



ROOKS HEATH SCHOOL

Strive to be your best

The background of the lower half of the page features a collage of student photos. Overlaid on this is a large, semi-transparent blue letter 'G'. The words 'Sixth' and 'Form' are written in a bold, yellow, sans-serif font across the middle of the 'G' and the background. 'Sixth' is positioned to the left of the vertical stroke of the 'G', and 'Form' is positioned to the right, with the horizontal bar of the 'G' passing through the middle of both words.

Sixth Form

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, through our partnership with the Harrow Sixth Form 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 IT and to independent learning resources through our developing Virtual Learning Environment (Teams and Sharepoint).

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 and leadership 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 School. 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 offers students:

- Diversity and choice through an extensive range of subjects and types of courses which offers more choice than ever to students. We offer 20 subjects at Advanced Level at Rooks Heath and nearly 40 throughout the Harrow Collegiate which students study as an away subject. For students who prefer more coursework based subjects we are offering 8 BTEC level 3 courses and a WJEC Applied Diploma in Criminology.
- New, purpose-built accommodation to enable them to study in appropriate and comfortable surroundings.
- A dynamic and wide-ranging programme of leadership and enrichment activities including: work experience, educational visits; sport and careers based activities.

The Sixth Form at Rooks Heath School 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 2024.



Adam Wright
Head of Sixth Form

Achievement

Rooks Heath School 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 results are consistently at or above the national average. In 2023, students achieved an A level A*-C pass rate of 71% with 18% of A level grades awarded at A*-A. Achievement in our vocational subjects such as BTEC level 3 courses has been consistently strong since their introduction in 2013. In 2023, 67% of the grades awarded were either Distinction* or Distinction. Consequently, our students make very good progress and had a positive Value Added score of 0.17.

The majority of our students achieve the Level 3 outcome expected from their GCSE performance, which is a measure of the strong progress they make. For many students, the most important measure of success is in achieving their aspirations for higher education and careers and in 2023, once again, the majority of our students who went on to university did so at their first choice institution. We are very proud of our student's achievement. This year, that includes a student who achieved 4 A*s at A level and has gone on to study Mechanical Engineering at Imperial College, London. Furthermore, over the last 5 years we have placed no less than three students at the University of Oxford. No mean achievement for a small sixth form such as ours!

In addition to academic success, 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 September 2022 the Sixth Form moved into a new purpose-built study room to provide a quiet and spacious 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 networked computers and dedicated laptops, exclusively for use during Sixth Form independent study, providing access to the whole-school network 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 Sixth Form area of the main school library is a pleasant and quiet area in which to work. The School has a VLE (SharePoint and Teams) 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 group 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/AS 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. There is also the opportunity to study the WJEC Applied Diploma in Criminology. In order to continue to year 13, students need to demonstrate good progress commensurate with their target grades.

GCSE Mathematics and English

It is compulsory for students who have achieved in a grade 3 or lower in GCSE Mathematics 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 level 5 at 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)
- Biology
- Business Studies
- Chemistry
- Chinese (Mandarin)
- Computer Science
- Economics
- English Literature
- Film Studies
- Further Mathematics
- Geography
- History
- Latin
- Mathematics
- Media Studies
- Physics
- Psychology
- Sociology
- Sport and PE

BTEC National Level 3 route

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

Business Studies, Creative Digital Media Production, Health and Social Care, IT, Music, Science (Applied), 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.

Student Leadership: Sixth Form students have the opportunity to develop their Leadership skills through a range of opportunities, such as Literacy and Numeracy Ambassadors, Social Media Captains and On-Track Senior Prefects. Also, there are charity fundraising opportunities such as the London to Brighton Bike Ride for the BHF and Comic Relief which the sixth form are encouraged to form an integral part of. 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. 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 have visited 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 outstanding.

Sixth Form 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.

