





Sixth Form Prospectus Intake September 2022

Many of us will look back at our own sixth form experience with great fondness, and it is our intention to make the two years spent at Hanley Castle Sixth Form the best years of students' lives.

A unique Sixth Form provider

Over the last decade our Sixth Form has been transformed. With approximately 100 students in each year group, we provide the highest quality of teaching, alongside the very best levels of support and opportunity where every student is known as an individual.

Whether students are targeting Oxford, Cambridge, Russell Group or other universities – or seeking qualifications as a preparation for work or apprenticeships – Hanley Castle can offer tailored provision for students of all aptitudes and abilities.

"It's a fabulous environment. There are strong relationships which enable staff to nurture students very well. Our son was understood as an individual, so staff were able to identify when and how to support and challenge him in order to help him progress and develop."

Parent

Outstanding support

Sixth Form life is rewarding, stimulating and enjoyable. Friendships are strong and students welcome the dedication of staff, who go the "extra mile" to ensure their wellbeing. Students immerse themselves in a range of extra-curricular and community focussed activities that further develop them as young adults and support the development of others. Young people and staff alike feel part of a special team.



Mrs Lindsey Cooke with our 2021 Lechmere Medal Winner

Achievement matters

Worcestershire School of the Year 2018

Students of all abilities enjoy considerable academic success. What matters to us is your positive attitude and a genuine commitment to achievement.

Our Sixth Form has the vision, the staff and the facilities to deliver the high quality education of which parents, staff and students feel proud. It is an important part of our school that commands considerable respect throughout Worcestershire and beyond. We hope that you see it as the best place to continue your learning and as a springboard to your success beyond Sixth Form.

We look forward to meeting you. Do contact Mr Sam Cook, Assistant Headteacher, Post-16 Studies, for further information or to arrange a visit.

Welcome
Lindsey Cooke, Headteacher

Sixth Form Leadership



Mr Cook, Assistant Headteacher, Post-16 Studies, Mrs Skelton (Assistant Head of Sixth Form), Mrs Eaton (KS5 Administrator)

Vision Statement

Hanley Castle Sixth Form is a positive, productive and supportive learning environment that produces confident, optimistic and resilient young adults who achieve outstanding academic qualifications and thrive in outstanding post-18 destinations.



Mrs Emma Skelton, Mr Sam Cook and Mrs Jane Eaton

¹⁴Leadership of the Sixth Form is strong. ⁷⁷
Ofsted

Challenge

On a daily basis you will be challenged to achieve your own personal level of excellence, whether academically or through supporting the many initiatives and opportunities available beyond the classroom. Our aim is for students to learn how to succeed in the real world, not just how to excel in their exams.

"I am so impressed by the encouragement Year 12 have from the very start of Sixth Form life to get involved with charity work, committees or mentoring programmes."

Parent

Personalised Curriculum

Hanley Castle Sixth Form offers bespoke
Career Pathways support in a range of areas.
These pathways include:
Law, Criminology, Medicine, Veterinary
Science, Pharmacy, Coaching, Teaching,
Humanities, Journalism, STEM, Architecture,
Events, Tourism and Hospitality and
Oxbridge. These pathways will allow you to
learn from the experts to get ahead of the
competition.

Outstanding outcomes

Tailored pathways supported students like Sophie to read Medicine at Southampton University and Jamie to read Law at Oxford University. He is joined at Oxford by Georgia reading French and Portuguese. Over the last five years, successful applications from Hanley included: Oxford for Mathematics, History, Biological Sciences, Geography, Economics and MFL; Cambridge for Natural Sciences, Veterinary Science and Architecture and also students reading Law, Dentistry and Medicine. Others have used their BTECs to embark on primary teaching degrees or high profile apprenticeships.

Outstanding Opportunities

'Extra-curricular' opportunities are many and varied. They enrich your Sixth Form life, develop our sense of community and make you attractive to universities and employers for the next stage of your life. Whether you are into sports, the Arts, charity work, the 'great outdoors', supporting other students or developing your leadership skills there is something here for you.



Leadership opportunities

A large number of students immerse themselves in committees that shape Sixth Form life and support peers and younger students alike.

