



CONNELL

CO-OP COLLEGE

PROSPECTUS 2024–2025





CONTENTS

- 03. WELCOME
- 04. WHY CHOOSE CONNELL?
- 06. CAREER PATHWAYS AND PARTNER ORGANISATIONS
- 11. A LEVELS OR BTECS?
- 12. HOW TO APPLY?
- 13. KEY DATES
- 14. A LEVELS
- 15. BIOLOGY
- 16. BUSINESS
- 17. CHEMISTRY
- 18. ECONOMICS
- 19. ENGLISH LANGUAGE
- 20. ENGLISH LITERATURE
- 21. FILM STUDIES
- 22. GEOGRAPHY
- 23. HISTORY
- 24. LAW
- 25. MATHEMATICS
- 26. MEDIA STUDIES
- 27. PHYSICS
- 28. PSYCHOLOGY
- 29. SOCIOLOGY
- 30. SPANISH
- 31. STATISTICS
- 33. BTECS
- 34. APPLIED PSYCHOLOGY
- 35. APPLIED SCIENCE
- 36. BUSINESS
- 37. CO-OP YOUNG BUSINESS LEADERS
- 38. COMPUTING
- 39. CRIMINOLOGY
- 40. HEALTH & SOCIAL CARE
- 41. SPORT & EXERCISE SCIENCE
- 42. SPORTS COACHING & DEVELOPMENT
- 43. SPORT PROGRAMMES
- 45. CAREERS SUPPORT
- 47. CONNELL CURRICULUM
- 48. CORE
- 49. PARENTS/CARERS INFORMATION

Scan the QR code for the latest version of our prospectus (in case we've made any changes) or visit: connell.ac.uk/prospectus



WELCOME

For me, being part of a young person's post-16 education is a real privilege. It's one of the most exciting times in your life when you figure out who you are and what you want to be. At Connell, it's our job to help you get there.

Supporting you through this crucial stage of your education is what we do best. We deliver excellent qualifications and a rich student experience. We do this through strong partnerships with a number of well known employers, charities and universities who are all committed to working directly with the young people we serve.

Qualifications combined with unique work related and community action experiences mean that when our students leave us they stand out from the crowd. Whether you want to study medicine, be a lawyer, start your own business or work in grassroots community sport; we have a career pathway supported by a strong employer partner. Many of our other courses benefit from these relationships too - check out our course pages to find out more.

Right now we're the highest performing sixth form college in Manchester in terms of progress at A Level and BTEC; and progression to higher education and training (DfE Performance Tables 2019).

When students come to us they don't just achieve their target grades, they exceed them and go on to study and work successfully in the next phase of their journey.

By choosing Connell you are saying yes to excellent advice and guidance from the moment you apply until the day you leave. Our job is to support you on your journey.

We work with students and their families in partnership to help them succeed. We welcome enquiries from students and parents alike because we know how important it is to find a place that feels right for the whole family.

As a community we embrace diversity and celebrate differences. We seek like minded students who are committed to social justice and want to have a positive impact on the world in which we live. We welcome applications from any student who meets our entry requirements.

Emma Soper
Principal



WHY CHOOSE CONNELL?

We're the highest performing sixth form college in Manchester. Our students make better progress at A Level and BTEC than at any other sixth form college in the city (DfE Performance Tables 2019).

Our students progress to university and higher level apprenticeships at a rate way above the national average. And more importantly - they are happy!

PERSONAL TOUCH

How do we do this? Because we get to know our students and we work to give them the level of challenge and support they need to be successful. They will be one of hundreds and not thousands and so to us, every young person is an individual we can get to know and inspire.

TEAM EFFORT

We believe that success is a team effort and so, at Connell, students, teachers and parents work together to ensure that the young people who come to us are able to achieve their aspirations.

STRONG PARTNERSHIPS

Everything we do is about strong cooperative partnerships that

bring the best out of people. We are supported in educating our students by a number of local and national employers and universities who are committed to our college's vision and values. These organisations want to help us give the young people of Manchester the very best opportunities - no matter what their background or personal circumstances. We work in partnership to help every student fulfil their potential.

INCLUSIVE AND DIVERSE

Everyone is welcome and everyone is supported. Our students are representative of the huge cultural diversity that we have in our city. This makes Connell a really vibrant place to learn and make friends.



WHY CONNELL?

- Experiences and visits that build confidence and help students stand out from the crowd.
- Free access to East Manchester Leisure Centre (gym and swim).
- Strong student voice and varied enrichment opportunities.
- Opportunities for volunteering and community action.
- Employer-led experiences on every course.
- University visits for every student.
- Modern, purpose built facilities.
- Expert advice and guidance.



CAREER PATHWAYS AND PARTNER ORGANISATIONS

We provide courses that lead to a broad range of career pathways. And we work closely with a range of partner organisations that provide our students with opportunities and support on their career pathway journeys.

Our partner organisations come from the worlds of sport, medical and allied health, health and social care, law, business, leisure and media/marketing/digital. They provide a mixture of both formal and informal support across a number of disciplines. They provide real world work experience opportunities, skill development and employer-led experiences that bring your learning to life.

Students will visit our partners' workplaces, work with their employees, experience mock interviews and see first hand how what they learn in the classroom translates to the world of work. Many of them also offer highly desirable work experience placements - including in medicine and law - exclusively to our students. All students have equal opportunity of access and support to apply.

PARTNER EMPLOYERS:

- AJ Bell
- Aldermore Bank
- City in the Community
- Co-op Group
- GLL
- Manchester City Football Club
- Nuffield Health
- Slater Heelis

See pages 7-10 for more info about each of our partner employers.

PARTNER UNIVERSITIES:

- University of Central Lancashire (UCLan)
- University of Huddersfield
- University of Law
- University of Manchester
- University of Salford



AJ BELL

Established in 1995, AJ Bell is one of the UK's largest and best regarded investment platforms.

Over 440,000 customers trust them with their investments, and by continuously striving to make investing easier, they aim to help even more people take control of their financial futures.

They employ over 1,200 people in their Manchester, London and Bristol offices. They offer an award-winning range of solutions that cater for everyone from professional advisers to DIY investors just getting started.

Connell is working in partnership with AJ Bell to offer our students with workplace experiences, careers guidance in finance, mock interviews and to promote their apprenticeship schemes.

Their apprenticeships include the Investment Operations Specialist and Digital and Technology Solutions degree programmes for those looking to start their career with a growing financial services business.

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www.ajbell.co.uk



ALDERMORE BANK

Aldermore Bank focus on providing straightforward lending and savings products to their customers, driven by their purpose of backing more people to go for it in life and business.

Aldermore was founded in 2009 when access to credit and finance had generally become more challenging, due to the financial crash in 2007-2008. Aldermore fought to challenge high street banks, doing more to address the needs of people who were being overlooked and underserved by mainstream providers.

Aldermore have an office presence in Manchester and Wilmslow. They run an active early careers strategy "Experience Aldermore," that delivers an annual cycle of events run across the academic year for schools, higher and further education institutions. They provide financial education, workplace experiences, and careers guidance for students looking for a career in banking and finance.

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www.aldermore.co.uk



**CITY IN THE
COMMUNITY**

CITY IN THE COMMUNITY

Founded in 1986, City in the Community is Manchester City's official charity. Its purpose is to empower healthier lives with city youth through football. Programmes place physical and mental wellbeing at their core, whilst also creating healthy futures and healthy communities.

