



WHITGIFT

SIXTH FORM





The School's standards have reached exceptional levels, confirming Whitgift as one of the country's leading boys schools. Academic performance is outstanding. The School also offers a rich variety of co-curricular activities, music, drama and sports, superb facilities and the tradition of a commitment to each student's all-round development. The wide range of activities and opportunities for initiative, responsibility and leadership help develop each student as an individual, preparing him for Higher Education, his future life in society and his chosen career.

Education is individually tailored in the Sixth Form to each student's

needs. Courses leading to International Baccalaureate, AS, A2 or BTEC qualifications are available, and advice on suitability and requirements is provided.

The great majority of students in the Fifth Form reach a high standard at GCSE, enabling them to transfer, with confidence, into the Sixth Form. We look forward to continuing, for two further crucial years, our established relationship with students and their parents; the Sixth Form is, in many respects, the best and most rewarding part of what Whitgift has to offer. We are also very pleased to welcome, each year, new entrants to our Sixth Form from other schools. Integrating quickly, they can

benefit from the stimulating new surroundings and wider opportunities.

A scholarship programme also brings a number of very able students to the School from other countries. Financial considerations need not be a bar to entry to the School: scholarships are available, as is a generous scheme for bursaries provided by the Whitgift Foundation.

Dr Christopher Barnett
Headmaster

INTRODUCTION

We provide, for the Sixth Form, a positive and creative atmosphere which enables students to respond successfully to the academic challenges they will face, and which results in the formation of well-rounded individuals.

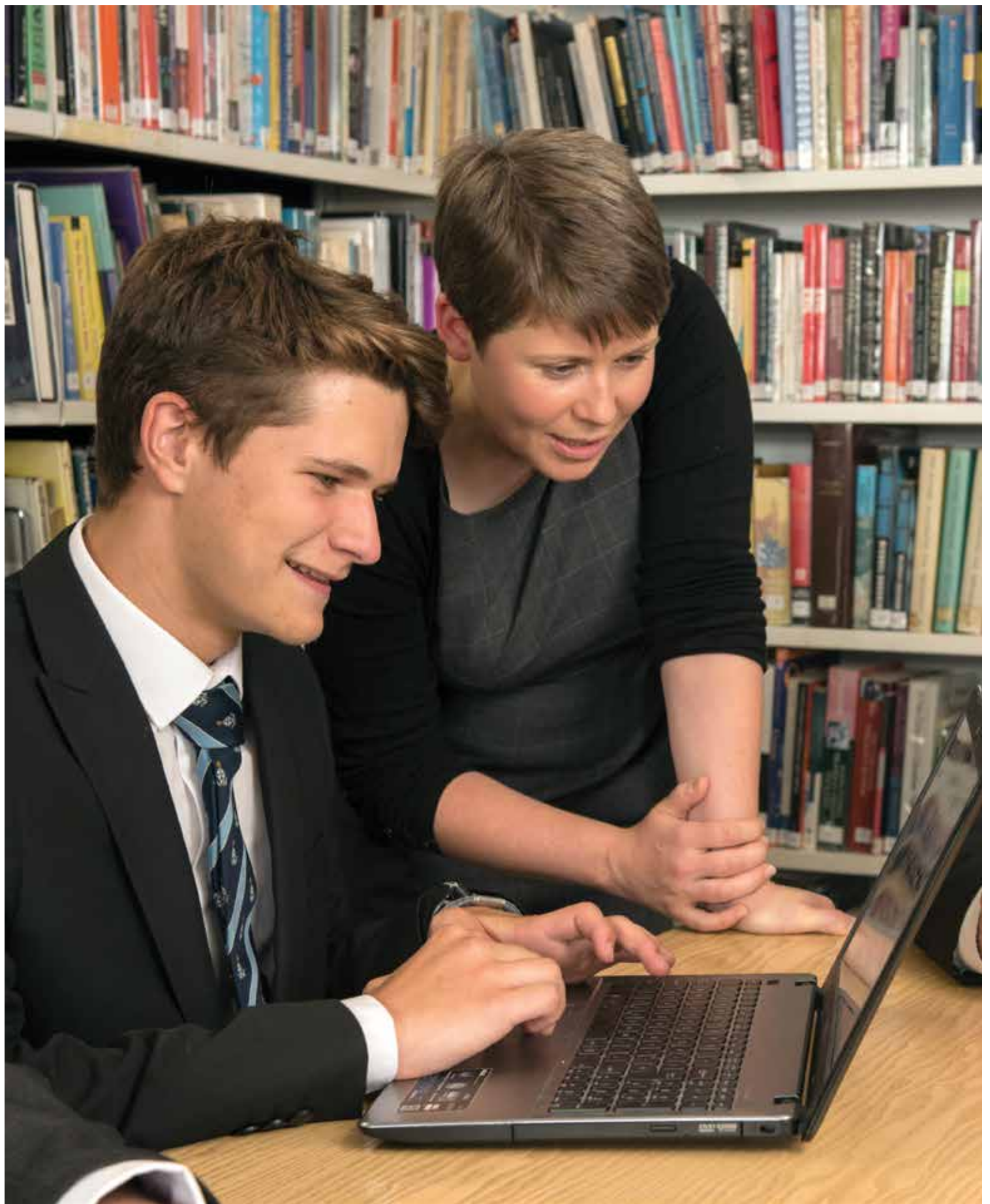
Sixth Formers are encouraged to develop a more independent approach to their learning, and a strong sense of responsibility. This allows students to fulfil their potential in public examinations, and to make a smooth and successful transition to Higher Education. They are supported by the Sixth Form team (Head of Sixth Form, assisted by a Deputy and three Assistants), who are on hand to look after the general welfare of the students, to encourage them in their academic endeavours and to support them in researching their path beyond Whitgift. Sixth Formers are also assigned to a Form Tutor, who they meet twice a day and who is able to offer guidance in both academic and pastoral matters.

