



The Royal Belfast Academical Institution

Sixth Form at RBAI **Registration Form for New Pupils**

If you are interested in joining the Sixth Form at RBAI please contact the Principal's Secretary. We will arrange a meeting with Mr. Peak (Head of Sixth Form) who will be delighted to provide you with a tour of the School and also answer any questions or queries you may have.

The RBAI Sixth Form experience is outstanding as it promotes academic excellence and enrichment alongside a vast array of co-curricular opportunities. RBAI offers a very broad range of courses in the Sixth Form. Further details, (such as exam board, course content, modular weighting), can be found on the School's website – in the 'Curriculum' section you will find a document entitled 'Sixth Form Subject Choices Booklet'. In addition to offering an extensive suite of 'A' levels, pupils can also opt to study BTEC courses. The BTECs we offer include:

- BTEC Diploma in Sport (Performance and Excellence) which is equivalent to 2 'A' levels;
- BTEC Subsidiary Diploma in Engineering, which is taught in collaboration with Belfast Met – this is equivalent to 1 'A' level;
- BTEC IT is offered as a Subsidiary Diploma (equivalent to 1 'A' level).

The majority of boys will study 3 subjects in Lower Sixth and continue with these in their final year. Only boys with a points score of 28 or above in their GCSE subjects should consider studying 4 subjects in Lower Sixth. Most pupils who are considering a university course in Medicine, Dentistry or Veterinary Science will choose to do four subjects in Lower Sixth – although this is not stipulated by all the universities. The same applies if they would be intending to apply to the University of Oxford or Cambridge.

Pupils wishing to enter the Sixth Form will normally require a minimum of 12 points (A = 4 points, A = 3 points, B = 2 points, C* = 1 ½ points, C = 1 point) and undertake 3 AS or equivalents. Pupils are generally expected to have achieved at least a Grade B or a high Grade C* at GCSE level in the subjects they wish to study in the Sixth Form. If a subject is oversubscribed, criteria may be enhanced. Entry to the Sixth Form is also dependent upon a pupil's disciplinary record, an average attendance of 95%, and the professional judgement of staff that a pupil has the self-motivation to follow a post-16 course. Credit will also be given to the contribution a pupil can make to the co-curricular life of the school.*

In anticipation of your son's entry to the Lower Sixth in 2026, we would ask that you fill in the details below and the Subject Choices Form on page 2 – both pages should be returned to the Principal's Secretary. Please note that it may be possible for pupils to change their subject choices during the Year 13 Registration Day, for which attendance is compulsory, on **24th August 2026**. Term begins on **26th August 2026**.

Full Pupil Name	
Name of Parent/Guardian	
Address	
Telephone number	
Current school	
GCSE Subjects	



Sixth Form - Subject Choices Form (2026/27)

Name of pupil (please print): _____

Parent Signature: _____

BLOCK A	BLOCK B	BLOCK C	BLOCK D	BLOCK E
Business Studies	Art	Biology	Biology	BTEC Sport (double)
Chemistry	BTEC IT	BTEC Sport (double)	BTEC Engineering	Further Maths
French	Business Studies	Business Studies	Chemistry	
German	Economics	Computer Science	Economics	
Music	English Literature	Geography	History	
Physics	Further Maths	History	Life and Health Sciences	
Politics	Geography	Physics	Mathematics	
Sports Science	Mathematics	Religious Studies (Philosophy & Ethics)	Media Studies	
Technology			Spanish	

- Please choose a maximum of one subject from any Block, leaving blank spaces where required.
- Most pupils choose 3 subjects. There may be an option to study 4 subjects for those who are likely to score 28 points or higher in their GCSE subjects.
- If you are not intending to return to RBAI after your GCSEs, please write 'No Return' in Block A.

BLOCK A	BLOCK B	BLOCK C	BLOCK D	BLOCK E

Notes

- If you are studying Further Mathematics, please indicate this in Blocks B & E (2 A Level subjects) and you should not choose Mathematics as another choice. A pupil wishing to study Further Mathematics and Latin will only be allowed to do this in agreement with the Curriculum Vice-Principal.
- If you are studying BTEC Sport, then this must be selected in Blocks C & E.
- Pupils wishing to study A Level Maths should have achieved a minimum of a B grade in GCSE Further Maths. Pupils who have not studied GCSE Further Maths will need an A grade in GCSE Maths from modules M4 and M8 to continue with the subject.
- A minimum of 3 pupils will generally be required for a subject to run. Under exceptional circumstances, if supported by BoG, a class of 1 or 2 pupils may run on a reduced timetable.
- Pupils intending to study Medicine, Dentistry, Veterinary Science and Biomedical Science will usually be expected to take Biology and Chemistry at A Level.
- Potential applicants to Medicine should not choose Further Mathematics.
- Those seeking to do Mathematics/Engineering/Actuary/Sciences at highly competitive universities (e.g. Oxford, Cambridge, Imperial, Durham) are strongly encouraged to consider Further Mathematics at A Level. Some universities will also require Physics for Engineering courses.
- Those considering applications to the Republic of Ireland should be aware that some universities may not accept applied/vocational qualifications – this includes BTECs and a small number of A Level subjects.
- All pupils must complete careful research around courses and institutions before they make their subject choices – see the Sixth Form Choices Booklet on the school website.
- All new pupils will be interviewed by a senior member of staff after receiving their GCSE results.
- If there are further queries, pupils should speak with Mr Peak (Head KS5).