Programmes under its Healthy Futures pillar aim to build education and employability pathways.

Students on the BTEC pathway compete on a weekly basis and are able to participate in a wide range of sporting community activities and events.

Outside of this provision, they offer weekly training sessions to our wider student body as well as supporting us with curriculum enrichment and careers education.

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www.mancity.com/city-in-the-community



CO-OP GROUP

One of the world's largest consumer co-operatives, owned by millions of members. They're the UK's fifth biggest food retailer; the UK's number one funeral services provider; a major general insurer and a growing legal services business.

They employ nearly 70,000 people and are a recognised leader for their social goals and community-led programmes.

With their headquarters in Manchester, Connell works in partnership with the Co-op Group to give our students workplace experiences.

Our students have the opportunity to apply for placements that give them the opportunity to work in a variety of areas including finance, marketing, communications, HR, customer services and legal. Students get the opportunity to experience a selection process and a project management style of working as well as being able to experience working life in One Angel Square (Co-op HQ).

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www.co-operative.coop



GLL

GLL is a not for profit charitable social enterprise committed to delivering a better quality of fitness, leisure, libraries and performing arts facilities for everyone. They are one of Manchester's biggest employers in the sport and leisure industry.

They manage over 258 facilities across the UK. In Manchester, this includes community and elite sporting venues such as the National Cycling Centre and National Basketball Performance Centre; and local leisure centres, such as East Manchester.

Connell works in partnership with GLL to provide our students studying BTEC courses in Sport, Coaching & Development, Sport & Exercise Science and Health and Social Care a guaranteed interview and employment trial.

Employment can run throughout your time at Connell and beyond into university or employment. They are a real living wage employer providing flexible working hours. They will provide you with training and qualifications, enabling you to progress in the sports industry.

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www.gll.org



MANCHESTER CITY FOOTBALL CLUB

Connell is built on land gifted by the club and so our relationship with Manchester City Football Club (MCFC) and its charitable foundation, City in the Community has always been strong.

Our students benefit from access to a wide range of professionals and work related experiences in sports science, nutrition, psychology and rehabilitation as well as broader areas of the business operations such as media, marketing, comms and legal.

Our students' curriculum experience is enhanced by access to a wide range of local and national businesses via the club's strong community links and business partnerships.

We've been working closely with the club since 2022 to help our students better understand employment opportunities in the green economy and the needs of businesses to move to net zero.

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www.mancity.com



NUFFIELD HEALTH

Nuffield Health is the UK's largest healthcare charity. They exist to build a healthier nation through outstanding services in 37 award-winning hospitals, 114 fitness and wellbeing clubs, healthcare clinics and 200+ workplace services.

They are committed to delivering sustainable, inclusive and meaningful impact in their communities. They employ over 5,000 healthcare professionals and have a number of centres across Greater Manchester.

We work in partnership with Nuffield Health so that our students with career ambitions in medicine or allied health professions can access high quality work experience opportunities with healthcare professionals and visit their clinical settings such as the Manchester Institute of Health and Performance.

Our students benefit from medical professionals giving talks about their experiences and career pathways; work experience days with simulated healthcare scenarios with professional guidance; mock interviews and help with university applications.

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www.nuffieldhealth.com



SLATER HEELIS

Slater Heelis is a full service law firm with origins dating back 250 years, providing legal services for business and individuals. From family law to employment, crime to corporate, advising on the purchase and sale of homes and assisting people to write their wills, clients can manage all their legal affairs with us.

Connell is working in partnership with Slater Heelis to offer our students work experience opportunities across their broad range of services - solicitors and legal professionals as well as non-legal teams such as HR, finance, IT and marketing. The HR team will also provide CV writing and interview skills workshops.

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www.slaterheelis.co.uk

A LEVELS OR BTECS?

CHOOSING THE RIGHT COURSE...

Choosing the subjects for the next phase of your studies can be really difficult. Choose subjects that you enjoy, think you'll succeed in and will allow you to pursue the career path or university courses that you are interested in.

We can discuss your choices and help you select the best study programme for your future when we interview you or at one of our recruitment events.

All students must study the equivalent of three A Levels but this can be made up of a combination of traditional A Levels or BTECs (which include Applied Generals).

WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE?

A LEVELS

Single subject qualifications that are studied over two years and are assessed by a series of exams at the end. There are no resits. A small number of A Levels contain a coursework element worth up to 30% of the grade.

BTECS

They relate to a single subject area but they can vary in size. They are based on continuous assessment

meaning you take exams and complete coursework throughout the two years of study. Each piece of work or exam can be re-taken once. They are equivalent to A Levels.

Both qualification types can lead to university, further study, training, or work. You can take a mixture of both qualifications if you want to.

WHAT'S RIGHT FOR YOU?

To help you select your programme of study, all of our applied generals are classified as one of three categories:

- Single = one A Level
- Double = two A Levels
- Triple = three A Levels

If you meet the entry requirements you can study any combination of subjects as long as they equate to a total of three A Levels. For example, you could study one A Level and a Double subject.

To study a full A Level programme, you need at least two grade 5s in essay based subjects as part of your five grade 4-9s, including Maths, English Language and English Literature.

HOW TO APPLY

WHAT TO DO AND WHEN...

SEPTEMBER/ OCTOBER 2023

Applications open on Monday 4 September.

Apply online: connell.applicaa.com

We'll be visiting schools, presenting in Year 11 assemblies and attending careers fairs to tell you everything you need to know about Connell. Chat to us about our courses, entry requirements or anything else you'd like to know!

We have an open day on Saturday 14 October, (register to attend online). Come and visit us, see our building/classrooms/facilities, speak to our teachers/students about our courses and college life.

NOVEMBER 2023

Our priority deadline is Monday 6 November. Students who apply before this deadline may be invited to an interview before Christmas.

We have an open evening on Wednesday 22 November which will be similar to our October 14th daytime one (register online).

DECEMBER 2023

Priority interview evenings take place (dates TBC). Meet the priority deadline to be invited.

JANUARY 2024

The application deadline is Friday 12 January. Students applying before this date that meet our entry requirements may be invited in for an interview.

MARCH 2024

Our discover day takes place on a Saturday in March (date TBC). Successful applicants will be invited to come and try out sessions in their chosen subjects. Keep an eye on your emails as space is limited and it fills up fast!

JULY 2024

You'll be invited to attend a new starter induction after your exams. This will give you a final opportunity to visit Connell before the summer. You will be able to meet your potential new classmates and ask any questions about joining us in September.

AUGUST 2024

We enrol on GCSE results day and the following day. We'll email you instructions during the summer. Please don't book a holiday over these days! Don't worry if you change your mind about what you want to study, we'll help you choose new subjects on the right path for your chosen career.

KEY DATES

2023

Monday 4 September - Applications Open
(apply online at: connell.applicaa.com)

September and October - We attend Year 11
Assemblies and Careers Fairs

Saturday 14 October - Open Day (register to attend)

Monday 6 November - Priority Deadline

Wednesday 22 November - Open Evening (register to attend)

December - Priority Interview Evenings (dates TBC)

2024

Friday 12 January - Application Deadline

Saturday in March - Discover Day (date TBC)

Wednesday 10 July - New Starter Induction

Thursday 22 August - GCSE Results Day + Enrolment

Tuesday 3 September - Start at Connell

Scan the QR code for the latest version of our prospectus (in case we've made any changes) or visit: connell.ac.uk/prospectus



A stack of several books is shown, with a dark blue banner overlaid across the middle. The banner contains the text 'A LEVELS' in large, white, sans-serif capital letters. The books visible include 'Samuel Pepys: The Years of Peril' by Arthur Bryant, 'Treatise on Swift' by John Galsworthy, 'The Three Musketeers' by Alexandre Dumas, 'Sandi Toksvig: Writing to the Alphabet', 'Claudius the God' by Robert Graves, 'The Heroes of England', and 'Joseph Conrad: Nostromo'.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

To be eligible for any of our courses, you must achieve a minimum of five GCSEs, grades 4-9, including English Language, English Literature, Maths and supporting subjects. See specific course pages for more info.

