

# Sixth Form

## PROSPECTUS 2017



**Airedale Academy**  
The Next Step To Your Success



# Welcome to **Airedale** Academy Sixth Form

The next Step To Your Success

**W**e are delighted to welcome you to Airedale Academy Sixth Form. We are unique in that our offer is purely vocational, a provision therefore, which enables a whole range of young people from across the district to access further education. We have an excellent reputation and annually celebrate excellent exam results. It gives a great sense of pride when we are able to wish good luck to those students who leave our sixth form to take up places at University, Theatre school and in employment. Our ethos of 'Striving for Excellence' runs through everything here at Airedale and we aim to instil this ethos in all our students. We want to help develop you into happy, well prepared and confident adults, who adopt an 'I can' mentality and aim high in all you do. To enable us to achieve this and be the very best we can be, we are committed to working in partnership with you, your parents/carers and the community. Our absolute aim is to make the most of your time with us.

It goes without saying that we have high aspirations for and expectations of our students in the sixth form. We will provide outstanding teaching, superb facilities (a dedicated sixth form teaching block with common room, extensive ICT facilities and a state of the art theatre) and personalised mentoring to support you reaching your goals. We expect you to demonstrate maximum effort, attend regularly and act as a role model for our younger students.

Please take the time to have a good look through this prospectus to see the courses on offer. We look forward to supporting you in making the right choice - Airedale Academy Sixth Form!

E Fairhurst  
Principal

Designed to provide you with a specialist work-related qualification, this course is perfectly suited to anyone interested in entering any of the occupations associated with Health and Social Care. Students will develop their work-related skills and knowledge and, in addition to completing coursework and external assessments, are required to arrange and attend appropriate work placements in order to gain practical experience to demonstrate knowledge and understanding. Students study for the BTEC Extended Diploma which is equivalent to three A Levels and recognised by employers and universities. In recent years students have successfully applied for courses in areas such as Mental Health Nursing, Criminology, Youth Work, Community Development and Social Work.

## What will I learn?

You will study 12 units over two years covering a range of topics which include Human Lifespan Development, Working in Health & Social Care, Anatomy and Physiology and Meeting Care Needs. You will have the opportunity to participate in a mixture of activities, discussions and presentations. Some time will be available for supported independent study to produce coursework and undertake your own research. The majority of the course is assessed through completion of coursework which is marked internally by staff and then moderated by the exam board while the rest of the units are externally assessed.

The Personal and Professional Development unit involves completing a minimum of 100 hours of work experience. Work experience is an important part of the course and will give you an insight into the various professions and the opportunity to practice your skills.

## Future opportunities

Successful completion of the course can lead to higher education courses and jobs, including youth and community work, nursing, occupational therapy, speech therapy, and social work. If you go to university or college you could take a degree or BTEC Higher National Diploma in psychology, social policy, early years studies, nursing or health studies as well as a range of others.



## What are the entry requirements?

5A\*-C orequivalent/4-9 GCSE passes including English and Maths. Students who do not successfully achieve a C grade (or equivalent) or above in English and/or Mathematics at GCSE will continue to study these alongside the BTEC qualification. Successful completion of the BTEC Level 2 Diploma in Health & Social Care could be beneficial, but is not a requirement.



Our two-year vocational BTEC course, with its specialism in Musical Theatre, is primarily practical and has been chosen because it provides excellent preparation for students who want to progress on to Theatre/Drama schools, universities and, ultimately, to careers in the industry.

It is delivered by teachers with a reputation for supporting young people through their qualifications and providing outstanding performance opportunities in professional-quality facilities on the Airedale Campus: a three-hundred-seat theatre together with three drama and two dance studios. Alongside Airedale's enthusiastic and dedicated teachers, students will regularly work with visiting artists and theatrical companies.

### *What will I learn?*

The course combines practical assignments with the study of a variety of performing arts disciplines. You will work on group projects and individual assignments and be encouraged to learn a range of skills and techniques, becoming involved in all aspects from backstage to front-of-house. In the second year you will produce a 'final major project'.

Over the two-year period the range of subjects studied includes: dance, drama and singing, acting technique, voice and speech workshops, choreography, production technology and arts administration.

### *What are the costs?*

You may have to pay for certain texts, comfortable clothes, theatre trips and any residential opportunities you wish to take part in, but we will supply other necessary materials.

### *Future opportunities*

BTEC Level 3 Extended Diplomas are valued by employers and higher education providers and can lead to careers in performance, music entertainment, directing, choreographing or teaching. After completing the course, you could go to university or college to take a degree or a BTEC Higher National in subjects such as music performance, musical theatre, performing arts, dance, drama or production design.