The student body is represented by the Head Boy and Head Girl and their Deputies. Students are elected to these posts annually by every member of the school community and the Deputies represent Sixth Form on the school council.

Other leadership roles undertaken by Sixth Form students include:

- · Chair of Sixth Form Committee
- · Chair of Charity Committee
- Social Media Committee
- Sports Captains
- Arts Ambassador
- College Captains
- Emotional Intelligence and Social Awareness Committee
- The Pelican (student newspaper)

Any student can stand for these roles, and is elected by Year 12 and 13 students.

⁴⁴The Head Boy and Girl are wonderful ambassadors for the school. They make an insightful input at Governor level. ⁷⁷

Chair of Governing Body

Hanley Castle High School Societies

Hanley Castle Sixth Form offers the opportunity for students to join our societies, just like they would at University. These include Law, Medics, Journalism, STEM and many more. School Societies offer opportunities to talk with like-minded students, share ideas and plans to make your dream careers a reality.

Impact of Sixth Form student leadership

Our Sixth Form leadership team, made up of the Head Boy and Girl and their Deputies, have led outstanding improvements to Sixth Form. They are positive ambassadors and represent the school at local and national events. They have played a key role in the fundraising for and the design of the new Sixth Form building and the new team is currently working to further develop the student mentoring programme to include academic student mentors for the lower years.

Our Head Boy and Head Girl are invited to contribute to the work of the Governing Body and the Deputies chair our School Council to ensure that the student voice is included in strategic decisions on school development.

Facilities

Students are privileged to use our modern, state of the art, Sixth Form Centre which provides an outstanding environment to support independent and collaborative learning. It has a university feel due to its quiet, purposeful working areas, providing students with:

- a library
- silent study and group study rooms
- a large common room
- Sixth Form weight room and gym
- teaching rooms
- a conference room
- office space for support and careers advice

We believe that a trait unique to Hanley is the incredible network of support received by every student, not only from the committed staff but from each and every peer throughout the school. Success, both academic and personal, thrives in such an environment and at Hanley we are immensely proud of each other's achievements. This is complemented by an inclusive, welcoming atmosphere, giving all students the chance to get to know each other. The sense of community provides a foundation from which students feel comfortable pursuing new horizons.



Ollie Cooke and Izzy Quinn (Head Boy and Head Girl)



The students here are given a strong voice, not only in Sixth Form where various committees allow greater independence, but also through an effective school council, made possible by a genuine desire from students to actively participate in school life. The broad range of opportunities available to our students allow them to become more rounded and gain valuable experience for the future. We feel privileged to represent such an outstanding student body.

Back row - Georgina Anderson-Ilic, Jess Shaw, Rebecca Palmer
Middle row - Jodie Williams, Imogen Jammal, Grace Merchant
Front row - Maddy Davighi-Edwards, Ollie Cooke (Heads of General Committee)

Lessons are individually tailored and delivered by enthusiastic and dedicated teaching staff, giving every student a challenging and interesting environment in which to work. Support and guidance, primarily from highly experienced tutors, are key features of life at Hanley, which is reflected in students' exceptional exam results and their superb attitude to learning.



Imogen Jammal and Noah Wroughton (Deputy Head Girl and Deputy Head Boy)



There is a wide variety of extra-curricular activities to complement learning, from musical ensembles to sports teams. Whether it is an informal gathering or competitive tournament, there is something for everyone. This provides an excellent environment in which students of all interests can flourish.

Back row - Noah Wroughton, Oli Turner
Front row - Darcy Milner, Izzy Quinn, Grace Merchant
(Heads of Social and Sports Committees)



Application and Induction

October	Course advice on website	
December	Open Evening –Thursday 2nd December 5.45pm	
December	Application deadline for HCHS Year 11 students*	
January/Feb	Interviews	
March/April	Places on courses allocated	
August	Exam Results Day – advice and confirmation of courses	
September	Induction	

^{*} We accept later applications from students from other schools

"Numbers have increased rapidly because students enjoy their learning."

Ofsted

Personalising your pathway

The Key Stage 5 Team supports every student in choosing the most appropriate types of courses for their Level 3 success.

This might be 3 or 4 A levels, a BTEC package, or a combination of BTECs and A levels.