To study a full A Level programme, you need at least two grade 5s in essay based subjects as part of your five grade 4-9s, including Maths, English Language and English Literature.

Level 2 BTECs at Distinction level may be accepted for progression in the same subject area.

Alternative qualifications may be accepted, but students will need to purchase a UKENIC Statement of Comparability before we can make an offer. Students must be aged 16 or 17 on September 1st of the year for which they are applying.

BIOLOGY

A LEVEL

Are you interested in how living organisms operate? Do you want to find out more about the natural world that surrounds you? If so, biology may be the perfect subject for you and your future.

In the first year, you'll study the structure of different types of cells and learn how these interact to form functioning tissues, organs and systems. Learning is divided into topics. In the second year, you'll cultivate your knowledge of mammalian and plant physiology, genetics, gene technology and cloning. Throughout the course you will be making links to develop your understanding of the dynamic and interactive nature of biology.

HOW YOU'LL STUDY

You'll be offered a wide range of activities, including guest lectures from university staff as well as visits from researchers and other professionals such as doctors. We tailor the activities and invited speakers each year to our students' interests. We run a horticulture club and a medics club.

CAREERS AND DESTINATIONS

Biology can lead to a wide variety of courses in higher

education, some of which include: pharmacology, medicine, zoology, conservation and biomedical sciences. Studying biology will provide you with a whole range of practical and mathematical skills which will aid the study of other subjects. It compliments many of the other A Levels offered at Connell and can open up numerous study programmes and career opportunities for your future.

ADDITIONAL INFO:

- Extra entry requirements - Grade 6 in GCSE Biology or 6/6 in Combined Science; and Grade 5 in Higher Tier GCSE Maths
- Course length - 2 years
- Assessment - 3 x exams (practical work doesn't contribute to your final grade but a practical skills endorsement is essential for those wanting to study a science subject at university)
- Exam board - OCR
- Employer partner organisations - Nuffield Health

BUSINESS

A LEVEL

This course will help you to understand and engage with the increasingly complex business world in which we live and to enable you to become an informed and confident consumer, employee and entrepreneur.

You will develop a broader understanding of the legal, political, social, economic and environmental context of business. The external business environment is rapidly changing. Our intention is to develop confident and adaptable individuals, ready to tackle the challenges ahead whether in further education or the world of work. We aim to give you the opportunity to explore real business issues and how businesses work.

HOW YOU'LL STUDY

A diverse range of teaching strategies will be used with a consistent link to businesses, so that you can see how what we learn in college is used in the real world. With a combination of independent research, teamwork, competition and presentation activities we hope to complement the employability skills that students are developing across the college.

CAREERS AND DESTINATIONS

There are a vast range of business-related degrees and apprenticeships: from accountancy to creative roles. Throughout your time on the course, you will develop a broad understanding of business and you may decide you want to study one area in more detail at university. A good proportion of our students go into the business field but it is also an excellent supporting subject for other career pathways.

ADDITIONAL INFO:

- Extra entry requirements - none
- Course length - 2 years
- Assessment - 3 x exams
- Exam board - Edexcel
- Employer partner organisations - MCFC, Co-op Group, Nuffield Health and GLL

CHEMISTRY

A LEVEL

Do you want to explore the world of atoms, molecules, compounds and ions? Are you interested in medical discoveries and attempting to explain the origin and the fate of the universe? If so, then chemistry will really suit you.

We have state-of-the-art laboratories with top class facilities and equipment. You will study topics such as: atoms, compounds, molecules and equations; enthalpy, entropy and free energy; redox and electrode potentials; group 2 and the halogens; organic synthesis; reaction rates and equilibrium; analytical techniques (IR and MS); pH and buffers; chromatography and spectroscopy (NMR).

HOW YOU'LL STUDY

There will be opportunities to attend talks - at both Connell and at local universities - from chemistry professionals such as doctors and research scientists. There will also be enrichment opportunities for those budding scientists who wish to pursue their interests outside the classroom.

CAREERS AND DESTINATIONS

Many students continue into higher education. A chemistry qualification opens access to university courses in areas such as chemical engineering, environmental science, food science, materials science and biochemistry. Chemistry is the only science compulsory for the study of medicine and dentistry. Chemistry degrees can lead to a wide variety of careers in areas such as water treatment, drug design, pharmacy, teaching and renewable energy.

ADDITIONAL INFO:

- Extra entry requirements - Grade 6 in GCSE chemistry or 6/6 in Combined Science, and Grade 5 in Higher Tier GCSE Maths
- Course length - 2 years
- Assessment - 3 x exams (practical work doesn't contribute to your final grade but a practical skills endorsement is essential for those wanting to study a science subject at university)
- Exam board - OCR

ECONOMICS

A LEVEL

Every aspect of your life is affected by economics, from the price of the milk you put on your cereal in the morning to the stories you see on the news in the evening...

You will study two aspects of economics. Macroeconomics looks at the “big” picture (unemployment and inflation, for example) while microeconomics considers the markets for specific goods or services and how well these markets work. You also study how businesses operate and global economics.

There are four themes throughout the two years of study:

1. Introduction to markets and market failure
2. The UK economy – performance and policies
3. Business behaviour and the labour market
4. A global perspective

In a rapidly changing and uncertain world, studying economics helps you make sense of it all.

HOW YOU’LL STUDY

There will be opportunities to attend talks - at Connell and outside of college by a number of business leaders, economists and financial institutions such as the Bank of England.

CAREERS AND DESTINATIONS

There are many! Economists run or have senior posts in business and some have a major role in running the country. It’s seen as a rigorous academic subject and is highly valued by universities and a wide range of employers.

ADDITIONAL INFO:

- Extra entry requirements - Grade 6 in GCSE Maths
- Course length - 2 years
- Assessment - 3 x exams at the end of the second year covering: markets and business behaviour; the national and global economy; microeconomics and macroeconomics
- Exam board - Edexcel

ENGLISH LANGUAGE

A LEVEL

Language is up there with humanity's greatest achievements - and it surrounds us, every minute of every day. That means there's enormous power in understanding how it works...

In your first year, you'll explore how language is used to create meanings in a variety of texts, from journalism to political speeches to graphic novels and more. You'll examine the way different texts represent people, places, ideas and social groups. You'll enter the world of sociolinguistics and delve into the history of the English language.

In the second year, you will try to answer one of the most fascinating questions in language study: how do children learn to speak, read and write?

HOW YOU'LL STUDY

Students regularly benefit from guest lectures and workshops delivered by respected linguists working on the most cutting-edge language research. Trips and visits are also organised to allow students to observe language in action.

CAREERS AND DESTINATIONS

An English Language A-level is hugely versatile, leading students to careers in online media, journalism, advertising, marketing, publishing, teaching, civil service and more. Universities and employers prize candidates with strong communication skills.

