

Farnham College

SCHOOL LEAVERS

GUIDE

2022-23



WELCOME TO

ACTIVATE LEARNING

We are excited that your child is thinking about continuing their educational journey at one of our colleges.

Activate Learning is a pioneering education group committed to transforming lives through learning.

We believe everyone can improve their lives through learning; with emotional support, motivation and purpose. We are experts in delivering technical. vocational and academic education, with a high level of industry engagement and connections to some of the best-known companies—not just in our region, but in the world.

In this guide, you will learn more about the amazing opportunities available at Activate Learning and discover how we empower and support our students, helping prepare them for their chosen career pathway. Our aim is to provide your child with a complete educational experience where they feel supported and confident in their abilities and inspired by the opportunities available to them.

Our Learning Philosophy

We transform lives through our Learning Philosophy. This is rooted on the power of the brain, the importance of emotions and feeling safe to enable learning, and motivation, so learners can understand the impact of what they are learning for their future careers.

Supporting our students

We are proud of the support we offer to our students so they can flourish during their time at Activate Learning:

- » We support our students' physical and mental wellbeing via a dedicated Student Support
- » Support is available for all students including those with learning difficulties and/or disabilities.
- » Our impartial Activate Careers team helps students make informed decisions about their future education, employment and training options. Our advisors work closely with subject tutors and progress coaches.
- » Support is available for students who need advice related to funding and bursaries.
- » We have a Head of Campus Student Experience at each of our campuses, responsible for creating safe, vibrant and welcoming campuses for our students.

Preparing your child for their next steps

We believe that effort and hard work are key to success, so we inspire our students to challenge themselves to achieve their best.

We instil in our students a purpose and a drive to succeed and grow, as we prepare them for life after college, whether that's higher education or employment. We work in close collaboration with different industries to help students develop the core behaviours that both universities and workplaces value.

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Career pathways

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WHY STUDY WITH

FARNHAM COLLEGE?

At Activate Learning's Farnham College, we will help you to develop the skills, knowledge, confidence and determination required to succeed in education and the workforce. We are easily-accessible and our campus has industry-standard, specialised facilities. Here, we nurture an atmosphere of independence to help you reach your goals, whatever they may be.



make new friends, and manage a more flexible timetable.

WELLNESS

Personal Tutors will support you in the development of emotional intelligence, wellbeing and self-confidence.

GREAT LOCATION

Just a 10min walk from local bus stops and the train station, the College can also easily be reached by road with free onsite parking for students.





Choose from a variety of specialist and career-focused programmes to suit you and your career goals.





Develop the key skills required for your future career and undertake exciting work experience placements.



PROGRESSION

Follow clearly-mapped career pathways to progress to higher-level programmes.



Enjoy innovative learning and assessment methods that help you develop at your own pace.





Join in with students activities and go on trips and visits to support learning in a practical way.

OUR LEARNING

PHILOSOPHY

THE LEARNING PHILOSOPHY

Our award-winning Learning Philosophy is at the heart of our approach to teaching and learning. We recognise that not everyone learns in the same way or has had positive experiences of education. That's why we use tried and tested principles to engage our students and help them make the most of their time with us, setting them up with not only the knowledge they'll need for their careers, but with the personal skills that will benefit them their whole lives.

FIND

OUT

MORE

ATTRIBUTES FOR SUCCESS

At Activate Learning, we work closely with employers to identify the characteristics and skills they are looking for in potential employees. We help you identify which of these desirable attributes you have and which you can strengthen throughout your programme, ensuring your future employability is the focus throughout your studies.

CASE STUDY

Always a creative child, Saffron knew she wanted to follow an artistic path since she was young. Good at art throughout school, Saffron was encouraged by her teachers and her parents to follow her heart and pursue her passion into further education.

I actually went to two open events at Farnham College, a Saturday morning one and a weekday evening one, just to really get the vibe of the place. Having spent some time talking to the tutors and students and seeing examples of student artwork at the open events, it was the concept of the smaller class sizes at Farnham that clinched it for me."



FARNHAM

Our campus is a short walk from the restaurants and shops of Farnham town centre..

MORLEY ROAD CAMPUS, FARNHAM

College is very different from school, it isn't just about getting an education, its about making new friends, experiencing new opportunities, enjoying the student lifestyle and preparing yourself for the future. It's about working in an adult environment, committing yourself to your studies and achieving your aspirations.

