



ST. ANDREW'S COLLEGE
Cambridge

**FOUNDATION COURSES
SPECIFICATIONS
2024-2025**



ST. ANDREW'S COLLEGE
Cambridge

CONTENTS

A LETTER FROM THE PRINCIPAL3

ST ANDREW'S COLLEGE CAMBRIDGE at a glance 4

 WE ARE PART OF THE DUKES FAMILY 5

ADMISSIONS CRITERIA 6

 SELECTION PROCESS AT A GLANCE 6

REGISTRATION & ENROLMENT 7

 OFFERS AND ENROLMENT 7

 Visa applications7

 Scholarships7

EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES 8

pastoral care 8

Student Support and CAREERS EDUCATION INFORMATIVE ADVICE AND GUIDANCE (CEAIG)9

FOUNDATION COURSES 10

Our programmes: 11

Programme STRUCTURE 12

assessment 14

 The assessment structure for the course is as follows 14

 Practical 14

 Final Exam 14

 Subject Weighting 14

 Support subjects14

 Attendance 15

 Information and Communication Technology (ICT):15

 English: 15

 Teaching Staff 15

 NCFE Accreditation15

 Certification & Awards 15



ST. ANDREW'S COLLEGE
Cambridge

A LETTER FROM THE PRINCIPAL

“Since 1976, St Andrew’s College has offered students from all over the world the opportunity to experience a Cambridge Education.”

It is our aim to assist students to reach their full potential by offering an environment that makes them feel motivated with a desire to succeed and to be the best they can be.

It is our belief that this will help them to achieve excellent progress along with academic results supported of our dedicated, knowledgeable, and experienced staff.

I have been Principal of St Andrew’s for almost 18 years. I use my professional expertise and experience to drive and inspire our students to maximise their potential. I enjoy helping students with all of their concerns and questions.

It is important that all our students’ progress to the best university and degree programme that suits both their interests and abilities and that will lead them towards their desired career.

I encourage our students to take part in extra-curricular activities such as sports and clubs and to take part in projects such as Young Enterprise as leading universities tend to offer places to well-rounded individuals with hobbies and interests outside of their academic discipline.

Wayne Marshall, Principal
MBA, PGCE



ST. ANDREW'S COLLEGE Cambridge

ST ANDREW'S COLLEGE CAMBRIDGE AT A GLANCE

St. Andrew's College, Cambridge is a co-educational independent Sixth Form College providing boarding and day places for up to 157 students each academic year. St. Andrew's College, Cambridge is "international" in nature and is characterised by exceptional levels of academic and pastoral support at all stages. We accept students aged 15-22 years old.

St Andrew's College offers the following courses.

- Pre A-Level (September and January start)
- 2-year A-Level (September start)
- 2.5 -year A- Level (January start)
- 3-year A-Level (September start)
- 18-month university foundation course (January start)
- 1-year University Foundation course (September start)
- 2-year university foundation courses (September start)

Many of our applicants will commence courses in September, although we have another intake in January. There are cases where students request to join the course as late joiners. These applications are reviewed on a case-by-case basis by the Principal and the Curriculum Manager. Where possible, late joiners are integrated into appropriate groups and receive additional tuition to make up for any time missed.



WE ARE PART OF THE DUKES FAMILY

“Educating the mind without educating the heart is no education at all.”

— Aristotle

Dukes Education is a family of schools and educational services based in the UK. We are highly selective about which schools and organisations join Dukes. Our family is small and close-knit. We carefully curate it to make sure we have harmony among our teams. This is why we place such an emphasis on our values. Being part of the Dukes family means we can all come together to share experience and expertise, supporting each other to achieve the extraordinary. We bring people together who do different things in education, but we want them to learn from each other. So we need to know that they have their hearts and minds in the right place. When we meet educators with this magic combination, we know they're a good fit for Dukes.

There's power in the collective. Our results are outstanding, but there's more to us than that. Our students benefit from the constant sharing of best practice among our schools, and the stringent standards held to by a wide team of senior leaders who, combined, have an exceptional record of experience and expertise in education. Students develop culturally and socially, as well as academically, enjoying a well-rounded education full of fun and laughter. We work hard to help every child find something that fulfills them – to find their extraordinary – the thing only they can contribute to the world.

Around our schools, we've collected together a small number of organisations that represent true excellence when it comes to learning and development experiences outside of school hours. Day Camp and Summer School Experiences

University Application Consultancies: Dukes is home to the UK's leading Oxbridge, Ivy League and US, medical, and law school application consultancies. Not only do our own students benefit from their expertise, but we support hundreds of schools and thousands of hopeful applicants through them every year.



