



ST ALBANS TUTORS

Independent Sixth Form College



Prospectus 2011/12

www.stalbanstutors.org.uk

OUR ETHOS

St Albans Tutors is built upon the principle that the best way for students to achieve their academic potential is via small group classes, excellent teaching and personal guidance. Our academic environment is designed to support, motivate and promote the personal development of students so that they can achieve their academic goals.

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THE COLLEGE

St. Albans Tutors was founded in 1988, and has established an excellent reputation for providing the highest quality education.

Students enjoy our informal, friendly atmosphere that emphasises a mature and independent approach to their studies.

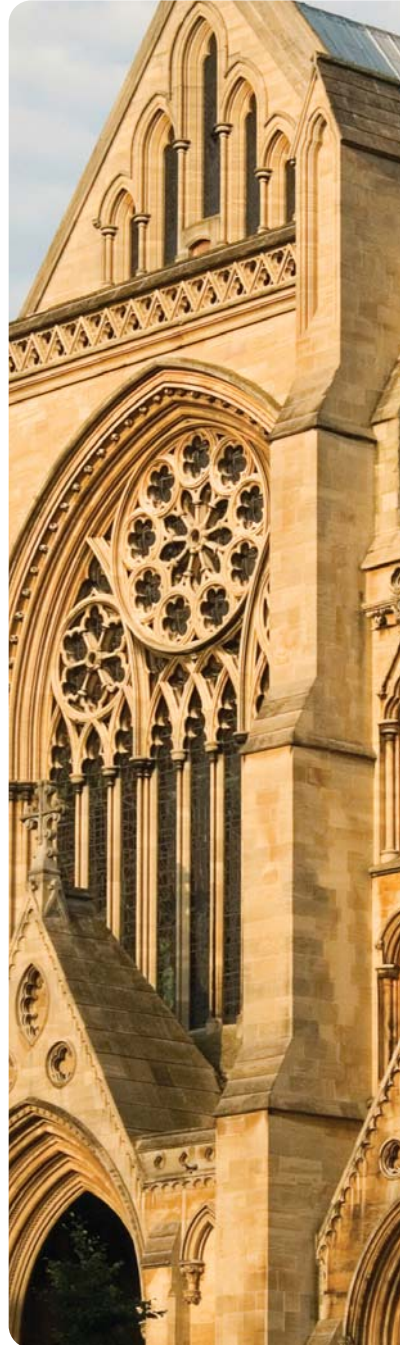
We offer a wide range of A-level and GCSE courses, including Maths and Sciences, Social Sciences and Arts and Humanities. The A-level programme is designed to be flexible so that any combination of AS, A2 and full one-year A-level can usually be offered.

All our teachers are highly qualified and experienced, many of whom are either current or former examiners.

Class sizes are limited to no more than seven students so that every student is assured of personal support so that they can build confidence in their achievements.

The high achieving ethos at the college is fostered by our tutor system that continuously monitors students' progress across all their subjects and provides a personal support mechanism that guides and motivates students to achieve their best.

Exam practice and regular homework are a key feature of our approach, discipline with regard to academic work, attendance and punctuality is rigorously maintained, but there are few other constraints and rules.



STUDENT SUPPORT

As a small Independent Sixth Form College we are able to promote an informal and friendly atmosphere. Our students benefit from the individual support they receive and from the hardworking, high achieving culture that is an integral part of our ethos.

Students are on first name terms with teachers and there is no formal dress code. However, students are expected to take a mature and committed approach to their studies.

PERSONAL TUTORS

Our personal tutor system ensures that student progress is continuously monitored across all their subjects. Regular meetings with personal tutors provide an important point of contact to help students explore issues related to their learning.

PROGRESS REPORTS

Subject reports and comments from personal tutors are sent to parents during the autumn and spring half terms.

Throughout the academic year parents are always welcome to contact the college or personal tutor to discuss their son or daughter's progress.

EXAMINATION PRACTICE

To help develop exam technique and to monitor progress, students are required to sit GCSE and practice tests scheduled outside of lesson time and taken under exam conditions.

Full mock examinations are held at the end of the autumn and spring terms.

STUDY SKILLS

Throughout the academic year we provide additional classes that focus on specific study skills such as note taking, time management and organisation, revision techniques and planning.

Although these skills are taught within subjects, in our experience, it has proved invaluable to provide students with this additional support.