Our professional, dedicated and industry experienced teaching staff make learning fun and engaging and give you the responsibility and independence you need to take charge of your own future. And, to help you with the transition, we have a comprehensive student support team that can assist with applications, securing funding, careers guidance and personal tutoring, to name just a few services!

We have some exceptional resources that replicate real-world working environments including a state-of-the-art recording studio that will allow you to develop and apply theory and practical skills through recording, editing and mixing sessions; well-equipped art, design and graphic studios, as well as a photography studio and darkroom, giving you access to various camera, lighting and backdrop equipment; science labs; sports facilities, and over 350 computers around campus, including four Apple Mac Suites that are dedicated to media and music technology.

On a typical day here, in between lessons, there's space for quiet study in our Learning Resource Centre or hanging out with friends in the many spaces and communal areas. Missed breakfast or need a snack in between classes? You can grab a bite to eat or something to drink in our café.

I would recommend Farnham
College to others as it provides
a great and friendly learning
environment and it was very
inclusive and diverse!"

Ellen Andrews, A Levels



Students'

FARNHAM COLLEGE

STUDENTS' UNION

The Students' Union help support and create the student experience from running events to having meetings with staff to discuss changes for the student body to make an impact.

There is a committee of students on each campus that form the SU. Within the committee there are lots of roles. You can tell which students are in the SU because they have an orange lanyard!

The SU committee meets each week to discuss current issues, develop their campaigns and plan their events. If you don't want to be part of the committee, you can still get involved by attending the meetings so you can let your voice be heard!

It's been really nice
having my voice
heard and actively
making a student
difference at college!
I would recommend
others join."

SU member







ACTIVATE LEARNING
Students' Union



GETTING

HERE

SUPPORT WITH TRAVEL

If you are finding it hard to meet the costs of travelling to college, you may be able to get a travel bursary, depending on your situation.

For more information on bursaries, to check if you're eligible, and how to apply, please contact our Advice and Admissions team or look for **fees, funding and bursaries** on our website.

Farnham College encourages students to use alternative modes of transport other than cars. By doing this we are aiming to reduce the amount of traffic as well as promoting a healthy lifestyle and environment.

Walk and cycle

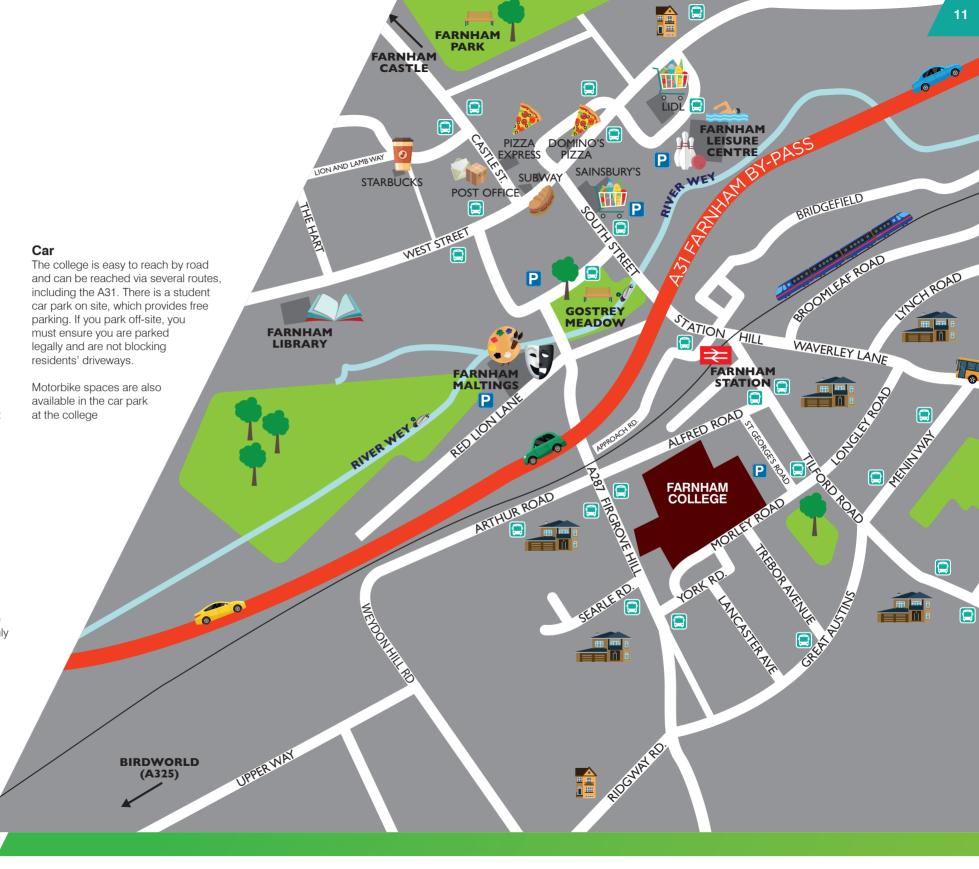
The college is a 10 minute walk from Farnham Train Station. We encourage our students to cycle to college as there is plenty of safe bike parking available on-site and cycle lanes locally.