ADMISSIONS CRITERIA

Subject to real limits on student numbers imposed by boarding places, the availability of homestay hosts and resources, the college will admit applicants who have the potential to be successful on the course they've applied for.

Applicants must:

- Demonstrate a strong commitment to their studies
- Meet the entry requirements for the course applied for – Entrance exams & interview
- Agree to adhere to the college code of practice

Equality in Admissions

St Andrew's College does not discriminate based on the following characteristics: Disability, Gender, Gender reassignment, Pregnancy and maternity, Race, Religion or belief (including a lack of religion or belief), Sexual orientation, Marital or civil partnership status

When deciding whether to offer a place to an applicant, we will not treat them any less favorably based on these protected characteristics. We will also carefully consider whether we may need to make additional arrangements for an applicant who falls into any of these categories, whether at the application stage (e.g. for interviews or testing) or when they are a student at the college.

We may refuse a place based on age, as our courses are age dependent and the college has a statutory age limit of 15-22 years.

St Andrew's College may decide not to offer a place to a student based on a disability, only where it is not possible for the college to make reasonable adjustments which would allow the student to participate fully in the curriculum and in college life. Before deciding whether to offer a place to an applicant on this basis, St Andrew's College must ask the applicant and their parents/carers what support they will require to access the college. Consultation will then take place between the admissions team, Principal, Deputy Head (Academic), Deputy Head (Boarding and Pastoral Care) and SENCo, and must have regard to the Equality Act 2010, before a decision is taken on whether the college is able to offer a place. The reasons for this decision will be fully explained to the applicant.

SELECTION PROCESS AT A GLANCE

(To read the full policy, please refer to our website)

Our applicants go through a strict selection process based on three elements:

1. Application: in liaison with UKVI regulations (qualifications, Visa and language requirements)



ST. ANDREW'S COLLEGE Cambridge

2. Interview. Interviews are conducted by the Admissions Department with the purpose of:
 - Explaining the academic, pastoral, and extracurricular provision available at the college and provide advice on courses appropriate to the student's age and academic ability
 - Assess the suitability of the student for the course they have applied for (Entry criteria for courses are given at the end of this document)
 - Provide an opportunity for a prospective student and parents / guardians / agents to look around the college.
 - Provide advice about entry into Higher Education.
 - Answer any questions about the college.
3. Testing and assessment. The college will request that prospective students take entry tests in Maths and English to determine if their proposed course for them.

REGISTRATION & ENROLMENT

OFFERS AND ENROLMENT

We will review a student's application once the stages above have been completed. If a student's application is successful a conditional or unconditional offer will be made.

VISA APPLICATIONS

St Andrew's is licensed by the UKVI to sponsor Child Student and Student visa applications. Our internal immigration specialists, process all our CAS and they will be on hand to help with this process.

We recommend that students engage a professional education and visa consultant to assist with the visa application.

SCHOLARSHIPS

St Andrew's offers a limited amount of merit-based scholarships at five levels. These are worth up to 75% off tuition fees however, scholarships of over 35% are rare. Most of our students gain between 10 and 20% off fees.

There are five scholarship levels detailed as below: students who wish to apply for a scholarship are required to attend an interview with our Principal/Deputy Head/Admissions manager. All scholarship applications will be reviewed by senior management before approval.



ST. ANDREW'S COLLEGE
Cambridge

	LEVEL 1	LEVEL 2	LEVEL 3	LEVEL 4	LEVEL 5
SCHOLARSHIP AMOUNT	10% of tuition fees	20% of tuition fees	35% of tuition fees	50% of tuition fees	75% of tuition fees
IELTS REQUIREMENT	6.5 (nothing less than 6.0)	6.5 (nothing less than 6.0)	7.0 (nothing less than 6.5)	7.5 (nothing less than 7.0)	8.0 (nothing less than 7.5)
ACADEMIC REQUIREMENT	Scholarship tests, top marks (equivalent to an 8-9 at GCSE) in school reports / formal exams in 4 subjects – all applicants.	Scholarship tests, top marks in formal exams in 6 subjects – all applicants.	Scholarship tests; top marks in formal exams in 6 subjects – all applicants	Scholarship tests, Scholarship interview, top marks in formal exams in 8 subjects – A Level students only	Scholarship tests, Scholarship interview, top marks formal exams in 8 subjects – A-level students only
AVAILABILITY	Limited	Limited	Limited	Limited	Limited

Scholarships are offered to the student for the whole duration of study at St Andrew's. However, scholarships are reviewed annually and are subject to good performance and behaviour and scholars are expected to help represent the college. To obtain a continuation of the scholarship a student would need at least AAB in the first year of A-level and an attendance level of at least 95% in all subjects.

EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

We offer a variety of extra-curricular activities to suit a wide spectrum of interests. These include:

- Clubs & Societies
- Sports
- Competitions
- Social Activities
- STUDENT VOICE / STUDENT COUNCIL

PASTORAL CARE

At St Andrew's we take the care of our students very seriously, ensuring that they are happy and healthy in order to be able to study effectively and enjoy their time with us.

Every one of our students is unique and require different levels of support at varying times. Our pastoral care has been rated as good and we take pride in the levels of attention, care and support that we can give our students.

Our team of House Parents and personal tutors, who meet with students weekly led by our Deputy Head (Boarding & Pastoral Care), are here to support our students wellbeing and are available anytime to talk to individual students and parents about any concerns.

- Collects medical information prior to enrolment and passes this to House Parents and other staff so they can care for students effectively



ST. ANDREW'S COLLEGE Cambridge

- Register students with our GP in Cambridge so they can access free medical care
- Books medical, dental, optician or counselling appointments for students
- Attends appointments with students if required
- Provides advice and guidance to students about medical and other services in Cambridge
- Is available for students to talk to, at any time, if they have problems (e.g. homesickness, stress)
- Liaises with teaching staff regarding support for students who have medical or other needs, e.g. timetable adjustments, one-to-one support
- Holds regular student wellbeing champion sessions
- Sends students a weekly wellbeing questionnaire
- Sends monthly newsletters informing students about topics relating to health and well-being
- School Medical Centre open Monday - Friday
- Counselling services available

STUDENT SUPPORT AND CAREERS EDUCATION INFORMATIVE ADVICE AND GUIDANCE (CEAIG)

An effective Careers Education Information Advice and Guidance (CEIAG) programme will make a major contribution preparing our students for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of life. A planned progressive programme of activities supports them in choosing career and education pathways. The programme also helps students select options that suit their interests, abilities and helps sustain employability throughout their working lives.

Our students benefit from our professional networking in conjunction with Dukes Plus, a provider of university application support, life-changing career and university experiences, day camps, tuition, and summer schools.

Each student is given guidance in tutor groups and then individually for their university application through UCAS and assistance with university placements.

Extra lessons are arranged where necessary to support the progress of students. The students can use the student common rooms and a computer area to facilitate study groups and a community atmosphere.

Students are provided with a social programme consisting of various opportunities to improve their social skills and to broaden their horizons through sport, the arts, travel, and friendly competition.

Students are encouraged to attend special talks and lectures in various places throughout the UK during the academic year.



FOUNDATION COURSES

A cost-effective route to university, the St Andrew's foundation course, accredited by NCFE and internally assessed, is run for students who must be at least 16.5 years old. It can commence in September (1 year or 2 year options available) or January (18 month options available) and has been designed with international students in mind.

St Andrew's deliberately does not tie its foundation course to a particular university. Instead, highly experienced personal tutors provide individual daily one to one university support for every student, helping guide them on the wide range of options available and choosing the right subject at the best university for them. Results are some of the top for foundation students in the UK with 88% of students in 2022 going onto top universities for their subject and a very high percentage onto university each year.

Starting your education aged 16 or 17 from overseas can be daunting for many particularly when plunged into a university environment with little pastoral care and support. By contrast, St Andrew's home-from-home boarding environment, with excellent and dedicated house parents who look after their students, discuss issues and help solve any problems, is vital in helping students adjust, feel comfortable and motivated to succeed.

St Andrew's smaller class sizes also ensures that every student is given individual attention, enabling them to improve their grades and maximise results. There is a wide range of subjects to study at Foundation level and IELTS preparation is in-built to ensure students meet the IELTS entry requirements for their chosen university.

- *Those joining in September must have a minimum of 5 IELTS whilst those coming in January must have achieved IELTS 5.5.*
- *Students joining the 2-year programme can be admitted onto the course with IELTS 4 and work on their language skills throughout the course.*

There is a higher pass rate nationally for international students on foundation course than for those doing A-Levels and students who may not have succeeded at A-Levels or who may enjoy a more practical approach to learning are often successful on a foundation course. Over 80% of the Russell Group universities accept foundation courses as a route to undergraduate entry.

