

## THE NEW DIPLOMAS

*Are you keen to learn more about subjects that interest you-but want to keep your options open?*

*Do you want a course that combines theory with practical activities?*

*Do you want to choose a qualification that helps you prepare for university or a job?*

With a Diploma course you'll learn in a fun, hands-on style, both in and out of the classroom, and take on challenging projects. Picture a world where you:

- Can study subjects you find interesting, challenging and most importantly, enjoyable
- Can study in a practical hands-on way, both in and out of the classroom.
- Can learn skills that could take you on to a job with in-built training, like an Apprenticeship
- Can prepare yourself for college or university
- Make sure you keep your options open

**Sounds good? Then read on.....There is 3 Levels of Diploma-Foundation, Higher and Advanced**

If your GCSE results are not good enough for progression on to advanced courses you may opt for a one year Higher Diploma course. After you have successfully finished this, you could go on to do:

- An Advanced Level Diploma in the same or different subject
- A Levels
- An Apprenticeship
- Or go to college to do another course.

However, if you already have good GCSE results you can choose to do an Advanced Diploma. This will prepare you for going on to further and higher education as well as for going into skilled work. That way you can explore your career options without limiting your choices.

At Ellen Wilkinson School Post 16, we are offering the new Society, Health and Development (SHD) Diploma at Higher and Advanced levels.

Diplomas allow you to learn both through theory and practice. So as well as finding things out from books and people, you also get to apply your knowledge in a practical environment.

Each Diploma consists of several components:

**Principal Learning** -focusing on knowledge and skills relevant to your chosen subject line - 50% must be work related/applied

**Functional Skills** -English Maths and ICT Level 2

**Project**- letting you put the skills you are learning into practice.

**Personal, learning and thinking skills (PLTS)**-delivered through Principal Learning

**Work experience** - 10 days

**Additional Specialist Learning (ASL)** -You can choose an additional or complementary qualification e.g. AS or A Level

All Diplomas involve both exams and work assessed by your teachers, although most of the Principal Learning component is course work assessment.

### STILL UNDECIDED?

Well just to help tempt you a little bit more, the Higher Diploma is equivalent to **8 1/2 GCSEs** (including Functional Skills)!!! The Advanced Level is worth up to 3 1/2 A Levels.

If you need more information about Diplomas -see Mrs Wild (Assistant Head) or Mr Jarvis (Head of Social Sciences).