Time allocation

Each subject will be taught in approximately 9 hours per fortnight. In addition to this students are expected, in all subjects, to spend at least the same amount of time (a total of 20 hours per week is recommended) on independent study, research and homework.

Course Entry Criteria

Our general Sixth Form entry requirement is 5 GCSEs at grades 4 - 9. However, certain subjects advise a 5 or even a 6 in that subject to continue to A level. Entry to BTEC courses is considered on an individual basis. Please see subject sheets on our website. We always consider entry on a student by student basis.

16-19 Study Programme



Students are entitled to an educational provision which allows them to maximise their learning, their progress and their outcomes. Our Study Programme details specifically what students are entitled to and their responsibilities as learners. It includes high quality Information, Advice and Guidance in relation to post-18 progression (which is supported by a seminar programme for the university and apprenticeship pathways), supportive mentoring from their tutor, an expectation that each student will carry out a minimum of 25 hours of volunteering as part of the Hanley Honours award system, and a work experience placement. In return, all students can benefit from achieving their Hanley Honours, which rewards them for working hard, being role models in and out of school, and meeting our high expectations for attendance and their attitude to learning. This Study Programme enables our students to grow as independent learners, preparing them to achieve outstanding outcomes at the end of Year 13 and beyond.

Very effective teaching means that students' attitudes to learning in the Sixth Form are outstanding. Ofsted

Things to consider

- Choose subjects in which you are most enthusiastic, confident and likely to succeed.
- Think carefully about the advice from your own teachers, tutor and careers advisor.
- Look carefully at the requirements of universities and degree courses that interest you.
- Think about the assessment methods for different types of courses, for example whether this is mainly by exams or coursework.
- Consider which subjects go best together. Certain 'facilitating' subjects (see page 9) will offer students a greater number of degree courses, and may be a requirement for entry into some universities.
- Research the courses that we offer.

 Details of these can be found on our website,
 https://www.hanleycastle.worcs.sch.uk/sixthform/sixth-form-open-events/ Speak to
 teachers who run the courses, and visit our
 Open Evening. In addition, you are welcome
 to contact the school via the Sixth Form
 Office.

Applying from HCHS

All applications are on line and can be accessed via

https://www.hanleycastle.worcs.sch.uk/sixthform/application-process/ There is an information box to allow students to detail the subjects they wish to study, their plans or hopes for the future and their attributes that would make them a good sixth form student.

Applying from other schools

We warmly welcome applications from students who have not previously studied at HCHS. We require a reference from your present school indicating clearly that you have worked hard at GCSE/BTEC level. As long as you satisfy our basic entry requirement, you will be invited to an interview with the Head of Sixth Form. We will gladly arrange for you to have a taster day with us and we will also be offering an Induction Day.

Level 3 courses currently offered

A Level courses

Art and Design
Biology
Chemistry
Computer Science
Business Studies
Economics
English Language
English Language and Literature
English Literature
Fashion and Textiles
Film Studies
French
Geography
German
History
Mathematics
Further Mathematics
Music
Music Technology
Physics
Politics
Product Design
Psychology
Physical Education
Spanish
Theatre Studies

"Students make good progress in a broad range of courses including both traditional A level and vocational subjects."

Ofsted

Level 3 BTEC courses

Business
Information Technology
Music Technology
Sport
Travel & Tourism

Other courses

Extended Project (EPQ)

GCSE/Level 2 Maths and English *

The courses listed are those that are currently offered in Sixth Form. They are offered in good faith, but the school does reserve the right to alter the programme as a result of student demand and therefore the viability of courses.

We design our option blocks around student choices, and endeavour to meet students' preferred combination of subjects.

Some courses will require students to have studied the subject at Level 2 (GCSE), but this is not always the case.

*Students who have not secured at least a grade 4 in GCSE English Language and in GCSE Maths are required to attend the relevant English and/or Maths courses.

Further details about courses can be found via the sixth form section of the school website, https://www.hanleycastle.worcs.sch.uk/sixthform/sixth-form-open-events/



Facilitating Subjects

All universities want to know that the students they admit have prepared themselves in the best possible way to cope with their chosen course. For this reason, some university courses may require subject knowledge prior to entry, whilst others may not. However, there are some subjects that are required more often than others. These are known as 'facilitating subjects'. The **Russell Group universities** encourage students to keep their options open by studying two facilitating subjects within their chosen combination at A level.