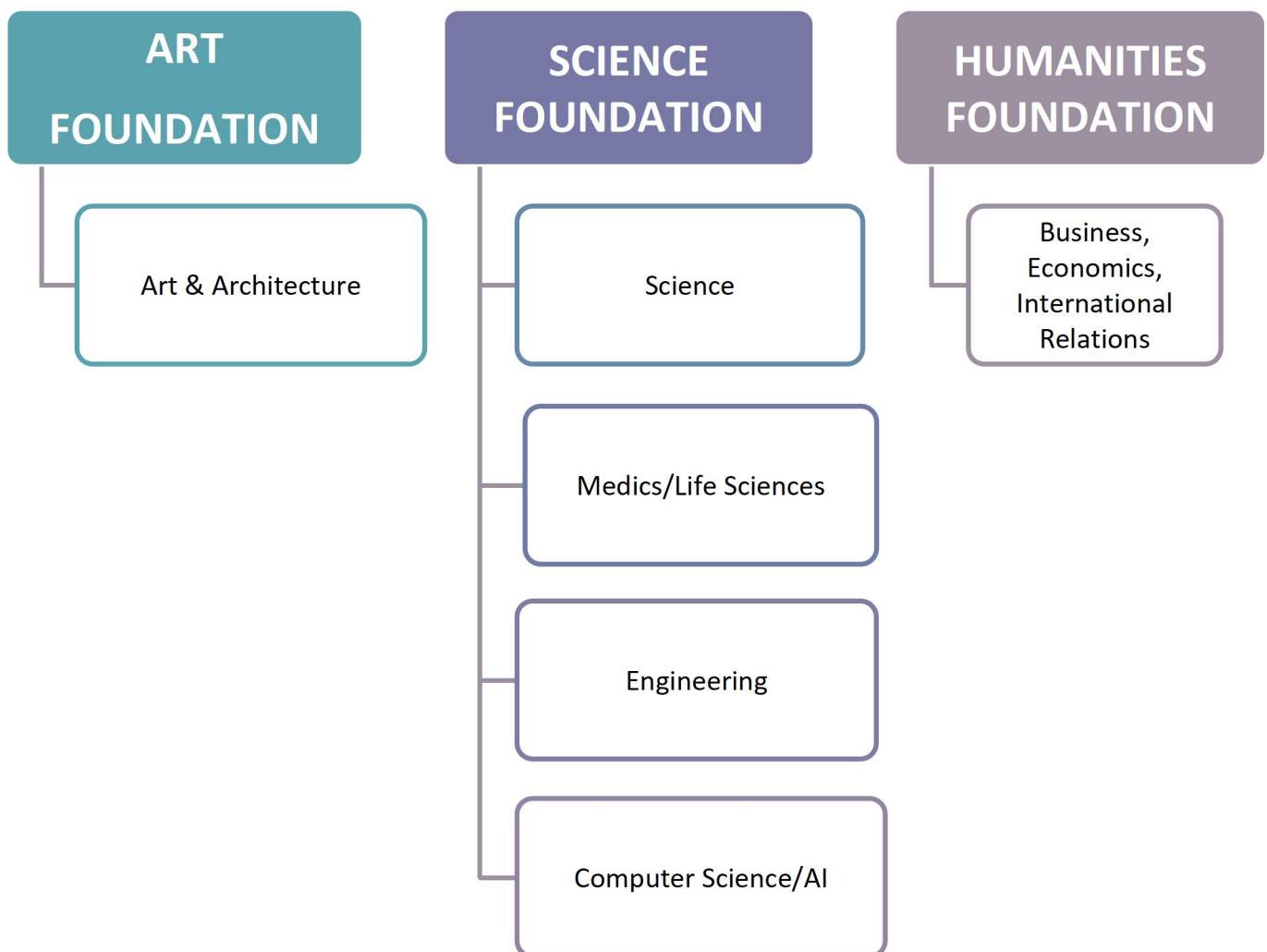


OUR PROGRAMMES:

Our foundation courses are divided into 3 macro areas: Art, Science and Humanities. Two of these are then subdivided into programmes which define the major.

Students can then profit from a variety of subjects to include in their programmes and will always study at least three.

Subjects can include Maths, Chemistry, but also all the other subjects in each macro-area. Psychology programme can be studied both on a scientific basis or social.





PROGRAMME STRUCTURE

Both 9-month and 6-month courses follow the same specification. All the above courses include hours dedicated to UCAS training and applications, tutorials, mock exams and extra activities.

- 18 months course follow the same specifications of the 9 months + 6 months course together, with January start.
- 2 years course follows the same specifications of the 9 months course, with September start.