Our Sixth Form is a busy, diverse and vibrant community, and students have the opportunity

to take part in a huge range of activities, clubs and societies. Many Sixth Formers will lead academic societies and musical ensembles, captain sports teams, direct plays, and play an important leadership role as School and House Prefects, or in the CCF. All members of the Sixth Form enjoy a number of privileges, and have access to a purpose-built Sixth Form Centre.

We are immensely proud of our Sixth Formers, and they play a crucial role in contributing to the ethos of the School as role models in our community.

Jude Lowson
Head of Sixth Form



ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

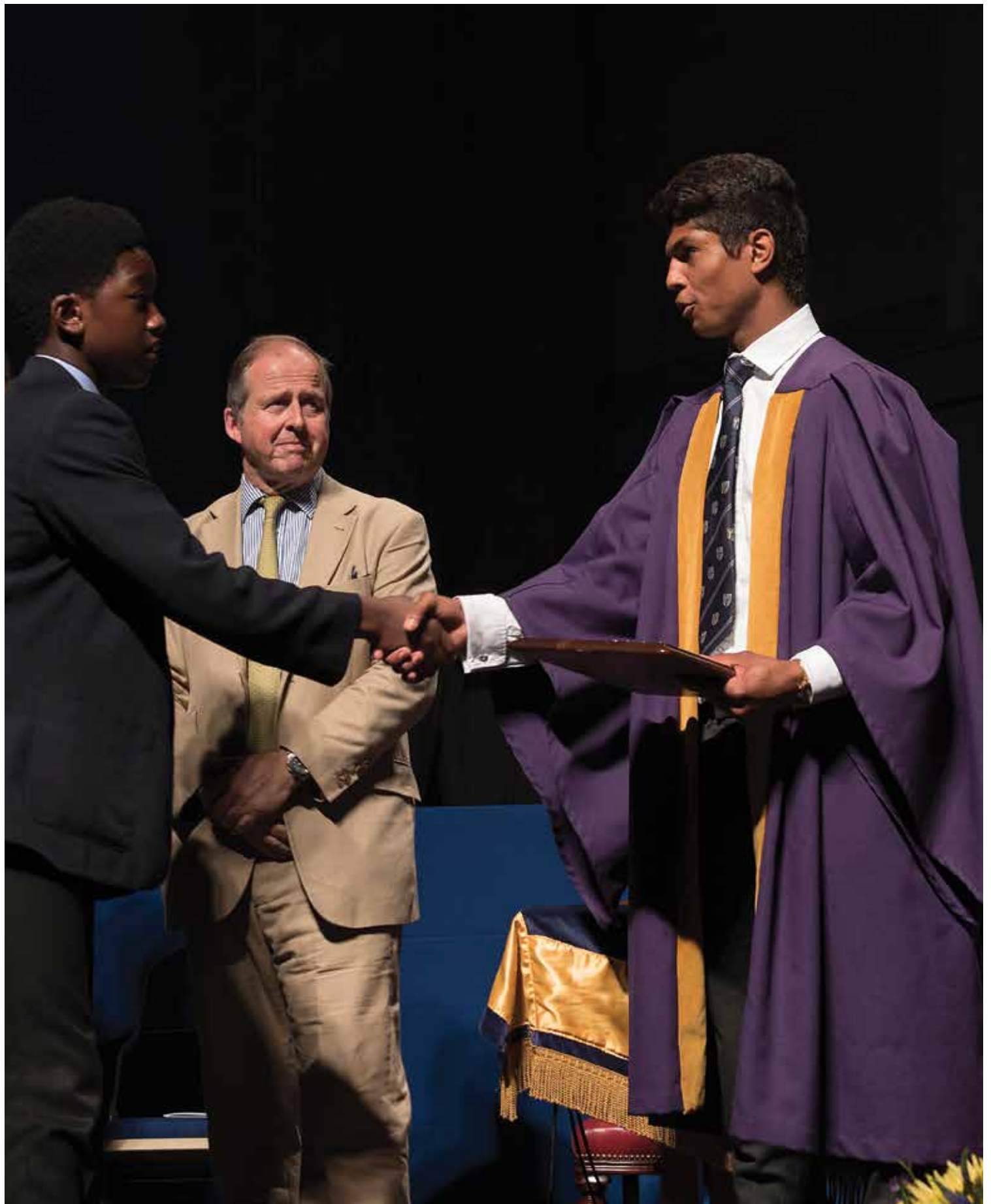
The great majority of students enters the Sixth Form directly from the Fifth Form, a tribute to the atmosphere and spirit within the School. We also welcome students from other schools, both in the surrounding area and from further afield. Every effort is made to ensure that any new entrant to Whitgift quickly feels part of the School community.

