



Highcliffe Sixth

11-18 Academy & Specialist College



Challenge, Inspire, Achieve...

Sixth Form Prospectus



Welcome

At Highcliffe, we are passionate about enabling each individual to achieve their full potential in the Sixth Form by raising their aspirations, supporting them on to the right pathway and helping them develop the skills they need to achieve very high levels of academic success as well as a lifelong love of learning. We aim to challenge and inspire all our students in a Sixth Form that is exciting and forward-looking. Our results are excellent, as is our reputation which goes well beyond the local area.

Vision Statement: "I believe in using what you have, instead of mourning for that which you do not. In thirty years time, I want to be able to look back at my youth and know that I used my talents fully, that I wasted nothing".

A former Highcliffe Sixth Form Student



For everyone at Highcliffe, succeeding in the present is the key to securing a better future. Your future matters to us and we are committed to doing all that we can to help and support you in your studies and provide extensive support and guidance to enable you to move successfully onto your chosen progression pathway.

“It is quality and reputation that count. Highcliffe has both!”

Ms J A Potts
Head Teacher

Mrs A Karanja
Director of Sixth Form

Miss L Swan
Head of Sixth Form

Why choose Highcliffe Sixth Form?

- High quality learning experience
- Excellent exam results and progression into Higher Education
- Extensive range of courses
- Specialists in Languages, Maths and Science
- Excellent facilities including Sixth Form Cafe, Study Centre, Art Studio, Fitness Suite, Language Labs, state-of-the-art Technology Centre
- High quality ICT provision and online resources
- Gifted and Talented Lead School
- Excellent Higher Education and careers support
- Exceptional preparation for Oxbridge and medical applications, university admissions tests and interviews
- “Outstanding pastoral care, guidance and support” (OFSTED)
- Strong student voice
- Comprehensive programme of enrichment activities, trips and social events
- Financial support, Travel subsidies and Sixth Form minibus service

“The popularity and success of the Sixth Form is reflected in the increased numbers in recent years.” **OFSTED**



STUDENT VIEWS

At Highcliffe Sixth Form you instantly feel comfortable and this is due to the friendly atmosphere. Teachers are always willing to support you and they help to ease the transition into the Sixth Form. The mature way in which the lessons are taught at Highcliffe allows students to open up discussion topics and express their opinions in a respectful environment. Learning is fun and the amount of support we receive is invaluable.

Emily Clifford



I chose to study at Highcliffe because of the excellent reputation and facilities for the subjects I have chosen. The language lab has helped me to extend my learning in Spanish and Italian. The quality of the music technology equipment is excellent and I like the fact that you are given freedom to use the facilities in an independent way. All the teachers are supportive and will stretch me to reach my potential in a fun and enjoyable manner, while giving me constructive feedback at the same time.

Micol Donvito



The academic support I have received is second to none. I regularly discuss my progress with my teachers and this has helped me to develop strategies for overcoming any areas of difficulty. Every member of staff is happy to provide advice, guidance and constructive feedback on any piece of work. Subject teachers go out of their way to provide extra classes and limitless supply of resources in the run up to the exams. I could not ask for more help.

Jack Radford

Highcliffe is a very tight knit community. My transfer from St Peter's was much smoother than I thought it would be. The friendliness of the staff and students was almost overwhelming. The high standard of expectations meant students were focused on their studies very quickly and the mixture of the academic and extra-curricular activities brought the teachers and students together.

Maria Camila Humphries



I found it a lot easier than I thought it would be to settle into Highcliffe. This was mainly down to the friendly staff and students. I like the way that there is such a positive attitude towards achieving high grades, making them seem more achievable.

Jonathan Oldham

As a Highcliffe student, I was very enthusiastic about staying on for Year 12. The Sixth Form has got such a friendly relaxed atmosphere and the teachers and students respect each other. The teachers genuinely want you to do your best. They help inspire and motivate you and they give so much of their time to support your progress and help you to reach your potential.

Amy Linford





Course Advice & Guidance

The Sixth Form Team offers outstanding advice, support and guidance to help students make the right decisions in choosing their programme of study. We have a team of Year 12 & 13 subject mentors working alongside our excellent specialist Advanced Level teachers, to offer advice on every course from the student perspective. Each programme of study is tailored to individual needs, depending on students' particular interests, skills and abilities.

Choosing the right Programme of Study

Before finalising course choices, students are advised to read the course flyers carefully to make sure they know what each course entails. They should consider whether they are interested in the topics covered and whether the assessment structure is appropriate for them. Some students will perform best in coursework assignments rather than exams or may prefer a course with a more practical focus. We have a range of BTEC and Diploma Courses which are proving very successful and increasingly popular.

Students will benefit from speaking to the specialist teachers and subject mentors at our Curriculum Seminars and Open Evening. They should also take advantage of the opportunity to try out new subjects at our Sixth Form Taster Day. Students should consider their career options carefully and ensure they are choosing subjects which will enable them to pursue their chosen career path. Students also need a range of courses which will take into account their interests, academic strengths and skills. They will be given high quality information, advice and guidance at interview. Students will then have a further opportunity to speak to subject specialists at our Induction Day before their programme of study is finalised once they receive their GCSE results.

Course Entry Criteria

Our course entry criteria are reviewed each year and our most up to date version is enclosed in the back of the prospectus. Students are advised to read the criteria carefully and choose courses which match their particular skills and predicted grades. They should seek guidance from our subject specialists if they are unsure about the suitability of a course.

