

CHURCHDOWN

**6TH** FORM



where futures

**grow**

Welcome to  
CHURCHDOWN

**SIXTH** FORM



*"Moving up to Sixth Form was a big change but an easy transition due to the support of teachers. I enjoy the freedom of studying at my own pace in the supervised study area and Sixth Form has allowed me to take on new responsibilities such as becoming Captain of Cavell house."*

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# A Bright Future at CHURCHDOWN **SIXTH FORM**

Life as a Sixth Form student at Churchdown is both challenging and rewarding.

Student academic progress and personal development is our core purpose. We support our students to be successful in all that they do as we empower them to take their next steps with confidence.

Learning is led by inspiring teachers with lessons in over 30 courses which are academically stimulating. Students are given opportunities to learn in a mature, rigorous and challenging environment. Alongside the gains made academically, our students are also equipped with a range of skills and attitudes such as independence, responsibility and resilience that prepare them for success in the wider world.

Whilst we are extremely proud of our excellent results, we also have a desire to develop our students into confident individuals and responsible citizens. All students are encouraged to contribute to the wider-life of the Sixth Form by becoming involved in enrichment activities, charity events and fundraising initiatives. We expect the highest standards from our Sixth Form students and they act as role-models to the younger pupils as we offer them positions of responsibility and leadership.

Students who choose to join our Sixth Form are expected to have high aspirations and high levels of motivation to succeed. Each student is fully supported by our academic and pastoral teams, thus supporting them in becoming well-rounded individuals. Our students are fully advised on all post-18 options that are available to them and are supported in their pursuit of securing places at their top choice universities, apprenticeships or the workplace.

We are confident that students will enjoy the challenge of learning here and will leave us with both academic excellence and lasting memories.

We look forward to welcoming you into the Sixth Form community.

**Mrs M. Whitson-Jones**  
Head of Sixth Form



*"The facilities and teachers from Churchdown School support students' wellbeing, as well as motivate students to achieve great grades. Working just becomes easier when surrounded in such an enjoyable environment."*



## Aims and Ethos of **SIXTH FORM**

*Our aim is to create a learning environment where students are given every opportunity to flourish academically and socially and, above all, enjoy their experience of post-16 education.*

We ask each student to commit themselves to all areas of their learning and life at Sixth Form. In return we commit to the following to allow each student the opportunity to succeed:

- To have high expectations of all involved
- To encourage our students to have confidence in their abilities
- To develop independent learners within a creative environment
- To recognise that students learn in different ways and encourage students to find their most effective way of learning
- To provide a balanced curriculum that matches the needs of the students
- To provide a comprehensive support system



***We offer an extensive curriculum which is personalised to the individual needs of our students.***

The Level 3 courses we offer will ensure students have access to subjects that interest them, offer a pathway from Key Stage 4, while providing the required combinations to gain a place at university or an apprenticeship. Each type of course offers something different to the student. It is important that these are taken into consideration when making option choices.

#### **Advanced Level courses (A Levels)**

These courses are studied for two years and are examined at the end of Year 13.

#### **Level 3 Applied BTEC courses**

These courses are also studied over two years. Applied BTEC courses suit students who might prefer a different mode of assessment as most still have a greater element of coursework alongside exams.

Entrance to the Sixth Form is determined by pathways; A Level Pathway, Applied A Level Pathway and Applied BTEC Pathway.

#### **Entry Requirements**

In order to join our Sixth Form a student will be expected to gain an average GCSE point score of 4.0 or above. Students will then be assigned a pathway which will allow them to choose their courses. Information for this can be found in our application pack.

# SUBJECTS



Arts and Design Textiles Drama Geography History English  
Mathematics Basic Photography Psychology Sociology

Media Film Studies

Photography

Computing

Applied Science Physics

## Health, Science & Engineering

### A Level Courses

- Biology\*
- Chemistry\*
- Physics\*

### Applied BTEC Courses

- Applied Science
- Physical Education

## Communication, Business Administration and Mathematics

### A Level Courses

- Business Studies
- French\*
- German\*
- Mathematics\*
- Spanish\*

### Applied BTEC Courses

- Business Studies
- Computing
- ICT

## Religious and Social Science

### A Level Courses

- Geography
- History
- Psychology
- Sociology
- Religious Studies

### Applied BTEC Courses

- Applied Law
- Applied Psychology

## Arts and Culture

### A Level Courses

- Fine Art
- Textiles
- Drama
- English Literature
- Media
- Film Studies
- Music

### DT Product Design

### Applied BTEC courses

- Music Practitioner
- Travel and Tourism
- Media BTEC

\*Russell Group universities require a minimum of two facilitating subjects. These are marked with an asterisk.

