

INSPIRING FUTURES  
REALISING DREAMS

# THE ACADEMY FOR FUTURE PROFESSIONALS

AT BIRMINGHAM  
METROPOLITAN COLLEGE



Greater Birmingham  
Professional Services  
Academy





# What is the Greater Birmingham Professional Services Academy?

Working in partnership with key members of the professional services sector from across the region, Birmingham Metropolitan College launched the first ever Professional Services Academy for 16-19 year olds in September 2013.

The Professional Services Academy is a unique opportunity for future professionals to study for their chosen career in law, business, finance, accounting and other professional services whilst making valuable industry contacts with the Academy's partners.

The Academy has the backing of several of the

leading firms from the financial, legal, accounting and business community, who are committed to fostering the professional talent of the city for potential future employment in their sectors. Already accounting for over 100,000 jobs in the local economy, the sector continues to flourish, despite the recent economic challenges.

By working with the largest and most successful firms in the area including: Deloitte, Deutsche Bank, GVA, Gateley, KPMG, Laser, Lloyds Bank and Wesleyan, students studying with the Professional Services Academy will enjoy a range of benefits that will best prepare them for their working lives.



## What are the benefits of studying at the Academy?

The Academy is for all 16-19 year olds who are committed to following a career in the professional services sector and want to pursue a course of study based around Financial, Accountancy, Legal or Business qualifications.

### Students at the Academy will enjoy the following opportunities:

- **The ability to follow a full or part-time curriculum** for two years, especially designed to meet the needs of the professional services sector. This will include AS/A Level, BTEC Level 3 and industry recognised qualifications such as those awarded by the Association of Accounting Technicians (AAT).
- **Onsite visits** to the Academy's partner businesses, to gain an insight into how they are shaping the sector in the West Midlands.
- **Guest lectures from business leaders** to gain a better understanding of the skills needed to make the grade in their highly competitive environment.
- **Professional mentors** in the partner organisations will regularly meet on a one-to-one basis with students, offering them guidance and support.
- **An Internship opportunity** will be offered to students of the Academy between the first and second year of their studies. This will run during the break in the academic calendar and will provide evidence of the real work experience professional service employers look for.
- **The opportunity to acquire a variety of skills** that will enhance a CV.
- **Commercial awareness workshops** will be available to expand learner's business acumen and allow discussion of major issues impacting on the sector, such as the role of corporate social responsibility and ethics.
- **A range of visits** will be offered during the two years.
- **Honorary Membership of Birmingham Aspire** will give networking opportunities with the city's leading young professionals.





Greater Birmingham Chambers of Commerce  
Professional  
Academy





# What qualifications will I be able to study?

You can study a broad range of A Levels alongside any of these professional subjects

You need to be studying at least one of the following subjects.

| Level               | Qualifications                           |   |
|---------------------|--|---|
| AS/A Level          | Accounts                                 | You will study both financial and management accounting over the two years. The focus is on developing an understanding of private sector organisations including sole traders, partnerships and limited companies.   |
| AS/A Level          | Law                                      | This is a highly regarded qualification for anyone considering a legal profession. You will learn about Criminal Law and Civil Law (Tort) as well as Legal Systems and Concepts of Liability - an ideal start for your legal career   |
| AS/A Level          | Economics                                | This subject examines how wealth is created and distributed in a modern economy. You will be introduced to theories and principles that influence our economy including the environment, the European Union, government taxation policy and even road pricing                       |
| AS/A Level          | Business Studies                         | This course examines the role of business in a modern economy and introduces you to the main sectors of the industry, including marketing, accounting, finance and management. It also focuses on enterprise activities if you want to create and manage your own business          |
| AS/A Level          | Mathematics                              | Understanding numbers is important for all managers and business leaders and is particularly important for a career in finance, accounting or banking. A Level Mathematics will help you develop your skills and knowledge to solve problems using mathematical arguments and logic |
| BTEC Level 3        | Extended Diploma in Business/Law/Finance | These qualifications are equivalent to three A Levels and you can choose a broad business overview or focus on law or finance   |
| Certificate/Diploma | Financial Studies                        | If you are looking for a career in the financial services industry, this is the course for you. It will help you to understand different financial products, personal finance plans and the wider financial landscape   |
| AAT Level 2         | Accounting Certificate                   | The AAT is the professional body for accounting technicians. These qualifications give you practical, internationally recognised finance and accounting skills  |
| AAT Level 3         | Accounting Diploma                       |   |



## Where will I study?

The Academy, is located in a 'state of the art' professional development centre within the Matthew Boulton College of Birmingham Metropolitan College.

