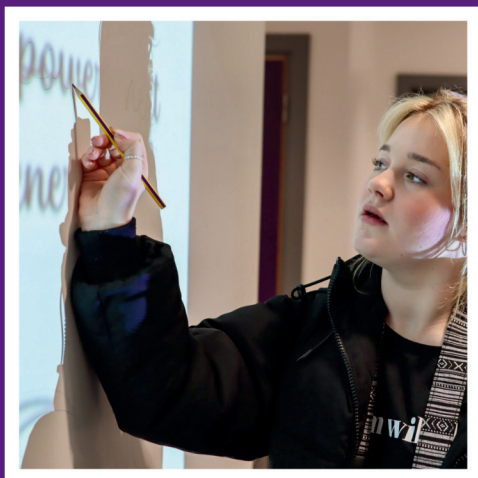





Plympton
Academy
Inspiring Success





WELCOME to Plympton Academy's Sixth Form

Thank you for the interest you are showing in the Sixth Form here at Plympton Academy.

I am very proud of our Sixth Form, and the committed team who support and guide our Sixth Form students.

Our vision is to help all of our Sixth Form pupils 'Discover their Future'. We do this through teaching which is characterised by challenge and expectation, and fostered through personalised careers support, and a wider curriculum which builds a thirst for challenge.

We offer a wide range of courses, including A levels, Diplomas and Level 3 BTECs with students able to choose individual subjects or a specific professional pathway.

We believe every student will succeed when studying an appropriate course, supported by an experienced tutor and monitoring system, and receiving the highest quality teaching.

We believe in inspiring a culture of success for all, which is why we set high expectations of every member of our learning community.

Plympton Academy Sixth Form encompasses the schools core values. We are a community that is compassionate, courageous and curious about our world.

I hope this prospectus gives you an overview of the world of opportunity ahead and that you will want to find out more about what we have to offer. I really want you to enjoy your time with us, develop real skills and gain the experience that will act as a strong foundation for your future success.

Ian Hartley
Assistant Principal
Sixth Form and Personal Development



About Us

Whether you are currently studying at Plympton Academy or are a student at another school or college, deciding where you should undertake the next stage of your learning will play a key part in determining your future success.

We are dedicated to ensuring that, once they leave our Sixth Form, all students will have acquired the necessary qualifications, experiences and skills to confidently progress to their chosen next steps.

As such we are delighted to have the development of facilities at Plympton Academy which will raise the aspirations and opportunities for our Sixth Form students. We have recently completely renovated our Sixth Form centre alongside our recently completed 3G pitch and redeveloped MUGA area, along with a state of the art Performing Arts Centre, recently opened by Sir Michael Morpurgo.

Having recently opened our main building, we now have additional state of the art facilities including a new library, sports studio, catering rooms, photography suite and art rooms.

We are very proud of the positive contribution our Sixth Form students make to the ethos of our Academy and the influence they have over younger students.

It is crucial that the Sixth Form showcases the very best of Plympton Academy through our Five Core Principles:

Teaching and Learning:

We support our Sixth Form pupils to love the challenge of learning and be resilient to failure

Leadership:

Leaders inspire a culture of success for all; we look to develop and recognise leadership qualities in all our Sixth Form students through formal and informal opportunities.

Community:

The Sixth Form is the cornerstone of a thriving learning community and wider local community. We encourage Sixth Formers to utilise their skills and experiences for the benefit of these communities.

Learning Environment:

Through the new facilities, we will create a learning environment for Sixth Form pupils that stimulates, fosters innovation and promotes opportunities.

The Person:

Ultimately, our aim is to equip all students to achieve their dreams and take pride in their success



“

Sixth form has been a bridge between school and the real world. With the level of trust and responsibility we're given, I feel prepared for whatever comes next.

”

Sixth form Student

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“

We are definitely given more Independence in the Sixth Form compared to Year 11, but this means that we have to be more organised. We are never just left to it, though there is always support at hand.

”

Sixth Form Pupil



Studying at Plympton Academy Sixth Form

There are many pathways through Sixth Form education at Plympton Academy, all of which provide a wide range of choice, opportunity and access to any career or university course

Generally, students will choose a programme of A Level and/or Level 3 BTECs with opportunities to complete the Extended Project Qualification (EPQ) alongside a number of AQA Unit Awards.

We look to ensure an individualised programme, dependent on the student's likely GCSE grades and their career or Higher Education aspirations. In addition to the academic provision, students are supported with a tutor programme, including careers, community and charity work and life skills.

Students are expected to undertake work experience in Year 12 to enhance their application to University or future jobs.

Programmes may include additional courses such as GCSE English and Maths re-sits, and opportunities to get involved in enrichment activities.

We offer a range of pathways in our Sixth Form which have different entry requirements:

The Academic Pathway requires at least 5 GCSEs, or level 2 equivalent, Grade 9-5 including English and Maths, and three further GCSEs or Level 2 equivalents. Some subjects have specific entry requirements.

The Professional Pathway requires at least 5 GCSEs, or Level 2 equivalent, Grade 9-4 including English and Maths and three further GCSEs or Level 2 equivalents. Some subjects have specific entry requirements.

