 9 or more top grades (9, 8, 7)

The **Russell Group Programme** - minimum entry requirements = 5 or more top grades (9, 8, 7)

The **Progression Programme** - minimum entry requirements = 7 or more good grades

The grades that can count towards this are:

• GCSE grades of 4 or above in Maths, English Language and English Literature

• Students can additionally count one (but not more) L2 BTEC grade at Pass or above.

The **Professional Programme** - minimum entry requirements = 5 or more good grades

The grades that can count towards this are:

• GCSE grades of 4 or above in Maths, English Language and English Literature

• Students can additionally count any number of BTEC grades at L2 Pass or above.

Number of courses

Students meeting the entry criterion above will typically choose 3 A-levels to study throughout Years 12 and 13.

However, students may additionally choose the Level 3 Mathematical Studies course. This course is half the size of an A-level and therefore may be taken by any student as a fourth option. The course could be taken by students whom wish to study Maths further but whom do not meet the qualifying criteria of a 7 in Maths GCSE which is required for Maths A-level. In addition the course will appeal to students taking Social sciences / Humanities A-levels as the skills developed on this course will support achievement on such A-levels.

A small number of students may wish to choose 4 A-levels to study throughout Year 12 and 13. Only students achieving the grades for the Oxbridge Programme or the Russell Group Programme will be allowed to take 4 A-levels.

Entry criteria for each A-level

Students would also need to meet the specific criteria listed below for each individual course they choose.

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Subject	Minimum Requirements to be accepted on course	Qualifications that the ideal candidate would have
A-level **Art and Design (Fine Art)**	4 or better in Art GCSE	5 or better in Art GCSE
A-level **Art and Design (Three-dimensional Design)**	4 or better in Art or Art 3D GCSE	5 or better in Art or Art 3D
A-level **Biology**	6 or better in Combined Science or Biology GCSE 5 or better in Maths GCSE and English Language.	6 or better in Maths GCSE
A-level **Business**	4 or better in English Language GCSE	4 or better in Maths GCSE
A-level **Chemistry**	6 or better in Combined Science or Chemistry GCSE 6 or better in Maths GCSE	
A-level **Classics (Ancient History)**	5 or better in History GCSE or equivalent humanities course	6 or better in History GCSE 5 or better in English Language GCSE
A-level **Computer Science**	5 or better in Maths GCSE 5 or better in IT GCSE	6 or better in Maths GCSE 6 or better in IT GCSE
BTEC **Creative Digital Media**		4 in English Language GCSE or 4 in Media Studies GCSE or 4 in a IT GCSE
Applied Level 3 Diploma **Criminology**	4 or better in English Language GCSE	
A-level **Drama and Theatre Studies**	4 or better in Drama GCSE	5 or better in English Language GCSE
A-level **Economics**	6 or better in Maths GCSE 5 or better in English Language GCSE	
A-level **English Language**	5 or better in English Language GCSE	
A-level **English Literature**	5 or better in English Language GCSE 5 or better in English Literature GCSE	
A-level **Film Studies**	5 or better in English Language or English Literature GCSE	
A-level **French**	6 or better in French GCSE	
A-level **Further Mathematics**	7 or better in Maths GCSE	8 or 9 in Maths GCSE
A-level **Geography**	5 or better Geography GCSE	5 or better in English Language GCSE 5 or better in Geography GCSE
A-level **History**	5 or better in History GCSE	6 or better in History GCSE 5 or better in English Language GCSE

A-level **Law**	5 or better in English Language GCSE	
Level 3 **Mathematical Studies**	4 or better in Maths GCSE	
A-level **Mathematics**	7 or better in Maths GCSE	
A-level **Music**	5 or better in Music GCSE	Grade 5 or better in Music Theory
A-level **Photography**	4 or better in Photography GCSE	
A-level **Physics**	6 or better in Combined Science or Physics GCSE 6 or better in Maths GCSE	
A-level **Psychology**	5 or better in English Language GCSE 4 or better in Maths GCSE 4 or better in Science GCSEs	
A-level **Religious Studies (Philosophy and Ethics)**	5 or better in English Language GCSE	4 or better in Religious Studies GCSE
A-level **Sociology**	4 or better in English Language GCSE	
A-level **Spanish**	6 or better in Spanish GCSE	
BTEC **Sport**		Level 2 Pass or better in BTEC Sport
A-level **Sports Studies**	Merit or better in BTEC Sport **exam** or 6 in GCSE PE 5 or better in Combined Science or Biology GCSE Currently playing regular sport in performing in competitive competitions/leagues	4 or better in English Language GCSE