



**ROOKS HEATH  
COLLEGE**

*opportunity through learning*



# Creating Opportunities for Everyone

We aim to ensure that our Sixth Form students achieve the highest levels in all areas of their curriculum, and continue to develop their full potential as independent learners to prepare them as fully as possible for the life after Rooks Heath.

We seek to fulfill our aims through:

Providing Sixth Form students, via the Harrow Collegiate, with a wide variety of challenging, yet accessible, courses.

Ensuring that students receive the highest quality teaching.

Supporting students to develop independent study skills, providing a quiet study area in the Sixth Form Study Room and the main school, access to ICT and to independent learning resources through our developing Virtual Learning Environment (Canvas).

Providing excellent pastoral support and home/school links through a team of committed and approachable Sixth Form Tutors.

Working with students to set realistic but challenging targets for achievement.

Presenting students with a broad range of extra-curricular opportunities, including work experience that will help to develop self-confidence, leadership skills, active citizenship and enterprise capabilities.

Undertaking regular monitoring of students progress, resulting in early identification of students who require extra guidance and support to reach their targets.

Providing individual guidance for students on routes into university and work based learning.

Ensuring that students' successes in all areas of their Sixth Form experience are recognised and valued.



# From the Head of Sixth Form

I am delighted that you are considering entering the Sixth Form at Rooks Heath College. I am very proud of our students and their achievements, and hope that this brochure will give you a flavour of the opportunities available at the Sixth Form in Rooks Heath.

Of course, academic success will be high on your list of priorities when considering sixth form colleges, and I can ensure you I believe that every student, who has a high level of commitment and is on a programme of study well suited to their individual needs, can excel at Rooks Heath. Excellent, dedicated teachers provide a strong foundation of stimulating teaching, personal tutoring and guidance that support all students to achieve their goals. Furthermore, academic skills enrichment, citizenship and personal development are placed at the heart of Sixth Form life.

The Sixth Form at Rooks Heath College offers students:

- Diversity and choice through an extensive range of subjects and types of courses, offering more choice than ever to students. We offer 27 subjects at Advanced Level at Rooks Heath and in excess of 40 throughout the Harrow Collegiate which students study as an 'away' subject. For students who prefer more coursework based subjects we are offering 9 BTEC Level 3 subjects.
- Purpose-built accommodation to enable them to study in appropriate and comfortable surroundings.
- A dynamic and wide-ranging programme of enrichment activities including: educational trips and visits; sport; enterprise and leadership activities.

The Sixth Form at Rooks Heath College is well established and popular. With careful guidance, which begins now and continues throughout Years 12 and 13, we seek to achieve the very best for each and every student. The fact that over 90% of our students continue to Higher or Further Education is testimony to their success and to the ethos that we create at Rooks Heath.

I look forward to welcoming you in September 2020.



**Adam Wright**  
**Head of Sixth Form**



# Achievement

Rooks Heath College Sixth Form values high achievement and we want every student to realise his or her potential. Examination results are one of the key measures of our achievement and indicate the individual successes of our students.

Our A level results are consistently at the national average. In 2019, students achieved an A\*- E pass rate of 97.1%. The overall ALPS Value Added score for Year 13 was graded as "good". The majority of our students achieved the outcome expected from their GCSE performance, which is a measure of the good progress they make. For students, the most important measure of success is in achieving their aspirations for higher education and careers and in 2019, once again, over 80% of our students who went on to university did so to either their first or second choice institutions. This included students taking up places at Oxford University, UCL and Imperial College.

Achievement in BTEC Level 3 courses has been consistently excellent since introducing them in 2013. In 2019, 48% of grades awarded were at least Distinction and 100% of students achieved at least a pass. All of our BTEC students who wanted to go to university received the guidance they needed to ensure they secured a place at university.

Students show the varied attributes of enterprising citizens, displaying a "can do" attitude and seeking to solve problems, not avoid them. We believe in developing each student's potential wherever his or her individual talents lie. A commitment to realising this potential is the essential foundation for Sixth Form success.

## Facilities

### **The Sixth Form Centre**

In 2009 the Sixth Form moved into new purpose-built study rooms to provide a quiet working environment for Sixth Form students.

### **Facilities for Independent Study**

Students are encouraged to manage their time effectively and to use the lessons when they are not timetabled for independent study. This is important preparation for higher education. The study room is equipped with 25 networked computers, exclusively for Sixth Form independent study, providing access to the whole-school network, broadband internet and e-learning resources. In addition to these, Sixth Form students have access to computer facilities around the school throughout and, indeed, after the school day. A well-resourced Sixth Form area of the main school library is a pleasant and quiet area in which to work. The College has a VLE (Canvas) allowing students access to high quality learning resources at home.

# Guidance and Monitoring

## The Tutorial System

Each student is placed in a Sixth Form Tutor Troup led by an experienced Form Tutor. Tutors give guidance and advice concerning courses, monitor progress on a regular basis and maintain contact with parents. They are a first point of contact for parents and are readily available for consultation. Staff at the school are approachable and accessible, and students feel confident about seeking advice and support.

