

# Welcome ...

to our **Ursuline Sixth Form Newsletter**.

***A community where you can truly belong and succeed***

Hello Everyone! It is with both sadness and great pride that we share our final message as the Head Girl Team. We are immensely proud of, and amazed by, the quality of the Hustings that took place in November, and we are very confident in passing our roles onto our successors. We are certain that they will lead with integrity and kindness!

This term has been a highly eventful one! We had an overwhelming number of volunteers for our joint Sixth Form Open Evening with Wimbledon College, and the enthusiasm and passion radiating from our students have without doubt inspired the next generation of sixth formers.

Moreover, most of the Year 13s have submitted their UCAS applications and are now awaiting decisions. This is a time of both anxiety and great anticipation, but also of reward for all the hard work put in throughout these two years. With the November Mocks having taken place at the start of Autumn B term, Year 13s have spent the rest of the term reflecting and closing the gaps in their knowledge. For Year 12s, this term meant seeing what A-Level and T-Level papers look like for the first time, as they sat their cumulative exams.

Beyond academics, sixth formers have been involved in a wide variety of activities. The Dallas Exchange trip took place over the October Half-Term, allowing us to experience life at our sister school in the US. Year 13 Psychology and Sociology students received a post-mock treat by seeing HadesTown in the West End, which was a wonderful way to destress! Our annual School production of Hairspray took place on November 27th and 28th, which many sixth formers took part in. The production was a fantastic way for sixth formers to connect with the lower school students and form lasting, meaningful friendships.

As Year 13s enjoy their last first term of sixth form and Year 12s enjoy their first - both are embarking on a new journey, getting ready to learn more about themselves and their world around them. It is with great pride that we can say we have been a part of this sixth form and have had the absolute pleasure of serving as a bridge in communications between students and staff!

Head Girl Team 2025, signing off.

Best wishes,

Gabriella, Sarena, Ines, and Berta  
**The Head Girl Team**



## ***A message from the Sixth Form Team: Christmas, Values, and Virtues***

As the autumn term draws to a close, this is a wonderful moment to pause and reflect. It has been a term of growth and achievement. We were delighted to welcome our new Year 12 students, including many from other schools, who have embraced our ethos and values with enthusiasm. They have already shown great character in the way they have approached their studies. Year 13, meanwhile, continue to meet the challenges of their final year with resilience and perseverance - qualities that will serve them well in the months ahead.

The Christmas story offers us a profound picture of belonging. Jesus was worshipped by both the lowly shepherds and the prominent Magi - two very different groups united in their desire to honour the newborn King. This reminds us that God's invitation is for all: His house is a house of prayer for all nations (Mark 11:17). Just as the Magi recognised the difference between worldly kingship and Godly kingship, and chose to follow truth rather than Herod's instructions, we too are called to seek what is good and true. The arrival of these learned, foreign men shows God's heart to draw people from every background into His family. In the same way, our Sixth Form motto - Belong and Succeed - reflects this spirit of inclusion. Every student, regardless of their starting point, is welcomed and supported to flourish.

As we look ahead to the new term, let us carry forward these virtues of humility, perseverance, and community. They are the foundation of success and the heart of what makes our Sixth Form special.

On behalf of all the staff, I wish you a joyful and restful Christmas break. May it be a time of peace, reflection, and celebration with those who matter most.

**Mr M Collins**  
**Assistant Headteacher, Sixth Form**



## Why Choose Ursuline High School Sixth Form?

### A Catholic Community Welcoming All

We welcome students of all faiths and none, promoting inclusivity, tolerance, and respect within a supportive, caring community that values diversity.

### Diverse Pathways

We offer A-Levels and T Levels, preparing students for university, further education, apprenticeships, or training.

### Oxbridge & Medics Programmes

Our Programme includes tailored support, events, speakers, trips, weekly classes, and mock interviews.

### Outstanding Results

In 2025, 61% of our A-Level grades were A\* and A, with 30% students earning straight A\* or A grades in our joint sixth form. In A-Level Maths, 45% of the grades were A\* or A. Additionally, in our T Levels, 83% achieving grades from Distinction\* to Merit (equivalent to A\*-B at A-Level).

### Impressive Destinations

Last summer, 46% of Year 13 students who applied to Russell Group universities secured a place and 55% of students who applied to Sutton Trust institutions were accepted.

### Partnership with Wimbledon College

This partnership provides access to more courses and fosters friendships and understanding between students from both schools.

### Comprehensive Curriculum

Our curriculum goes beyond results, focusing on deepening students' knowledge and enabling them to tackle challenging concepts.



# 100%

*of students agree  
high standards of work are  
expected by their subject  
teachers*

\* Sixth form Teaching & Learning  
survey 2025

100% of Year 13 and 99.6% of Year 12  
respondents agreed/strongly agreed

# 99%

*of students agree questioning  
in class is challenging and  
deepens their knowledge  
and understanding*

\* Sixth form Teaching & Learning  
survey 2025

99% of Year 13 and 98% of Year 12  
respondents agreed/strongly agreed



## Why Choose Ursuline High School Sixth Form? cont.

### State of the Art Facilities

We have two dedicated Sixth Form centres, including the newly opened Katherine Johnson building for our T Level students.