“The Sixth Form Team are determined to provide a high quality experience for all”
OFSTED



Transition into Year 12: Application & Induction Process

September	Course advice via website, prospectus, flyers
October	Curriculum Seminars
November	Open Evening and Taster Day
December	Application deadline
January/February	Interviews
March	Conditional places on courses allocated Offer letters sent out
May	Induction information distributed, including applications for 16-19 Bursary, Minibus Service and Induction Trip
June/July	Induction Day & Enrolment
August	Exam Results Day –Advice Surgery & Confirmation of places on courses
September	Induction Trip, Advice Surgery & Induction



“Challenge, Inspire, Achieve”

Guidance Support & Achievement

All students are offered a wide range of support, advice and guidance, tailored to their individual needs:

Pastoral Support

- Course advice at interview
- Transition support and induction: promoting a successful and smooth transition into Year 12 and 13
- One to one academic tutorials with a personal tutor
- Target setting to help students achieve their potential
- Individual Learning Plans (ILPs) to identify and prevent underachievement
- Academic Focus Weeks – (Independent Learning/Revision)
- Excellent individual advice, guidance and support with university and job applications
- Mock interviews
- Advice and information about employment locally, nationally and internationally
- Assistance with Work Experience/Shadowing placements
- Higher Education advice, including help with UCAS applications and guidance on applying for the right course at the right institution

- University Visits/Conferences and help organising undergraduate shadowing schemes
- Help with preparing for university aptitude tests, including BMAT, LNAT, TSA etc

Teachers provide students with “excellent advice and guidance.” **OFSTED**

Pastoral care & support

- Advice on personal issues, supported by our local partners, e.g. Connexions, School Nurse, Shadows etc
- Mentoring & Coaching to enable students to become more independent

Financial Support

- Subsidised travel costs & minibus shuttle service
- 16-19 Bursary
- Sports Scholarships
- NUS Student cards
- No text book costs
- Subsidised trips



Higher Education and Careers Support

Students follow an intensive programme of preparation for their future career pathway and can access extensive advice and support. During Year 12, students follow a broad careers programme where we identify potential career opportunities accessed through university degrees, apprenticeships, Further Education, employment or training. We run an annual trip to the Bournemouth Higher Education Convention and encourage individual visits to University Open Days.

In partnership with external providers, we also deliver a one day Future Pathways conference, aimed at supporting students' applications to university or vocational progression routes. For those students who choose to make an application to university, we explore current issues on student finance, student life, course entry requirements and how to write an effective personal statement. For students following a vocational or employment pathway we explore apprenticeships, trends in the current job market, how to put together an effective CV and guidance on interview technique. All students are encouraged to undertake a period of work experience in order to support their future career aspirations.

“A particular mark of the effectiveness of the Sixth Form is the very strong record of success students have in achieving places in universities and further education institutions of their choice.” **OFSTED**



Raising Aspirations

Our Gifted and Talented Coordinator, Mrs Dedman, works closely with students in the Sixth Form to raise aspirations and help enable students to achieve outstanding levels of success and fulfilment.

Our Gifted and Talented Programme includes the following elements:

- Oxbridge conference and residential trips
- Oxbridge and Medicine Mentoring & Support Programmes
- Oxbridge undergraduate shadowing schemes
- One to one academic tutorials
- Excellent individual advice, guidance and support with university/job applications
- Preparation for University Admission tests.
- Extended Project Qualification
- Engineering in Education Scheme with Royal Navy
- Medical work experience placements and courses
- Annual art exhibition at Highcliffe Castle

Oxbridge National Conference

In Year 12, students who wish to submit an Oxbridge application attend a national conference run by Oxford and Cambridge Universities. Professors provide information and advice about the admissions process and students can witness a mock interview with an undergraduate student. This is followed by residential visits to Oxford and Cambridge Universities in June or July, providing students with an excellent opportunity to live in the halls of residence, attend a variety of subject seminars and get advice from current undergraduates and professors.



Heidi Barnett, who is reading Physics at Exeter College, Oxford, “found the Sixth Form staff and the Gifted and Talented team very helpful and knowledgeable about the Oxbridge application process. They were also highly supportive of my Oxford application in terms of guidance with my personal statement and interview preparation”.

Jack Field, who is reading Biological Sciences at Keble College, Oxford, said that “the Oxbridge trips I went on during Year 12 helped me realise that the subject I really wanted to study at university was Biology. The Oxbridge residential trip was amazing and confirmed my desire to study at Oxford University. Looking back now, I realise I have come a long way. I was very pleased with the help given by the Sixth Form. I couldn't have asked for better advice about my personal statement and a mock interview with a professor at Bournemouth University was very valuable.”



| ENGLISH LITERATURE
| ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE
| MEDIA STUDIES | FILM STUDIES



English

Studying English and related subjects at A level is an excellent choice for anyone who enjoys wide reading, discussion and analysis of texts.

You will develop as a confident and reflective reader of a range of texts (including film and other media texts). You will learn to use critical concepts and terminology. You will also have the opportunity to be creative in your coursework – both in the choice of task and in the production of your work.

English is taught in suited rooms. English Literature and English Language and Literature students are supported by the provision of a wide range of texts to enable student autonomy in coursework choices. Film Studies and Media Studies students benefit from state-of-the-art ICT hardware to support the production of media texts, such as short films and advertisements.

Students are taught in whole classes and smaller groups. Emphasis is placed on students' engagement with the subject and they are expected to join in discussions and give presentations.

A level English and related subjects combine well with a range of A levels including History, Psychology and Religious Philosophy and Ethics.

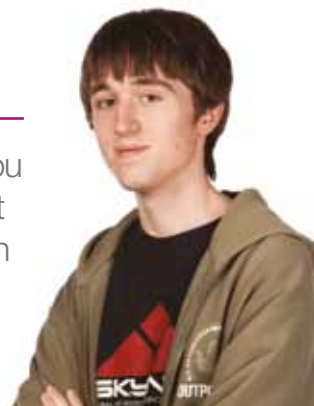
Skills developed in English Literature and related subjects, include the ability to analyse and interpret, to formulate a coherent argument and to communicate clearly, both orally and in writing. These skills are highly regarded, both in further study at university and in the job market.

Students who have studied A level English have gone into a wide range of careers, for example, in Education, Journalism, Law, the Media and Marketing.

In the past students have gone on to study English at some of the country's most prestigious universities including the University of Oxford.

Film Studies is “like a box of chocolates – you never know what you’re gonna get.” [Forrest Gump] However, it is guaranteed to broaden your film repertoire and knowledge!

Chris Tubb
Film Studies student



Extra-Curricular Opportunities

Students are supported in their studies through one to one help with coursework, theatre and film trips and Study Days. Study Days, such as a Year 13 Study Day on “Love in Shakespeare” in Stratford on Avon and a Year 12 Study Day on First World War Literature at the University of London have been very successful.