SCIENCE PROGRAMMES

Subject	9-month course (34)	6-month course (22)	18-month course January start (6-month + 9-month)
	Number of hours per week	Number of hours per week	
Course Subject 1	6	8	
Course Subject 2	6	8	
Course Subject 3	6	8	
PSHE & Tutorial	3	3	
Total Hours	21	27	
Hours over the duration of the course.	714	594	1308

Please see the scheme of work for more details on areas covered by each subject (emailed separately).



ST. ANDREW'S COLLEGE
Cambridge

ARTS AND HUMANITIES PROGRAMMES

Subject	9-month course (34)	6-month course (22)	18-month course January start 6-month + 9-month
	Number of hours per week	Number of hours per week	
Course Subject 1	4	6	
Course Subject 2	4	6	
Course Subject 3	4	6	
Course Subject 4	4	6	
PSHE & Tutorial	3	3	
Total Hours	19	27	
Hours over the duration of the course.	646	594	1240

Please see the scheme of work for more details on areas covered by each subject (emailed separately).



ASSESSMENT

THE ASSESSMENT STRUCTURE FOR THE COURSE IS AS FOLLOWS

All students are assessed throughout the course on a monthly basis and through a variety of methodologies. They will take an exam in each of the core subjects in December of each course. This exam is to gather an understanding of the performance to date. On completion of the results transcript the student will be spoken to by his/her tutor and an Individual Learning Plan (ILP) will put together if applicable. The first exam is to monitor performance in the first term it will not be used for the overall results of the course.

PRACTICAL

Students will carry out 6 practical assessments during the spring term. The collated results of these tests will give them an overall result, which will count for 40% of the overall mark.

FINAL EXAM

The final assessment of the course will take place in the penultimate week. Each of the core subjects will be examined twice (2 hours per paper). The final exams will carry 60% of the total grade.

SUBJECT WEIGHTING

Each of the core subjects will carry a 33.33% weighting.

SUPPORT SUBJECTS

The foundation course will be supported by the following non-examined subjects:

- English (IELTS)
- PSHE (Personal Social Health Education)
- English for Academic Purposes (EAP)
- General Studies
- Study Skills

The above-named subjects are put in place to build on and support academic performance whilst on the course.



ST. ANDREW'S COLLEGE Cambridge

ATTENDANCE

Students must have an attendance rate 95% or above in all subjects to pass the course.

INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY (ICT):

ICT is an integral part of the Foundation course and all aspects of this area are included in the core subjects and the study skills components. Although individual lesson time is not given to this subject, the student must be able to demonstrate their appreciation of and ability to integrate ICT within the demands of the course.

ENGLISH:

English is approached on an individual basis, with each student being tested with in-house IELTS exams or based on previous achievements such as a C or above grade in GCSE or IGCSE English or a proven IELTS grade.

The IELTS classes are established by level and designed to meet the needs of the student at that level to enable progress at a satisfactory pace onto the next level in preparation for the IELTS exam.

Students who obtain a 6.5 in IELTS during their stay at the college or arrive with a 6.5 in IELTS or above will not be required to attend IELTS classes in college. If a student has gained 6.5 in IELTS but needs extra support for university this will be planned and reviewed by the IELTS coordinator on an individual student basis.

TEACHING STAFF

The teaching staff on the Foundation programmes are all highly qualified and experienced teachers who strive to empower their students with the confidence and skills needed to achieve their best and to prepare for university and their future careers. The teachers set high standards and reinforce them whilst assisting the students in their own individual needs and learning styles.

NCFE ACCREDITATION

Our course has been accredited by NCFE, an awarding organisation recognised by the qualification regulators for England and Wales. NCFE's regulators are the Office of Qualifications and Examinations Regulation (Ofqual) in England, and the Welsh Government in Wales. This course has been accredited by NCFE under our Customised Qualifications Licence.

CERTIFICATION & AWARDS

St. Andrew's College, Cambridge provides the students with a level 3 Diploma certificate of completion of the course and a full transcript of results. Students will also receive a certificate and a transcript from the awarding body NCFE.

Awards of Pass, Merit, Distinction and Distinction with Honours are only awarded when students meet the following criteria:



ST. ANDREW'S COLLEGE
Cambridge

ACHIEVEMENT

Fail / Resubmit	0-49%
Pass	50-59%
Merit	60-69%
Distinction	70-79%
Distinction with Honours	80% and above

For a complete introduction to St Andrews College, please refer to our website, <https://www.standrewscambridge.co.uk/> and download our prospectus [here](#).