### Personal Development

We offer numerous opportunities beyond the classroom, including societies, a prefect system, leadership training, and community service programs.

### Enrichment Opportunities

These include the Duke of Edinburgh Gold Award, Covent Garden Challenge, and Guardian Young Writer's Scheme.

### Dedicated Careers Programme

This supports students with long-term career development.

### Engaging PSHEC Curriculum

Our curriculum prepares students for life in modern Britain and beyond.

### Increased Independence

Facilities include a dedicated common room and two cafés.

### Empowerment and Success

Our aim is for every student to leave feeling empowered and ready to succeed in higher education and their chosen careers.

**99%**

*of students agree their subjects encourage them to think hard and grasp difficult concepts*

\* Sixth form Teaching & Learning survey 2025

99% of both Year 12 & Year 13 respondents agreed/strongly agreed

**99%**

*of students agree they are set appropriate and challenging homework*

\* Sixth form Teaching & Learning survey 2025

99% of Year 12 and 98% of Year 13 respondents agreed/strongly agreed



## Sixth Form Successes

### Goldie Mok

**Goldie Mok, an external student, chose to join Ursuline Sixth Form after being impressed by the welcoming and supportive atmosphere at the open evening.**

She was particularly inspired by the Headteacher's talk and recognised the school's strong reputation for excellent A-Level and T-Level results. Ursuline's commitment to academic support and career guidance further reinforced her decision.

Although Goldie did not study Computer Science at GCSE, she completed a three-month Python coding course as part of her Duke of Edinburgh scheme, which she found fascinating. She is now enrolled in the two-year T-Level Digital course and speaks highly of her teachers, Mrs Bhayat and Mr Chiswa. Despite having joined only three months ago, Goldie already feels a strong sense of belonging within the Ursuline community.

Outside the classroom, Goldie is an accomplished badminton player and has been a member of Badminton England since 2023.

She recently qualified for her first U17 national championship, describing the experience as challenging yet rewarding. Currently, she is ranked 43rd in U17 and 157th overall in the country.

Looking ahead, Goldie aspires to pursue a career in computer science, focusing on software programming, cybersecurity, or data analysis. In badminton, she hopes to qualify for the U19 national championship next year.



*Goldie is currently enrolled in the two-year T Level Digital course and speaks highly of her teacher, Mr Chiswa.*

### Goldie's achievements include:

- Bronze medal in U17 singles (Warwickshire, April 2024)
- Bronze and silver medals in doubles (Kent, August 2024)
- Two silver medals in mixed doubles (U19 Bronze) and one silver in mixed doubles (U17 Silver, Oxfordshire, 2025)

## Student Profiles



**Humaid Abubakar –  
T Level Digital**

*I chose T Level Digital because it combines business and computer science, which really appealed to me.*

This route felt more practical than traditional A-Levels and gives me options for apprenticeships, internships, or university. So far, I've really enjoyed the programming side and learning about business legislation. I'm especially looking forward to my placement at IBM at the end of the autumn term, where I'll be working on AI chatbots and doing more coding. Sixth form has been great—I already feel part of the Ursuline community.



**Reet Bhari – A Levels  
& Cricket Academy**

*I joined Ursuline Sixth Form to combine my A-Level studies with the Cricket Academy.*

So far, I've visited the Oval, met other members of the Surrey Academy of Cricket Scholars, and trained twice a week with Surrey coaches. I've also completed a support coach course and a safeguarding course with the ECB. Even if you've never played cricket before, the coaches are brilliant and make it easy to get involved. Academically, I chose Maths, Economics, and Psychology because they keep my options open for the future. Maths builds on GCSE content and is really well structured, Economics helps me understand the link between politics and the wider world, and Psychology is fascinating—we've started by looking at research and how it shapes teaching today. Sixth form life is welcoming and personal; even teachers who don't teach me ask about cricket, which makes me feel part of the community.



**Amelia Rose – T Level  
Health**

*I picked T Level Health because it's not just exams—there's lots of practical work as well as written tasks.*

My goal is to become a forensic psychologist and study this at university. The lessons have been so varied; we've learned about caring for people, taking medical histories, and even done diagnostic interviews and role plays. Sixth form has a relaxed atmosphere, and I love having access to the common room and dedicated canteen. Our first placement is in a nursing home, and I can't wait to put the practical skills I've learned into action.

## Student Profiles



**Rosa Poorman –  
A Levels**

*I chose to stay at Ursuline for sixth form because I've always enjoyed the teaching style and felt comfortable here.*

I'm studying Geography, Religious Studies, and Sociology—subjects I loved at GCSE and that give me a broad range of options for the future. Sixth form life has been fantastic; I've made new friends and really value the independence, like using the canteen and study areas during study periods. I'm not completely sure what career I want yet, but I know these subjects will keep my options open. I'd definitely recommend our sixth form to anyone looking for a supportive and friendly environment.