ADDITIONAL INFO:

- Extra entry requirements - none
- Course length - 2 years
- Assessment - 2 x exams (each worth 40%), 1 x non-exam assessment (worth 20%)
- Exam board - AQA

ENGLISH LITERATURE

A LEVEL

You will get to grips with some of the world's most important, controversial and fascinating texts. You'll have an inquisitive mind, a passion for writers' craft and you'll revel in pulling a text apart to uncover its deepest meanings. You'll refine your analytical, essay-writing and debating skills whilst achieving a highly respected and versatile qualification.

In your first year, you'll learn about pre-1900 drama and poetry, studying the work of Christina Rossetti, Henrik Ibsen and William Shakespeare. In the second year, you will focus on the dark, deviant and uncanny world of gothic literature, studying Bram Stoker's *Dracula* and Angela Carter's *The Bloody Chamber*, amongst others.

HOW YOU'LL STUDY

Students in recent years have attended live productions of *Hamlet*, *Romeo & Juliet* and a host of other famous plays for a sense of how drama works on the stage. Meanwhile, guest speakers are regularly invited to deliver specialist workshops for a flavour of degree-level literary analysis.

CAREERS AND DESTINATIONS

An English Literature A Level opens up all kinds of doors; universities and employers place extremely high value on the critical nature of the subject. The majority of students go on to higher education, studying a diverse range of subjects such as English, linguistics, film, journalism, marketing, politics, law, and more.

ADDITIONAL INFO:

- Extra entry requirements - Grade 5 in GCSE English Language and Grade 5 in GCSE English literature
- Course length - 2 years
- Assessment - 2 x exams (each worth 40%), 1 x non-exam assessment (worth 20%)
- Exam board - OCR

FILM STUDIES

A LEVEL

You will study a wide range of films across a variety of cultures, time periods and genres. You'll discover how high-quality narratives are developed and showcased using visual techniques and theory.

The course involves investigations of how cinema has developed from its inception in the 1800s through to the present day.

Throughout the course you will study a selection of films which will help you to explore the ways in which directors have created meaning for their audiences.

If you are interested in film-making, photography or even creative writing, then Film Studies is the course for you.

HOW YOU'LL STUDY

You'll develop practical production skills and work towards creating your own piece of film, building on knowledge and understanding developed through your study.

Alongside this you will develop long-form written analysis of famous directors and auteurs to find out how they became so iconic.

CAREERS AND DESTINATIONS

Students who study Film Studies at A Level usually go to university to study Media Studies, Film, TV Production or English. There are also options in degree-level apprenticeships in the creative industries. Film Studies students typically wish to work in industries such as film, TV or journalism.

ADDITIONAL INFO:

- Extra entry requirements - none
- Course length - 2 years
- Assessment - 2 x exams (70%) and 1 x non-exam assessment (30%)
- Exam board - Eduqas

GEOGRAPHY

A LEVEL

Are you interested in the world around you? Do you want to know how the human and physical environment is changing? If so, A Level geography is for you!

You'll study a wide range of topics that integrate human and physical geography.

Unit 1- tectonic processes and hazards; glaciated or coastal landscapes; the water cycle and water insecurity; the carbon cycle and energy insecurity.

Unit 2 - globalisation; diverse places; superpowers; development and human rights.

Unit 3 - place-based geographical investigation.

Unit 4 - a 3,000-4,000-word independent fieldwork investigation on a topic of your choice from the course.

HOW YOU'LL STUDY

You will undertake a minimum of four days of course-related fieldwork in the Lake District, Fylde coastline and Manchester. There are also opportunities to attend university study days, Manchester Geographical Association lectures, lectures at local universities and listen to talks from NGOs, such as Refugee Action.

CAREERS AND DESTINATIONS

Geography A Level graduates develop a wide range of transferable skills: report writing, numeracy, IT, decision-making, independent research and problem solving. These skills help graduates have one of the highest employment rates. Geography bridges the arts and sciences, giving flexibility for higher education courses, such as those in planning and environmental management; as well as into areas such as business, law, development work and human rights.

ADDITIONAL INFO:

- Extra entry requirements - ideally studied GCSE geography
- Course length - 2 years
- Assessment - 3 x exams and coursework
- Exam board - Edexcel
- Employer partner organisations - MCFC and Co-op Group

HISTORY

A LEVEL

Over two years we follow two nations at pivotal moments, with the trauma of civil wars forcing significant change that still ripples through societies today.

Our British unit follows the Stuart dynasty when in just 100 years England went from the absolute Tudor monarchs to a transformed constitutional monarchy. For our world history, you'll study America before, during and after its transformative civil war. You will see the divided nature of the country from its beginnings, and how the betrayal of reconstruction is still felt today.

You have a choice of two topics that cover 100 years for your independent study: either the Native American civil rights movement or Black British History in the 20th century.

HOW YOU'LL STUDY

We study both exam units across the two years. Our British history unit has a focus on historical debates, whilst our American unit has primary sources as a core aspect. You'll be taught in seminar-style lessons with readings set and discussions. You'll be supported to write academically.

We offer opportunities to get involved with essay and debating competitions, guest lectures, trips to the People's History Museum and abroad to a European capital.

CAREERS AND DESTINATIONS

History A Level offers lots of transferable skills such as logical argumentation, strong communication skills, processing and analysis, which sets candidates apart for university or apprenticeship applications. It's a common misconception that history graduates don't earn as much as their STEM counterparts. They often go into management or law, earning substantial salaries and have high job satisfaction. It's also a great route into journalism, business, politics, media and international relations.

ADDITIONAL INFO:

- Extra entry requirements - none
- Course length - 2 years
- Assessment - 2 x exams; 1 x coursework essay (3500 words)
- Exam board - AQA

LAW

A LEVEL

Are you interested in our legal system? Drawn to stories about crime and justice? If so, law may be the perfect subject for you.

You'll find out where laws come from and how they're made. You'll study the courts, the people involved in the legal system and the legal responsibility in both criminal and civil law.

We focus on criminal law, looking at a range of offences such as murder, GBH and burglary, as well as a number of defences. You'll also learn about the English legal system, tort law and contract law. You'll have the opportunity to think deeply about the relationship between the law, morality, society and justice.

HOW YOU'LL STUDY

There are trips to the UK Parliament, a magistrates court and a crown court, as well as opportunities to attend talks from solicitors, barristers and magistrates. Students will have the opportunity to set up a law society, and also take part in mock trials against other colleges.

CAREERS AND DESTINATIONS

Many students go on to higher education, studying subjects such as law or criminology; or they do a legal services apprenticeship. However, the skills that you gain during the two years will be transferable to a number of subjects at undergraduate level, as well as a number of different career pathways.

ADDITIONAL INFO:

- Extra entry requirements - Grade 5 in a supporting essay-based subject
- Course length - 2 years
- Assessment - 3 x exams
- Exam board - OCR
- Employer partner organisations - Co-op Group, MCFC and Slater Heelis

MATHEMATICS

A LEVEL

Mathematics is the most popular A Level studied nationally. This ancient subject has an ever increasing relevance in our modern world. It's central to understanding our changing climate, predicting and mitigating the spread of diseases, and ensuring security of online trade. It's highly regarded due to the skills and resilience that are developed in mastering it.

On the pure side, a large part of the course is algebra. You'll learn calculus (problem solving) and extend your knowledge in equations and algebraic expressions. On the applied side, you'll learn mechanics (the forces and equations that govern motion) and statistics, developing an understanding of risk and drawing conclusions from data.

