

Sixth Form

Mayfield Grammar School

Gravesend



110
1914 - 2024

Per aspera ad astra
Through adversity to the stars





Leadership: to develop
creative and innovative
ethical leaders.



Welcome to our Sixth Form

I am delighted that you are considering Mayfield Grammar School, Gravesend for your education.

Our Sixth Form is a growing community where courtesy and co-operation create a stable atmosphere in which all students thrive. Individuals are able to achieve the highest academic standards, and to develop individual talents and leadership qualities which prepare them fully for adult life.

We are proud to offer an extensive range of A Level courses within the Sixth Form. Our curriculum has been developed to maximise choice and to equip students with the qualifications and skills they need to access the next stage of their learning, training or employment.

Students are encouraged to take greater responsibility for their studies, as well as play a full role in the life of the school. There are many Student Leadership opportunities including Senior Officials, Peer Mentors, School Council, and Digital Citizenship Officials, Subject and/or House Prefects, as well as taking charge of Charities, Cultural Issues, and Green Issues. Our Sixth Form students regularly run clubs and help to coach and mentor younger students; they also play a lead role within our House system.

To become a member of the Sixth Form is to make a commitment to academic study and to the values of our school. We welcome students, from other schools and offer an induction programme to ensure that those joining us feel secure and confident about Sixth Form life here. The teaching staff at Mayfield Grammar School are highly qualified and dedicated; they are able to use their expertise to swiftly engage and motivate students in their chosen courses of study.

We hope that you will want to become part of our school community and look forward to welcoming you to our Sixth Form in September.

Elaine Wilson
Headteacher



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Aims

Our Sixth Form is an integral part of the school and within it we actively promote the values of the whole school. Our values are:

- To promote an ambitious educational culture which strives for excellence for all;
- To offer a broad, balanced and challenging curriculum enabling all students to fulfil their academic potential;
- To stimulate intellectual curiosity, encourage independence and responsibility for their own learning;
- To develop confidence and resilience in all our students so that they acquire the skills needed for life-long learning;
- To foster and promote a sense of trust, respect for and tolerance of others within an inclusive school environment;
- To celebrate diversity within our school community;
- To encourage our students to make a positive contribution to the life of the school, wider community and to enhance their knowledge of global issues in order to become socially responsible global citizens.



Resilience: to show courage and determination in order to solve problems, overcome challenges and face adversity.



Academic Information

We are proud to offer over twenty subjects at A Level in the Sixth Form, as well as Level 3 Applied Diplomas and a Cambridge Technical level 3 Extended Certificate. This wide range of courses is taught by specialist teachers who demonstrate a real enthusiasm for their subject.

Alongside the traditional A Level courses, we recognise and develop employability skills through our PSHE, Citizenship and Careers programmes.

Each student is invited to complete the Extended Project Qualification (EPQ) in an area of their choice. The project develops independent learning and research skills, which are vital for success in further education; it also enables each student to broaden their knowledge and understanding of the world. Many universities and employers value this additional qualification as evidence of excellent study habits.

Enrichment

All Sixth Form students have a timetabled period of Enrichment on a Wednesday afternoon with a wide programme of activities on offer to all students. These enrichment activities are designed to broaden students' awareness of the wider world; to develop the skills and talents for future leadership, teamwork and independent learning. Opportunities exist for students to take responsibility for mentoring younger students through their subjects in school, or for working with local primary schools. Many students involve themselves in community work through personal contacts or by volunteering locally.

All Sixth Form students follow a General Lecture programme designed to broaden their awareness of local, national and global issues. Speakers are invited to address the students on a range of topics, including the development of the AstraZeneca Vaccine for Covid-19, and our school history.

In addition we believe that the curriculum itself is enriched by the first-hand experiences gained from an extensive programme of activities and visits throughout a student's school career.

We have a full range of student exchange visits with schools in France, Germany and Spain together with other residential trips to China, USA, Canada, Iceland and Italy in recent years. This enables students to improve their language skills and gain personal experience of other countries and cultures. Senior students have taken part in World Challenge expeditions to Borneo, Mongolia, China and Tanzania. These trips enable students to challenge themselves in different environments and to

Respect: to be trustworthy, tolerant and respectful individuals.



Integrity: to act honestly and with social responsibility towards one another and the wider community.



develop team building skills. Each year we organise a ski-trip, to either Europe or North America.

Fieldwork is a vital part of the curriculum in subjects such as Biology and Geography. These include field trips, visits to museums for Art and Science, theatre visits for English and Drama. Sixth Form students often attend conferences (both domestic and international) for their A Level subjects.