Admission to the Sixth Form is not automatic, however, and internal students entering from the Upper Fifth Form are expected to achieve at least 23 points in their GCSE grades (A* = 4 points, A = 3 points, B = 2 points, C = 0 points). The usual requirement for external candidates is six GCSE passes at A*/A. Certain subjects also have specific GCSE grade requirements, and all students should achieve an A* or an A in the subjects they wish to pursue post 16.

Similarly, students are expected to maintain these high academic standards throughout the Sixth Form.

Application for entry into the Sixth Form by external candidates can be made at any stage, but we recommend early application in the final GCSE year. An application form should be completed and sent to the Head of Admissions, with a clear indication of the student's desired choice of study. The application is then assessed, and an offer of a place to a student seeking entry into the Sixth Form is usually made after a critical-thinking test, a test in a nominated subject, and an interview with representatives of the Senior Management and Sixth Form teams.

Receipt of satisfactory references from the student's current or previous school is also required. The Headmaster may make an unconditional offer, or one conditional upon specific grades being achieved at GCSE.



FACILITIES

The Sixth Form Centre is located in a spacious suite overlooking the School's extensive sports fields, tennis courts and astro turf, with neighbouring facilities, including the Raeburn Library, Computer Rooms and a Café.

The contemporary, bright and expansive Common Room includes areas for relaxing and socialising, whilst also providing modern facilities, such as Sky News on the plasma screen, as well as newspapers and journals, to allow pupils to keep up-to-date with current affairs.

The boys have use of their own dedicated Wi-Fi network, access to plasma screens which highlight school events and daily notices, a kitchenette for preparing drinks and hot food, and a locker room exclusively for their use.

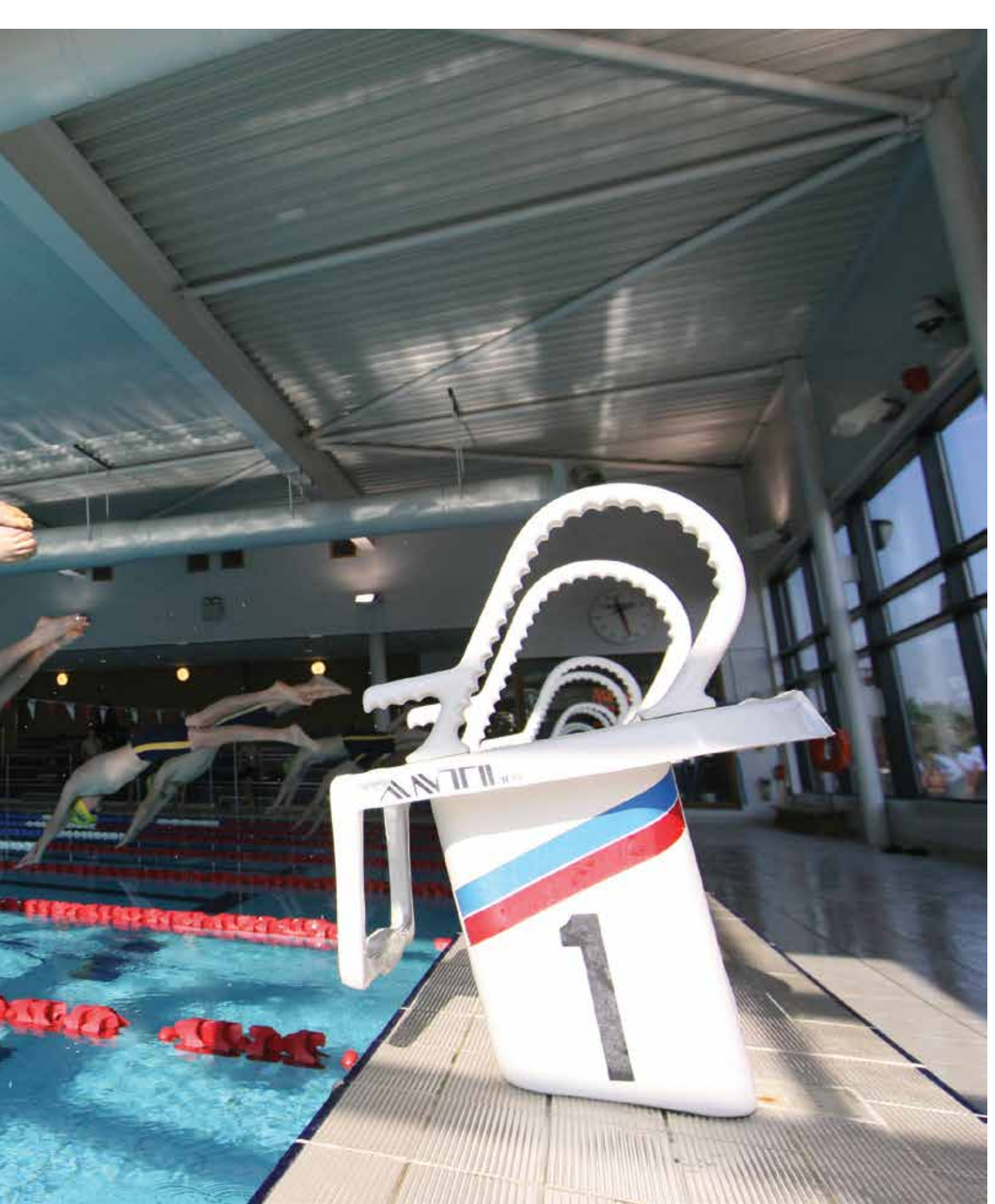
Immediately adjacent to the Common Room are several rooms designed for private study, computer work, careers and university advice. There are also offices for the extensive pastoral team, comprising the Head of Upper School, the Head of Sixth Form, a Deputy and three Assistants.











CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

The extensive facilities at Whitgift ensure that Sixth Form students have a comprehensive and wide-ranging choice of co-curricular activities. There is a huge array of school societies to choose from. Those of particular interest to Sixth Form students include the Debating, Literary, Philosophy and Science Societies, along with various musical groups and drama activities.

All students are also attached to the Upper School House system. There are House competitions and events covering sporting, cultural and artistic activities.

MUSIC

There are many musical opportunities for Sixth Form students at Whitgift. The most talented instrumentalists can play in the Whitgift Chamber Orchestra. There are also opportunities in the Symphony Orchestra, String Sinfonia, brass and woodwind groups. Choral music at Whitgift is very strong, and serious vocalists can sing with the Chamber Choir, several of whose members have won Choral Scholarships to Oxford and Cambridge colleges in recent years. The Senior Choir welcomes keen singers without audition, and the Gospel Choir offers further exciting opportunities. The House Music Competition, Charity Concert and personal initiatives also allow those interested in pop and rock music to form groups and perform in public.

All these activities are supported by the expertise of the Whitgift full-time music staff, and Whitgift's wide range of peripatetic music teachers.

DRAMA

The opportunities for dramatic involvement in the Sixth Form are abundant, with many styles of theatre on offer throughout any one academic year. An annual Sixth Form play takes the form of a modern piece of drama, with productions ranging from Chekhov's farces and Harold Pinter's darkly-comic plays, to the more absurd works of Tom Stoppard. Classical theatre is strong at Whitgift, and, each year, students have the opportunity to be part of professional-standard, Upper School productions. Perhaps the most exciting element of Whitgift drama is the outstanding pedigree in musical theatre, where students are given the chance to audition and perform in one or more major musical productions during their time at the School. In conjunction with other schools in the area, Whitgift has, in recent years, successfully staged large-scale productions including *Jesus Christ Superstar*, *The Producers*, *West Side Story*, and *Spamalot*.

Whitgift also offers a Senior Scriptwriting Club, in which Sixth Form pupils can share creative ideas in developing a script for a Lower School performance.







GIFT



WHITGIFT SUMMER SCHOOL

Whitgift introduced its new Summer School in 2015, allowing boys and girls from around the world to learn English through the School's innovative syllabus. Whitgift's superb facilities are utilised for fun and varied sports and creative activities, and the School's location on London's 'doorstep' allows for cultural excursions to iconic attractions to complement the curriculum. Whitgift Sixth Form students, along with pupils from Old Palace of John Whitgift School, have the opportunity to assist with lessons, co-curricular and social programmes, providing invaluable experiences.

WHITGIFT SCHOOL CCF

The CCF in the Sixth Form allows boys to show leadership, be responsible for younger boys, and participate in a broad range of challenging activities. Whitgift has three sections; Army, Royal Air Force and Royal Navy. Each year, boys choose to join the Regular Forces, but the CCF is not a recruiting organisation. The CCF is popular and has approximately 400 boys. We have two partnerships with local maintained-sector schools.

