

Great Oaks Small School

Sixth Form Prospectus

Introduction

Great Oaks Small School is a co-education community that aims to provide a holistic education that supports students to achieve their aspirations, and to leave the school as independent, compassionate and caring individuals who will make a valuable contribution to society. We support our students to gain qualifications that are appropriate to their individual needs and aspirations, **preparing them** for the next stage in their careers in further and higher education, training or employment.

Sixth Form Provision

Where are we based?

The sixth form has its own centre, just half a mile from the main school house and based at Discovery Park; a global science, technology and enterprise hub, with a wide range of community facilities that are accessible to the students and staff, for example:

café, bakery, play room (table tennis, pool, indoor golf) physiotherapy, health & beauty, holistic treatments (fees payable for some activities).

In addition to Discovery Park, our thriving Creative Arts Department continues to be based at the main school house. Our minibuses transport students to and from the sites as necessary.

What do we offer?

Our sixth form programmes are flexible and can include experiences and strategies to develop independent study and independent living skills. We aim to meet the needs and interests of each individual student, providing them with the skills and knowledge they require to pursue for success in their chosen pathway after school. Decisions on the appropriate sixth form pathway will be made in consultation with the student and their parents/ carers and championing the student's aspirations, within realistic parameters.

Sixth Form Pathways

A. One Year for transition into further education, training or employment

GCSE; resits; Functional Skills, BTEC short courses as available

Certificate of Personal Effectiveness

Part-time Work experience

Subject of interest (some with qualification opportunities) e.g. photography, sports, music, art

B. Two years for transition into Further Education, training or employment

English and Maths – GCSE; resits; Functional Skills; BTEC courses as available

Certificate of Personal Effectiveness

Work Experience (Year 1) and College Placement (Year 2) as appropriate

Subject of interest (some with qualification opportunities) e.g. photography, sports, music, art

C Two years for transition into Higher Education, training or employment

A Level Courses, B-Tech courses as available

Additional GCSEs

Work - experience / University visits

In addition to their chosen academic pathway, all student timetables will include Personal, Social, Health and Economic Education (PSHE); Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) Spiritual, Moral, Social, Cultural Development (SMSC); Enrichment Activities and Physical Education.

Enrichment Activities

All students will have the opportunity to take part in 'non-qualification' activities each week. Examples include:

- Forest School - on and off-site activities
- Visits to local places of interest e.g. Turner Contemporary; White Cliffs Project, museums, galleries, places of worship, concerts
- Opportunities for learning further afield e.g. theatre, museums, galleries, exhibitions
- Leadership opportunities – supporting / mentoring/ role model for younger students
- Work experience, College/ University Visits
- Duke of Edinburgh Award (depending on the number of students interested)

Requirements for Entry to the Sixth Form

Pathway A

- evidence of a commitment to learning
- evidence of self-discipline in attendance, punctuality, engagement and a positive attitude to peers and authority
- likely to have the emotional maturity to transfer to further education or training at the end of one year in sixth form
- report from previous school

Pathway B

- evidence of a commitment to learning
- evidence of self-discipline in attendance, punctuality, engagement and a positive attitude to peers and authority
- may require longer than one year in sixth form to develop their confidence and independence
- undertaking two-year qualification courses e.g. GCSE
- report from previous school

Pathway C

- 9-4 (A* - C) pass at GCSE in the chosen A Level Subject
- 9-4 (A* - C) pass at GCSE in English and Maths or capable of achieving via resits
- evidence of a commitment to learning and a record of meeting coursework deadlines
- evidence of self-discipline in attendance, punctuality, engagement and a positive attitude to peers and authority
- report from previous school

Planning for your future

At Great Oaks Small School we are committed to supporting our students in planning the path to their chosen careers – whether that be to college, university, training, apprenticeships or employment.

All students will receive:

- 1:1 Careers Advice with our independent Careers Adviser
- Subject specialists for your chosen courses
- Help with writing applications, CVs, Personal Statements
- Help in preparing for interviews
- Work Experience placements
- Where appropriate, visits to colleges and universities

Special and Additional Needs

The school has a great deal of experience and expertise in supporting students with special and additional educational needs, primarily in Autism, with or without high anxiety, and social communication difficulties. The majority of our students have an Education Health and Care Plan (EHCP) that set out the student's needs and the support and provision they should receive. Our Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator (SENCo) is responsible for ensuring the requirements described the EHCP or Statement of SEN are met. Students' needs and progress are monitored and reviewed regularly including a formal Annual Review, in consultation with parents/carers.

The special and additional needs of students without an EHCP or Statement are identified and also fully supported.

Many of our students will study while learning to manage in the wider community. Some of our students will take AS levels and A Levels. All students are supported fully with external careers advice and further support with applications to adult education, work or apprenticeships. Many of our students will participate in the Asdan, Certificate of personal Effectiveness (COPE) a study programme; accredited courses that take a scaffolding approach to independence skills, enabling them to be better equipped for future transitions.