We provide a range of opportunities for our performing arts students to develop skills which will enhance their employability in the sector. All students on the course are members of The Cast which, as well as performance, provides opportunities to work in a public theatre on a regular (sometimes paid) basis, learning additional roles such as sound, lighting, stage management and front of house. We also offer The Cast the opportunity to teach at our theatre school Phoenix PA, which runs one night a week, gaining them valuable teaching experience and providing the opportunity to earn a small weekly wage. We also provide opportunities to work in clubs, entertainment establishments and theatres on a regular basis.



### *What are the entry requirements?*

5 A\*-C or equivalent /4-9 GCSE passes including English and Maths. Students who do not successfully achieve a C grade (or equivalent) or above in English and/or Mathematics at GCSE will continue to study these alongside the BTEC qualification. You will have an interview and audition, which includes a self-prepared monologue, dance solo or workshop, and a prepared song. You will also need to be able to demonstrate experience in one or more of the art forms (drama, dance and singing).

# BTEC Extended Diploma in Performing Arts (Musical Theatre) Level 3 Equivalent to 3 A-Levels

## *Trips, Opportunities and working with professionals in the industry.*

As a student studying Performing Arts you will have the opportunity to partake in an extensive programme of enrichment activities and trips. These trips are of course, optional but are offered generally, at a vastly reduced price.

Typically, our extracurricular excursions include:-

- A week in New York working with a Broadway choreographer/director.
- A week in Disneyland, Paris, working and performing with the theme park entertainment staff.
- Theatre trips to see new and established musicals/plays and entertainment shows.
- UCAS conferences/road shows



## *Progression/Past Student Successes in 2016*

Our 100% pass rate is proof of our tireless commitment to our students. We are both serious and passionate about this commitment and go above and beyond to give them every possible opportunity to achieve well. We actively aim to keep our intake numbers low on this course, to enable a personally tailored experience for our students that enables them to progress quickly in both their specialist discipline and their weakest areas. We believe our 'triple threat' approach gives our students the greatest possible chance of achieving success in their chosen vocation, preparing them fully for the industry standards. Over the last 3 years 90% of our students have either entered higher education / theatre school or are now working in the Performing Arts industry.

Examples of where some of those students are now

- AMTA (American Musical Theatre Academy of London)
- Edge Hill University studying Drama
- The Arden School of Theatre to study Musical Theatre
- Television and film work including Les Misérables, 71, Coronation Street and Emmerdale, This is England 90
- The University of West London studying for the BA (Hons) in Musical Theatre
- The University of Cumbria studying Performing Arts
- D and B School of Performing Arts Studying Musical Theatre (London)



## *So how often do we perform to an Audience?*

As a student and a member of 'the Cast' and part of a practical course you will be heavily required to perform. Our performance facilities are of a very high standard with a 300 seat auditorium, newly refurbished foyer and some of the best technical facilities of any live event venue in the region. Examples of a typical year's performance calendar are.

- A schools promotional tour
- seasonal Kabaret shows (e.g. Rock Kabaret, Best of British, Kabaret du Karnival, Kabaret Noel)
- A 6th form musical (i.e. A Chorus Line, Fame, Les Misérables -Schools Edition, Billy Elliott, White Christmas, Miss Saigon)
- A whole school musical (i.e. We will Rock You, A Christmas Carol, Wizard Of Oz)
- A Theatre in Education tour with performance and workshops.
- Promotional/Educational DVD work for public services industries (i.e. drink/driving campaign/Child sexual exploitation. domestic abuse)
- Multiple performances when requested by local organisations (i.e. schools, businesses, public services).

This is a two year full time course focusing on Business Studies.

This qualification encourages in-depth study of Business in the modern workplace and gives an insight into its role in specialist careers. This is a mainly coursework-based qualification and students are assessed on the practical skills and knowledge required to succeed. A selection of units will be externally assessed.

## What will I learn?

Students will study a wide range of units during the course. Some of these could include:

Exploring Business, Developing a Marketing campaign, Personal and Business Finance, Managing an Event, Principles of Management, Practical Business and IT Skills, Communication and Problem Solving Skills, Office Administration, Working in Distribution & Manufacturing, Employment Law and E-Commerce.

## What are the costs?

You may have to pay for certain optional trips, and you will need access to a computer and the internet. We will supply other necessary materials.