The majority of learning will be delivered on this site, although students should be prepared to travel to a range of business venues to take full advantage of the onsite visits and guest lectures.

As part of the Academy, learners will also have access to all of the college's facilities including the "Classroom in the Cloud" Technologies in the IBM Smarter Planet Laboratories.

This collaboration with IBM enables learning to take place from anywhere, with students able to access their study programmes online. The IBM suites offer students and teachers the very latest in learning technologies, giving them unparalleled flexibility and countless possibilities for innovative ways of teaching and learning.



## How do I apply?

The Academy is for all 16-19 year olds who have the minimum entry requirements of five GCSE grades at Grade C or above, including Maths and English.

All applicants will be required to successfully complete an interview with a representative of the sponsoring businesses. You will be expected to discuss your interests and hobbies and your future ambitions and reasons for choosing a career in this sector. You will also have an opportunity to discuss the content and further details of your course programme.

### To apply go to:

[www.bmetc.ac.uk/college-life/professional-services-academy](http://www.bmetc.ac.uk/college-life/professional-services-academy)

Birmingham Metropolitan College,  
Matthew Boulton College,  
Jennens Road,  
Birmingham B4 7PS

t. **0845 155 0101**

 **@bmetc**



# Application form

Send completed forms to  
Admissions, Birmingham Metropolitan College, Matthew Boulton College, Jennens Road, Birmingham B4 7PS



## Personal Information

|   |       |                                      |               |
|---|-------|--------------------------------------|---------------|
| First Name  | _____ | Title (Mr. Mrs. Ms. Miss)            | _____         |
| Last Name   | _____ | National Insurance Number (if known) | _____         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female |       | Age                                  | Date of Birth |
| Address   | _____ |                                      |               |
| Post Code   | _____ | Email                                | _____         |
| Mobile  | _____ | Telephone                            | _____         |

## Course Information enter the courses or subjects you are applying for

Advanced Vocational (Level 3)       AS level       A2 level       Other

Please indicate subject(s) \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## School/College Information current or last school/college attended

|                                 |       |                       |       |
|---------------------------------|-------|-----------------------|-------|
| Name of school/college          | _____ | Unique Learner Number | _____ |
| Address                         | _____ |                       |       |
| Post Code                       | _____ | Telephone             | _____ |
| Person to contact for reference | _____ | Title                 | _____ |

## Qualifications you are currently taking or have already completed

| Subject | Date  | Level | (Predicted) Grades | Subject | Date  | Level | (Predicted) Grades |
|---------|-------|-------|--------------------|---------|-------|-------|--------------------|
| _____   | _____ | _____ | _____              | _____   | _____ | _____ | _____              |
| _____   | _____ | _____ | _____              | _____   | _____ | _____ | _____              |
| _____   | _____ | _____ | _____              | _____   | _____ | _____ | _____              |
| _____   | _____ | _____ | _____              | _____   | _____ | _____ | _____              |



## Interests/Activities and Future Plans

Please give brief details of responsibilities taken at school and any outside interests/activities

What are your ambitions for future education and career goals?

## Equal Opportunities

The College can provide additional support during your study eg: numeracy, literacy and dyslexia support

Please tick if you require support and give details

Do you consider yourself to have a disability, learning difficulty and/or health problem? Yes No

Please give details

Do you have a Learner Support Plan (Please attach or bring to interview) Yes No

Do we need to make any specific arrangements for you at interview? Yes No

Please give details

Have you been an EU resident for the past 3 years? Yes No

If "No" please give date of entry

From which Country

Are you a Refugee/Asylum Seeker Yes No

Do you have a British/EU Passport Yes No

Do you hold or require a Study Visa Yes No

## How would you describe your ethnic origin please tick

Bangladeshi

Indian

Pakistani

Other Asian Background

African

Caribbean

Other Black Background

Chinese

White & Asian

White & Black African

White & Black Caribbean

Other Mixed Background

British

Irish

Other White Background

Other Ethnic Group

## How did you find out about the Academy please tick all applicable

School

Careers Advisor

Employer

Friend/Family

Current/former student

Live locally

Job Centre

NAS website

Library

Newspaper/Magazine

Web Site

Facebook

Radio

Poster

Leaflet/Flyer

Other please specify

## Your Signature

I declare that I have checked the information given in this form and that to the best of my knowledge it is correct. I consent to this information being held on file under the terms of the Data Protection Act 1988. I agree to abide by the College regulations and understand that some information from this form will be sent to the Young People's Learning Agency.

Applicant's Signature

Date





**Deloitte.**

Deutsche Bank



• Gateley



LLOYDS BANK



WESLEYAN  
*we are all about you*