CCF activities at school, on camps and training weekends, include: shooting on the range, canoeing, climbing, gliding, sailing, diving, helicopter flying and tank driving.

OUTDOOR EDUCATION

Outdoor Education aims to take boys out of their comfort zones and introduce them to new experiences. Activities include climbing, wakeboarding, track and road cycling, mountain biking and sailing. Activities are selected according to the prevailing weather conditions of that week, and specialist equipment is provided. Trips further afield are catered for in Scuba Diving, Skiing and Snowboarding, and the Expedition Club.

A yearly programme of Outdoor Education trips is also available to Sixth Form boys. A ski trip to St Christoph in Austria, a Portuguese surf safari and a local multi-activity trip are just a few of the opportunities recently afforded to boys at the School.

The ethos of our Outdoor Education is to take boys to exciting environments, to learn new skills and to enjoy the great sports that we have available to us.

DUKE OF EDINBURGH SCHEME

The Duke of Edinburgh Gold Award is available to all boys in the Sixth Form. It is customary to have progressed through the Bronze and Silver levels, but direct entrants are also invited to enrol on this valuable award.

Boys are required to undertake a 12-month period of volunteering, learn a skill for either six or 12 months, and take part in a physical activity for either six or 12 months. In addition, boys undertake a self-sufficient, four-day expedition to an overseas location. In recent years, trips have visited locations as diverse as Corsica and Nepal. A practice expedition is held in the UK to prepare boys and to practise the skills that they are taught in the weekly classroom sessions. The final aspect of the Award programme invites boys to spend a week on a residential project, where they will meet like-minded people.

Highly respected by universities and employers alike, the Duke of Edinburgh Award teaches and develops key attributes of leadership, responsibility, organisation and teamwork.





SPORT

Whitgift has an outstanding and unrivalled record of national and international attainment in sport. More than 40 different sports and activities are offered, from foundation level to national excellence.

The School has extensive sporting facilities, which include an excellent range of grass pitches, floodlit all-weather artificial pitches, squash, fives and tennis courts. The indoor sports complex is of outstanding quality. It contains a 44m x 28m sports hall with moveable partitions and tiered gallery for 250 spectators, four glass-back squash courts, fitness centre, multi-purpose room, a 25m swimming pool with eight lanes and variable-depth flooring, meeting national standards for swimming and water polo competitions, three classrooms and a physiotherapy room.

Major national titles have been gained in many sports, including hockey, cricket, football, fencing, table tennis, golf, athletics, swimming, modern pentathlon and rugby. Whitgift regularly produces schoolboy internationals, and boys often go on to careers in professional sport. Professional clubs such as Harlequins RFC, Surrey CCC and Crystal Palace FC also use the School's exceptional facilities for training camps. We have very strong links with Chelsea FC, Crystal Palace FC, Harlequins RFC, most of the Home Counties first-class cricket teams, and Sutton Tennis Academy.

ADDITIONAL STUDIES

GENERAL STUDIES AND ENRICHMENT PROGRAMME

A General Studies speaker programme is provided in both years of the Sixth Form, in order to encourage an awareness of broader issues outside the standard curriculum. Talks cover topics as diverse as art, poetry, adventure, careers, current affairs, science and politics. These and other themes are also discussed in a series of activities covered in Form Periods.

In addition to involvement in General Studies, leading speakers are invited to present to Sixth Formers as part of the Enrichment Programme. Recent eminent guests have included Sir Gregory Winter, Jeremy Paxman, Derek Walcott and A C Grayling.



SIXTH FORM COMMITTEE

The Sixth Form Committee is the representative body of the Sixth Form, and consists of an elected member from each of the tutor groups. Its responsibilities include representing the views of the Sixth Form to members of staff, initiating and organising social activities, and fostering links with the world outside Whitgift.



CAREERS AND HIGHER EDUCATION

Sixth Formers are provided with all the resources necessary to assist with career and Higher Education decisions. Careers material is available at all times, with a full-time assistant available to offer advice and help in finding information. Careers events are spread throughout the year, including guest speakers and careers-related visits.

Throughout the Sixth Form, students are encouraged to think about the opportunities available in the wider curriculum, and how these will help them to develop their CVs.

During the Michaelmas Term, there is a large Careers Convention, the focus of which is to provide vocational information. This is an ideal opportunity to build on the information gathered during Fifth Form work experience. For those who need it, there is the opportunity to gain further work experience during the Lower Sixth year.

In the Lent Term of the Lower Sixth, we begin to plan for university applications. A booklet of guidance on making applications is distributed, to accompany the 'After Whitgift' Information Evening for parents and students.