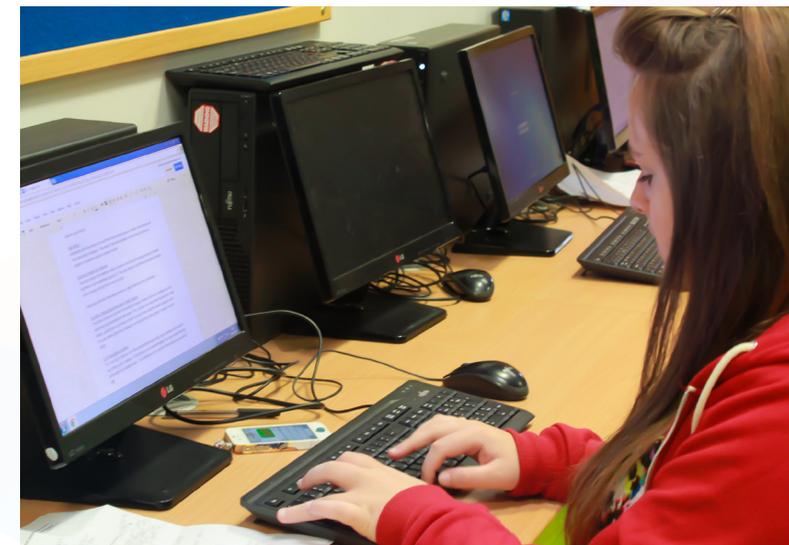
## Future opportunities

The course is firmly based in the 'real world' of business and encourages students to think about what they are learning which can then be applied in practice by relating teaching and assessment to real organisations. This qualification can lead to higher education, apprenticeships, or employment in a range of occupational areas,

In the past 3 years students have gone on to a range of HE providers, including some of the top universities in the country, to study courses such as business administration, retail management, computer animation and visual effects, creative events management and administration, management and business enterprise, business with supply chain management, network computing and computing in business.

## What are the entry requirements?

5 A\*-C / or equivalent 4-9 GCSE passes including English and Maths. Students who do not successfully achieve a C grade (or equivalent) or above in English and/or Mathematics at GCSE will continue to study these alongside the BTEC qualifications.



# INTERESTED?

## After Airedale

Our ambition is that every single student who completes their courses at Airedale Academy Sixth Form will move on to higher education or into a career of their choice. This is why advice and guidance on future study or career opportunities is an important part of the support that we make available to all of our sixth-formers.

Course tutors will help students prepare for applications and interviews. Together with our Connexions Adviser, they will also provide the latest information on higher education, employment, gap year and career opportunities. Where appropriate all Year 12 students will follow the Progression Module which prepares our young people for their next step, be it in education or employment. This is a qualification and provides those who successfully complete their portfolio with UCAS points that can be used in applying to some of our local universities including Leeds Metropolitan University, Leeds Trinity and All Saints and Huddersfield University. We are very proud of our record of progression to Higher Education which is currently well above the national average' We have also been successful at helping our

students to find and apply for scholarships to help them to attend HE. This has included financial help with attending prestigious private theatre schools as well as universities

Sixth-form students will have the opportunity to participate in a variety of events and activities to help them make informed choices about their future. These will include study visits to local and regional universities, master classes, residential activities and visiting speakers. In the last year we have seen students going on to some of the top universities and theatre schools in the country.

## Financial support

Some support is available for students facing financial difficulties. A guaranteed bursary of £1200 per year is available for young people in care, care leavers and those students on income support. Students whose parents have a combined household income of below £22,000 may be entitled to a discretionary bursary to help with transport costs and expenses related to their course.

## How do I apply?

**Step 1** Apply online at [www.ucasprogress.com](http://www.ucasprogress.com)

**Step 2** Once we have received your application, we will arrange an interview and, where appropriate, an audition. Parents and carers are very welcome at both.

**Step 3** If you are successful, we will contact you confirming the offer of a place on condition that you achieve the appropriate grades in your GCSE exams.

**Step 4** On GCSE results day in August you will have an Enrolment Interview. You must bring your GCSE results slip with you.



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**Email: [info@airedaleacademy.com](mailto:info@airedaleacademy.com)**  
**Website: [www.airedaleacademy.com](http://www.airedaleacademy.com)**

### **BUS LINKS**

Within 300 metres are bus stops  
directly accessible from:

Castleford town centre - 156, 159,  
499, 500

Wakefield city centre - 125, 183, 184,  
185, 188

Knottingley town centre - 188

Pontefract town centre - 125, 184, 185

### **RAIL LINKS**

Castleford Interchange and  
Glasshoughton rail station are both  
within ten minutes of Airedale Academy

For general bus and rail enquiries,  
please call metroline on 0113  
2457676,  
email [metroline@wypte.gov.uk](mailto:metroline@wypte.gov.uk) or visit  
[www.wymetro.com](http://www.wymetro.com)