STUDENT VIEWS

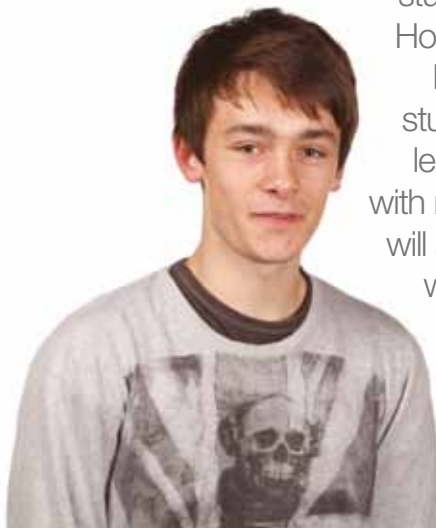
I chose to study English Literature as it has always been a subject I have been passionate about. The course has lived up to my expectations and beyond; the teachers are extremely helpful and it gives the flexibility to learn about what you enjoy the most, whilst developing your understanding of literature, language, culture and history. English Literature provides you with not only skills you can use in other subjects but also skills which are useful in any field of work and your own personal life. It is a highly enjoyable and fascinating course and I would recommend it to anyone.

Alice Collinge
English Literature student



I am aiming towards a career in science and therefore studying A Levels in Chemistry, Physics and Maths. However, I have also studied English Language and Literature as a supplement because I have found studying this subject to be very useful for helping to learn how to structure my writing. This will help me with my personal statement in the immediate future. It will also help me structure longer analytical pieces of writing at university such as research papers. The course has also deepened my understanding of how texts are crafted. Overall, I have found studying this subject to be very enjoyable.

Alex Collins
English Language and Literature student





ODS FINE GO
RIES & ACCESS
| MATHEMATICS
| FURTHER MATHEMATICS
| ECONOMICS



“ It encourages lateral thinking, perseverance and precision. ”

Mathematics

This curriculum area consists of Mathematics, Further Mathematics and Economics. The A level courses are taught in many styles including practical demonstrations, internet based activities and collaborative investigations by highly skilled, enthusiastic, specialist teachers.

The department runs lunchtime support sessions several times a week which enable individuals to reinforce their understanding of the harder mathematical concepts and help them fulfil their potential. In order to stretch students further, the department runs timetabled STEP (the Cambridge and Warwick University entrance examination) lessons which are proving very popular and effective. Highcliffe STEP lessons are taught on a model based on university tutorials, involving group work and discussion.

Students achieve excellent results in their exams and we have a strong tradition of students going on to study Mathematics at top universities including Oxbridge. One of our former students has recently been promoted to a Walter Galpin Exhibitioner, a highly prestigious student post at Balliol College Oxford for outstanding work in Mathematics. Career progression routes include Architecture, Engineering, Medicine and Business.

Logically, Maths made the most sense when choosing a subject to complement my other science based subjects. Maths opens many doors, all of which lead to fantastic new opportunities. By studying Maths I have become much more skilled at logical thinking, enabling me to look at the world in a new way.

Aaron Page

Maths and Further Maths student
National Academy Excellence Award Winner – 2012



Extra-Curricular Opportunities

Year 12 students complete the Senior UKMT Maths Challenge every year with excellent results consistently being achieved and candidates regularly qualify into the more advanced rounds.

Trips have included revision and study sessions for various modules at A Level. Over the last few years the chess club has grown considerably with A level students playing each other as well as helping younger students enhance their skills.

All students have the opportunity to support KS3 or KS4 students with their Mathematics by volunteering to help in lessons or in Numeracy sessions in tutor time. Some students volunteer as Maths mentors in local primary schools and others have helped deliver and plan a series of lessons to the Gifted and Talented mathematicians in local feeder schools.





STUDENT VIEWS



Maths at Highcliffe is amazing as the teachers recognise your passion for the subject and help in every way they can. The course is really interesting and Highcliffe is always a fascinating place to learn. There is a close community in Maths and it is easy to make friends as everyone supports each other. I particularly enjoy volunteering as a Maths mentor at a local Infants School. It is a great opportunity to share my love of Maths with younger students and I am finding it really rewarding watching the pupils develop their understanding further.

Michael Smith
Maths and Further Maths student

I think Further Maths is a great subject to study because it is a very useful qualification and has helped me gain a variety of excellent skills. It is fun and challenging as I am being stretched beyond my potential but I enjoy every lesson.

Madeleine Bell
Maths and Further Maths student





BIOLOGY | HUMAN BIOLOGY
| CHEMISTRY | PHYSICS |
HEALTH & SOCIAL CARE |
PSYCHOLOGY | CHILDCARE



The residential field trip in Year 13 is a highlight of the course and is a fantastic way to study practical Biology such as Marine Ecology on the Jurassic coast.

William Smith
Biology student



Science

At Highcliffe we offer the following Science subjects at AS and A level: Biology, Human Biology, Chemistry, Physics alongside a variety of Social Sciences: Psychology, Childcare and Health & Social Care.

All the Science subjects offer the opportunity to pursue a variety of career pathways such as: Research, Healthcare, Environmental Conservation, Education, Veterinary Science, Medicine, Marine Biology, Biotechnology, Agriculture, Food Science, Forensic Science, Astronomy/Space Industries, Computer Science, Dentistry, Electronics, Engineering, Materials Science, Pharmacy, Physiotherapy.

At Highcliffe there are eleven fully equipped and refurbished laboratories and an ICT laboratory with extra ICT for data logging and processing, digital microscopy, web browsing and interactive learning programmes via the school server.

All students are given textbooks relevant to their specification for the duration of their course in the Sixth Form and revision guides are also available. In addition there is a large amount of science resources available to students in the Learning Resource Centre, including scientific publications, which students can access for independent study. Science teachers have produced resources that can be accessed by students via the school's resources bank.

Recent Highcliffe student successes in Science include: studying Physics at both Oxford and Cambridge Universities, Biological Sciences at Oxford, Medicine at Oxford. Every year we have students who go on to study Medicine and a whole range of science related degree courses at top universities.

