# Courses Explained...

Our A Level (Level 3) and Vocational courses (Entry to Level 3) are explained in more detail below. The individual course descriptions within this 2020/21 Guide list the specific entry requirements on each page. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact our Student Services on 01757 211040 or email info@selby.ac.uk.

# A Levels - Level 3

You will usually choose 3 or 4 subjects. To study A Levels the minimum requirement is at least four GCSEs at Grade 5, plus English Language at Grade 4. Some A Levels will have additional requirements, such as a Grade 5 if the subject was taken at GCSE, or a Grade 5 or 6 in Maths. Please note that each A Level course description in this 2020/21 Guide lists the individual requirements on its own page. If you have not achieved a Grade 4 in Maths, you will be required to continue studying this alongside your course.

#### **BTEC Level 3 Extended Certificates**

These can be taken alongside your A Level options. They have the same delivery mode and UCAS points as A Levels but are more coursework based.

## The Extended Project Qualification (EPQ)

Students may also choose to take an extended project in their second year. This is equivalent in size to half an A Level and requires you to produce a single piece of work of your own choosing showing evidence of planning, preparation and research.

# **Vocational - Entry Level to Level 3**

There are many subject areas to choose from but it's worth bearing in mind that you can only study one vocational qualification at a time.

## Level 3 = 1 to 2 Years

Level 3 qualifications are equivalent to A Levels so you will need to have achieved at least five GCSE passes at Grade 4 or above to enrol.

Upon successful completion of a Level 3 qualification you will be ideally placed to pursue a career in your chosen industry or go on to do a degree course either at Selby College or a University to specialise further in your chosen area.

They vary in length, usually from 1-2 years depending on the programme you are following, however it is possible to progress to the next qualification upon successful completion of the lower level.

#### Level 2 = 1 or 2 Years

Level 2 qualifications are equivalent to GCSE Grades 4-9 and as such you will be expected to have achieved at least four GCSEs at Grade 3 or above to enrol on one of these programmes. Successful completion however, will pave the way for you to further your studies at Level 3.

#### Level 1 = 1 Year

You will usually need to have gained Grades 1 and 2 in your GCSEs to study a Level 1 programme, but these will build on your existing skills and, upon successful completion, allow you to progress to a Level 2 course.

## Entry Level = Up to 1 Year

There are no formal entry requirements for these programmes which have been specifically designed to provide you with essential life and study skills. Successful completion of an Entry Level programme can provide you with a stepping stone to a Level 1 course.

A **Certificate or Diploma** (dependent on level and course) is usually awarded after successful completion of year one.

An **Extended Diploma** is equivalent to studying A Levels and is awarded after successful completion of two years.