



TDET
Sixth Forms
2024-25



Queen Katharine
Academy



Thomas Deacon
Academy

Introducing the Trust



TDET is a highly successful multi-academy trust and charitable organisation that aims to be one of the leading MATs in the country, dedicated to providing a truly world class education for our communities in Peterborough and the surrounding area.

We are a trust that unites and empowers like-minded academies to achieve the very best for our learners, and at the heart of our vision is a profound belief that the Trust as a whole is more than the sum of its parts. All our academies are equally valued and contribute to the development and direction of the Trust as we grow together.

All members of our Trust - our academies, members of staff, students and communities - are united in purpose through a set of shared common values and expectations:

- Trust** | We rely on honesty as the basis for developing meaningful relationships
- Diversity** | We embrace individual differences
- Excellence** | We want the very best and never give up on doing what is right
- Transformation** | We work together to make a positive impact

We work across all key phases of education to provide every child in our communities with the best life chances and high aspirations whatever their background or starting point. All TDET schools strive to give our pupils the very best education possible and we insist upon the highest standards in all that we do. Our academies work closely together, taking part in real and meaningful collaborations between teachers, pupils and other key partners including parents, business and other education providers. We value our local communities and actively encourage our schools and staff to share best practice to benefit all pupils within each local area.

Through these collaborations we strive to ensure that TDET:

- Offers the highest quality educational **Provision** so that every child is empowered to be a confident learner, successfully prepared for their future.
- Develops meaningful and high-leverage **Partnerships** that actively and directly support our goals as a strong multi-academy trust.
- Becomes an employer of choice by investing in our employees so that we have the best **People** working for us, who are fully engaged and empowered to achieve our collective goals.

Through experience, we know that there is no such thing as a one-size-fits-all approach to education. Our academies are individual members of the Trust community and are empowered to innovate and adapt to the needs of their pupils and the local community.



Scott Hudson
Chief Executive | TDET



Welcome to TDET Sixth Form

TDET Sixth Forms were created as a unique proposition for the young people of Peterborough and beyond. We set out with the understanding that two large schools working together can pool their strengths and support students in a way that working alone cannot. Through partnership, TDET Sixth Forms will...

- be inclusive** through a wide range of study offer.
- be recognised as **developing leading citizens and contributors** within the Trust and the wider community.
- provide **outstanding CEIAG provision** in order for our students to progress on to their aspirational destinations.
- ensure graduates from our Sixth Forms leave with **high quality experiences**, skills and character.

As a result, students can now choose bespoke pathways that can see them accessing top-class education across two sites and a vast range of Key Stage 5 options. We hope you consider us.



Damon Lewis
Director of Sixth Form & Assistant Principal
Queen Katharine Academy



Michala Jackson
Director of Sixth Form & Assistant Principal
Thomas Deacon Academy

QKA Principal's **Welcome**

Welcome to Queen Katharine Academy (QKA), I am delighted you would like to know more about our Sixth Form. I take great pride in leading an inclusive centre of educational excellence, rooted in the communities we serve.

It is important that we provide an education that transforms lives and gives all our children the opportunities they deserve, regardless of where they are from, or their personal starting point. We want our students to learn how to change their own lives and those of others, to change the future, to shape society and the world.

Schools are only as strong as the bond between parents, carers, students and staff and so we always seek effective, mutually beneficial and long-lasting partnerships; we know these will ensure our students can thrive and become their very best. As a result, we have high expectations of everyone connected to our school, based on our guiding principle of **RESPECT**.

Of equal importance are our professional partnerships and we are proud to be part of the Thomas Deacon Education Trust, like us, dedicated to raising educational outcomes across a range of primary and secondary phase schools and academies in Peterborough. This locally-based Trust allows us to share expertise with a variety of like-minded schools and ensures we provide the best opportunities for our students.