Bus and train

Buses run from all over the local area to Farnham train station.

Farnham College has joined forces with Stagecoach, who are offering subsidised bus fare cards. Cards can be bought on a half-termly, termly or annual basis. See www.buymyunirider.com for further information.

Trains are frequent and you should get off at the main Farnham train station.



CASE

12

Farnham College really care about you as an individual and push you to succeed. It's such a family atmosphere, and I know that all my tutors have my best interests at heart. I feel challenged, in a good way, and I know that they all have faith in me to get the best results I can. We are treated like adults and are encouraged to be independent, which really prepares us for our futures.

My tutors have been amazing, they really take the time to sit down with you and talk in depth about your work and the best way to achieve great results."



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SUPPORT TO SUCCEED

At Activate Learning, your happiness and success is our priority. We offer the following dedicated services to ensure your time while studying with us is positive and fulfilling, both academically and personally.

LEARNING SUPPORT

Need some additional support with your studies? Our Learning Support team offer additional and ongoing study support if you have a disability or other educational needs, including confidential 1:1 interviews and tailored learning support plans. To discuss your additional support needs, please email gss@activatelearning.ac.uk

COUNSELLING

Struggling with anger, stress, relationships, or something else that is bothering you and need a space to talk to someone who can help? Our counsellors can support you through your time at college. Call 01865 550401 or email support@activatelearning.ac.uk

MENTAL WELLNESS

Anyone can struggle with poor mental health and some students may be diagnosed with mental ill health. We offer a range of services to ensure you are well supported. These include guiet spaces, self-help resources, highly trained staff and an accepting culture where we discuss mental health as equally and as openly as physical health.

TUTORIALS

You'll have a dedicated personal tutor to coach you and keep you on track to succeed. Their frequent and friendly meetings will ensure your set targets are met and exceeded.

ACTIVATE CAREERS

Explore ● Plan ● Make it happen

Our team of qualified, impartial careers advisers are here to help you make informed decisions about vour future education, employment, and training options. We are proud of our Matrix Accreditation for the high-quality impartial information, advice and guidance offered to all our students and service users.



Working alongside your subject tutors and Progress Coaches the Careers team will help you explore your strengths and interests and to learn about the world of work.

You will have opportunities to meet with us throughout the college year through one-to-one guidance interviews, group sessions and drop-in support. You can book an appointment through your tutor or directly with the Careers team.

We will support you to gain the qualifications, employability skills, experience, and attributes to make successful applications for employment or Apprenticeships. You will benefit from a wide variety of vacancies generated via our links with local and national employers and have an opportunity to meet them at our Careers and Apprenticeship event.

STUDENT CREW

If you are interested in working at college while you study, ask about opportunities to join our Student Crew. We've got all kinds of paid-work opportunities, and it looks areat on your CV.

SAFEGUARDING

It is everybody's responsibility to keep our campuses safe. When on campus, we ask that you wear your lanyard at all times to identify yourself and to access buildings. We have a team of safeguarding and child protection specialists if you are worried about your own or somebody else's health, safety or wellbeing, on or off campus, Call 01865 550401 or email safe@activatealearning.ac.uk

FAITH ROOMS

Faith rooms are available for you to use on all campuses for prayer and quiet reflection.