HOW YOU'LL STUDY

Maths is one of the best subjects to develop your analytical and problem-solving skills.

You'll pick up the knowledge and language to understand science, engineering, coding and abstract problems. You also develop skills in logical thinking, including proof and recognising incorrect reasoning. In previous years our

students have benefited from guest speakers from industry, a trip to PwC in Manchester and problem-solving sessions at the University of Manchester.

CAREERS AND DESTINATIONS

Mathematics is highly regarded by employers and universities. By choosing mathematics you will develop a sought-after skill set that will enable you to go on to do whatever you want. Some courses and careers that A Level mathematics students go on to, include: engineering, mathematics, computer science, medicine, accountancy and actuarial sciences.

ADDITIONAL INFO:

- Extra entry requirements - Grade 7 in GCSE Maths
- Course length - 2 years
- Assessment - 3 x exams (2 x pure maths topics; 1 x applied topics)
- Exam board - Edexcel

MEDIA STUDIES

A LEVEL

You'll develop research, analytical and debating skills. You'll learn how the media uses language to communicate messages and influence audiences. For example, how developing technology has given rise to vloggers like PewDiePie and Zoella.

You'll learn how platforms like Facebook and Twitter target audiences with content they love. You'll develop a deep understanding of how the media industry produces, distributes and circulates content for consumption.

Or maybe you're interested in how events, issues, individuals and social groups are represented in the media. You'll study where stereotypes originate and how media representations reflect social, cultural and historical circumstances.

HOW YOU'LL STUDY

You'll spend a lot of your time learning about how the media works. And you'll have the opportunity to showcase your creative talent by undertaking coursework. MediaCity UK and the Space Studios are two local creative hubs. So our learners are well placed to access some fantastic enrichment opportunities to complement their studies.

CAREERS AND DESTINATIONS

Many students go on to higher education, studying rewarding subjects such as English, sociology, journalism, marketing, publishing and film.

There are also exciting degree pathways in the creative industries including roles in: design, film and television production and radio broadcasting.

ADDITIONAL INFO:

- Extra entry requirements - none
- Course length - 2 years
- Assessment - 2 x exams (70%) and coursework (30%)
- Exam board - Eduqas
- Employer partner organisations - MCFC, Co-op Group, Nuffield Health and GLL

PHYSICS

A LEVEL

Physics is a stimulating and challenging subject which will help you to understand and explain things that go on in the world around you. The course covers everything from the weird and nanoscopic science of quantum mechanics and particle physics to the vastness of our observable universe in astrophysics.

We also cover: waves, learning how sound and light travel throughout the universe; mechanics and materials, including explosions, collisions and projectiles; electricity, where you will discover how the modern world functions; gravitational and magnetic fields, what keeps us going round the sun, and the technology needed to keep your phone running all day; and nuclear physics - how can we use nuclear energy for carbon-free power?

HOW YOU'LL STUDY

Learning is accomplished by building on your existing maths and science knowledge, along with consistent practice with exam-style questions and regular practicals. We also run trips to the Jodrell Bank Discovery Centre and the Daresbury Scientific Research Laboratory. Students are also invited to visit the University of

Manchester Department of Physics and Astronomy and take part in lectures.

CAREERS AND DESTINATIONS

The majority of physics students go on to higher education studying subjects such as physics, engineering and maths. The skills gained by studying physics are also really useful for a whole range of careers, such as in: meteorology, climatology, environmental science, astronomy, radiography, medical physics, research, nanotechnology, photonics, computer science, financial analyst, corporate finance and many, many more.

ADDITIONAL INFO:

- Extra entry requirements - Grade 6 in GCSE Physics or 6/6 in Combined Science and Grade 6 in GCSE Maths
- Course length - 2 years
- Assessment - 3 x exams and 12 x practical investigations
- Exam board - AQA

PSYCHOLOGY

A LEVEL

Psychology is a popular subject due to the appeal of being able to explain human thoughts, feelings and behaviours. The appeal is further enhanced by the vast and varied applications that psychology encompasses, from mental health treatments to improving the accuracy of eyewitness testimonies.

You'll study the range of explanations offered by five different psychological perspectives. You'll learn the crucial skills required to conduct valid and reliable psychological research. You'll focus on specific behaviours in-depth, including criminal and schizophrenic. And finally, you'll analyse various controversies, such as whether using animals in psychological research can ever be justified.

HOW YOU'LL STUDY

You'll learn by applying your knowledge to real world behaviours, scenarios and interventions, including a range of therapies, such as cognitive behavioural therapy and a range of contemporary debates, such as 'should mothers be the primary caregiver of children?'. You'll conduct two research projects and this provides a vital

opportunity for you to develop and perfect your understanding of research methods.

CAREERS AND DESTINATIONS

Studying A Level psychology enables students to develop important skills in writing, analysis and evaluation. It is valued as a rigorous academic subject by universities and is also relevant to career paths involving interaction with people. Examples include: journalism, medicine and sports management. Students may also decide to follow a career in a field of psychology, such as clinical or educational. We organise guest lecturers from psychologists and trips to university psychology faculties.

ADDITIONAL INFO:

- Extra entry requirements - Grade 5/5 in Combined Science and Grade 6 in a supporting subject
- Course length - 2 years
- Assessment - 3 x exams
- Exam board - Eduqas (WJEC)
- Employer partner organisations - Nuffield Health, MCFC and CITC

SOCIOLOGY

A LEVEL

Do you find yourself questioning the way in which members of society behave, and what influences them? Are you interested in the dark sides of society that we often don't like to talk about such as poverty, racism and sexism? If so, sociology is the subject for you.

In the first year, we study the sociology of education, families and households. We ask questions such as: what's the point of the education system? And who benefits most from family life?

In the second year, we study the sociology of crime, deviance and beliefs. We ask questions such as: where are the real criminals in our society found - the street or boardroom? We explore the function of religion and whether science is the dominant belief system.

HOW YOU'LL STUDY

You will have the opportunity to visit Berlin where you'll be able to make links between the syllabus and wider society. There will be opportunities to attend a criminology conference, to access a wide range of contemporary sociology books and visit university sociology departments.

CAREERS AND DESTINATIONS

The majority of sociology students go on to higher education, studying subjects such as sociology, criminology, law and social policy. Studying A Level sociology means you'll gain a broad understanding of society. It will provide you with a range of knowledge and skills that can be transferred to a variety of professions, including education, social work, government and counselling.

ADDITIONAL INFO:

- Extra entry requirements - none
- Course length - 2 years
- Assessment - 3 x exams
- Exam board - AQA

SPANISH

A LEVEL

We live in a multilingual global society and knowing another language can help you in many situations - work, holidays and socially. A Level Spanish is a fascinating and fun subject that will offer you a range of career possibilities. An estimated 486 million people speak Spanish as a native language in 2023 and it's the third most used language on the internet.

The course will help you develop an interest in speaking a foreign language; gain awareness of the need to speak foreign languages; appreciate the nature and diversity of different cultures and people; and acquire the knowledge, skills and understanding of the language for practical use, further study and employment.

HOW YOU'LL STUDY

You'll study six modules each year which will form the basis of the listening, reading and writing exams and the speaking test. You'll have five hours of class time a week dedicated to learning Spanish. The topics are varied to help you improve your speaking ability, use of grammar, different tenses and vocabulary. You'll also learn about culture, history, literature, society, the environment and lifestyle.

We also offer you the opportunity to travel to Spain.