The end of the Trinity Term sees the beginning of the university Open Day season, and students are encouraged to make individual visits. This is also the time to consider taking a gap year between school and university, for which early planning is recommended.

Information is kept on a number of challenging opportunities through our own contacts and specialist providers. Presentations allow students to put any queries directly to previous participants and the organisers.

During the Trinity Term in the Lower Sixth, there is an 'After Whitgift' Course which concentrates on self-presentation and making successful applications. All students are offered the opportunity of a practice interview. All university applications are processed in the first half of the Michaelmas Term of the Upper Sixth. Candidates for Oxbridge and medical subjects necessarily have an earlier deadline. All students receive individual attention and advice from the Sixth Form team, Form Tutors and subject teachers.



SUBJECT CHOICES

There are three academic routes available in the Whitgift Sixth Form.

ROUTE A – INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE (IB)

The IB consists of six subjects studied over two years. Students opt to study three of these subjects at Higher Level for specialist depth, and three subjects at Standard Level to retain breadth. The IB also has three additional elements that must be completed by all students: the Theory of Knowledge (TOK), Creativity, Action and Service (CAS) and an Extended Essay. Students choose one from each of five subject groups: English, Foreign Languages, Humanities, Sciences and Mathematics. The sixth subject is either a creative one or an optional second subject from the Languages, Sciences or Humanities groups.

The IB Diploma is assessed by the submission of coursework and through examinations at the conclusion of the Upper Sixth year. By only being examined at the end of the Upper Sixth, IB students are able to maintain momentum and develop their skills over the full course. The six core subjects are graded on a scale of 0 – 7 points.

Student performance in TOK, CAS and the Extended Essay can contribute up to another 3 points. Thus, the overall IB is graded on a maximum score of 45 points.

The IB is a widely-respected and internationally-recognised qualification.

University Admissions Tutors are aware of the challenge and breadth that IB provides, and Diploma Programme students can be confident of being looked upon favourably.

Further Education offers vary according to university and subject. As a general guide, well-regarded universities make offers in the region of 30 – 38 points, whilst Oxbridge offers tend to be 39 – 41.

Offers often specify an overall points total, together with particular grades for Higher Level subjects.

ROUTE B – AS & A2 LEVELS

A full A Level consists of an AS Level of two or three modular exams followed by A2 Level, also comprising two or three modular exams. Normally, the AS Level exam is taken at the end of the Lower Sixth, and the A2 exam at the end of the Upper Sixth. It is possible to re-sit certain modules in most subjects in January and June of the Upper Sixth, although it is immensely preferable to attain a high score at the first attempt.

At Whitgift, four full A Level courses may be studied over two years. The School's expectation is that most students will continue their four AS choices through to A2 Level. However, in particular circumstances, it may be decided that a student may discontinue one subject at the end of the Lower Sixth year and select an alternative AS subject to study in their Upper Sixth year.





Students should note that many universities are increasingly basing their offers on the UCAS points scale, awarded for AS & A2 exam results (A* grade at A2 = 140 points, A grade at A2 Level = 120 points, B grade at A2 Level = 100 points, C grade = 80 points and so on. Stand-alone AS grades are worth 50% of the A2 points allocation).

ROUTE C – BTEC NATIONAL DIPLOMAS IN SPORT AND EXERCISE SCIENCE OR BUSINESS
Whitgift also offers this innovative and nationally-recognised vocational qualification. A BTEC Diploma allows students the opportunity to attain the equivalent UCAS points of up to three full A Levels. The BTEC course will fill the majority of a student's Sixth Form timetable, but there may be a possibility (after obtaining the approval of the School) of combining BTEC studies with an additional AS Level or Standard Level IB certificate. The BTEC Diploma is a specialised qualification, and students with an interest in Route C are invited to discuss their plans with the Heads of Fifth or Sixth Form at an early stage.

A student's path through Sixth Form on Route A (IB Diploma), Route B (AS/A2), or Route C (BTEC), and the important subject choices within each Route, should be based upon his individual ability, interests and ideas for university application and career. It should be noted that IB and A Level students have approximately the same number of taught periods per fortnight, and all students should be spending approximately equal numbers of

hours on their homework per week. Students might wish to compare the academic syllabus for each of their preferred subjects, consider what they enjoy and what will keep them motivated over two years, as well as the subjects in which they have been most successful. They might wish to maintain wider interests in addition to studying particular specialisms for university.

Students should be encouraged to discuss their future plans in as much detail as possible, to ensure that they embark on a purposeful, rewarding and enjoyable Sixth Form career. Knowledgeable support and advice for prospective Sixth Formers and their parents is available from the Sixth Form team and other Senior staff. The final decision on the most appropriate Route must be mutually agreed by the student, his parents and the School.