TRANSITION

Coming to college can be a daunting experience for some, so we offer taster sessions, college tours, summer programmes and one-to-one support to help you adjust to college life. Call 01865 550401 or email support@activatelearning.ac.uk

SUPPORT FOR PARENTS

We know how important it is for parents to be aware of the opportunities available to their children, as well as the support we can provide them. Visit

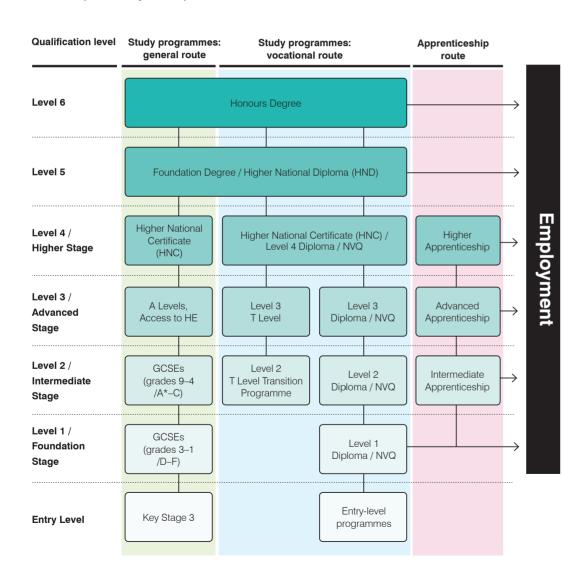
www.activatelearning.ac.uk/parents for more information.



LEVELS

EXPLAINED

Programmes in this guide are arranged according to levels. Levels refer to learning stages, and guide you through our career pathways maps.



Further education college programmes typically run from Level 1 (Foundation Stage), to Level 2 (Intermediate Stage) and Level 3 (Advanced Stage). Level 3 programmes are equivalent to three A Levels, and ensure you have the points required to progress to higher education. At Activate Learning, we also offer university-level programmes and qualifications across our colleges.

If you have not gained five GCSEs at grade 9-4 (A*-C equivalent), you can still progress in the career pathway that interests you. We will work with you to make sure you join the right programme at the right learning stage; ensuring you have every opportunity to progress.

The graphic shows how the levels referred to in this guide relate to different stages of learning.



HOW TO APPLY

If your heart is set on a specific subject pathway you are probably ready to apply.

APPLYING FOR A FULL-TIME STUDY PROGRAMME?

For full-time subject pathways, please first complete an online application form. This can be done on our website at **farnham.activatelearning.ac.uk**. Application forms can be supplied in alternative formats. Please speak to a member of the team at any campus or call 0800 612 6008 for more information.

As soon as we get your application, our Advice and Admissions team will confirm they have received it and let you know what your next steps will be. Depending on the information you provide us, the next step may be an offer from us to join your subject pathway and an invitation to join an Activation Programme. An Activation Programme is a series of activities that you'll need to complete to confirm that the pathway, the course, the level, and the college are the right fit for you. Activities can include initial assessments, welcome/discovery days, introductions to our Learning Philosophy, talks about life at college, what support is available including student finance, and support with advanced learner loans.

If you have further questions regarding your study programme, call us on 0800 612 6008 or contact us online at www.activatelearning.ac.uk/contact-us/enquiries

THE KEY SECTIONS OF YOUR APPLICATION FORM

Section 2 Your programme choice

Please write your programme title in as much detail as possible (including level etc).

Section 4 Extra support for you

We offer support to succeed for all our students. If you have a disability, medical condition, or learning or language support needs, tell us as soon as possible; ideally on the application form. This is confidential and will be used to get the support you need in place for when you join us.

Section 1 **About yourself**

Add your emergency contact details so we can contact your quardian (or designated contact if you're 19+) in an emergency.

tion 1: About

Section 3 Your future plans

Tell us why you want to do this programme, how it fits with your career plans, and what you believe you can bring to the college.





Qualifications in our media pathway are accredited by the prestigious University of the Arts London (UAL).

University of the Arts London (UAL) is recognised as a world top-five university for art and design, according to the QS World University Rankings, and is Europe's largest specialist university for the creative industries. Our accreditation with University of the Arts London means that you will have the opportunity to have your work shortlisted to appear in the annual UAL exhibition in London.

Our programmes follow an inter-disciplinary approach, which means you will be working with a variety of mediums so that you can better find your strengths and interests. This will also prepare you for your next step, whether that is further study or employment. Teaching and learning are carried out in traditional craft workshops and digital MakerSpaces.