CAREERS AND DESTINATIONS

There's always a great demand for translators, interpreters and teachers. Spanish language skills are important for industries such as business, health, media, education, politics, tourism and transport. A study suggests that speaking a second language can add between 11% and 35% to your salary (Empirica, Journal of European Economics, September 2019).

ADDITIONAL INFO:

- Extra entry requirements - Grade 5 in English and a Grade 6 in Spanish
- Course length - 2 years, linear
- Assessment - 3 x exams
- Exam board - AQA

STATISTICS

A LEVEL

Statistics allow us to put claims to the test, make informed decisions and draw measurably valid conclusions. In law, a misunderstanding of statistics could mean sending an innocent person to jail, or letting a guilty person walk free. In medicine, an understanding of statistics enables doctors to plan clinical trials, allowing us to measure the effectiveness of a treatment.

You'll be familiar with some probability and data handling topics from your GCSE maths studies. A-level statistics takes this a step further to develop the ability to draw conclusions from data. You will learn what it means for two events to be independent and what conditional probability means. You will learn how to form a hypothesis and put it to a statistical test.

HOW YOU'LL STUDY

The modern world generates a vast amount of data in large datasets. You will gain practical experience working with a large dataset and you'll develop skills in using spreadsheets and databases, transferable to any future career.

The course has a project component where you will write a

report into a topic of your choice which is investigated in depth with your statistical toolkit.

CAREERS AND DESTINATIONS

This course goes well with psychology, biology or geography A Levels. All sciences depend on being able to plan an experiment to collect data, from which valid conclusions can be drawn. There's a huge demand for young people with advanced level skills in handling data. This course will give candidates a distinct competitive advantage when applying for any science at university.

ADDITIONAL INFO:

- Extra entry requirements - Grade 5 in Higher Tier GCSE Maths and Grade 5 in English Language or other supporting subject
- Course length - 2 years
- Assessment - 3 x exams
- Exam board - Edexcel



Scan the QR code for the latest version of our prospectus (in case we've made any changes) or visit: connell.ac.uk/prospectus



BTECS

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

To be eligible for any of our courses, you must achieve a minimum of five GCSEs, grades 4-9, including English Language, English Literature, Maths and supporting subjects. See specific course pages for more info.

Level 2 BTECs at Distinction level may be accepted for progression in the same subject area.

To study a full A Level programme, you need at least two grade 5s in

essay based subjects as part of your five grade 4-9s, including Maths, English Language and English Literature.

Alternative qualifications may be accepted, but students will need to purchase a UKENIC Statement of Comparability before we can make an offer. Students must be aged 16 or 17 on September 1st of the year for which they are applying.

APPLIED PSYCHOLOGY

● EQUIVALENT TO ONE A LEVEL

Psychology is a popular A Level which we're excited to offer as a modular BTEC qualification. It's popular as people find psychological questions interesting: why do I behave/feel/think like this?

In your first year, you will look at approaches and applications of psychology. You'll learn about psychology's many explanations of behaviour, from the cognitive to the biological. In the second year, you will answer questions such as: how is stress linked to illness; why do people become addicted to behaviours or substances; and which factors influence whether people engage in healthy or unhealthy behaviours.

HOW YOU'LL STUDY

You will have the opportunity to apply the knowledge you learn during extracurricular trips and visits. In previous years, students have visited Berlin, been on trips to university psychology departments and had the opportunity to attend talks from forensic, educational and clinical psychologists.

CAREERS AND DESTINATIONS

It is directly relevant to any career path which involves interaction with people. This qualification gives you the knowledge, understanding and skills relevant to higher education courses such as a BSc in psychology or criminology, or a joint honours degree in psychology and health and social care. It will also help you to progress to employment in a healthcare profession such as nursing or social care and to a role that supports the motivation of others, such as teacher, life coach and sports coach.

ADDITIONAL INFO:

- Extra entry requirements - Grade 4/4 in Combined Science
- Course length - 2 years
- Assessment - 1 x exam and 1 x coursework each year (worth 50% each year)
- Exam board - Pearson BTEC National Extended Certificate
- Employer partner organisations - Nuffield Health, MCFC and CITC

APPLIED SCIENCE

●●● EQUIVALENT TO THREE A LEVELS

Do you want to study biology, chemistry and physics? Do you want a more coursework-based subject? Applied science contains 13 units over the two years; four are examined. You will study six or seven units each year, a mix of core units and optional ones.

The core units: principles and applications of science; practical scientific procedures and techniques; science investigation skills; laboratory techniques and their applications; an investigative project; and contemporary issues in science.

Optional units could include: medical physics applications; applications of organic and inorganic chemistry; genetics and genetic engineering; diseases and infections, biomedical science and human regulation and reproduction; forensics; physiology; practical chemical analysis; and microbiology.

HOW YOU'LL STUDY

You will have the opportunity to visit a range of science-based institutions and organisations, as well as hearing about a variety of careers from professionals who will be invited to speak to you to support different units of

your studies. A real highlight of the course is the opportunity to complete work experience in an area of applied science that is of interest to you.

CAREERS AND DESTINATIONS

Applied science could lead to a range of scientific careers, including biomedical sciences, pharmacy, pharmacology, nursing, forensic science, and criminology. Although these are the most popular choices that previous students have chosen, we have also had students go on to study other specialist courses such as engineering and cybersecurity.

ADDITIONAL INFO:

- Extra entry requirements - Grade 4/4 in Combined Science
- Course length - 2 years
- Assessment - exams and a coursework portfolio each year
- Exam board - Pearson BTEC Extended Diploma
- Employer partner organisations - Nuffield Health

BUSINESS



EQUIVALENT TO ONE, TWO
OR THREE A LEVELS

Throughout the two year course, you will study all elements of business which will provide you with the skills and knowledge to progress into the industry. You will have the opportunity to enhance your business knowledge through a variety of trips and hearing guest speakers. In previous years, this has included businesses such as Deloitte, HSBC and Co-op.

You will also develop skills in finance and accountancy which is a route that many of our learners progress into. In the second year of study, you can apply to be selected onto our Co-op Young Business Leaders placement, a six-month paid work experience opportunity at the Co-op's Angel Square HQ in Manchester (see next page for more info).

HOW YOU'LL STUDY

Throughout the course there are different forms of assessment, including internally assessed coursework (extended writing, presentations, excel spreadsheets or website design). The course also includes written exams and synoptic assessments to cover finance, marketing and business management. You will achieve a grade for each individual unit and they will add together to form your

final grade which is equivalent to three A Levels.

CAREERS AND DESTINATIONS

The course provides the perfect foundation to start a career in business or to continue your studying at university in courses such as: business management, law, accounting, construction management and marketing. This course is also ideal for progression onto a higher level apprenticeship in accounting, business administration or similar.

ADDITIONAL INFO:

- Extra entry requirements - ideally studied GCSE or BTEC (Level 2) Business
- Course length - 2 years
- Assessment - mix of internal and external exams/synoptic assessments
- Exam board - Pearson BTEC Extended Diploma
- Employer partner organisations - MCFC, Co-op Group, Nuffield Health and GLL



CO-OP YOUNG BUSINESS LEADERS PROGRAMME

Students studying BTEC Business (Triple) apply in Year 13 to join the programme via an application, interview and assessment day process. If successful, you'll take part in a work placement with the Co-op that runs alongside your course during Year 13.