We also offer an opportunity for anyone to retake GCSE English or Maths as required.

*All courses are offered subject to sufficient demand and may be withdrawn in the event of insufficient student numbers.*

## Student SUPPORT and Tutor PROGRAMME

*A successful sixth form is measured in many different ways, not least in the support and guidance it provides for those within its care.*


### Student support

Whatever students plan to study at Sixth Form, they will have access to one-to-one support from experienced staff throughout their course. This will include tutor support, academic mentoring, study skills sessions, support with revision, career planning, financial advice and health and welfare – everything they will need to be successful in Sixth Form and beyond. The Sixth Form pastoral team is also available throughout the day ensuring there is always someone there to help.

### Tutor programme

The pastoral system plays a key role in the support of students' pastoral and academic progress. Students are placed in tutor groups led by one of our specialist Sixth Form tutors.

Weekly tutorial sessions support students with university destinations, mental health and current affairs and run alongside one-to-one bespoke mentoring meetings. This programme is designed to offer additional layers of support to students. Weekly assemblies also support the development of personal skills, social skills and methodical skills which equip students to be successful learners.



*"At first I was a little nervous about joining Churchdown School as an external student. However, the support that was given to me by teachers and fellow students was amazing, and after only a few weeks I felt settled."*

*"I have always felt really supported at Sixth Form because of the dedicated and personalised help that you receive for your studies and university applications."*

# Our **SIXTH FORM** FACILITIES

*A school is more than a set of buildings and resources. However, we're very proud of the first class facilities which complement our Sixth Form provision.*

Our Sixth Form has been designed with the demands of post-16 education at its core. The Sixth Form building, which has sole use by the Sixth Form students, has excellent computers, a large quiet study area and two small conference teaching rooms. The building is also supported by a wireless network which students can use for their study. All of this combines to allow students to work independently and use their time effectively.

When students are working so hard, we recognise the need for them to relax and socialise. There is a Sixth Form refectory with a common room for this purpose. This is open most of the day offering fresh coffee, soft drinks, snacks and lunch.



*"Being a student at Churchdown Sixth Form has given me independence whilst also providing support and encouragement when needed. I have really benefitted from the work area and this has helped me work more effectively."*



# Choosing the RIGHT post-16 establishment

**Choosing the right post-16 establishment is an important step. Joining our Sixth Form will offer a number of advantages:**

1. Excellent teaching delivered by staff who know the students – this continuity will help ensure a smooth transition into Level 3 courses
2. Outstanding facilities used exclusively by Sixth Formers
3. The support of a dedicated Sixth Form pastoral team, which places students' well-being and development at the top of their agenda
4. Small teaching groups with opportunities for one-to-one support
5. Well qualified teachers with a track record of examination success and a high level of subject expertise
6. An extensive enrichment programme offering volunteering, work experience, Duke of Edinburgh and a wide variety of competitive and non-competitive sport
7. A comprehensive support programme to support students applying for university, apprenticeships or the work place
8. A high flyer programme that supports our students making the highest level applications: Oxbridge, medicine and Russell Group universities.

## What should you consider?

In applying to Sixth Form, students should consider a couple of questions:

- How will the Sixth Form be different?
- How are the Level 3 courses taught and assessed?
- How are the courses I am interested in structured?
- Does it matter if I haven't studied the subject before?
- Do my future career aspirations match my choice of subjects?



*"The support I have received in making my Oxford application has been invaluable. I have felt thoroughly prepared and supported through the whole process from writing my statement, to sitting the entrance exam."*

# Enrichment and GUIDANCE

*Our Sixth Form aims to be the perfect stepping stone from school to university or employment and the complexities of a challenging wider world.*

In order to develop our students socially and academically there is an extensive programme of enrichment. This aims to develop skills outside of the class room as well as give our students the opportunity to stand out in a workplace situation.

Enrichment takes place on a Wednesday afternoon and involves a variety of external speakers, visits to universities, skills building sessions as well as social opportunities. Applying to competitive courses or apprenticeships requires a good knowledge of the work place. Therefore, enrichment time is also used as a time to provide work experience. To support this we have arranged a wide range of work experience including hospitals, schools and Gloucester Rugby Club.

Opportunities within enrichment are:

- Support with UCAS, workplace or apprenticeship applications
- Preparation for workplace
- Work experience
- Interview skills
- CV Boosters
- Team building
- Critical Thinkers
- Study skills
- Sixth Form social
- Student and personal finance
- Revision and coursework support
- Extended Project Qualification



*"I feel that I settled in very quickly and the staff and students are very friendly and welcoming. The way lessons are taught is engaging and the class sizes are small enough to allow me to receive the support I might need."*

# **SIXTH** FORM

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