You will also get access to work experiences throughout your programme to prepare you for the realities of working in industry. This includes responding to live briefs set by employers, work experience, taking part in competitions, and attending masterclasses and careers talks.

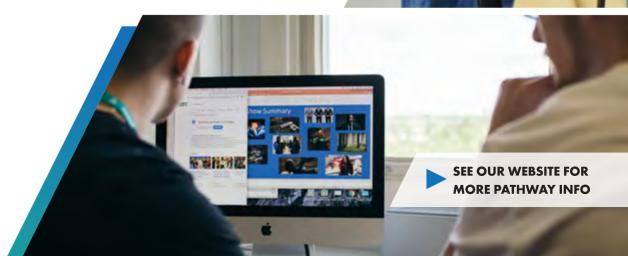
Choosing a visual arts and design pathway develops your creativity in areas including painting, textiles, printmaking, sculpture, graphics, fashion, visual studies, design, computer design software, photography, historical and contextual studies, personal and professional development.

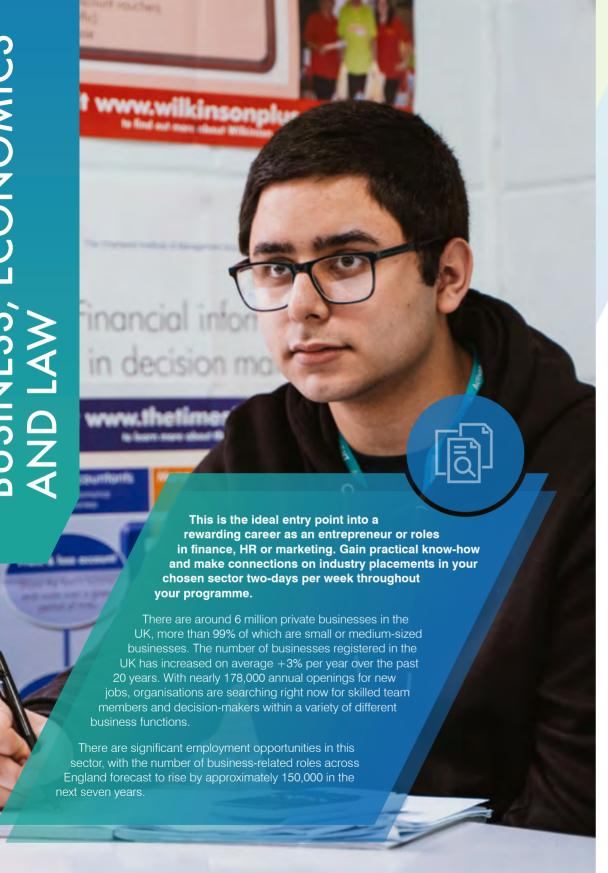
ART AND DESIGN **PROGRAMMES**

- » 3D Architectural Design A Level
- » Fine Art A Level
- » Graphic Design A Level
- » Photography A Level
- » Applied General Extended Diploma in Art and Design UAL Level 3

£71.7 BILLION

THE TOTAL CONTRIBUTION OF **EVERYONE EMPLOYED IN THE** UK IN DESIGN ROLES IS £71.7BN, AS MEASURED BY GROSS VALUE ADDED, PRODUCTIVITY. TURNOVER AND EMPLOYMENT.





If you're looking to start your career sooner rather than later, qualifications in business are flexible and are considered valuable across many industries. On this pathway, we focus on developing your employability; equipping you with the skills to become an effective team player in organisations ranging from small business start-ups to global corporations.

If you have an entrepreneurial flair, find out how you could turn your passion and ideas into a business reality. With our business or economics pathways. you will apply your learning to the real world, working on projects and assignments that challenge you, while developing the soft skills that employers are looking for.

As part of your studies, you will have the opportunity to take part in employer-led student projects with local companies and organisations. Recent projects have included planning and delivering a fundraising programme for a local hospice, designing a new young persons' travel scheme for a local bus company, and developing a brand strategy for a national charity. On our law programmes, you will learn about the important issues surrounding our legal system including why we have certain laws, who is involved in the legal system and how the law affects us all! For example, do you know the difference between a solicitor and barrister? There are three exam papers for A Level Law which focus on Criminal Law; Tort Law and Contract Law, which will give you a good grounding in whatever you choose to do after you graduate.