Extra-Curricular Opportunities

We offer a range of trips and visits to complement the Science courses including a residential field trip in the Purbecks, a visit to the Biomedical Imaging Unit at Southampton University Hospital, Institute of Physics lecture tours, Southampton University teatime lectures and Physics at Thorpe Park.

In addition we offer a range of extra-curricular activities including participating in the Engineering in Education Scheme in conjunction with the Royal Navy, entering the Biology, Chemistry and Physics Olympiads, Gold Crest Awards, and Nuffield Awards. We assist students in their applications for "A Year in Industry" placements and Headstart, Engineering based pre-university courses, provided by the Engineering Development Trust.

Sixth Form students are also involved in helping with Science and Eco-clubs in the lower school and promoting Science within the school, for example becoming involved as science mentors during Science Week.

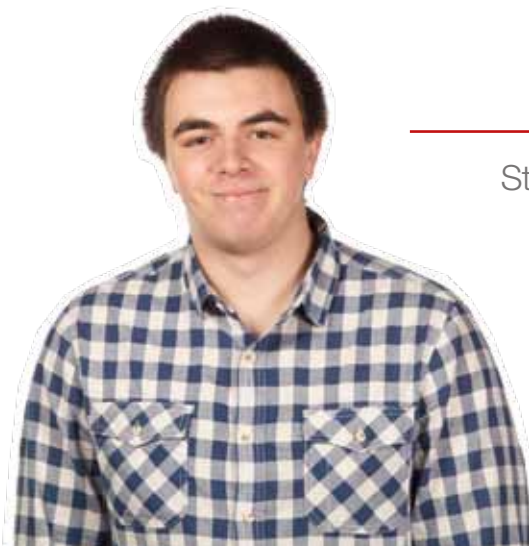




STUDENT VIEWS

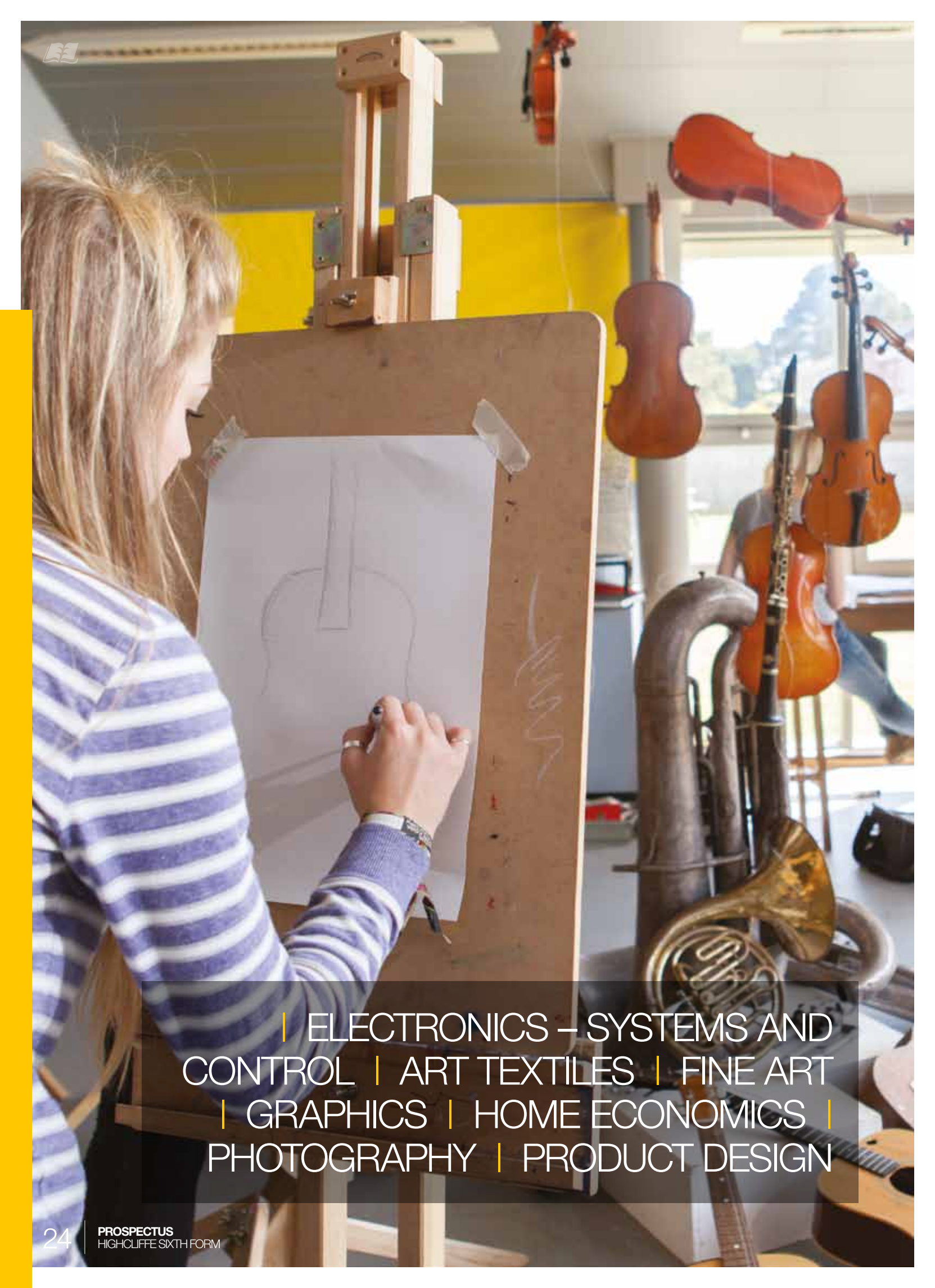
My first year at Highcliffe Sixth Form has been really enjoyable and inspiring. I chose to study Psychology because it is a subject that has always interested me and I would recommend it to anyone. The teachers are supportive, good fun and lessons are never boring. The subject will be very useful to help me progress onto the university course of my choice as I am planning to study Psychology and Criminology.

