

# Why come to Thorpe Sixth Form?

Here are the top reasons:

Rated Outstanding by Ofsted

45 courses on offer, including **T-LEVELS**  
THE NEXT LEVEL QUALIFICATION

Expert teachers

Enrichment programme

Student Voice

Excellent study facilities

Dedicated Sixth Form areas

with its own Costa Style Café

Excellent results and progression rates

We are on your door step!

Why not come and find out for yourself?

Scan the QR code below to book your place for our Open Evening

Thursday 4 November 5.00 pm - 8.00 pm

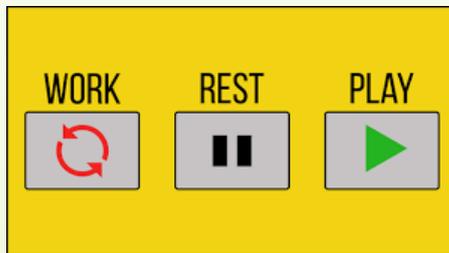
A Levels  
A\* - A39%  
A\* - B67%  
A\* - C 89%  
A\* - E99.5%  
Average Grade: B

Vocational Courses:  
100% Pass  
Vocational Average Grade:  
Distinction+



Rated  
Top 10%  
Nationally





Half term in Year 11 must be a balance between work, rest and play to ensure students Aspire to greatness and success in their lives, Respect themselves by doing everything they can to prepare for assessments by Engaging in the right balance of Work, Rest and Play.

**Work:** Some students have been invited into school for catch up sessions, if invited we would strongly recommend attending. Using the assessment timetable emailed to students, they can identify which classes they are so they know when they are having assessments. If they are unsure of a class name they are available on My Child At School in the timetable. Timed work in a quiet area is most effective in 25 minute chunks with 5 minute breaks during which time

students can get up, make a drink/snack, return work and collect the next tasks. We would recommend up to 3 hours a day, up to 5 days of half term. During holidays closer to public examinations this time will increase.

Students have access to their Google classrooms for all of their classes as well as online resources. Simple prompts to work could be "Have you completed a knowledge test?" "Do you have any examination question booklets to complete?". **Good revision is short, active, focused and repetitive. At the end of a revision session, a student should have something to show you for example, flashcards, spider diagram or a completed Seneca quiz.**

**Rest:** Make sure students have some blocks of time to rest away from both work and screens. Try to encourage them to keep a healthy sleep pattern. It is very easy to fall into really bad habits in a few short days. This causes lots of anxiety and sleepless nights when students are suddenly forced back into school night routines, on top of any assessment worries. Students have been reminded about having a screen off period before bed. Even, or especially, in Year 11 family agreements on leaving phones outside the bedroom at night are successful.

**Play:** Encourage students to go outside into the open, go for walks, get a dose of nature and play team sports. Maybe offer a new activity during half term, now that even more opportunities have opened up. Do allow time limited sessions on your favourite gaming platform, streaming services or Youtube channels as a reward for all of that hard work.

Simply put, students across the country, who will sit the examinations at the same time as students at Thorpe St Andrew School and Sixth Form will be making the most of the holiday in all these aspects and we hope you can support your child to do the same.

**BEING READY IN YEAR 11** In Year 11 we have been following the whole school ethos this half term with a focus on being ready. In Year 11 this phrase takes on extra meaning with students getting ready for practise examinations, GCSE examinations as well as planning their next steps for after Year 11: there are so many different things they are getting ready for! We are really pleased with the successful launch of our Student Leader programme and are delighted by the amount of applications we have had already. This really fits into our Year 11 culture of aspiration and resilience which we will be focusing on even more after half term. We are focusing on aspiration as we want our students to achieve the very best they can and resilience because we recognise the amount of different pressures on our students and that they need the tools to tackle these pressures. Year 11 students have made an excellent start to the year and it has been fantastic seeing so many students earning so many positive points in lessons and participating in after school clubs and intervention sessions. Well done Year 11.

