



Madeley Academy

Contextual Statement for UCAS 2023 applications

School context

Madeley Academy is an average-sized community academy with an over-subscribed Sixth Form of around 280 students. The school is located in an area of Telford with high levels of social deprivation and, the proportion of students eligible for the pupil premium is almost double the national average. Nationally, it is in the highest quintile for Free School Meals, Social Deprivation and SEN students.

Against this backdrop, achievement in the Sixth Form is in the top 5% nationally for both academic and vocational courses. All students who wish to, have gained a place at University over the past 8 years and up to 30% of these have been at 'prestigious' universities - this is well above the national average figure. 80% of students are the first in their family to attend university which demonstrates the school's ethos of developing high aspirations.

Sixth Form Courses

In Year 12, all students complete a 4 AS Level equivalent programme and this can include a combination of academic or applied A-Levels and BTEC Level 3 courses where appropriate. All students sit the AS examination (or equivalent) at the end of Year 12 in order to benchmark progress. In Year 13, 60% of students continue with their 4 subjects, some reduce to 3 subjects in order to consolidate their learning or to accommodate work experience placements.

UCAS predictions

Students are formally assessed and written reports of progress are made 6 times a year. These reports are informed by regular tests in class, mock examinations in January, March and the AS examination result. UCAS grade predictions are finalised in September/October of Year 13, based on this solid body of evidence including the DfE prediction system. Students therefore have realistic and reliable predictions against which they can make informed decisions about university and course choices.

Disruption due to COVID

Year 13 students have experienced significant disruption to their studies, both throughout the GCSE year and Year 12. During lockdown 1, 2 and 3, students accessed materials and some pre-recorded lessons. A limited number of live lessons were delivered. During year 12, in between lockdown periods, many year 12 students were asked to self-isolate, so there has been additional disruption for some groups of students, both this and last academic year.