The Russell Group represents the 24 leading UK universities which are committed to maintaining the very best research, an outstanding teaching and learning experience and unrivalled links with business and the public sector.

Facilitating subjects:

- Mathematics and Further Mathematics
- English Literature
- Physics
- Biology
- Chemistry
- Geography
- History
- Languages (Classical and Modern)

An A level qualification in any facilitating subject will open up a greater number of degree courses for students to choose from. This includes reading degree courses such as Law which do not generally require specific A level subjects.

Further details can be found at: www.informedchoices.ac.uk





Securing Success

Our ambition is for every student to fulfil their potential, and to develop the skills to make them effective, efficient learners who are ready for the next stage of their lives.

Sixth Form learning is different from that at GCSE level, and we support students in:

- making productive use of time during the day where they are not in a lesson
- developing study skills, including effective research skills, note taking, essay writing and higher level independent study
- overcoming the challenge of studying just 3 or 4 subjects but at a deeper level
- managing the expectations of working outside school time - approximately one hour for each hour of taught lessons

It is inspiring to support our young people in developing their critical thinking and independence, and to see them develop their sense of responsibility and leadership.

Sixth Form Tutor

I was particularly impressed with the quality of help and guidance that we as parents received during the UCAS process.

Parent

Information, Advice and **Guidance (IAG)**

Students work with their tutor for approximately two hours per week. Individuals are encouraged to reflect on their progress and to set personal goals.

In Year 12 the IAG programme focuses on building and evidencing skills to enhance UCAS applications. Examples include our own 'Leading Learning' project, Study Skills programme and Academic Reading programme.

The Year 13 programme includes comprehensive support with UCAS applications, or careers guidance for those not planning to progress to university. The IAG focus is on "student survival / preparation for the world of work", including seminars on gap years, work experience, living on a budget, health issues and personal relationships.

Academic tracking and support

Subject teachers award a VESPA (Vision Effort Systems Practice Attitude) grade each half term. These criteria are designed to enable students, their tutors and their parents to monitor the development of independent learning skills that will bring about academic success at A level and beyond.

Formal internal assessment is carried out each term in a designated 'Test Week' and each student's progress is monitored against a personal target for each student in each subject.

Tutors and the Key Stage 5 Leadership Team support students through individually tailored intervention programmes if necessary.

"The tutor system greatly improved my time management skills and ability to work independently. My tutor's guiding influence was invaluable, particularly through the UCAS process."

Previous Head Boy

Parents are kept informed of progress at regular intervals, along with specific successes or concerns. However, we encourage and will make more regular communication in order to support an individual student's progress. Parent consultation evenings are held twice per year.

It is vital that students are successful and achieve their potential at every stage of their courses. This is particularly important when progressing from Year 12 to Year 13.

4 students are currently studying at Oxford/ Cambridge University. 38% of students starting University are attending a Russell Group university. We are supporting 7 students with fasttrack university applications this year.



⁶¹ Exceptional work experience opportunities will make a huge difference to our son's future career prospects. We are very grateful to his tutor and subject teachers for all the assistance that they have given. ⁷⁷

Parent

Supporting gifted students

Our academic extension programme is designed to support the academic achievement and wider learning experiences of our most gifted students, including those with aspirations to study at Oxford or Cambridge Universities.

In addition to specifically targeted challenge in lessons, gifted students benefit from:

- a dedicated tutor support programme
- an academic mentoring programme
- academic discussion forum opportunities
- visits and seminars at leading universities
- Oxbridge summer school placements
- a fast track university application process
- talks by Oxbridge admissions officers
- 'super-curricular' opportunities to enhance personal statements
- opportunity to enhance chosen A levels with an Extended Project Qualification.
- Cambridge University HE+ Programme

This provision has led to the percentage of students consistently achieving top A* grades at A level to well above the county average.

All Sixth Form students are encouraged to enrich their Sixth Form experience in order to broaden their learning and enhance their curriculum vitae. This builds a sense of community and makes them more attractive when applying to universities or future employers.