CAREERS GUIDANCE AND ADVICE

We place considerable emphasis on helping students with their careers. In the autumn term we run weekly UCAS workshops covering different aspects of the application process. Each student is assigned a personal tutor who will help them to prepare their application.

Professional careers information and guidance is provided by our Connexions adviser . We also provide help for students to arrange work shadowing placements and help with preparing job applications and CVs.



PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT

Our primary aim at St Albans Tutors is to equip students with the best possible education. However, we do not see this as our only responsibility.

We understand that young people joining the college are at an important juncture in their lives. As they enter adulthood they will be required to be more responsible for their actions, develop their personal autonomy and have to consider wider social, moral and cultural issues. To this end, we have in place a rolling program of thought-provoking and entertaining events that provide students with important opportunities for personal development.

We have a fascinating programme of eminent guest speakers who, like us, share the belief that young people need to be nurtured in ways that are not limited to the academic subjects they study.

A wide variety of speakers offer the benefit of their experiences in the worlds of business, politics, the arts and media.

We organise trips to various events such as the theatre, academic conferences and exhibitions.





Prior to the General Election the three prospective Parliamentary Candidates for St Albans came to the college and took part in a 'question time' debate.

We encourage students to engage in and organise fundraising events for good causes. Most recently students at the college were awarded The British Red Cross Humanitarian Active School Award, where they took part in five challenges, which included First Aid Training, Humanitarian Education on the Topic of Anti-Racism and fund-raising charity cake sale for the Red Cross and Grove House Hospice.

These events are designed to bring students together, to help them develop their critical thinking, broaden their horizons and develop their self-confidence and social skills. In our experience, nurturing students in this way has a direct and positive impact on their academic success.

A-LEVEL ONE YEAR COURSES

The college offers an extensive range of A-level courses, specifications and exam boards. AS, A2 and full one-year A-levels can be taken over one year.

A key aspect of our A-level programme is the flexibility it offers. Any combination of AS, A2 and full one-year A-levels can usually be offered.

We will be happy to discuss individual requirements at interview.

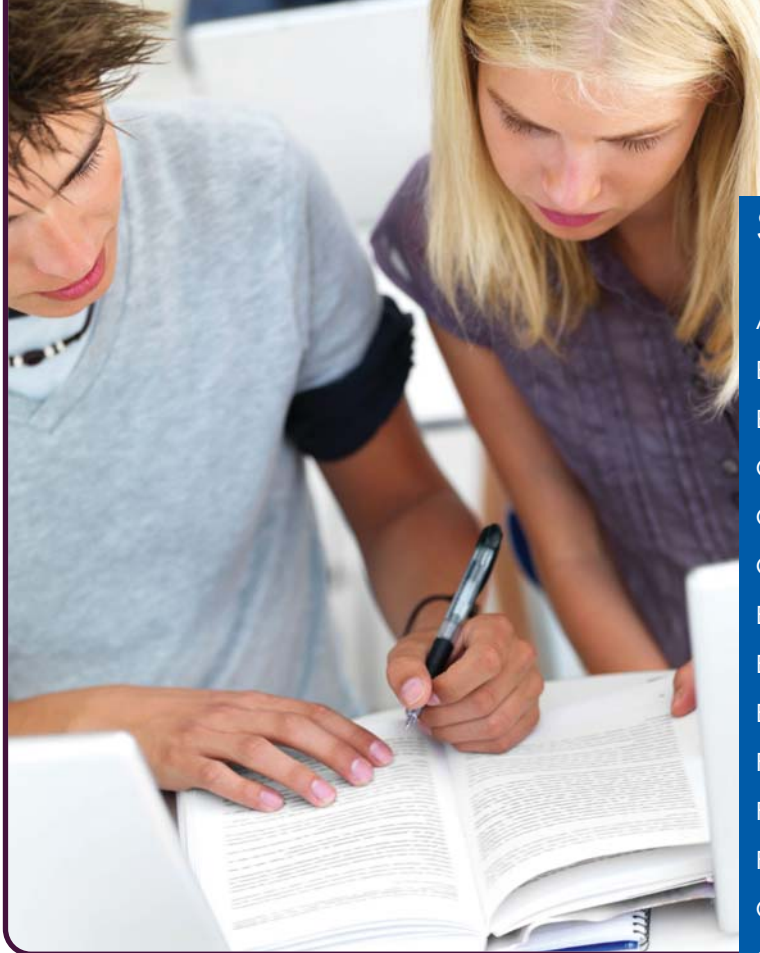
ONE YEAR FULL A-LEVEL COURSES

One year full A-level courses are intensive, highly structured and suited to students who are retaking AS-level modules in the autumn term and intend to complete the full A-level in one year.