By working with external organisations and employers, you will get a real flavour of the realities of working in these areas. You will hear from quest speakers and you will also take part in work experience throughout your programme, helping you build the skills and confidence to launch your career.

BUSINESS, ECONOMICS AND LAW PROGRAMMES

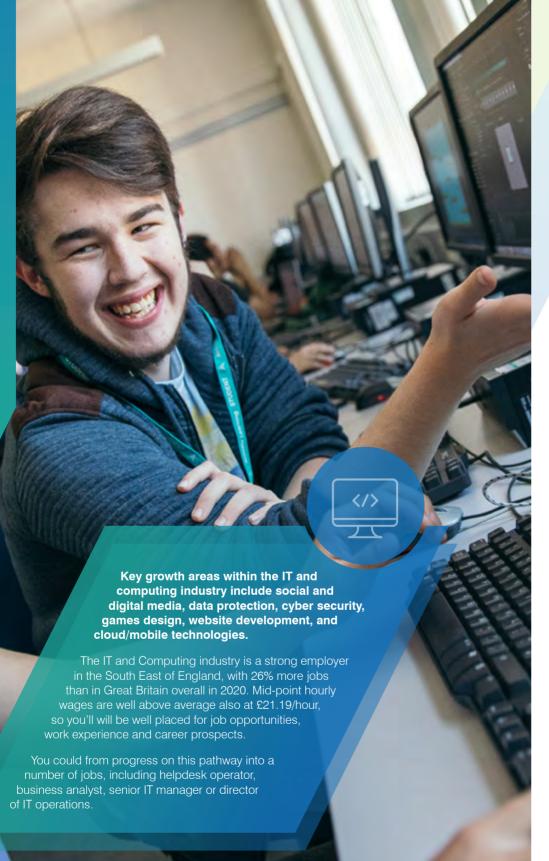
- » Business A Level
- » Economics A Level
- » Law A Level
- » Business BTEC L3 Extended Certificate
- » Business BTEC L3 National Certificate
- » Business BTEC L3 Diploma
- » Applied Law BTEC Level 3 National Extended Certificate

5 MILLION

THERE ARE JUST UNDER 5 MILLION JOB ROLES IN BUSINESS MANAGEMENT ACROSS THE UK. BY 2027, THAT'S FORECAST TO **INCREASE A FURTHER 2.6%!**



COMPUTING, AND GAMING



You will learn to design algorithms, use logical reasoning to debug errors, create programmes, and understand the differences between data and information.

Through practical, hands-on exercises using the latest equipment, you will build an understanding of different operating systems and learn to evaluate the quality of various solutions when recommending improvements.

You'll also have the opportunity to gain industry insights and experience through employer visits and projects set by external mentors. Past students have gained experience in programming VEX robots, inspiring local school children in the use of Raspberry Pi computers, and the use of Lego Mindstorm, as well as enjoying guest lectures and cyber-security curriculum design from IBM.

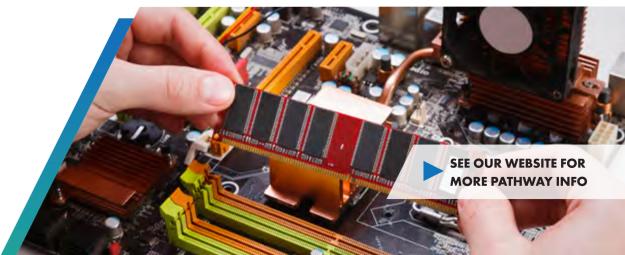
At Activate Learning colleges, you can progress from Level 1 (Foundation), all the way to a university level qualification with our HNC Computing Level 4 programme, which is available at Reading College.

COMPUTING, IT AND GAMING PRÓGRAMMES

- » UAL Level 3 Diploma in Games Development
- » IT Level 3 Cambridge Technical Diploma

4 BILLION

THE UK IS ONE OF THE LARGEST GAMING MARKETS IN THE WORLD. GENERATING ALMOST £4 BILLION IN REVENUE.