Reports and Parents' Meetings occur each year to provide formal feedback on student progress. Performance is tracked by comparing current levels of performance against ALPS generated target grades, and feedback is provided to students and parents on what is being achieved. Tutors and subject teachers provide guidance regarding ways in which students should approach their studies to secure their targets.

## Higher Education Advice and Careers Guidance

The weekly tutorial programme provides the focus for Higher Education and Careers Guidance. Students are helped to consider the range of pathways that are available to them through speakers invited to College and a Higher Education and Careers Convention. Students are given detailed guidance and information to help them with the university admissions process which includes encouragement to attend University open days. All students are expected to complete relevant work experience in Year 12 and we have an experienced team to support placements. Students aiming to apply to Oxbridge universities are invited to attend a support programme at Harrow School in the summer term which includes university visits. Students interested in pursuing a career in medicine or dentistry are supported with all aspects of their application including obtaining relevant work experience and courses to help with entrance exams.



# The Sixth Form Curriculum

The Sixth Form curriculum means that students have the opportunity to:

- Study a range of A Level subjects – 4 in Year 12 and 3 in Year 13.
- Study a range of popular and relevant BTEC Level 3 subjects.
- Study a mixture of A Levels and BTECs that meet their individual needs.

## Advanced level

In Year 12, students study for an Advanced Subsidiary (AS) qualification. They generally study 4 subjects and, depending on progress, students are assessed either through external or internal assessments at the end of Year 12. Students need to show good progress within a subject throughout Year 12 in order to continue to Year 13. Students who fail to demonstrate good progress in at least 3 Year 12 subjects will be offered an alternative programme of study for Year 13.

In Year 13, students who have demonstrated good progress in Year 12 will continue studying the 3 subjects they were most successful in and complete the full Advanced Level Award by sitting external exams in the summer.

## BTEC Level 3 Nationals

Students study one BTEC Diploma (equivalent to 2 A Levels) topped up with a second BTEC Extended Certificate (1 A level) or, for suitably qualified students, an A Level.

## GCSE Maths and English

It is compulsory for students who have achieved in a Grade 3 or lower in GCSE Maths or English Language to follow a timetabled programme of at least 2 hours per week to help them prepare them for their GCSE re-sits in November or June.





# The Sixth Form Curriculum

## A Level route:

If you have 6 or more GCSEs at Grade 5 or above (including at least Grade 5 in Maths and English Language) you can choose to follow a programme of 4 AS Level subjects from the following:

### A Levels

- Ancient Greek
- Art (Fine)
- Art & Design
- Biology
- Business Studies
- Chemistry
- Computer Science
- DT Product Design
- DT Textiles
- Drama & Theatre Studies
- Economics
- English Literature
- Film Studies
- French
- Further Maths
- Geography
- German
- History
- Latin
- Mathematics
- Media Studies
- Photography
- Physics
- Psychology
- Religious Studies
- Sociology
- Sport and PE

## BTEC National Level 3 route

If you have 5 or more GCSEs at Grade 4 and above; including a Grade 4 in either GCSE Maths or English Language you can choose to follow a Level 3 BTEC National programme of study. The BTECs being offered are:

Health and Social Care, IT, Business Studies, Music, Media, Performing Arts, Applied Science, Sport and a Level 3 Applied Diploma in Criminology.



# Enrichment within the Sixth Form

The Sixth Form Experience at Rooks Heath is broad and enriching. An Enrichment Officer provides the guidance, structure and support needed to develop these activities to ensure student experiences are as rewarding as possible.

**Enterprise:** Sixth Form students have the opportunity to develop their enterprise skills through a range of schemes, such as the Young Enterprise Entrepreneur Masterclass which involves teaching Enterprise at a local primary school. Also, there are many charity fundraising opportunities, such as Comic Relief, in which the Sixth Form are encouraged to participate. Not only do these activities give students the opportunity to develop important skills, but also provide a sense of personal satisfaction and enjoyment.

**School Visits/Residential Trips:** Out-of-school activities enhance our Sixth Form curriculum. The annual Art trip visits the Tate Modern and Physicists have had the opportunity to visit CERN in Switzerland. Geography students undertake field work in North Norfolk and London Docklands, and Biology students go to Epping Forest and the Natural History Museum. The Freud Museum has been visited by Psychology students, and Business Studies students go to Woburn Safari Park. Economic students gain an insight into monetary affairs by a visit to the Bank of England. Students also undertake curriculum related trips to galleries, theatres and universities.

**Music, Drama and Sports:** Sixth Form students continue to develop their varied talents and use them to contribute within the school and the wider community. From the annual Christmas Pantomime and musicals, to football and netball, the opportunities are numerous and the achievements are outstanding.

**Student Council:** Each Year Group in school has a representative on the Student Council. In the Sixth Form, Year 12 and 13 Council members work together to be the student voice and to organise events to support the learning and the social activities of Sixth Form students. They are also consulted about a range of school matters, such as the appropriateness of facilities and effectiveness of our guidance and support systems.

Our Sixth Form students demonstrate a remarkable talent for balancing academic commitment with a busy social life! The friendships made and cemented in our Sixth Form are testimony to the closeness and good humour which characterise our student body.