We encourage students to participate in an extensive range of clubs that take place within the lunch hour, before and after school. These include a wide variety of Sports Clubs, Art Club, the Duke of Edinburgh Award scheme, Junior Drama, Maths and Science Clubs. Charity fundraising events are an important and popular part of school life.

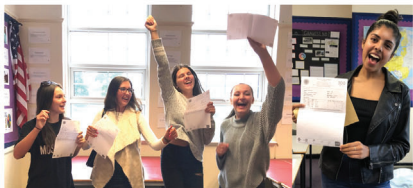


Student Success

In 2024, 80% of students went on to university and took on a wide variety of different courses, ranging from Mechanical Engineering to International Relations. The remaining students embarked on high-level apprenticeships, employment or gap years.

The specialist advice given by experienced staff is designed to assist students in making the right career choice. Those who go directly into apprenticeships or employment also receive expert guidance from our Careers Leader.

Our aim is that students leave Mayfield Grammar School fully equipped for the next phase of their lives as confident and independent young adults, ready to become the leaders of tomorrow.



Support and Guidance

Many students join the school in the Sixth Form and the induction programme is designed not only to help new students settle quickly, but also to ensure that the transition from Year 11 to Sixth Form is as smooth as possible for all.

Each student is a member of a tutor group and is looked after by a dedicated member of staff who takes a special interest in their progress and welfare. Students are encouraged to assess their own development, to negotiate targets with teachers and to record their achievements.

Our dedicated team of tutors in each year are led by a Learning Leader, who has special responsibility for

Empathy: to be considerate and mindful of the needs of others and encourage the well-being of all members of the school community.



the care and day to day organisation within the year group. The House System is run in conjunction with the horizontal year group system.

Attendance is closely monitored to support learning.

We have always had high expectations with regard to student behaviour. Students are aware of what is appropriate, their rights and their responsibilities. We are proud to say our trust in the good sense of our students is thoroughly repaid.

Partnership with Parents

We rely on and value the support and involvement of parents in order to enable each student to develop their talents to the full. Good communication between home and school is vital in the development of this partnership

Each year an assessment calendar is issued giving parents details of the pattern of reports and consultation evenings for the academic year. Progress information is shared with parents via regular progress reviews using an online reporting system.

Parent Consultation Evenings, at which students are encouraged to be present, provide an opportunity for parents to meet staff and discuss their child's progress. Our students are closely monitored throughout the year and if staff have concerns, parents will be contacted to ensure that together we provide any support needed. SLT Surgery, which takes place termly provides parents with an open forum to speak with Senior Leaders in our school.

Parents are encouraged to attend school functions and to become involved in the organisation of extra curricular activities.

Parents are always welcome to contact the school with queries or concerns about the curriculum or any other school matter.

Extensive support is provided when students begin to apply to Higher Education or begin to seek apprenticeships or employment. The school prides itself on the level of careers advice and guidance that is offered.

Careers Education Information and Guidance (CEIAG) has a high profile within the school. This is recognised by having been awarded the Investors in Careers Kite Mark Award for the fourth time.

The employment market is constantly changing. Many of our students will be involved in future careers that have not yet been invented. Our focus is on developing personal skills and employability skills alongside high academic attainment to enable them to adapt, to be flexible and to succeed within this changing environment.

In the Sixth Form we provide a programme of work-related learning and careers advice through the Personal, Social and Health Education programme, Preparation Course, a full Enrichment Programme as well as individual careers interviews and mentoring.

Students are also able to keep up to date with the latest career opportunities as well as helpful tips and advice via the Mayfield Careers.

When students are making decisions about their post A-Level options, a structured programme of independent information and guidance is provided by the Careers Leader. Students are able to build a personal portfolio which includes significant work experience and skills relevant to their chosen post-16 pathway and beyond.



Facilities

Year 12 and Year 13 have their own Study Spaces. Both have kitchens, IT facilities and silent working areas. We also provide a 'bring your own device' Wi-Fi service for Sixth Form students for use across the school. This allows the students mobile internet access on a par with the service provided in the many ICT rooms.

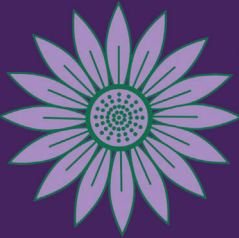
In addition, there are specialist facilities for the sciences and in MFL all students have access to the Language Lab on a regular basis.

Sixth Form students may choose to relax and study in the central quadrangle at the main site. Alternatively there is Common Room and silent study provisions for both year groups.



Confidence: to be ambitious for the future and develop a strong sense of independence, self-belief and self-worth.





Mayfield Grammar School Gravesend

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Leadership | Integrity | Confidence | Respect | Empathy | Resilience