We ensure young people receive a broad and balanced education, through intelligent and innovative curriculum design. This is further supported by a variety of high quality enrichment opportunities offered throughout the school from years 7-14. We also care deeply about the well-being of the young people, and support students through skilled, committed and experienced pastoral teams.

The best way to learn about our Sixth Form is to meet our students, who will tell you what it is like to study here. You are very welcome to visit and see Queen Katharine Academy at work.

Philip Masterson
Principal | Queen Katharine Academy



Queen Katharine
Academy

TDA Principal's **Welcome**

At Thomas Deacon Academy (TDA) we are very proud of the achievements of our Sixth Form.

Based in our Seniors building the Sixth Form benefit from personalised facilities but also being within the academy building making access to learning and studying easy.

Our Sixth Form is going from strength to strength academically and also through character development as part of our Core Purpose. For example our Sixth Form are leaders in our Student Council, reading buddies for our Juniors children, mentors for our GCSE students and Anti-Bullying Ambassadors.

We look forward to welcoming you to Thomas Deacon Academy. Please speak with our staff and teachers about how we can support you in gaining the knowledge, skills and character to ensure you become a global citizen.

Our six pillars of character provide the foundations of the TDA Way:



Emily Gaunt
Acting Principal | Thomas Deacon Academy



Thomas Deacon
Academy

Supporting you to Succeed...



James Anderson
Deputy Head of Sixth Form & Assistant Principal (QKA)

Just like the rest of the Sixth Form team, I am here to ensure that your time in Sixth Form is as good as it can be. I will be overseeing the tutor time programme and working mainly with the More Able students in projects alongside partners such as the University of Cambridge, The Sutton Trust, Villiers Park, Insight+ and The Brilliant Club. I will also be working with you when it comes to UCAS and applying for university.



Sarah Olson
Sixth Form Student Support Adviser (QKA)

I am here to ensure that you are making the required progress by supporting you through your time here. I will help to ensure you have the required skills and attitude to be a successful Sixth Form student. If you need financial support, you can apply for a bursary and I will organise payments.



Louise McKimmie
Sixth Form Student Support Adviser (QKA)

I am here to ensure you succeed and will closely monitor attendance and punctuality. I am here to make sure you get to the right place at the right time so you get the best results possible.



Sergio Lima
Study Centre Supervisor (QKA)

I am here to provide you with support during your study sessions, My job is to ensure you make the most of the additional time and facilities we have here at Queen Katharine Academy.



Anne Mason
Sixth Form Intensive Adviser (QKA)

I am here to help you make the right choices regarding your future. When you join the Sixth Form, if you are unsure of your subjects, or your next steps, I can support you. Whether it's the UCAS process, helping with an application or personal statement, or if you are looking for an apprenticeship, employment or training, I can help!



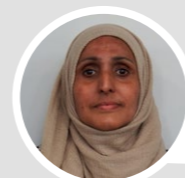
Mark Taylor
Deputy Head of Sixth Form – Academic (TDA)

My role is to ensure that you are making as much progress as you can in Sixth Form by helping you to show maximum commitment to each of your subjects. I work closely with you and your subject teachers, to remove barriers to your learning and to give you the opportunities to broaden your academic curiosity. I am responsible for getting you ready to apply to University and support with degree/higher apprenticeship applications. Overall, I want to make sure that your time with us is enjoyable and challenging so that you are prepared for University and to become a leader in your community.



Claire Young
Deputy Head of Sixth Form – Pastoral (TDA)

My role is to ensure you feel fully supported with your sixth form studies during your time here with us at TDA by helping you to shape your character to thrive as a global citizen. I work closely with the Sixth Form Attendance & Wellbeing Officer and the Student Support Officer to ensure your time here is as productive as possible. Alongside a team of dedicated tutors, and a comprehensive personal development curriculum, we aim to develop key characteristics and provide you with life skills. We are concerned about the holistic wellbeing of each individual student, prioritising your mental and physical wellbeing and provide the key link between school and home, if necessary to guide you and help you prepare for a successful future.



