

**The University of Nottingham: post-16 Qualification Reform**

**Overall approach**

We aim to recruit the candidates best able to succeed on our programmes in terms of their ability, potential, knowledge and understanding. We recognise that those candidates will come from a variety of school and college backgrounds and do not wish to set our entry requirements in a way which favours or disadvantages applicants because of the school or college they attend. We see the design of post-16 curricula and timetables as a matter for individual schools and colleges to determine in the best interests of their students.

**Will The University of Nottingham expect to see certificated AS levels in the new system?**

We are aware that not all providers plan to enter candidates for the new AS level examinations. We do not expect to make achievement of certificated AS levels within the new exam system a requirement for admission to the University.

**Should students take an additional subject at AS level in year 12?**

We are aware that providers are considering different approaches to the year 12 curriculum and, in particular, whether they are able or wish to offer students the opportunity to study a fourth subject at AS level in year 12, ahead of sitting three of the new A levels in year 13. Again, it is for providers to determine whether their students will benefit more from greater breadth in year 12, or from the opportunity to focus exclusively on the subjects they wish to take to A level. The University of Nottingham will continue to make offers based on three A levels or equivalent.

**What about the Extended Project Qualification?**

While we would encourage applicants to undertake the Extended Project Qualification as it helps to develop independent study and research skills and ease the transition from school or college to higher education, completing one is not a requirement of any offer made and we have no plans to change this.

**Qualification reform in Northern Ireland, Wales and Scotland?**

We recognise that there are changes ahead across the UK and that there will be a period of transition over several years. While this statement focuses particularly on A level and AS level reform we are keeping abreast of the changes in other parts of the UK so that we can continue to identify fairly those best placed to achieve academic success here at The University of Nottingham.