ENGLISH AND COMMUNICATIONS **Qualifications in English and** communications are highly regarded by universities and employers. They provide you with a toolbox of transferable skills and therefore open up a variety of opportunities for study or work in areas such as business, health, education and telecommunications to name just a few! The communications industry is expected to grow by nearly 10% from now until 2027, creating over four thousand jobs. In the same period, over 45% of the current workforce are expected to retire, creating 18,900 job openings.

Are you prepared to question rather than accept common 'facts'? If you have an enquiring mind, we offer a range of popular programmes delivered by experienced and specialist staff that will nurture your curiosity and help give an understanding of the world we live in.

Whether it's exploring literature, what it tells us about the cultures it reflects and the motivations of those who write, or if you're keen to apply your critical and creative thinking to communications in social work, teaching, or journalism, we have a pathway for you.

Our dedicated English and Communications pathways combine a series of qualifications that will ensure you are best placed to enter further or higher education or directly into the workforce. These programmes will give you the opportunity to study the English language and its uses in contemporary communication. They aim to encourage a critical response to texts in a wide range of styles, formats and contexts through extensive enrichment opportunities.

Throughout your studies, you will develop a brand new and extensive vocabulary and the ability to read and analyse material as well as developing your own skills as an independent, creative and reflective communicator.

ENGLISH AND COMMUNICATIONS PROGRAMMES

- » English Language A Level
- » English Literature A Level

3 BILLION

THE COMMUNICATIONS INDUSTRY IS WORTH OVER £3 BILLION TO THE **UK ECONOMY ANNUALLY**





Our thought-provoking courses include subject areas such as history and sociology.

Humanities subjects are areas of study that go right to the core of the human experience and explore this world's various cultures and what we can learn from each other, and ourselves. In Humanities, human culture, experience, and perception are the object of study, while at the same time acknowledging that the student is a learning and developing individual with their own opinions. These courses will give you a different outlook on your everyday world and present you with questions and controversial subject areas that are not usually taught at school.

You will learn through presentations, group work, discussions and online research that will challenge you and provide you with a set of transferable skills that are desirable to both employers and universities. One of the benefits of a humanities degree is the emphasis it puts on teaching you how to think, critique, and persuade—often in areas where there isn't much data available or you need to work out what to believe.

These courses are rigorous but very rewarding and present fantastic career opportunities. With the support and knowledge of your tutors, you will be provided with everything you need to progress to careers in management, journalism, social work, criminology, and many more.

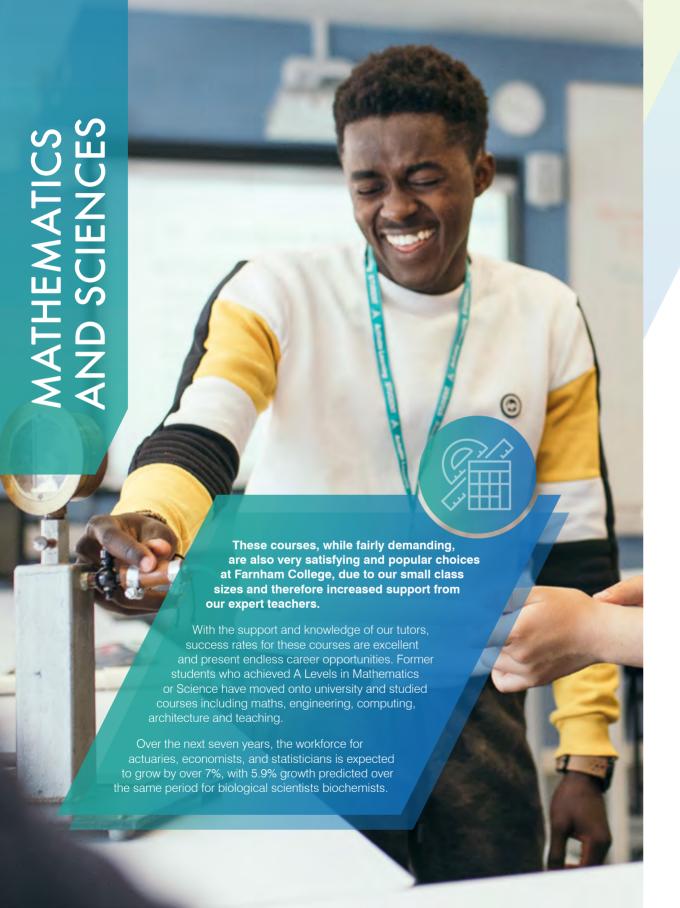
HUMANITIES PROGRAMMES

- » Geography A Level
- » History A Level
- » Sociology A Level

1,700

A RECENT STUDY OF 1,700 PEOPLE FROM 30 COUNTRIES, FOUND THAT THE MAJORITY OF THOSE IN LEADERSHIP POSITIONS HAD EITHER A SOCIAL SCIENCES OR HUMANITIES DEGREE





Do you have an enquiring mind, a passion for science, the desire to broaden your understanding of the world around you, or are you an enthusiastic number cruncher?