Azra Ali and Jessica Halifax
Progress Support Officers (TDA)

Based in the study centre we provide support throughout the school day and after school to ensure you have a positive working environment and know how to make progress in your studies. Focussing on one year group each, we also work with small groups or individual students who need additional support in developing their study skills, are struggling with their wellbeing or are facing barriers to their learning.



The Application Timeline



Students develop as confident young adults who are positive role models for younger pupils.

Ofsted, 2020

Wed 9th Oct 2024	TDA Sixth Form Open Evening
Tue 22nd Oct 2024	QKA Sixth Form Open Evening First applications accepted
December 2024	Early application interviews*
Mon 16th Dec 2024	Early application deadline
January 2025	Remaining early application interviews
Fri 7th Feb 2025	Additional applications deadline**
March - May 2025	Additional application interviews
Thu 21st Aug 2025	Results Day - QKA & TDA students will receive an e-mail confirming their place or inviting them to a Post-Results surgery if there are any problems Applicants from other schools should attend the Post-Results surgery to show their results and to confirm their place

Thu 5th Sep 2025 Start Sixth Form studies

* Offers will be sent to you within one week of interview. Responses will be needed within two weeks to secure your place.

** We will accept applications until September, but for the last five years we have been over-subscribed and this is likely to be the case again this year. We would recommend an early application to guarantee an interview.



SCAN ME TO APPLY TO QKA SIXTH FORM



SCAN ME TO APPLY TO TDA SIXTH FORM

Joining our Sixth Forms

To start courses at either of our Sixth Forms, we will need to be convinced of your commitment to your studies, demonstrated on your application and when you are interviewed. You will need to have the following minimum GCSE or equivalent qualifications as detailed below:

AS / A Level

- ✓ 6 good grades (4 - 9) preferably including English and Maths
- ✓ You must have achieved a 4 in the subjects you wish to study but some teachers may prefer a 6+ grade
- ✓ To study AS Maths you must have at least a 7+ for GCSE and to Study Further Maths you must obtain 8+ at GCSE
- ✓ To study AS Physics, Chemistry or Biology you must have a 6+ in that Science or a 7 in Science and additional Science
- ✓ To study Psychology and Criminology you must have a 4 or above in GCSE Science

Level 3 BTEC Nationals and OCR Cambridge Technical

- ✓ 6 good grades (4 - 9) preferably including English and Maths
- ✓ Teachers prefer you to have achieved at least a Merit in the subjects you wish to study at Level 3

Level 2 BTEC Firsts and OCR National

- ✓ A minimum of 5 passes (3+ grades or above)

Any Level 2 BTEC or OCR qualification will be taken as 1 GCSE

More than just numbers

Applicants must attain subject-specific grade requirements

Great record

Motivation, behaviour, effort and attendance and a strong desire to learn

Good relationships

With staff and peers and a willingness to contribute to wider academy life

Sixth Form Courses

SCAN ME TO
READ THE
QKA COURSE
HANDBOOK



The Sixth Form offers a wide range of courses designed to meet the needs of all our students and to prepare them for today's higher education and employment markets.

A Level

- Art (Fine) ◆◆
- Art (Textiles) ◆◆
- Biology ◆◆
- Business Studies ◆◆
- Chemistry ◆◆
- Computer Science ◆
- Core Maths ◆
- Drama and Theatre Studies ◆
- Economics ◆◆
- English Language ◆
- English Literature ◆◆
- English Language & Literature (Combined) ◆◆
- Further Maths ◆◆
- Geography ◆◆ (co-delivered by both QKA & TDA)
- Graphic Communication ◆
- History ◆◆
- Mathematics ◆◆
- Media Studies ◆
- Photography ◆◆
- Physics ◆◆
- Politics ◆◆
- Psychology ◆◆
- Religious Education ◆
- Sociology ◆◆
- Spanish ◆◆ (co-delivered by both QKA & TDA)