**LEARNING FROM HOME** - When learning from home, whether from a Key Knowledge organiser or preparing for an assessment it can sometimes be difficult to know where to start and what to do next. One useful method is to prepare a mind map.

What is a mind map?

Mind maps can be used to represent information visually. They are what they say they are: maps of your ideas and of the subject. Like any map, they can show every route, from a motorway down to a narrow country track or a pathway.

There are many ways to produce a mind map. Practicing creating mind maps will help you develop your own preferred style. They can be very tidy or seem, to some, to be "messy" and confusing. Everyone has their own preference. You can be as creative as you like, and they do not have to be pretty!

Just try it and have fun with it.





**Careers Corner** - The Autumn Term is always a busy time in terms of Careers Education. Staff are supporting students across a number of Year Groups, for example working with those in Year 13 who are preparing their university applications; Year 11 students are beginning their research into life after GCSEs whether that is going to be at a college or sixth form, or beginning an apprenticeship; and Year 9 students will be starting to learn about choosing their preferences for Years 10 and 11. There is lots of choice out there for students of all ages, personalities and abilities. There is also lots of support in school to help your child make the best decisions for their future.

### Our promise to students

#### Your Careers programme will help you to:

- Understand yourself, your interests, likes and dislikes, what you are good at and how this affects the choices you make
- Find out about different courses, what qualifications you might need and what opportunities there might be
- Develop the skills you may need for working life
- Make realistic, but ambitious, choices about courses and jobs
- Develop a plan of action for the future
- Understand the different routes after Year 11 and Year 13 including training and Apprenticeships, Further and Higher Education and employment
- Be able to make effective applications for training and Apprenticeships, Further and Higher Education and employment
- Develop your interview skills
- Improve your confidence

#### You will receive:

- Careers activities or opportunities in lessons and form time
- Access to Career Information resources via a range of media
- Guidance interviews from a qualified Careers specialist should you wish one
- A range of experiences of work and opportunities to meet employers inside and outside of the classroom

#### You can expect to be:

- Treated equally with others
- Given Careers information and advice that is up to date and impartial
- Treated with respect by visitors to the school who are part of the Careers programme
- Given extra help if you have additional or special educational needs.

To learn a little more about what will be covered in the Careers Programme, please visit this [link](#).

**Support for Parents** - We have put together a number of Careers resources that, as parents/carers, we hope you will find useful. This [link](#) takes you to our parents/carers section of our school's Careers webpages: [thorpecareersportal.info](http://thorpecareersportal.info). If you would like to support your child's career research, please take a look [here](#). You will find a number of interactive quizzes, booklets, posters and links to other informative websites.

**Graham Fish - Careers Leader, Jessie Keegan - Careers Advisor and Facilitator**

<http://thorpecareersportal.info> Email: [careersadvice@yare-edu.org.uk](mailto:careersadvice@yare-edu.org.uk)



With the cautious re-opening of the school, we are beginning to welcome employers back into the classroom. Last week some Year 12s were working with Enterprise Advisors from AVIVA and earlier this week, our Year 13 Uniformed Services students were given an informative presentation about careers in the Police Service by Norfolk Constabulary. This is just the start to what we are hoping will be an

exciting year welcoming employers back into the classroom and we are also looking forward to taking students out into the world of work with some fantastic visits beginning to be planned! Students across the school are being surveyed as to their possible future career interests and we will endeavour to provide learning opportunities for them that match the careers sector interests that the data will tell us. Has your child completed the survey yet? If not, click [here](#).

If you are a parent and an employer, or work for a company and would like to work with the school, please do drop us an email: [careersadvice@yare-edu.org.uk](mailto:careersadvice@yare-edu.org.uk). Would you be able to offer a career talk promoting opportunities in your industry or career sector? Help proof-read students' CVs? Carry out some mock interviews? Offer students a day's work shadowing or a longer period of work experience? Or help in some other way? We would love to hear from you!