Millie Sawdon
Psychology student



Studying Chemistry at Highcliffe is amazing - the course content, teaching and team work every lesson are of an exceptionally high quality. Chemistry is a diverse and interesting subject that has helped me improve my analytical and research skills and get a place at a top university.

Jack Field
Chemistry and Biology student



| ELECTRONICS – SYSTEMS AND CONTROL | ART TEXTILES | FINE ART
| GRAPHICS | HOME ECONOMICS |
PHOTOGRAPHY | PRODUCT DESIGN



Art, Design and Technology

The quality of Art, Design and Technology education is fundamental to providing a dynamic future for the country. “The design process, at its best, integrates the aspirations of art, science and culture.”

The Da Vinci Centre is a vibrant, exciting and highly rewarding place to spend time. It is home to a diverse range of creative disciplines which are delivered by subject specialists to a level that far exceeds A level examination requirements. Facilities are second to none, with teaching areas that are light and spacious, software that is of industry standard and equipment which allows visual outcomes to be realised to a professional level. Teaching methods focus on enhancing the maturity of our students by utilising open-ended schemes of work. A strong focus on key academic skills develops confidence and diversity and enables progression to employment or prestigious university courses.

In the Da Vinci Centre we encourage our students to access our outstanding resources outside of lesson time. Year 12 and 13 students access workshops and studios at any time and often support lower school classes to enrich their learning. Individual tutorials take place frequently and assist our students in shaping their own learning.

Our students progress to a variety of careers and courses from Foundation Degrees to Marine Engineering Degrees.

A Level Product Design is fun and rewarding. The Da Vinci Centre has by far the best facilities for the subject out of all the local colleges that I have looked at and this influenced my decision to study at Highcliffe Sixth Form.

David Mills
Product Design student



Extra-Curricular Opportunities

We endeavour to provide our students with a rich experience when studying in the Da Vinci Centre.

We do this by organising a range of trips that enable students to be inspired and motivated by some of the very best work being produced by artists and designers, both nationally and internationally. The large museums and galleries of London and 'New Designers' exhibitions provide our students with the benchmark of quality for which we strive. Overseas trips are run to provide a cultural experience that adds depth to our students' study.

Competitions are entered which can enhance and extend our students' experiences. The Arkwright Scholarship is an example of how our students are encouraged to consider their future career path at Key Stage 4 to help provide funding and high level support at Key Stage 5.

Our Sixth Form students are inspirational to the rest of the school and their presence in other lessons provides role models for our younger students. Our A Level students regularly exhibit their work in public exhibitions and play a pivotal role in developing excellence within Art Design and Technology.





STUDENT VIEWS

The Art department, for me, provides the best possible resources, working environment and interaction between student and teacher to help prepare me for university and life afterwards. The constant feedback and moral support from Art, Photography and Graphics tutors ensures I keep on top of a busy work load and maintain a constant flow of superior work whilst remaining stress free and enjoying my courses. I can't express the amount of invaluable skills I have learned through my tuition. A range of highly and broadly skilled tutors shaped me into a student prepared for university.

Alexander Eatough
Art, Photography and Graphics student



I really love the atmosphere in Da Vinci; I feel as if I can go to any member of staff to get advice even if they are not my tutor. I enjoy getting opinions and ideas from other people and I like the fact that everyone is happy to discuss ideas. Next year I plan to go to the Bournemouth Arts Institute to do the foundation year and the links Highcliffe has with this institution has helped me to gain this opportunity and pushed me to achieve. In the future, I hope to go into the fashion industry, ideally specialising in fashion accessories. However, Highcliffe has also made me start to consider teaching as I have been inspired by the commitment and dedication of the staff.

Rebecca Meyrick
Art Textiles and Graphics student



| SPORTS SCIENCE & PHYSICAL
EDUCATION | NATIONAL DIPLOMA IN
SPORTS | PERFORMING ARTS:
ACTING | PERFORMING ARTS : DANCE
| MUSIC | MUSIC (PERFORMING) |
MUSIC TECHNOLOGY | COMMUNITY
SPORTS LEADER AWARD |
DANCE SPORTS LEADER AWARD



“ The course is really enjoyable because the modules such as Theatre in Education have given me the opportunity to work in other schools. ”

Expressive Arts

If you are interested in studying any of the Expressive Arts subjects in the Sixth Form, Highcliffe is the place to be.

The Expressive Arts curriculum area has gone from strength to strength at Highcliffe in recent years. The ethos is one that encourages mutual support and students to strive to be the best. Our most important aim is to continue to raise standards and provide further access to Dance, Drama, Music and Physical Education, while allowing students to develop as independent learners.

There is a full range of subjects across all areas, with BTEC Performing Arts (Dance), BTEC Performing Arts (Acting), A Levels in Music, Music Technology and BTEC Music (Performing), A Level Physical Education and the OCR National Diploma in Sport (double award). There is also the opportunity to extend your coaching skills in dance through the Community Sports Leader Award (CSLA) and Dance Sports Leader Award (DSL A).

All the curriculum areas have excellent resources, with the Dance Studio, Performance Hall and a wealth of music facilities, including fully equipped Music Technology rooms, with a suite of computers, each running a range of music software for composing, audio recording and editing and a bespoke recording studio. The PE facilities continue to develop with the recently refurbished Olympian Fitness Suite.

The teaching of all the Expressive Arts subjects is further enhanced by the highly trained specialists and the small group sizes that allow students to benefit from a supportive and caring environment that promotes effective learning. Revision lessons and academic mentoring sessions are available to support students with coursework and examination technique.

Studying an Expressive Arts subject can help students access a diverse number of career paths and a wide variety of Higher Education courses. Past students have gone onto become teachers, fitness coaches and managers, television presenters; others have gained access into some of the most elite and prestigious universities in their field. It can also support entry onto scholarships in the USA.

Extra-Curricular Opportunities

The extra-curricular opportunities at Highcliffe cover every curriculum area and are full of diversity.

Within the Acting course there are many opportunities for our students to work in other schools supporting students (giving performances, running workshops etc) across a wide age range of ages. Acting and Dance students have the chance to work with other professional practitioners in the Performing Arts field either in school or off site. There are also trips to see professional performances , such as Matthew Bourne's 'Early Adventures' and various Richard Alston pieces, while dance leaders help to choreograph main school pieces including the Pavilion Dance Show Case Performance of 'In Between the Lines'.