Sixth Form enrichment

"I have been given a range of fantastic opportunities, such as helping in lower school lessons and sports events, to give me new leadership experience."

Hannah



Committee work

- Sixth Form committee
- · Charity committee
- · Arts committee
- Sports committee
- Environmental Awareness committee
- Mental Health Ambassadors

Teamwork

- · Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme
- Music
- Drama
- Sport
- Public Speaking

Supporting others

- Peer listening
- Peer counselling
- In-lesson support
- Teaching Module
- Community Projects
- · Primary School visits



"My time at Hanley so far could not have been better. I've made wonderful friends, exceeded my academic expectations and been given countless opportunities, such as being Head of Sports Committee and being a regular player in sports teams. I can't imagine being anywhere else."

Megan, new to HCHS in Year 12

Sixth Form Gallery















Notable Year 13 results: class of 2021

Student	Grades	Subjects	Next steps	
Lily	A* A* A* A*	French, Maths, Further Maths, Spanish	Gap Year – then Cambridge – Modern & Medieval Languages	
Fintan	AAAA	German, Maths, Further Maths, EPQ	SOAS London - Chinese (Modern & Classical)	
Sarah	A* A* A*	Biology, Chemistry, History	Gap Year - then university	
Ella	A* A A	Biology, History, Physics	Birmingham - Biomedical Science	
Sam	A* A A	Maths, Physics, Chemistry	Bath – Electronic Engineering with Space Science Technology	
Lucy	A* A A	Biology, Chemistry, Economics	Cardiff - Physiotherapy	
James	A* A A	Biology, Chemistry, English Literature	Manchester - Biochemistry	
Archie	A A A A*	Biology, Chemistry, Music, Spanish, EPQ	Queen's University Belfast - Medicine	
Emily	AAA	Biology, Chemistry, Maths	Worcester - Adult Nursing	
Izzy	AAA	English Literature, Art, German	Hereford College of Art	
Ellen	AAA	Biology, Geography, Maths	York - Global Development	
Charlotte	AAA	Biology, Art, Geography	Nottingham - Geography BSc Hons	
Emma	A* A A	Biology, Chemistry, English Literature	UCL - Human Sciences	
Georgia	A* A A	PE, Biology, Psychology	Bath - Sport & Exercise Science	
Nathan	AAAB	Computer Science, Maths, Further Maths, Physics	Birmingham - Mechanical Engineering	
Molly	A A A A A*	English Literature, French, Spanish, History, Extended Project	Durham - Chinese Studies with year abroad	
Lizzie	A A A A*	Biology, Chemistry, Maths, EPQ	Bristol - Medicine	
Rebecca	D* D* C	Business, IT, Drama	Gloucester - Business & Marketing Management	
Katja	A* A C <i>D</i> *	Art, Business , Maths, IT	London - Architecture	
Charlotte	D* D C	IT, Business, Music	Gloucester – International Hospitality and Management	
James	A A <i>D</i> *	Maths, Physics, Music Technology	Exeter - Physics with Astrophysics	
Rhys	D* D* M	Business, Sport, Music	Employment	

BTECs shown in italics (Distinction*/Distinction/Merit/Pass).

The very high number of A* and A grades achieved by so many students was a key feature of the results. The percentage of A* and A grades was particularly high in Mathematics, Further Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry, History, Economics and English Language and Literature.

Lily was delighted with her 4 A* grades in French, Maths, Further Maths and Spanish. She will be heading off to Cambridge to study Modern and Medieval Languages. Molly is off to Durham to study Chinese whilst James is heading to Exeter to study Physics with Astrophysics.