The study of maths and science can explain and demystify the world through the objective gathering and analysing of data. It also provides you with a host of transferable analytical and communication skills and can present you with a wide range of career opportunities.

With one of our science courses you can explore the natural world, engineering, space, military technology, physics, psychology and even supernatural phenomena. These highly practical courses provide you with the relative skills needed for employment within science organisations whilst enabling you to develop practical scientific skills. You could move on to a science degree or employment in a science-related industry as a forensic scientist, quality control technician in a production plant laboratory, an editor of a scientific publication and many more!

Mathematics is a subject that can be studied for its own sake, but its techniques can be applied in many areas of study meaning that the career prospects are vast and rewarding. Our courses provide students with he ability to learn new mathematical concepts and solve related mathematical problems. The varied learning methods which include active learning and mathematical software packages, as well as investigations, are not only enjoyable but engaging.

MATHS AND SCIENCES PROGRAMMES

- » Biology A Level
- » Chemistry A Level
- » Physics A Level
- » Psychology A Level
- » Applied Psychology BTEC Level 3 National Certificate
- » Applied Science BTEC Level 3 Diploma
- » Mathematics A Level





Our courses give you the chance to experience a wide variety of modern, contemporary and practical skills and techniques in the performing and production arts. You'll even have the opportunity to specialise in your area of interest!

We want you to collaborate in your learning experience, so our industry-experienced tutors will help you to identify your areas of interest and areas for improvement.

You'll develop practical performance skills for using voice and movement to communicate effectively with an audience. Teamwork, selfdiscipline and confidence are core skills that you'll develop on the programme, and you'll also get valuable experiences from directing and leading your classmates. Not only are these skills and experiences vital for the creative industries, but they also prepare you for other career paths.

Our music programmes can develop your performance and production skills, with opportunities to develop specialist skills in music technology.

Music students benefit from recording studios and performance spaces, with opportunities to gain performance experiences throughout the year.

MEDIA, MUSIC AND PERFORMING **ARTS PROGRAMMES**

- » Media Studies A Level
- » Creative Digital Media Production BTEC Level 3 Diploma
- » Creative Digital Media BTEC Level 2 Award
- » Music Technology (Sound Engineering) BTEC Level 3 National Extended Certificate
- » Acting BTEC Level 3 National **Extended Certificate** in Performance

25,865

ACROSS THE UK, THIS INDUSTRY IS EXPECTED TO GROW BY 3% UP TO 2027, WITH 25,835 NEW JOB OPENINGS ANNUALLY.

SEE OUR WEBSITE FOR MUSIC AND MEDIA **PERFORMING ARTS MORE PATHWAY INFO**

SO WHAT'S NEXT?

If you've looked through the prospectus and are still undecided about your options, come to one of our open events, either in person or online, and speak to our tutors, get a feel for the place and discuss your options.

Farnham College

Tuesday 12 October 2021, 4–7pm Saturday 20 November 2021, 9:30am–12:30pm Wednesday 9 February 2022, 4–7pm Saturday 18 June 2022, 9:30am–12:30pm

/OfficialFarnhamCollege

@farnhamsixthformcollege

In 2020, we held our first Virtual Open Events where learners could speak with tutors through live chat, download videos on various subjects and go on a virtual tour of our campuses!

Alternatively, if you're certain about which pathway you want to choose **apply online now!** Search for your chosen course at **farnham.activatelearning.ac.uk** and click on 'Apply Now'.

I felt very welcome and comfortable during this event. The information given to me was explained very clearly and easily taken in."

- Virtual Open Event visitor

VISIT FARNHAM.ACTIVATELEARNING.AC.UK/EVENTS



0800 612 6008 enquiries@activatelearning.ac.uk www.activatelearning.ac.uk