The one year programme may also be suited to those with previous experience of A-level studies who wish take a new subject.

Courses are structured so that students sit AS-level modules in January and complete the full A-level in June.





SUBJECTS

Art & Design (Fine Art)

Biology

Business Studies

Chemistry

Computer Science

Classical Civilisations

Economics

English Language

English Literature

Film Studies

French

Further Mathematics

German

Geography

Government & Politics

History

ICT

Mathematics

Media Studies

Physics

Psychology

Religious Studies

Sociology

Spanish

AS-LEVEL COURSES

We offer a wide range of courses for students who may wish to take an additional AS-level subject.

Such courses may appeal to students who wish to gain additional UCAS points, or to those who are unable to study a chosen subject at school.

A2-LEVEL COURSES

Each year a number of students join St Albans Tutors to complete their A-levels, having taken their AS-levels elsewhere. In most cases they will join existing A2 classes. Additional support is given to those who may need to retake AS-level modules.



A-LEVEL TWO YEAR COURSES

Students join St Albans Tutors because they are attracted by our small class sizes, excellent teaching and more informal setting. They benefit from our friendly, supportive and individually tailored educational environment.

Students can choose from a wide choice of subjects, where there are few constraints on the combinations which may be taken.

Our two year A-level courses are suited to students who are either continuing at the college after completing Year 11 or to those who have joined the college having completed their GCSEs elsewhere.

Courses may also be suited to students who have had some experience of A-level studies but wish to restart a full two year A-level programme.

Two year programmes allow students the opportunity to explore a subject in more depth and give them time to consolidate their ideas and enhanced their academic skills.

Most students will study four AS-levels in the lower sixth year, of which three subjects are carried forward to A-level in the second year.

WINTER RETAKE COURSES

Intensive one term retake courses are offered in most subjects for examination in January.

Our courses are designed to provide a thorough review of the subject theory, where particular attention is given to helping students develop the necessary exam skills and to build confidence.

Each year we take on a number of students who may already have respectable A-level grades but wish to retake some modules in order to achieve a higher overall grade and therefore have the opportunity to widen their choice of universities, or to re-apply with higher grades to secure a place on a highly competitive degree course.

Courses are intensive and are only suited to students who may have fallen slightly short of their expected grades.



SUBJECT DEPARTMENTS

ARTS & HUMANITIES

Arts and Humanities at St Albans Tutors is a vibrant area of the curriculum, delivered by a team of dedicated and highly experienced teachers.

Through lively discussion and debate in small classes, the focus of each course is to develop the skills of analysis and evaluation, as well as ensuring a sound factual knowledge of the subject.

Weekly written assignments and regular tests are used to deepen the learning process, monitor student progress and to provide a strong basis for revision.

Art & Design (Fine Art)

English Language & Literature

Geography, History & Religious Studies

French, German Spanish

Film & Media Studies





SUBJECT DEPARTMENTS

MATHS & ICT

As one of the largest departments in the college, our A-level maths students follow a traditional programme of pure 'core' maths modules, combined with statistics and mechanics. Although we can also cater for students who wish to take other applied modules.

For those who wish to specialise in maths, perhaps with a view to reading the subject at University, we also offer Further Maths.

The teaching of each module emphasises a clear and thorough understanding of concepts and techniques, backed up by regular exam practice and past paper analysis.

Computer Science and ICT are now established subjects at the college.