Professional Specific pathway entry requirements are as follows:

Creative

5 GCSEs / Level 2 equivalent,
Grade 9-4 including English and Maths
and a grade 5 in Art or Photography.

Medical Professional / Sport Performance

5 GCSEs / Level 2 equivalent,
Grade 9-5 including English, Maths and Science.

Performing Arts / Sport Management / Travel and Tourism

5 GCSEs / Level 2 equivalent,
Grade 9-4 including English and Maths.

Students who achieve Grade 9-4 at English or maths, but not both, will be allowed to enter the Sixth Form on condition of re-sitting the equivalent subject.

Guidance and Support

Life in the Sixth Form is different from Year 11. Not only do we give our Sixth Form students their own space and identity, we expect them to take on a sense of independence, and take responsibility for their own success.

We recognise, however, that whilst we encourage a greater sense of independence and responsibility, some students still require ongoing guidance to remain on track. Every student's welfare and progress is carefully monitored by subject teachers, their tutor (who they will meet with daily), mentors, and Head of Sixth Form. Appropriate support is provided when such a need is identified or requested.

As well as meeting the academic challenges, Sixth Form is a time for new experiences, and making new friends. In our friendly, adult environment, every student is supported to be the very best they can be. Discover student-centred support through a pastoral programme which is designed to facilitate their future interests.

Financial Support

At the time of writing, full details of the 16- 19 Bursary Fund have not been received in the Academy. However, the fund is likely to have two elements:

- **Young People:** In care or leaving care; in receipt of Income Support or Universal Credit; in receipt of **Employment Support Allowance** and **Disability Support Allowance**; or in receipt of Personal Independence Payments will be eligible to receive a conditional bursary of £1,200 a year, payable in weekly instalments.
- The Academy also makes discretionary awards to students who are in financial difficulty. If students feel that they are in such a situation (eligibility for Free School Meals is a good indicator) they should collect full details from the Sixth Form Office.

Careers Advice & Guidance

Careers information is at the heart of what we do at Plympton Academy Sixth Form.

Students in both Year 12 and Year 13 benefit from an extensive, bespoke careers programme. Year 12s spend time focusing on career pathways, preparing for work with support in creative CVs and covering letters as well as support in securing purposeful and relevant work experience.

Year 13s benefit from tailored pathways information, which includes a separate programme for students looking to study at Oxford or Cambridge as well as the medics.

Both year groups have the opportunity to attend Post 18 pathways events with guest speakers from Universities, Apprenticeship providers and the Military.

Through this robust programme we are able to provide careers advice and guidance to suit the individual.

We also ensure that, as well as planning for academic success, students and tutors are planning the next steps and every student is guaranteed individual careers and Higher Education advice (including full support through the UCAS application process for University) throughout their time in the Sixth Form.

There is a timetable of activities provided to all students and this is supplemented by activities aimed at specific individuals.

Discover world class destinations including Russell Group Universities, Conservatoires, Higher Level Apprenticeships, Health and Dentistry and the Military.



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Enrichment Opportunities

There are over 70 enrichment opportunities available throughout the week at the Academy, including performing arts, the school performance, music clubs, mindfulness, maths challenge, science clubs and careers talks. The main out of school enrichment opportunities available to Sixth Form students are:

National Citizen Service

This is your chance to embark on exhilarating challenges, make your mark and build skills for work and life. There are three parts to this scheme:

- **Adventure** - this is a residential where you will get to know some amazing people and enjoy some quality time away from home.
- **Discovery** - you will be reunited with your group in a uni-style environment where you will develop life skills like confidence, leadership and communication.
- **Social Action** - is where your experience comes together to deliver your very own social action project.

Student Leadership

Our Sixth Form students are the cornerstone to our student council; they direct the other year groups and act as ambassadors for positive change.

Students have the opportunity to participate in leadership through roles such as Head Student, Head of Diversity, Head of Communication or Head of Charity. We also have heads of each of our houses. Through such avenues the Sixth Form work directly with the community, the staff and the school management team to instigate positive change.

Sport

Those who study at Plympton Academy enjoy the opportunity to engage in a range of competitive and lifestyle activities that are on offer through curricular and extra-curricular programmes.

Students regularly visit our state-of-the-art Fitness Suite to develop their own health and well-being and many students also represent the Academy in a variety of sporting events.

The Sports Leadership Programme provides further opportunities for experiences and qualifications for those who have an interest in leadership by leading/assisting with Academy and local community clubs and events.

Wider Curriculum

We believe that each student should have the opportunity to develop transferable skills required in the workplace. As such, we make use of tutor time for students to pick wider curriculum activities which promote teamwork, communication and a sense of community. Students have the chance to act as mentors to younger students, become charity ambassadors or even support the community by arranging cross-generation events.

Joining us at Plympton Academy Sixth Form

We know that every student that applies to join our Sixth Form has worked very hard to get to this point. This being the case, part of the Sixth Form transfer process involves making sure each student is placed on an appropriate pathway that will give them the experience to enter the world of work or continue into further education.

If you decide that you would like to join the Sixth Form here at Plympton Academy, full details of the process and key dates can be found under the 'Admissions' section of the website.

If you would like to discuss your application, or have any questions regarding our Sixth Form, please contact the Academy; you will have our full support as you take greater responsibility for your own learning and start to make significant choices in preparation for your chosen path to enrichment and success.

**Discover how to unlock your potential
@ Plympton Academy**



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