Level 3 BTEC / OCR

- Applied Psychology ◆
- Applied Science (Single and Double) ◆◆
- Business ◆
- Computing ◆
- Dance ◆
- Early Years Education (Child Care) ◆
- Criminology ◆
- Engineering ◆
- Extended Project Qualification ◆◆
- Health and Social Care ◆◆
- ICT ◆
- Music (Performance) ◆
- Music Technology ◆
- Sport ◆◆
- Travel and Tourism ◆

Level 2 BTEC / OCR

- Early Years Education (Child Care) ◆
- Enterprise ◆
- Finance IFS ◆
- Health and Social Care - NVQ (Work Based Learning) ◆
- Photography ◆
- Sports ◆
- Travel and Tourism ◆

- ◆ Delivered at QKA
- ◆◆ Delivered at TDA

A Levels in Community Languages are also available. Recently we have had students sit exams in Chinese, Panjabi, Polish, Portuguese and Russian.

Advice on Choosing Courses

All sixth formers must study towards the equivalent of three full A Levels.

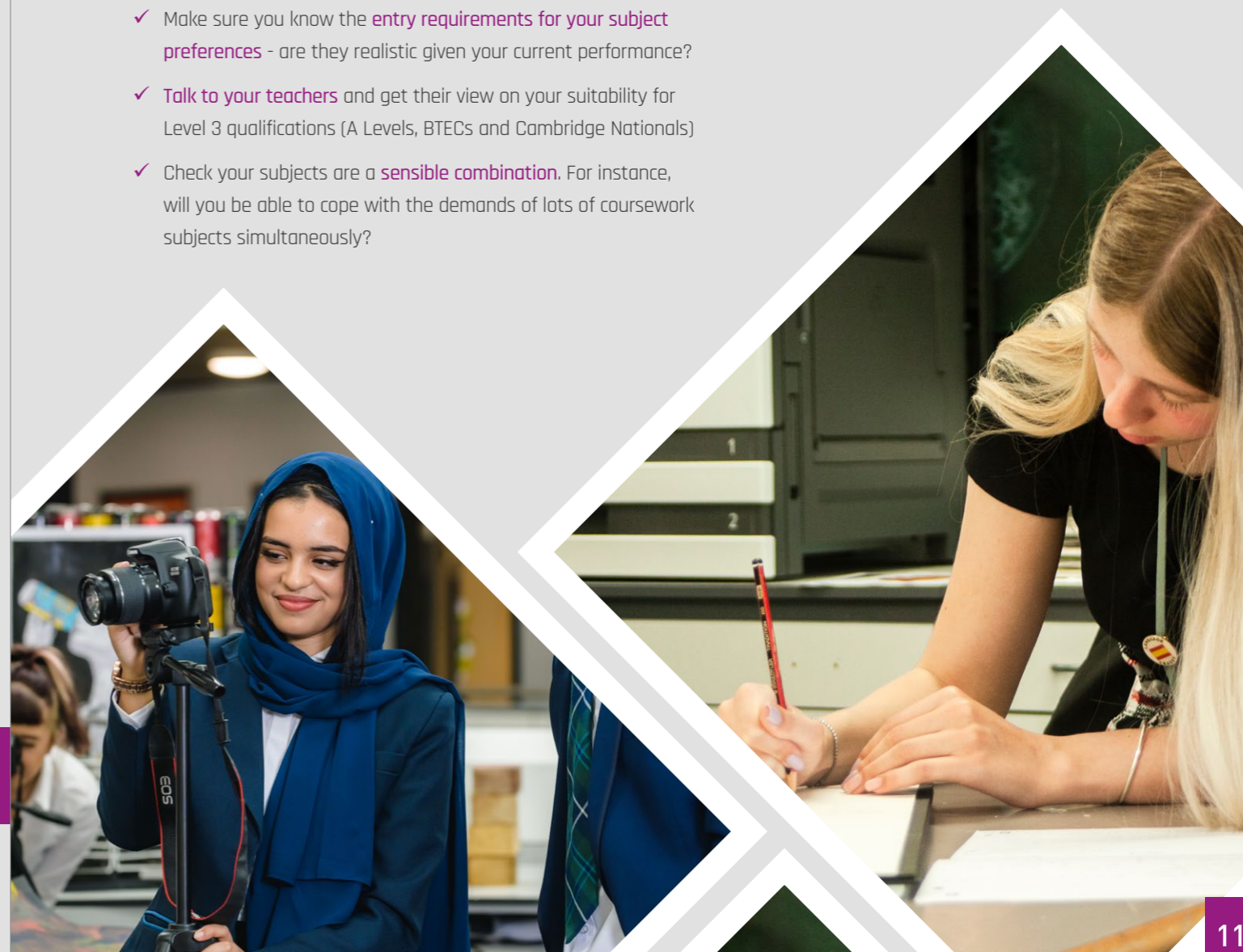
- ✓ Choose courses that you are **genuinely interested in** and will support your future aspirations
- ✓ **Investigate and research** different ways by which you might be able to access the career of your dreams e.g. a degree or higher apprenticeship
- ✓ Visit the universities' admissions website www.ucas.com to find out more about entry requirements - both grades and subjects
- ✓ Make sure you know the **entry requirements for your subject preferences** - are they realistic given your current performance?
- ✓ **Talk to your teachers** and get their view on your suitability for Level 3 qualifications (A Levels, BTECs and Cambridge Nationals)
- ✓ Check your subjects are a **sensible combination**. For instance, will you be able to cope with the demands of lots of coursework subjects simultaneously?



