

## Further information about UK qualifications for undergraduate entry

### 1. Statement on the A-levels and GCSE reforms

The University will accept the new A-level and GCSE qualifications, and will formulate offers on an equivalent basis to the current qualifications. We do not plan to make major changes to course entry requirements. However, each course will need to review the new content and assessment specifications on an individual basis, and some adjustments to subject requirements may need to be made in advance of publication of the following year's undergraduate prospectus.

- We will continue to expect applicants to take three A-levels. Additional qualifications will not confer any advantage.
- While we value the breadth which comes with studying four subjects at AS-level, we do not expect to introduce a requirement for AS-levels to be taken and do not plan to use them as part of the process to select applicants.
- Credit will continue to be given for the best eight GCSE subjects. Specific course requirements for GCSE achievement will be adjusted to fit the new grading format, using guidance from Ofqual on grade equivalences.
- The University will not generally require the new core maths qualification, unless courses specify this in entry requirements.
- If a Science A-level is taken, the University will generally require applicants to pass the practical element.

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### 2. Statement on the AQA Baccalaureate

The University of Bristol welcomes applications from students offering the AQA Baccalaureate qualification. The enrichment element provides a valuable opportunity for students to increase their non-academic achievement and extra-curricular interests in ways that may contribute, either by having direct relevance to their chosen degree course, or more widely to the general life of the University.

It is expected that offers to successful applicants will generally be made on the basis of specified achievement in the three A-levels, or in some cases as an alternative offer which involves success in the Extended Project (eg either AAA at A-level or AAB at A-level plus Extended Project).

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### 3. Statement on the BTEC qualification

The University of Bristol considers applications from students offering a BTEC Level 3 qualification provided it is in a relevant subject to the chosen course. Distinctions may be requested in particular units, and some admissions tutors may ask for an additional A-level to satisfy subject requirements.

<b>A-level requirement</b>	<b>BTEC Nationals (QCF) Extended Diploma</b>
A*AA	D*DD
AAA - AAB	DDD
ABB - BBB	DDM

Specialist QCF qualifications are not generally accepted.

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### 4. Statement on Cambridge Pre-U

The University accepts the Cambridge Pre-U as satisfying general entry requirements, and formulates offers on an equivalent basis with existing level 3 qualifications. Cambridge Pre-U subjects need to be principal subjects. For guidance, our equivalences with A-level and AS grades (as based on the UCAS tariff recommendations), are listed below:

<b>Cambridge Pre-U Principal subject</b>	<b>A-level/AS Level Grade</b>
D1	A*
D2	A*
D3	A
M1	B
M2	B

<b>Cambridge Pre-U Principal subject</b>	<b>A-level/AS Level Grade</b>
M3	C
P1	D
P2	D
P3	E

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### **5. Statement on the English Baccalaureate**

The University of Bristol does not use the English Baccalaureate as an entry requirement. Level 2 qualifications are considered as part of the assessment of each applicant's academic aptitude, and we would generally expect a wide range of GCSEs or other level 2 qualifications at good grades. Where there are specific subject or grade requirements, these will be clearly stated in the relevant prospectus entry.

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### **6. Statement on Extended Project**

The University is supportive of the requirement for Diploma students to undertake an Extended Project as part of their Diploma programme. The University recognises that some A-level students may also choose to offer the Extended Project. In some cases we may make two alternative offers, one of which involves success in the Extended Project (eg either AAA at A-level or AAB at A-level plus Extended Project). Please check the relevant [admissions statement](#).

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### **7. Statement on the Flexible Curriculum**

The University normally expects applicants to have completed three full A-levels (or equivalent qualifications) in one sitting. If this has not been the case, either because an applicant has followed an accelerated curriculum or due to some other reason, then it would be advisable for this to be clearly explained in the applicant's reference so that it can be given individual consideration by the admissions team.

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## **8. Statement on Unit Grades**

The University does not generally take unit grade information into account when making selection decisions or in the terms of offers.

In some marginal cases unit grade information may be used to inform decisions about applicants who have missed the terms of their offers at Confirmation.