We are very pleased to be continuing our working relationship with NEACO - a partnership that includes the five universities and nine further education colleges in East Anglia. We are working with Alex, our Higher Education Champion at the UEA, planning activities towards the government's aim of increasing the proportion of students from underrepresented neighbourhoods progressing to higher education and degree level apprenticeships.



**Year 9 Preferences** This is the time when you make more important decisions about your future. Over the next few weeks you will be choosing some of the courses you are going to study during Years 10 and 11.

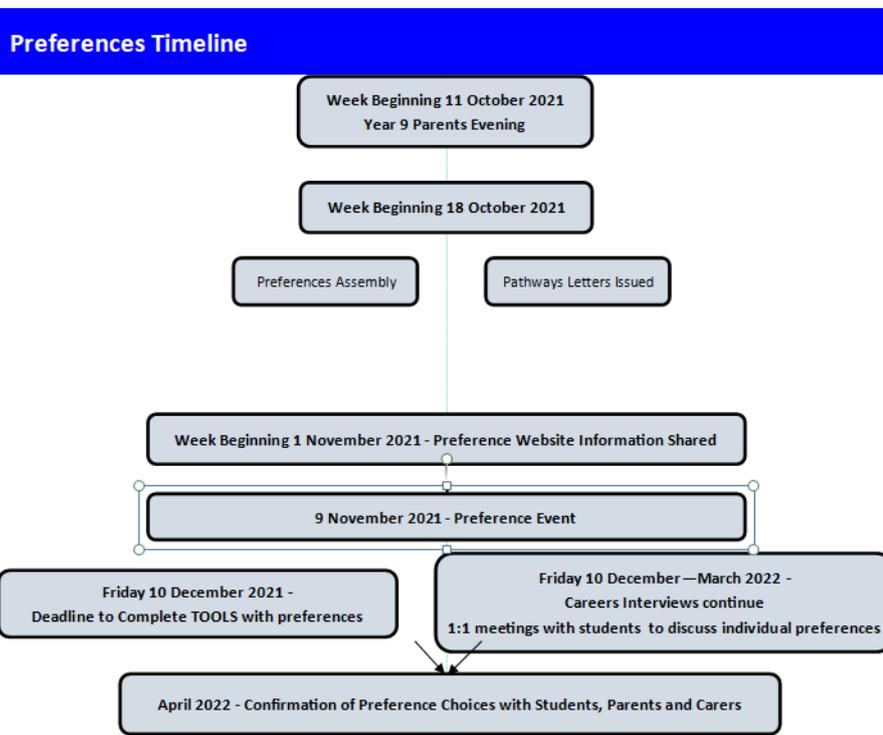
Before deciding anything, there are some fundamental questions you should ask yourself:

- **Do I like the subject?** If not, be very cautious - you are unlikely to do well in a subject you dislike.
- **How good am I at the subject?** It is better to take subjects you think you can be successful in.
- **Do I understand what the course involves?** Read the subject details carefully, including the subject content and the methods of assessment.
- **Will this subject fit the way I learn?**
- **How does the subject fit in with my plans for the future?**
- **Do I want to enter Sixth Form, go to College or start an Apprenticeship?**
- **Will I be hoping to go to University?**

At Thorpe St Andrew School and Sixth Form we believe very much in offering guided choice. If we feel that one particular subject may be more appropriate than another, we will discuss this and advise you.

**Key Stage 4** is about more than gaining qualifications, we want you to develop your independent learning skills, to value learning and aspire to be the best you can be. I would encourage you to fully explore our extra curricular offer including sports teams, trips and student leadership opportunities.

Good luck in your choices and future courses.



**Upcoming Events**

Half term - Friday 22 October 2021 to Friday 29 October 2021

Thursday 4 November 2021 - Sixth Form Open Evening - 5.00 pm to 8.00 pm

Tuesday 9 November 2021 - Year 9 Preference Event

Monday 6 December 2021 - Annual School Carol Service

Please follow this [LINK](#) to view the School Calendar.