Students are hosted by Co-op Business Services (Co-op HQ, 1 Angel Square in Manchester city centre) and get to experience a range of different teams and business areas, such as customer services, recruitment, HR, finance, communications and marketing.

You'll experience working in a business environment, develop co-operative leadership skills/ behaviours and gain key employability skills through meaningful experiences.

At the end of the course, students are guaranteed an interview for relevant Co-op roles that they are interested in (e.g. an apprenticeship).

Find out more about the Co-op at coop.co.uk.

COMPUTING

● EQUIVALENT TO ONE A LEVEL

This qualification is for students seeking an in-depth study of the computing sector. This qualification is for students seeking an in-depth study of the computing sector. It will equip you with the knowledge, skills and mindset required to thrive in the ever evolving field of technology.

Over the two year course four units will be taught, three are mandatory and one is optional. The units covered in the first year will be fundamentals of computer systems; and IT systems security and encryption. In the second year, the units include principles of computer science and the optional unit will be website development (this is subject to change, depending on the needs of students).

Studying at Connell, means you'll have access to the latest computing equipment and you'll be taught by expert, passionate teachers.

HOW YOU'LL STUDY

As well as the standard classroom learning experience, you will also have access to industry guest speakers and visits to industry leading businesses in the Manchester area and beyond.

You will be assessed through a combination of internal and external assessments.

CAREERS/ DESTINATIONS

Many students go on to study at university in fields such as: computer science, cyber security, artificial intelligence, software engineering, health informatics, project management and teaching.

The course also leads to a wide range of employment and apprenticeship options.

ADDITIONAL INFO:

- Extra entry requirements - none
- Course length - 2 years
- Assessment - Mix of internal and external assessments
- Exam board - Pearson BTEC

CRIMINOLOGY

● EQUIVALENT TO ONE A LEVEL

Intrigued by crime and criminal behaviour? Fascinated by the inner-workings of our criminal justice system? If so, this course is for you. Criminology draws from sociology, law and psychology to provide you with an understanding of crime, criminal behaviour and the criminal justice system.

In year one, you'll study the changing awareness of crime and you'll learn about the different criminological theories and how they influence the setting of public policy. In year two, you'll learn how to examine information in order to review the justice of criminal case verdicts. And you'll study how effective the process of social control is in turning criminal justice policy into practice.

HOW YOU'LL STUDY

There are trips to the magistrates court and crown court, as well as opportunities to attend talks from a range of roles within the criminal justice system, including barristers, solicitors, prison officers, probations officers. Students will have the opportunity to take part in a mock crime scene and explore how to gather evidence to solve a crime.

CAREERS AND DESTINATIONS

The course has been designed for students who want to access higher education degree courses, such as in criminology; criminology and criminal justice; criminology with law; and criminology and psychology.

Alternatively, the qualification allows learners to gain the required understanding and skills to be able to consider employment within the criminal justice system, e.g. the National Probation Service, the Courts and Tribunals Service or the National Offender Management Service.

ADDITIONAL INFO:

- Extra entry requirements - none
- Course length - 2 years
- Assessment - 4 units: 2 assessed by exam, 2 assessed internally
- Exam board - WJEC Applied Diploma
- Employer partner organisations - Co-op Group, MCFC and Slater Heelis

HEALTH & SOCIAL CARE



EQUIVALENT TO TWO OR THREE A LEVELS

Health and social care may sound like a course for social workers and nurses, but it has a much wider relevance than that. The qualification features a mixture of exams (multiple choice, short and long questions) and you'll produce a coursework portfolio each year.

Double: eight units over two years, of which three are examined.

Triple: 13 units over the two years, of which four are examined.

Core units could include: human lifespan development; working in health and social care; enquiries into current research in health and social care; meeting individual care and support needs; promoting public health; and principles of safe practice in health and social care. Plus lots of optional units to choose from.

HOW YOU'LL STUDY

You will complete work placements in various settings of your choice within the health and social care sector over the two years of study. These will help you develop personal and professional skills, such as communication and teamwork, and to understand more about the expectations of different professional roles.

CAREERS AND DESTINATIONS

This course is specifically designed for those who wish to progress to a health-related degree. The course will help prepare you for a range of university courses including social work, nursing, midwifery, teacher training, psychology, occupational therapy and social policy.

ADDITIONAL INFO:

- Extra entry requirements -
Double: Grade 3/3 in
Combined Science;
Triple: Grade 4/4 in
Combined Science
- Course length - 2 years
- Assessment - mix of internal (coursework) and external exam assessments
- Exam board - double: Pearson BTEC National Diploma; triple: BTEC Extended Diploma
- Employer partner organisations - Nuffield Health and GLL

SPORT & EXERCISE SCIENCE

●●● EQUIVALENT TO THREE A LEVELS

Do you have an interest in sport, exercise and physical activity? Are you curious about how science can enhance human performance? If so, a career in sport and exercise science may appeal to you.

You'll study an innovative and research-led curriculum in a range of world-class facilities in East Manchester. You'll have access to some of the world's best sporting facilities including: the Manchester Institute of Health and Performance, the National Squash Centre, City of Manchester Gymnastics, the National Cycling Centre, Etihad Campus, and the new East Manchester Leisure Centre.

Units include: functional anatomy; sports nutrition; applied sport and exercise psychology; field and laboratory fitness testing; and sports coaching.

HOW YOU'LL STUDY

Through engaging lessons, sport science laboratory visits and conducting your own exercise research and performance analysis. You will gain skills to prepare for exercise testing, data handling and analysis of assessment methods in sport and exercise. You will also explore

all components of consultation, assessment and sports massage, in order to safely and effectively plan and conduct a treatment plan for sports performers.

CAREERS AND DESTINATIONS

The majority of students go onto higher education studying subjects such as sport science, sports rehabilitation, sports therapy and sports psychology. The skills that you gain during the two years will be transferable to a number of subjects at undergraduate level, as well as a number of different career pathways.

ADDITIONAL INFO:

- Extra entry requirements - Grade 4/4 in Combined Science
- Course length - 2 years
- Assessment - internal assessments, exams, practical observations and video analysis
- Exam board - Pearson BTEC Extended Diploma
- Employer partner organisations - GLL, Nuffield Health, MCFC and CITC

SPORTS COACHING & DEVELOPMENT

● ●●● EQUIVALENT TO ONE OR THREE A LEVELS

The course is internally assessed via coursework based units and includes a generous amount of sports participation. It can be taken alongside the football pathway or as a stand alone qualification.

Practical elements occur within many units such as applied coaching skills, developing coaching skills and fitness training. The practical elements are supported by class tasks, log books and written/practical assessments to demonstrate your knowledge of the unit. Alongside the practical elements are career related learning units, which will enhance your knowledge and understanding of a career in the sports industry.

HOW YOU'LL STUDY

All assessments are coursework based which are assessed in a variety of ways including practical performance analysis, presentations and reports. This is supported by visits to industry institutions like Manchester Institute of Health and Performance, Manchester City Football Club, universities and guest lecturers who are experts in their chosen field.

CAREERS AND DESTINATIONS

We have an exciting opportunity running alongside Sports courses where we are working closely with GLL (Greenwich Leisure Limited) to provide all our Sport students the skills to gain employment through Volunteering and placements. We also have excellent relationships with a number of local universities to continue their studies on various degrees. So whether you are looking to gain employment or progress to university, we'll help support you.

