

**Statement on qualifications reform**

**A/AS level**

York has always welcomed breadth in the school curriculum in Years 12 and 13 provided by, for example, additional subjects taken at AS level or independent work such as an Extended Project Qualification.

We recognise that the planned changes to the 16-19 curriculum will mean that, from 2017 entry on, the opportunities open to students to take combinations of A and AS level examinations will vary from school to school and college to college.

We will not discriminate for or against students according to the practice in their school or college. We will continue to take into account all information available to us in the UCAS application, including past examination performance and predictions of future success.

**Separation of Science practical assessments**

York recognises the value of practical work undertaken during the study of science A levels in contributing to students’ understanding of the curriculum and in building skills for the future.

When results in academic and practical work are separately reported, we will normally expect to see a Pass grade in the practical element of a science A level. Where a Pass grade is required, this will be explicitly stated as part of the applicant’s offer.

**Core Mathematics**

We welcome the introduction of the new Core Mathematics qualifications which will provide valuable skills to support higher education studies across a range of disciplines.

Where a student is offering a Core Mathematics qualification and not a GCSE in Mathematics, we may accept the Core Mathematics qualification in lieu of a GCSE requirement. This will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

Core Mathematics will not be acceptable as a substitute for an A level Mathematics requirement.

**GCSE**

From 2017 GCSEs will be graded on a new scale:

* Where Grade C at GCSE is currently required for admission we will ask for a Grade 4.
* Where Grade B is currently required, we may ask for a Grade 5 or 6 depending on the course.
* Where Grade A is currently required, we will ask for Grade 7.