The Music team offer the Sixth Form Choir, 'Guitarmania' and Jazz Band. Music, Dance and Acting students have also taken lead roles in recent school productions such as 'We Will Rock You' as well as having the opportunity to be involved in school productions such as 'Into the Woods'.

Within Physical Education there are Football, Rugby, Netball and Rounders teams that compete in local and county competitions. Other enrichment activities include the Duke of Edinburgh and Sports Leader Awards, which give students the opportunity to coach within feeder schools and run local competitions.



STUDENT VIEWS



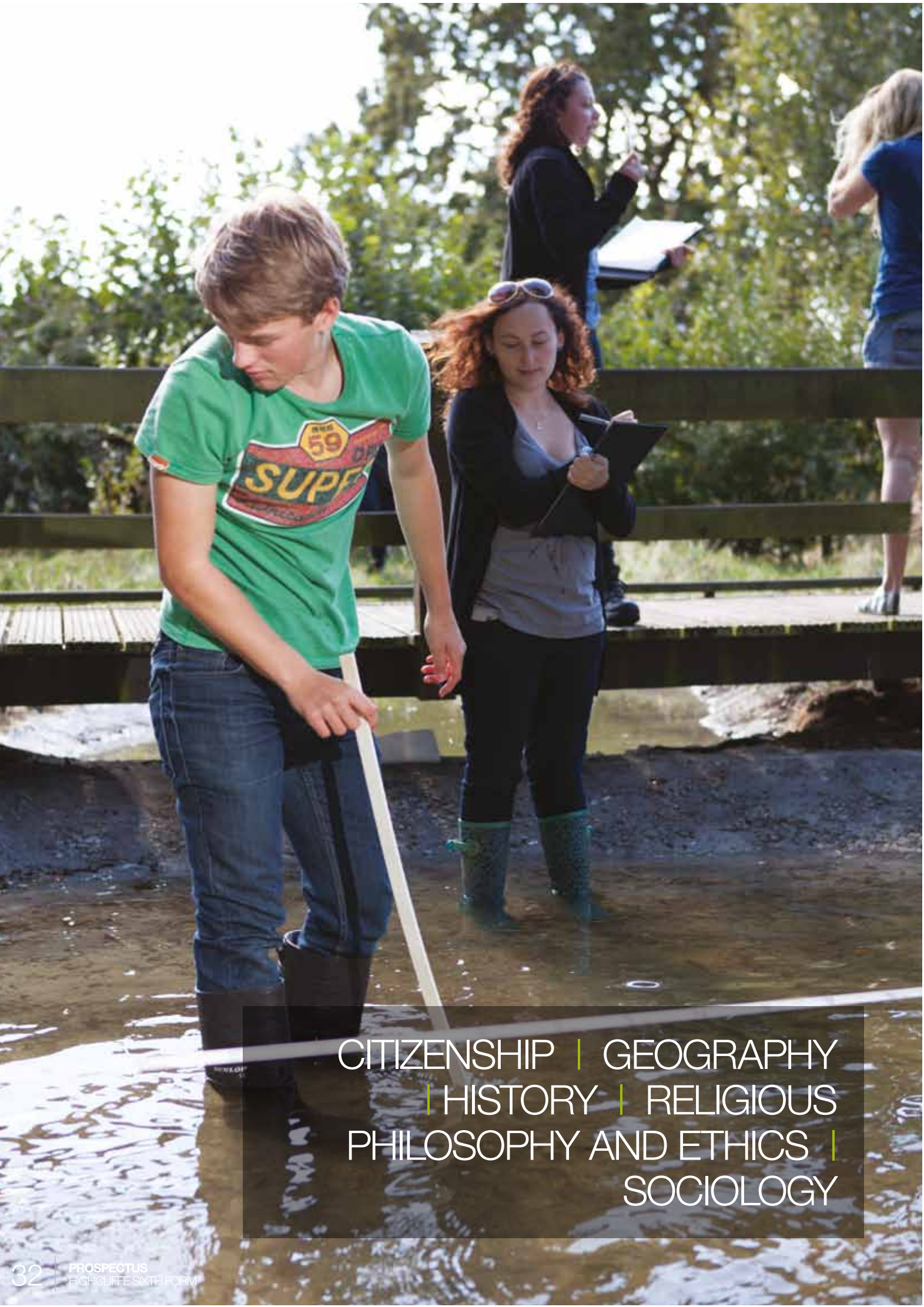
I chose PE because my aspiration is to gain a scholarship to America to play tennis. I felt this course would give me an ideal opportunity to develop my theoretical knowledge whilst allowing time to further my practical skill level. I chose Highcliffe because I already had a good relationship with the PE department and felt they already had an excellent knowledge of who I am and personally cared about my success. I also would have access to their gym which would allow me to train around my studies, and they were prepared to support me through my LTA Coaching Level 2. I also liked the environment that I had seen in the Sixth Form and wanted to be a part of it.

Dan Gilbert
Physical Education student

After studying GCSE Dance, I wanted to continue this subject through to the next level because I really enjoy Dance as it is a creative subject. This course also helps with my other subjects because I'm also studying Art Textiles, Photography and Media, so they all complement each other.

Emma Haughy
Dance Student





CITIZENSHIP | GEOGRAPHY
| HISTORY | RELIGIOUS
PHILOSOPHY AND ETHICS |
SOCIOLOGY



“ Each lesson we debate fascinating ethical and philosophical concepts, which we often continue to discuss outside of the classroom ”

Humanities

The Humanities curriculum offers a wide range of subjects which focus on the human dimension. The subjects studied all consider man’s interaction in a variety of different contexts – natural, scientific, technological, philosophical, historical, sociological, cultural, spiritual and moral.

The courses offer a unique opportunity to study different disciplines and embrace the knowledge that provides the basis for world civilisations, while at the same time developing students’ powers of self-expression and critical thinking.