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Sixth Form Opportunities

We actively encourage students to take up some of the many opportunities we provide for their wider development.

- **Student leadership:** Senior Prefects, Head Girl and Boy, mentoring, reading support, culture leaders etc.
- **Student voice and community organising:** Working across the whole Academy and with Peterborough Citizens UK
- **Gold DofE, Combined Cadets Force, STEM**
- **Subject activities:** Awards, fieldwork, projects
- **Student led activities:** Debate club, MedSoc, Law Society
- **Flexible Work Experience**
- **Peterborough Youth MP**
- **University programmes:** Application and interview support, webinars, guest speakers etc.
- **Sport:** Develop athletic and sport specific elements of your chosen sport in collaboration with coaches from partnered clubs



Additional Support

Academic coaches

Academic Coaches are pivotal in ensuring effective support. With their daily contact they are well placed to assist sixth formers in their organisation, tracking attendance and helping them to maximise their academic outcomes.

In addition, the Sixth Form Team includes staff who are expert in supporting students with their wellbeing and with their university applications including for 'early entry' (medicine, dentistry, veterinary degrees and Oxford/Cambridge).

Support is available to assist in careers and in the development of good study practices/skills for success both now and in the future.

Tutor Team

We also have a dedicated tutoring team of 'Sixth Form only' tutors, who specialise in this form of teaching and preparation for life after Sixth Form such as university, apprenticeships and employment.

Bespoke Tutoring Programme

We value tutoring and aim to set you up with the skills and knowledge required for you to succeed in your next steps, whatever they may be. We have designed a bespoke tutoring programme to support you in making your next steps. At the end of Sixth Form, many of our students will leave home for the first time and live independently, possibly in distant locations. Our tutoring programme lays the foundations for managing future experiences, while also preparing students to manage their current lives. This ensures that students continue to learn about issues with real-life relevance, at a crucial transition point in their lives. We have an experienced tutoring team who will work alongside you, ensuring that you are safe and well, are progressing in your subjects, and can make your next steps. Some topics that we cover include:

- **Personal Finance** - bank accounts, insurance, fraud
- **Managing Personal Safety and Health** - how and where to access services
- **Preparation for the world of work** - CV writing, interview skills, individualised careers guidance
- **Health and Wellbeing** - anxiety and stress, maintaining positive mindsets, relaxation and mindfulness





Queen Katharine
Academy

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