

Confused about Level 3?

Here is a quick guide to the different options...

At Level 3, most students choose between taking 3 A levels, a combination of A Levels and Level 3 certificates or subsidiary diplomas equivalent to 3 A Levels or a full vocational Level 3 programme equivalent to 3 A Levels.

A Level

A Levels are subject-based qualifications offered in a wide range of curriculum areas.

- 2 years of study
- 38 different subjects available
- Almost any combination of subjects is possible
- Assessment is by examination at the end of the course
- Grading - A*-E
- Well recognised by universities and employers

Vocational Level 3 programmes

A vocational qualification at Level 3 is a highly valued qualification, which is well-recognised by both universities and employers.

Extended Diplomas

- 2-year courses
- Vocationally focussed
- Equivalent to 3 A Levels
- Assessed mainly through coursework although some have external assessments
- Grading - Distinction*, Distinction, Merit and Pass
- Well recognised by universities

Certificate and Subsidiary Diploma

- Certificates are equivalent to the first year of an A level and are a 1-year course
- Extended Certificates are 2-year courses
- Diplomas are equivalent to an A Level and are 2-year courses
- Vocationally focussed
- Mainly assessed by coursework but some have some external assessment as well
- Many students combine these courses with A levels
- Grading - Distinction*, Distinction, Merit and Pass

T Levels

- 2-year courses
- Equivalent of 3 A Levels
- Includes Industry Work Experience
 - Usually 415 hours, 45 days or more

Excellence

Can Do Attitude

Courage

Respect

Team Working

Achievement Driven