Humanities subjects are taught in well-resourced rooms and students are encouraged to use the ICT facilities for independent study.

Employers know that Humanities students tend to be articulate, literate and cultured, with a high degree of knowledge and for this reason their career prospects are good. Humanities can lead to a wide variety of careers including Teaching, the Media, Journalism, Tourism, Local Government, Voluntary Agencies or Research.

I chose History at Highcliffe because it allowed me to learn and understand more about how the policies of our country, and subsequently other countries around the world, work. I think this interest is something that comes with age. I did not take up History until A level therefore the jump at the start of the year was a big one, but with the helpful teachers and a genuine interest in the subject it was easy for me to fit in to the course.

James Bonney
History Student



Extra-Curricular Opportunities

Humanities students have the opportunity to not only experience the extensive range of activities offered by the courses, but also to develop their confidence, responsibility, leadership and communication skills.

Departments organise a wide range of subject specific trips to complement the work undertaken in the classroom. There is also a range of visits and opportunities to develop new skills in foreign lands – cultural trips to Prague, Berlin and Auschwitz.

Students can attend residential fieldwork courses such as investigations into coastal processes in the Purbecks. As well as the A Level fieldwork trips, students also have the chance to take part in KS3 and KS4 trips as volunteers. Students have the opportunity for personal development by offering peer and mentoring support in humanities classes within the lower school. This is invaluable to our younger students and is an activity which universities and employers regard in a positive light.

Our A level students develop their active contribution to a wider society and have the opportunity to work in partnership with the local community, business and industry, to enhance opportunities for lifelong learning in the context of humanities.





STUDENT VIEWS



Geography is a subject which is hugely diverse. The transferable skills that Geography develops are an asset in the world of work today. Geography is compatible with many other A levels due to the extensive variety of skills and issues studied throughout the course. I chose Geography purely because I enjoy it, but during the course I found that the skills I had learned could be used to aid me in my other subjects. At A level you combine both Human and Physical Geography. Geography is all about the past, present and future and encourages flexible thinking within both education and social affairs.

Haydn Bower
Geography Student

I have enjoyed studying A-level History because it has enabled me to explore historical events, such as the political emancipation of women, which have played an important role in shaping today's democratic society. History has helped me to develop my writing technique and has encouraged me to become an independent thinker. It is also a subject that is highly regarded by all the universities! I intend to use the skills that I have gained to study History at the University of Exeter which I hope will enable me to progress onto a career with the Civil Service.

"We are not makers of history. We are made by history."
Martin Luther King, Jr

Abi Stocker
History Student





BUSINESS STUDIES |
INFORMATION
COMMUNICATION
TECHNOLOGY |
COMPUTING |



“ ICT is a great subject to study and is a good qualification to have on your CV as it is useful for any career path. ”

ICT

A career in Business and IT in the next few years will involve working with technologies that are going to be even more transformational than the amazing changes we have already seen.

Highcliffe benefits from a team of teachers with a wealth of relevant business and ICT experience and has outstanding facilities. There are five purpose built ICT suites which boast the latest computer equipment and industry standard software. The faculty subscribes to numerous websites and learning packages allowing students to study independently outside of school.

The world in which we live is dominated by businesses big and small. Businesses are dynamic organisations which reflect the values of society and the people working within them. A study of business will help you to gain an insight into both.

As the IT Industry is forecast to grow five times faster than the UK average there will be over half a million new IT professionals needed over the next five years.

A Level Business and IT complement many other A Level choices and will enhance your opportunities at degree level and beyond. In recent years several students have continued their studies in subjects ranging from Computer Science to Business Administration. A recent student of A Level Computing, Stephen Hutt, was awarded a scholarship to study in California for a year as part of his Computer Science degree at the University of York.

I chose Computing initially because I thought it would allow me to have a bit of variety in my courses while studying something that I was really interested in. The content was different to what I was expecting, but I think this has led to me enjoying the subject even more because of the new things that I learn in every lesson. I have been enthralled by the course, as the theory and the practical programming have allowed me to greatly enhance my understanding of computers and how they work.

Josh Carter
Computing student

Extra-Curricular Opportunities

There is a wealth of extra-curricular opportunities for ICT, Computing and Business students at Highcliffe. The curriculum area has numerous contacts within the local business community and as a result there are trips to local businesses designed to consolidate student learning by experiencing first-hand what is taught in the classroom.

In addition to these trips we have guest speakers from local business and visiting lecturers from Bournemouth University who are able to engage students in areas of interest beyond the curriculum.

Sixth Form students are also given the opportunity to compete against students from other schools in the Team Enterprise Competition and Student Investor in which students manage their own share portfolio and track their investments.

Students from the curriculum area also have the opportunity to earn some extra pocket money by running the ICT club at lunchtimes for students in KS3 or KS4. This enables students to develop the skills needed to manage a classroom environment, act as role models for students from across the school and develop their leadership and communications skills.





STUDENT VIEWS

I chose to study ICT and Computing as they are both interesting subjects that will help with my career choices. I find that the subjects are taught very well and the facilities at Highcliffe are excellent. Not only are they fun and exciting areas to learn more about, they are also challenging and help improve other skills such as typing and problem-solving, which can be used across many other subject areas.

Mitchell Clay
ICT and Computing student



In Business Studies, the assignment topics are all very interesting and they relate to real-life events too so not only do you learn about Business, but also the world around you. I particularly like the fact that it is completely coursework based, so you don't have to worry about exams and you are given feedback on your coursework drafts which helps you improve your overall grade.

Becky Swain
Business Studies Student





FRENCH | GERMAN |
ITALIAN | SPANISH | LATIN |
FOREIGN LANGUAGE LEADER AWARD



“ I enjoy French because it is interesting to be able to access an entirely different culture through studying the language. I know that it will help me to stand out from the crowd when I apply for jobs in the future. ”

Modern Foreign Languages

Studying a language at A Level opens up a world of opportunities and with the growing trend towards globalisation and transitory workforces, proficiency in a foreign language has never been so important. Students develop their fluency and understanding of their chosen language, as well as learning about the history, culture and topical social and political issues that affect people around the globe.