ADDITIONAL INFO:

- Extra entry requirements - none
- Course length - 2 years
- Assessment - internally assessed coursework
- Exam board - BTEC Pearson
- Employer partner organisations - GLL, Nuffield Health, MCFC and CITC

SPORT PROGRAMMES

BASKETBALL ACADEMY

The Basketball Academy delivers practical sessions in partnership with GLL and Manchester Basketball Club. The academy's objective is to provide a well-structured programme that looks to develop the whole person through basketball whilst improving their skill level.

All players will receive an extensive and varied programme, featuring individual skill development and team play, to help them achieve their basketball goals. The academy also delivers a life skills programme to enhance their basketball experience and prepare them for life outside the sport.

The two year course will see you learn the fundamentals to become a better basketball player and you'll be able to achieve basketball qualifications in: Level One Coaching certificate (recognised by Basketball England), a Level One Referees qualification or a Level One Table Officials qualification.

Jeff Jones, who has played and coached at the highest levels over the past 40 years in the UK, oversees the academy. All staff are highly qualified and have worked with National Junior Teams.

CITC FOOTBALL PROGRAMME

A specialist football training and development programme delivered by our partners City In The Community (CITC).

It is for students studying either of our full-time Sport BTECs (Sport, Coaching and Development or Sport and Exercise Science).

Students take part in football training and matches as part of their daily timetable to enhance their BTEC learning experience focussing on football.

SPORT IN THE COMMUNITY PROGRAMME

Students studying either of our full-time Sport BTECs (Sport, Coaching & Development or Sport & Exercise Science) can apply to this programme.

You will be given a guaranteed interview and an employment trial with GLL - one of Manchester's biggest employers in the sport and leisure industry.

Your employment with them can run throughout your time at Connell and beyond into university or full time employment. As a national company you will have the opportunity to work for them wherever you choose to go in the future too.

MANCHESTER CYCLING ACADEMY

If bike riding is your passion, then alongside your academic studies you can take part in Manchester Cycling Academy sessions at the National Cycling Centre's velodrome and BMX centre.

You'll be able to qualify to be a Level 1 Cycling Coach, get a basic bike maintenance qualification and gain a thorough understanding of the professional bike industry with visits from experts from the world of professional bike racing.

You can also use the mountain bike (MTB) and cyclo-cross trails in Clayton Vale, which are located two minutes away from the National Cycling Centre.

The course caters for all riders, especially those who want to progress to university. Whilst we have an emphasis on endurance and track cycling, we welcome all disciplines, including road, track, MTB, BMX and cyclo-cross.



CAREERS SUPPORT

When you apply to Connell the first thing we'll ask you is "what do you want to do in the future?". It's our job to help you make the right choices to get you onto your chosen career path. Everything we do is about supporting you to succeed in your future. Every student leaves us with a career pathway to follow.

HOW DO WE SUPPORT YOU?

EXPERT GUIDANCE

Our dedicated careers team - assisted by independent advisors - are available every day to answer your questions and support you. When you start, we'll ask you about your career interests and we'll enrol you into a planned programme of 'career ready' experiences. We notify you of any opportunities in your chosen areas. If you're not sure what you want to do in the future, we'll work with you to help narrow down your interests so that you're ready to apply for the best next steps in Year 13.

UNIVERSITY

One of the key benefits of coming to Connell is our close partnerships with universities across the North West and beyond (see page 6 for more info). You'll have the chance to visit some to get a taste of university life. We'll help you with your career choices, support your university applications and interview preparation.

You'll be introduced to university widening participation programmes. They help students with the ability to benefit from higher education to have the opportunity to do so regardless of their background. Some offer scholarships.

APPRENTICESHIPS

Apprenticeships are work-based experiences that include an element of study. There are two types:

- A degree level apprenticeship - paid work in a real job whilst studying a university degree and not building up any debt.
- An employer based apprenticeship - paid work in a role (or multiple roles) building up experience and gaining professional qualifications, e.g. a paralegal or a financial advisor.

Connell has close working relationships with some of Manchester's major apprenticeship providers who offer opportunities in areas such as law, finance, construction, etc. Some students opt for an apprenticeship as their

next step along their chosen pathway.

PROFESSIONAL SUPPORT

Our aim is to support all students in the planning of their career, so that they leave Connell well informed and equipped for the next step of their career. We support students to:

- Research their career ideas and higher education goals (e.g. visit at least two universities; meet some employers and apprenticeship providers in their subject areas; etc).
- Develop self-awareness of their skills, strengths and interests in relation to higher education and career options (e.g. attend 121 with the careers team; get feedback on your CV, personal statement/letter of application and UCAS application; etc).
- Identify and develop key employability skills so that they have the confidence to demonstrate these during the recruitment process (e.g. take part in mock interviews, voluntary work and work experience; etc).

CEIAG

We're proud to have been awarded the quality in careers award. Our CEIAG programme - carefully planned careers education, information, advice and guidance - was described as 'an example of outstanding practice' and the 'quality and breadth' of our careers provision was commended.

CONNELL CURRICULUM

The Connell Curriculum is designed to help you be ready for your future.

All students study **qualifications** equivalent to three A Levels, our **CORE** curriculum (see the opposite page for more information) and take part in weekly enrichment/volunteering **experiences** (options include sports, subject/career related sessions, volunteering and more...).



CORE

Everything we do at Connell is aimed at helping you prepare for your next steps. It's not enough for us to get you good qualifications. We want to make sure that you're equipped to succeed in a competitive world and that you stand out from the crowd.

OUR CORE PROVISION

We work hard to make sure that we develop your skills and knowledge in lessons and beyond in:

- Citizenship
- Oracy
- Reading and writing
- Employability

CORE LESSONS

You cover everything from staying safe to finance; oracy skills to succeed at interviews; and academic writing so that you're ready for university or employment.

CORE ASSEMBLIES

We come together to learn about and reflect on many of the big issues facing our world today and young people in particular. We have guest speakers and we celebrate your successes and inspire you to be ambitious and achieve all that you can.

CORE DEVELOPMENT

We help you develop skills to be a reflective, self motivated professional who is able to manage their time, reflect on their experiences and take charge of their learning and progress.

CORE EXPERIENCES

We help you choose the right career path - supported by our employer partners - and equip you to succeed, e.g. work experience opportunities, mock interviews, etc. Your learning experience is enhanced by excellent IT, social and sporting facilities to help you study effectively and stay fit, healthy and happy.

CORE SUPPORT

We care about your well-being and our experienced staff are there to help you get the support and guidance to achieve your aspirations. Specialist help is available to meet your specific needs. You can request additional support any time.

PARENT + CARERS INFO

WORKING IN PARTNERSHIP WITH YOU

We believe our students succeed best and reach their career goals if we all work in partnership - students, teachers and parents/carers.

PARENT/CARER PROMISE

We want to work with you to help your child achieve their career aspirations. We will let you know if your child's not succeeding and how you can help. You'll have access to live information about attendance and grades through our website using an application called CEDAR (find out more at connell.ac.uk/parent-carer-info).

GETTING READY FOR THEIR NEXT STEPS

Our careers advice and guidance starts as soon as your child applies to us. We will give you the information to help them make the right choices from day one.

PARENT PROGRAMME

We organise regular events to help you learn how to support your child. We provide information and advice about a wide variety of topics, including:

- Understanding your child's progress
- Understanding college life and what we expect
- University applications, including finance
- Mental health and wellbeing
- Online safety
- How to support with revision and exam anxiety



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Scan the QR code for the latest version of our prospectus (in case we've made any changes) or visit:
www.connell.ac.uk/prospectus



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