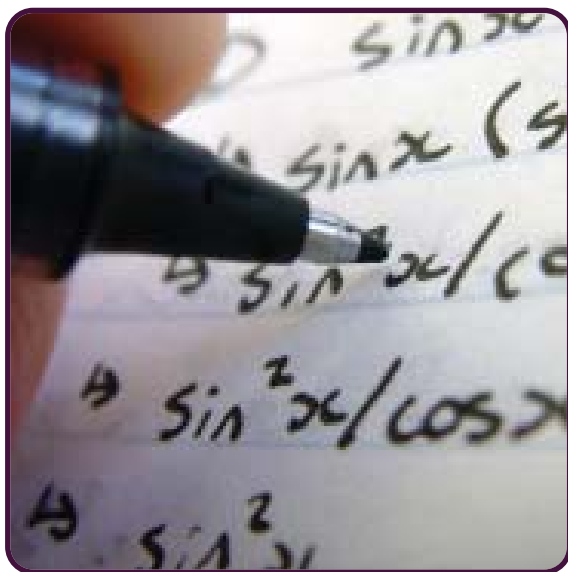
Both courses offers a balanced range of practical activities and personal research in readiness for either higher education or the workplace.

Computer Science

ICT

Further Mathematics

Mathematics





SUBJECT DEPARTMENTS

SCIENCE

The college has an excellent Science Department with a team of specialist and highly experienced teachers, many of whom are current examiners.

We aim to develop in students the scientific disciplines of research, analysis and logical thought and to develop their ability to think independently and creatively.

These skills are developed through discussion and analysis of the subject matter and regular practical sessions which give students the opportunity to develop their learning.

Regular tests and practice of past papers help students to develop their exam technique

Many of the students taking A-level science courses at the college will be applying for competitive courses such as biochemistry, engineering and medicine. Our science teachers are highly experienced and have an excellent record of helping students achieve their academic needs in these subjects.

Biology

Chemistry

Human Biology

Physics





SUBJECT DEPARTMENTS

SOCIAL SCIENCE

Social Science A-levels give students a chance to explore fascinating new fields of inquiry such as Business Studies, Economics, Politics, Psychology and Sociology which in most cases they will not have studied at GCSE.

With the current popularity of University degree course such as criminology, management and psychology, it is not surprising that growing numbers of students at the college are electing to study social sciences.'

The flexibility of course programmes allows students to study each subject over one or two years.

Each discipline provides an ideal foundation for future study as well as an important stepping stone towards a future career.

Business Studies

Economics

Government & Politics

Psychology

Sociology





GCSE

Students joining St Albans Tutors to study GCSEs do so for a variety of reasons, the most common being that parents feel that their son or daughter will benefit from a small, supportive and hard working environment.

After only a short stay at the college students find the supportive atmosphere builds their confidence in their ability to express themselves and to learn.

As the college is relatively small, there are very few unfamiliar faces and students soon feel at home.

Small classes also help to ensure that tutors are able to focus on the needs of each student.



ONE & TWO YEAR COURSES

GCSE courses are offered in most mainstream subjects. Courses may be taken over one or two years, depending on the age, circumstance and ability of each student.

One year courses are for those students who wish to transfer from other schools at the end of year ten or for those students who wish to take additional subjects or improve existing grades.

Two year courses give students the opportunity to develop key study skills and the time to discover where their aptitudes and potential lie, before finalising their subject choices.

WINTER RETAKE COURSES

Short courses in English Language and Mathematics are available during the autumn term for students wishing to retake these examinations in November.

All courses are tailored to the specific needs of students, with the emphasis on examination technique and effective learning methods.

STUDENT SUPPORT

In addition to having a full daily programme of lessons, GCSE students also follow a PSHE course, where emphasis is placed on developing key learning skills. The progress of each student is monitored by a personal tutor who will always be on hand to offer guidance and encouragement when dealing with either academic or personal matters.

SUBJECTS

Art

Biology

Business &

Communication Studies

Chemistry

Combined Sciences

Economics

English Language

English Literature

French

Geography

German

History

ICT

Mathematics

Media Studies

Physics

Religious Studies

Sociology

Spanish

GENERAL INFORMATION

LOCATION

The college is located in St Albans, close to the city centre. St Albans has a rich heritage, and is a rapidly expanding centre with excellent cultural and sporting facilities.

Situated close to the M25 and M1, St Albans Tutors is easily accessible from most of London, the South East, and East Anglia. The college is located seven minutes walk from the city station.

APPLICATION PROCEDURE

All prospective students and their parents are warmly welcomed at St Albans Tutors.

We invite you to attend an informal interview so that you can meet us and discuss your requirements. We will give advice on the most appropriate courses to suit your needs.



Principals: Assim Jemal B.A. Hons. (London)
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St Albans Tutors is registered
with the DFES as an Independent School



Location Map