To enable us to estimate staffing, and timetabling requirements for the next academic year, we ask all students to make choices for their preferred route and combination of subjects in the Michaelmas Term of the Upper Fifth year. Although some combinations of subjects will not be possible, and a course may be withdrawn if there is insufficient demand, we will use these choices as the basis for an arrangement of subjects designed to meet as many of the desired combinations as possible. We reserve the right not to allow students who change their minds to switch to a subject where teaching groups might be unacceptably large.

SUBJECTS

A Level Courses include:

Art & Design
Biology
Business Studies*
Chemistry
Classical Civilisation
Computing
Design Technology & Engineering
Drama & Theatre Studies
Economics*
English
French
Further Mathematics
Geography
German
Graphic Design
Greek
History
Italian
Japanese
Latin
Mathematics
Mandarin Chinese
Music
Music Technology
Philosophy*
Photography
Physical Education
Physics
Politics
Psychology
Spanish
Theology*

International Baccalaureate subjects include:

Biology
Chemistry
Computer Science
Economics
English Literature

Environmental Systems & Societies

French
Geography
German
History
Italian
Japanese
Latin
Literature & Performance
Mandarin Chinese
Mathematics
Mathematics Studies
Music
Philosophy
Physics
Political Thought
Psychology
Spanish
Theatre
Visual Arts

Other subjects may be available if there is sufficient demand.

Our aim is to provide the widest choice of A Level and IB subjects to our students.

*Exam Board regulations do not permit the combination of Theology and Philosophy at A Level; the study of the combination of Business Studies and Economics is strongly discouraged for university applications.

All students have Critical Reflection in the Lower Sixth, and General Studies and Games lessons in both years of the Sixth Form.



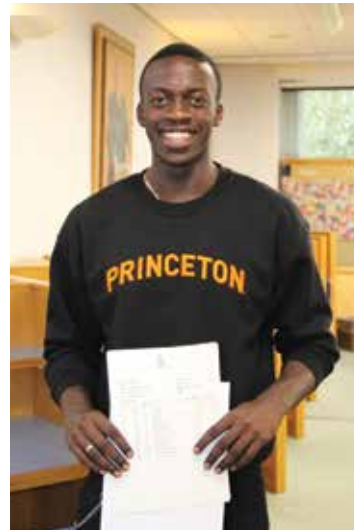
UNIVERSITY APPLICATION

Some university courses require specific subjects to have been studied at A Level.

Other courses prefer certain subjects or subject combinations.

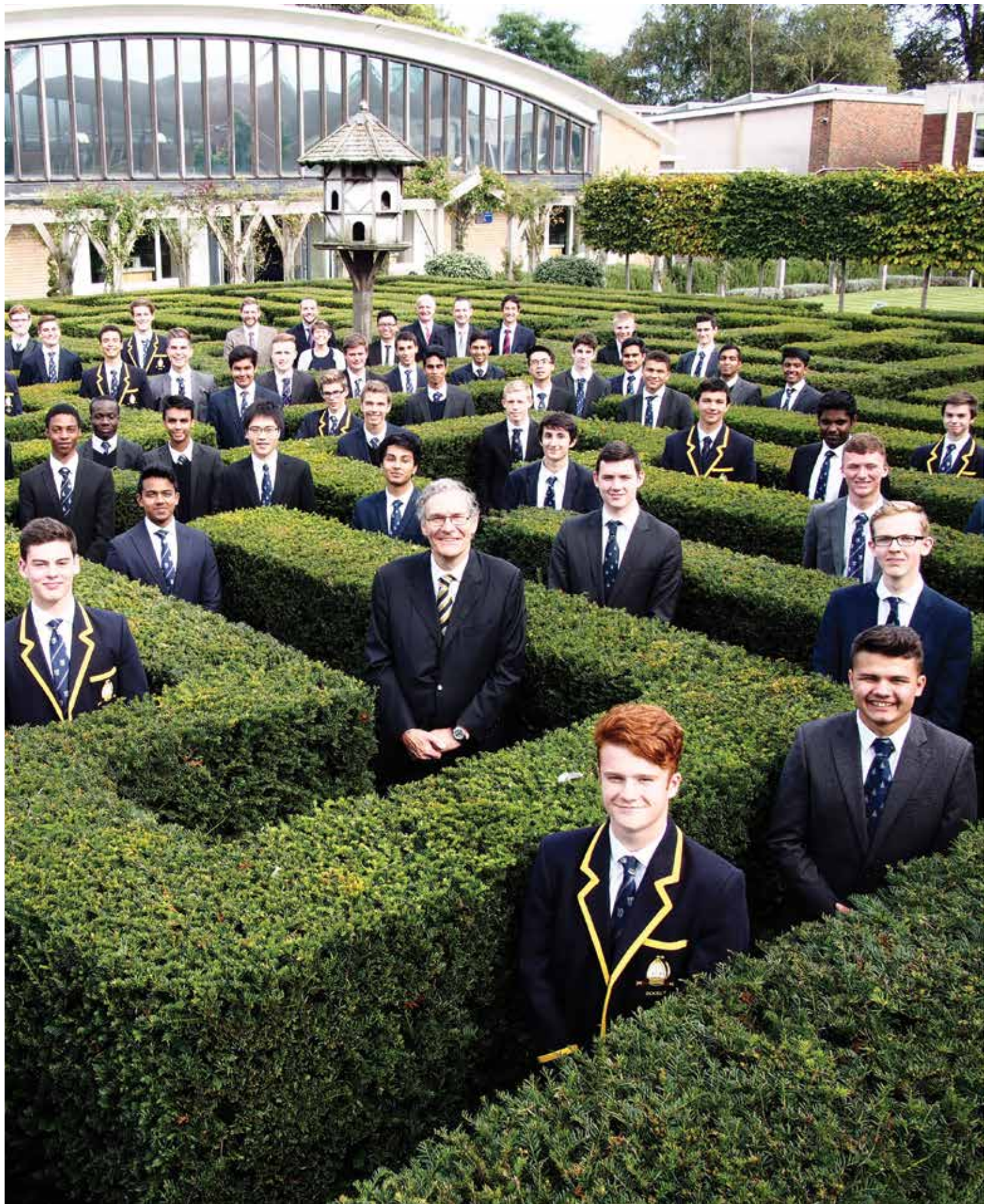
Here is a guide to the requirements for some university courses. This is not an exhaustive list, and further information can be obtained from the Careers Department and Sixth Form team. Different combinations may be expected for Oxbridge entry.

