

NSFC

The aim of Education Information Profiles (EIPs) is to provide objective information on which higher education providers (HEPs) can make informed decisions about the admission of UK students.

UCAS will consider submissions for an EIP for any assessed programme followed by UK students that is not externally accredited to any of the regulatory frameworks in place in England, Scotland, Wales, or Northern Ireland.

Note that EIPs are intended to provide information about programmes that do not attract Tariff points.

Such programmes can take a range of forms, but it is expected that most will fall into one of the following categories.

- Programmes that are used in place of externally-accredited qualifications.
- Enrichment or enhancement programmes that contain accredited qualifications.
- Enrichment or enhancement programmes that do not contain accredited qualifications.

Field	Field name	Information
1	Programme	A level study programmes comprising 4 accredited qualifications, tutorial and enrichment.
2	Coverage	Currently Newcastle Sixth Form College, Newcastle upon Tyne.
3	Purpose	To recognise the wider knowledge, skills and understanding students gain as part of their A level study programme, specifically those covered by the Common Inspection Framework such as employability skills and personal development which means they respect others and contribute to wider society. These are obtained through good, punctual attendance, participation in the tutorial programme, self reflection of own learning goals, participation in a variety of general and subject specific enrichment activities and an understanding of the range of other, transferable skills which are being developed .
4	Education context	Study programmes for 16 – 19 year olds were introduced for delivery from September 2013, based on both qualification and non-qualification activity, based around the needs of individual learners.
5	Awarding organisation(s)/institution(s) <i>(delete as appropriate)</i> for programmes that are not externally accredited to any UK regulatory framework	Newcastle Sixth Form College
6	Structure	1.NSFC Green award 2. NSFC Blue award 3. NSFC Gold award 4. NSFC Platinum award
7	Subject areas	1. NSFC Green award <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 85% attendance • Meet at least one of your initial target grades • Complete Wednesday afternoon enrichment in at least 2 categories <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Active - Creative - Service - Skills

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participate in subject enrichment activities in 1 of your A level subjects • Writing • Speaking • Prioritising • Presenting a positive personal image • Working to deadlines. <p>2. NSFC Blue award</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 90% attendance • Meet at least two of your initial target grades • Complete Wednesday afternoon enrichment in at least 3 categories <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Active - Creative - Service - Skills • Participate in subject enrichment activities in 2 of your A level subjects • Accepting responsibility • Being assertive • Working on own initiative • Self-reliance • Time management <p>3. NSFC Gold award</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 95% attendance • Meet at least one of your aspirational target grades • Complete internal and external enrichment in all 4 categories <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Active - Creative - Service - Skills • Participate in subject enrichment activities in 3 of your A level subjects • Identifying/evaluating options • Action Planning • Team-working • Investigating/researching • Giving/accepting constructive criticism <p>4. NSFC Platinum award</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 100% attendance
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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meet at least two of your aspirational target grades • In addition to completing internal and external enrichment in at least 3 categories, make a significant contribution to NSFC and/or the local community • Participate in and help organise subject specific enrichment activities • Leadership • Problem solving • Lateral thinking • Verbal Communication • Commercial awareness • Decision making <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Attendance and punctuality is a key employability skill 2. Students use feedback and aspirational target grades to reflect on their progress and next steps 3. Students are encouraged to take part in a variety of enrichment activities both those timetabled by the organisation and those they organise themselves 4. Throughout the year opportunities are provided for subject specific enrichment activities which support progression to HE 5. A wide range of employability skills are developed both through academic learning activities, enrichment and other activities
8	Level	Designed for L3 students, the NSFC Diploma runs alongside A levels.
9	Grading	The NSFC Diploma is awarded at 4 colours which are linked to the college logo. Achieving a more advanced level does not depend on having achieved the previous level and students can choose which level they want to work towards. For element 5, however, skills are cumulative, so a student working on the Blue Award must also

		demonstrate they have mastered the Green Level skills.
10	Assessment	Students will be assessed on statistical evidence for components 1 – 4 and a portfolio of evidence collected throughout the year for component 5. Portfolios will be moderated by staff experienced in the internal verification process against a minimum pass standard appropriate for a L3 study programme.
11	Contribution of assessment components to overall grade	All components must be achieved for each level to be awarded.
12	Resit arrangements	Evidence will be assessed once a year towards the end of the Spring Term and feedback provided. Students can continue to work to achieve a specific level until the end of each academic year. At the start of Year 2 of the study programme, a student can revisit a level which was not achieved, or move to the next level.
13	Programme size	The NSFC Diploma recognizes the following qualification hours: 150hrs for each A level subject 70hrs of tutorial activity 40hrs of college based enrichment
14	Key issues for UK HE admissions	A study by the Department for Business, Innovation and Skills ¹ highlighted lack of self-confidence as the main contributory factor in students dropping out of university (BIS, March 2014 p. 25). The NSFC Diploma encourages students to look beyond their subject specific skills and think about what makes a successful learner and the importance of developing a wide range of transferable skills as well as their subject specific knowledge. Through the tutorial programme students have the opportunity to improve their general knowledge and understanding of society as a whole. Through the wide enrichment offer students are encouraged to develop new skills (which may be active, creative or subject related) take part in volunteering activities and contribute to the wider life of college. It is our belief that this will

¹ BIS Research Paper 168 *Learning from Futuretrack: Dropout from Higher Education* Department for Business, Innovation and Skills, March 2014
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		better equip students, especially those from widening participation backgrounds, for both progression to HE and employment.
15	Timing of assessments/results	Awards will be made in the summer term at the end of Y12 and Y13.
16	Current or legacy	Current, new
17	Certification information	In-house certification
18	Progression information	The NSFC Diploma supports students in their progression to Higher Education
19	Further information	N/A