A Variety of Year 13 destinations: class of 2021

Student	University	Course	
James	Cardiff	English Language	
Fraser	Nottingham Trent	Journalism	
Jack	Oxford Brookes	Foundation in Humanities	
Ellen	York	Global Development	
Sam	Warwick	Film Studies	
Guy	Aston	Economics	
Emmylou	Cardiff	Modern History & Politics	
Tanya	Nottingham	Chemistry & Molecular Physics	
Caitlin	Queen's Belfast	Pharmaceutical Sciences	
Amy	Portsmouth	Pharmacy	
Will	Cardiff	Business Management	
Hannah	Reading	Biochemistry	
Tanya	Winchester	Social Work	
Emily	Royal Holloway	Criminology and Sociology	
Oscar	Swansea	Economics and Business with a Foundation Year	
Rhys	John Moore's, Liverpool	Business Management	
Lily Mae	Birmingham City	Sport Coaching and Physical Education	
Archie	Queen's Belfast	Medicine	
Seb	Aston	Economics and Management	
Sophie	Bristol West of England	Politics and International Relations	
Katja	University of the Arts London	Architecture	
Fintan	SOAS London	Chinese (Modern & Classical)	
Lucy	Cardiff	Physiotherapy	
Elizabeth	Bristol	Medicine	
Charlotte	Gloucestershire	International Hospitality & Tourism Management	

Gap Year / Deferred (2021)

Harriet	Liverpool	Psychology
Lily	Cambridge	Modern & Medieval Languages

Apprenticeships

Harry	Murphy Construction, Quantity Surveying	
Adam	Motorhome/Caravans repair and servicing	
Tom	Accountancy	
Freddie	Estate Agents	
Frankie	Level 7 Apprenticeship in Accountancy	
Freddie	Electronics	

Sixth Form Gallery





South Africa – helping to support a community school







Our Sixth Form Centre







Sixth Form Open Evening

Thursday 2nd December 2021, 5.45pm - 8.00pm

5.45 - 6:15	Room	6:20-6:35	6:40-6:55	7:00-7:15	7:20-7:35	7:40-7:55	8:00-
	L03	Art	Art	Art	Art	Art	(d
	SF3	Business	Business	Business	Business	Business	1
	N02	Chemistry	Chemistry	Chemistry	Chemistry	Chemistry	2
	N03	Biology	Biology	Biology	Biology	Biology	П Г
lall	Y02	English	English	English	English	English	<u>+</u>
in	Y01	Film Studies	U)				
ı (ma	H16	Maths and Further Maths	available for any alleries (Sixth Form Centre)				
orm	A03	Music	Music	Music	Music	Music	> > > > > > > > > > > > > > > > > > > >
٦ ح	AU3	Music Tech	7				
ixt	A04	Theatre Studies	9				
lley Castle Si	N04	Physics	Physics	Physics	Physics	Physics	<u>:</u>
	L04	ICT	ICT	ICT	ICT	ICT	
	H06	Geography	Geography	Geography	Geography	Geography	2
	H05	History	History	History	History	History	liw
Har	H08	Psychology	Psychology	Psychology	Psychology	Psychology	7
to	L13	PE	PE	PE	PE	PE	<u>2</u>
Uo	L14	Sport	Sport	Sport	Sport	Sport	. <u>.</u>
An introduction to Hanley Castle Sixth Form (main hall)	L11	MFL - French, German, Spanish	Accictant Hoad of Sixth Form will he				
	SF1	Economics	Economics	Economics	Economics	Economics	±
	L02	Politics	Politics	Politics	Politics	Politics	0+0
	L12	Technologies – Product Design, Fashion & Textiles	2				
	SF2	Travel & Tourism	700				
	H07	Extended Project	Ä				

Plan of the Evening

The evening will start with an introduction in the Main Hall from 5:45pm (Please arrive earlier if you are new to the school so that we can introduce you to a tour guide). Following this there will be subject presentations that you can sign up to attend on our website. We ask you to choose 5 sessions so that we can allocate slots to spread visitors evenly over sessions and to ensure you get all of your questions answered. There will also be drop-in sessions (highlighted green) where staff will be available to discuss courses with you.

- Business will cover both BTEC and A LEVEL
- English will cover English Literature, English Language and English Language & Literature
- Modern Foreign Languages include German, Spanish and French
- Technologies include Product Design and Textiles
- ICT will cover Computer Science

Please book into subject presentations by visiting our website

Notes	







Hanley Castle High School Sixth Form

Assistant Headteacher, Post-16 Studies: Mr Sam Cook
Assistant Head of Sixth Form: Mrs Emma Skelton
Sixth Form Administrator: Mrs Jane Eaton

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