Please note that combination courses are also available at many universities.



| UNIVERSITY COURSE | SIXTH FORM CHOICES |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| American Studies | Essay-writing studies preferred such as English or History. |
| Architecture, Graphic Design | Some courses require Mathematics or Physics but a wide range of subjects is possible. A design portfolio is essential. |
| Biochemistry | Chemistry usually supported by another science; Mathematics or Biology is preferable. |
| Biological Sciences: Biology, Botany, Zoology, Applied Biology, Microbiology, Biotechnology | Chemistry and Biology are required. |
| Business Studies, Accountancy, Management Studies | Some courses require or prefer Mathematics. Economics or Business Studies tend to be preferable. |
| Chemistry | Chemistry and another science are usually required. Mathematics is often required. |
| Chemical Engineering | Chemistry, Mathematics and Physics are required. |
| Classics | Latin/Greek preferred. |
| Classical Civilisation/Studies | No language required but essay-writing studies preferred, such as Classical Civilisation, English or History. |
| Computer Science | Mathematics is usually required. |
| Economics | A strong achievement in Mathematics is required for most courses. Economics is preferable. |
| Engineering: Aeronautical, Civil, Electrical, Electronic, Marine, Mechanical | Mathematics and Physics are usually required. (Further Maths for Oxbridge). |
| English | English is usually required. |
| Geography | Geography is usually required. |
| Geology | Two or three science subjects / Mathematics are usually required. |
| History | History is usually required. Additional essay-writing subjects are preferable. |
| Languages | The chosen language is usually required and additional languages are preferred. |

| UNIVERSITY COURSE | SIXTH FORM CHOICES |
|------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Law | Essay-writing subjects are useful. A language and/or Mathematics are favourable. |
| Mathematics | Mathematics is required and Further Mathematics and/or Physics are preferable. |
| Medicine and Dentistry | Chemistry and Biology are required. Mathematics and/or Physics are preferred. Evidence of communication skills is desirable in an AS subject or from extra curricular activities. Work experience is expected. |
| Music | Many courses require specific instrumental standards e.g. ABRSM 7 or 8. This varies depending on the extent to which performance is part of the course. |
| Music Technology | Music Technology, Physics and Maths are often needed. |
| Pharmacy, Pharmacology | Two or three science subjects are required, usually including Chemistry. |
| Philosophy | A science / Mathematics can be an advantage. Ethics / Philosophy are preferable. |
| Physics | Physics and Mathematics are required. |
| Physiology | Chemistry is often required and Biology, Physics and/or Mathematics are preferable. |
| Politics | Politics is useful but not required. |
| Psychology | Science subjects are often required. |
| Social Sciences | Usually there are no specific requirements. |
| Sports Science | P.E. is preferable and a science subject is required for some courses. |
| Theology | Theology/Philosophy are preferable. |
| Veterinary Science | Chemistry and Biology are required. Mathematics and/or Physics are preferred. Extensive work experience is required. |





WHITGIFT

Whitgift School
Haling Park
South Croydon
London
CR2 6YT

www.whitgift.co.uk



@WhitgiftSchool1



Whitgift School, South Croydon

Photography:
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