Highcliffe Modern Foreign Languages Department is extremely well-equipped with two purpose built language laboratories (with one specifically for Sixth Form). We have a foreign language assistant for each language and every Sixth Form student benefits from weekly speaking practice in small groups or one to one. We also subscribe to numerous websites and magazines, allowing students to work independently on their language skills outside of school.

Having another language can increase your salary by 8 - 20% (CILT) and opens up a whole range of career opportunities, whether you are looking to work in law, education, business, tourism or government, to name but a few areas. A Level Languages also complement many other A Level choices and further enhance your opportunities at degree level and beyond. In recent years several of our students have continued their language studies at some of the country's top universities. Some chose to study Languages with another specialism, such as Law or Economics, opening a gateway to a whole plethora of careers.

Extra-Curricular Opportunities

Studying languages at Highcliffe Sixth Form offers a wealth of extra-curricular opportunities. Students have the opportunity to travel to countries where their chosen language is spoken. Recent trips have included a Spanish exchange in Andalucía and a French work experience trip to Normandy, where students spent a week perfecting their language skills.

Many of our linguists also choose to study the Foreign Language Leader Award. This lunchtime class provides students with the skills needed to teach languages to younger students with the eventual aim of teaching a lesson to Year 7 or primary school pupils. These students also help out with many trips and activities for younger students, providing excellent experience for their university or job applications.

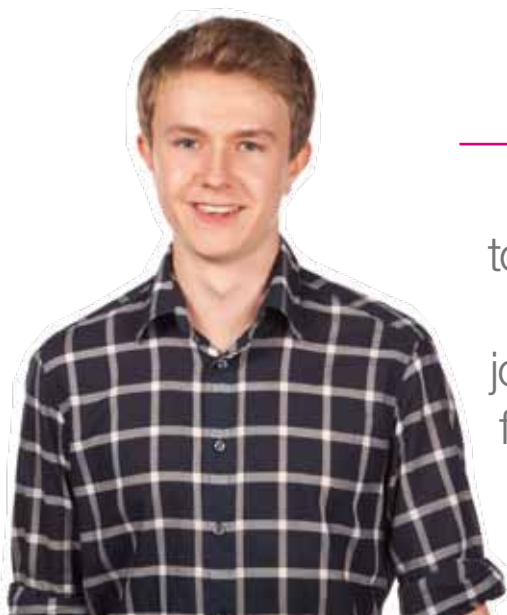
Sixth Form students are also given many other opportunities in the Modern Foreign Languages Department. Recently students have had the opportunity to take part in South West Routes into Languages Speaking Competition, the European Union Translation Competition and the Highcliffe Primary Languages Festival amongst many others.



STUDENT VIEWS

I chose Italian and German as I intend to use them in my career. I like the fact that they are so culturally and linguistically different. Languages give you extra employability and career prospects as well as opportunities of travelling, meeting new people and learning about new cultures. Through studying languages, I have definitely improved my conversation and communication skills that are essential for any field of work as well as daily life.

Francesca Crisante
Italian and German student



Great teaching, engaging topics and an invaluable life skill in the increasingly international jobs market – these were just a few of the reasons that I chose to study French.

Will Holyhead
French Student



Student Life

“Leaders listen to students’ views.” OFSTED

The Highcliffe Experience

We offer a comprehensive programme of enrichment activities, social events and trips based on student interests. Students will meet new people, broaden their skills and experience and impress future employers.

Student Leadership and the wider community

The Sixth Form committee, led by our Head Girl and Head Boy, is here to support and enhance student life in the Sixth Form. The committee is run by students for students and meets regularly to voice the opinions of the Sixth Form as well as making key decisions about forthcoming events and activities in the wider school community.

We recognise the importance of developing leadership skills and the range of opportunities we offer is outstanding. Roles within the student leadership team are extensive. They range from encouraging and mentoring younger students to develop their self-confidence and communication skills, delivering assemblies, taking part in school presentations and organising social and charity events.

Students make a real impact on the school and the local community by contributing towards Global Rock performances, running Debate and Amnesty International clubs, following a community service programme such as Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme, undertaking the planning and organisation of sporting events for local school children and becoming involved in Mentoring schemes or the Foreign Language or Sport Leadership Awards.



Extra-Curricular opportunities, Trips and Visits

Extra-curricular activities are diverse and include school productions, concerts, sporting clubs, language courses, first aid qualifications and work experience. Social events such as the induction day to Calshot Activities Centre, paintballing, bowling, ski bobbing, Go Ape, shopping trips to London, quiz nights and Freshers' parties offer lots of opportunities to build new friendships.

Trips to Madagascar, India, Vietnam/Cambodia, Japan, America and Europe offer students the opportunity to broaden horizons and experience different cultures. Curriculum based trips such as the Spanish exchange in Andalucía and work experience in Normandy, enhance students' language skills. University visits, Southampton Hospital pathology unit trip, field trips, museums/gallery tours and theatre productions are just a taster of the visits we run that enrich student experiences and learning outside of the classroom.

Quotes

James Bonney

Going to India changed my perspective on everything. It made me realise that there is a world beyond the classroom. This trip was totally insightful and inspiring and I will never forget it!

Alice Kingham

The Calshot Induction Trip was a great way to start off the year. It enabled us to meet our fellow Sixth Form students and the people in our tutor group. It was great fun and really broke the ice between you and the people you didn't know.

Joe Herbert

My favourite trip was Snowboarding in Vermont, USA. I went from an absolute beginner to a confident boarder in a week. We also went to New York which was an amazing experience!

Josie Dear

I particularly enjoyed the Oxbridge Trip as it was very inspiring and motivated me to try and achieve the best I can. I also really liked the London art trip to the Tate Modern and National Gallery as I was able to experience the work of some of my favourite artists.



**Gifted &
Talented**
Lead school





Highcliffe School

11-18 Academy & Specialist College

Highcliffe School | Parkside | Highcliffe | Christchurch | Dorset | BH23 4QD
t. 01425 282 322 | e. sixth@highcliffeschool.com | www.highcliffe6thform.com

Registered in England and Wales Company Number: 07631213

All information provided in this booklet is correct at time of going to press October 2012