**Nicola Gluchowski –  
A Levels**

*I'm studying Maths, Psychology, and Economics. Maths has always been a favourite of mine because it opens doors to so many university courses.*

Psychology caught my interest during taster sessions, and hearing positive feedback from older students helped me decide. Economics fits well with Maths and could lead to a career in finance. Staying at Ursuline felt right because I already knew the teachers and felt comfortable here. Highlights so far include the Head Girl hustings—I loved hearing everyone's ideas—and taking part in enrichment activities like choir. Performing in our school production of Hairspray was the best part of the term: fun, exhausting, but so rewarding!



*A community where you can truly belong and succeed*



## Enriching Experiences

### Discovering Dallas: Our School Exchange

This Autumn some Year 12 and Year 13 students went to Ursuline Dallas on an exchange trip that gave them an unforgettable taste of Texan life. Staying with students from the Dallas school, they got to experience American culture hands-on, with many visiting popular attractions like Six Flags Theme Park, and Bucc-ee's (A gargantuan gas station - perhaps unsurprisingly only found in the southern USA).

They immersed themselves in American student life, attending a range of classes from Arabic to US History and going along to sports clubs like Rowing and Cheerleading. This created a unique, and unforgettable experience for each and every one of them, giving them the opportunity to form meaningful friendships beyond the UK.

They also had the chance to share British culture with the Ursuline Dallas, as well as an Elementary-Middle School where they shared what London life was like, and to compare culture in a new way.

The trip allowed many of them to view America through a different lens and gave them the opportunity to share their own experiences growing up in the UK – something that ultimately provided an exciting, unforgettable experience (and for some, the realisation that teenagers everywhere don't tidy their rooms).





## Year 12 Enrichment

### *Enriching our lives and the lives of others.*

Our Year 12 enrichment programme has continued to flourish, offering students a wealth of opportunities to grow personally and academically while living out the Ursuline value of Serviam. With nineteen diverse options available, every student has been encouraged to step beyond the classroom and engage in experiences that foster service, leadership, and creativity.

Among the most exciting developments this year are seven new enrichments that have broadened the scope of our programme. The introduction of Art provides a dedicated space for talented students to refine their skills, while the flagship Cricket Academy—supported by Surrey County Cricket—offers a two-year pathway for those committed to sporting excellence. French Conversation sessions now support A Level linguists, and our Leadership Programme has evolved into an accredited course, incorporating the Covent Garden Challenge to give students real-world leadership experience. Those in the Leadership Programme are also contributing to the Interfaith Forum – a borough-wide initiative that fosters togetherness across local sixth forms, engages in ethical discussions, as well as visiting different religious places of worship to gain greater empathy for those of other faiths. Academic curiosity is nurtured through Maths Ritangle, a competitive challenge designed to stretch problem-solving skills, and Quiz Bowl, which prepares students for the prestigious competition. Finally, our new partnership with Wimbledon Chase Primary School allows students to make a tangible difference in the lives of younger learners.





## Year 12 Enrichment



Students continue to volunteer at Perseid School, local Catholic primaries, and the Faith in Action Homeless Centre, as well as supporting Food Bank collections with Dons Local Action. Such experiences not only benefit the wider community but also help our students develop empathy, resilience, and a sense of responsibility.

Every Year 12 student participates in at least one enrichment, with many opting for two or more. These opportunities enrich personal statements, strengthen CVs, and, most importantly, inspire students to embrace new challenges.



Many of our sixth form students also took part in the school production Hairspray. The performance levels were incredible, and the cast and crew worked together to produce a fantastic show. Mr Collins was also spotted playing bass guitar in the band!

As St Angela Merici reminds us:

***“Do something, get moving, be confident, risk new things, stick with it, then be ready for big surprises.”***

Our enrichment programme embodies this spirit, encouraging students to take bold steps and discover horizons they never imagined.



## *Sixth Form Highlights: Sixth Form Open Evening*

**We're pleased to share the success of our recent Joint Sixth Form Open Evening hosted by Wimbledon College**



It was a memorable evening, full of enthusiasm and engagement, as we welcomed students from across London alongside our own talented community. The turnout was excellent, and it was a privilege to showcase the wide range of opportunities available within our Sixth Form. This year, we gave prospective external students a tour of the Ursuline school site, before they visited the exhibition stalls at Wimbledon College, giving a taste of the school environment.

Throughout the event, prospective students explored what makes our Sixth Form distinctive: strong academic standards, comprehensive personal development programmes, and a welcoming, inclusive community. Our staff and students were on hand to provide valuable insights into the support and guidance we offer to help every learner reach their full potential. From our broad curriculum and enriching extracurricular activities to tailored career pathways, we ensure every student has the tools to succeed.

A highlight of the evening was sharing the impressive destinations our students achieve after their time with us—whether progressing to leading universities, embarking on respected apprenticeships, or stepping into rewarding careers. These successes reflect the commitment and ambition of our students and the support they receive throughout their journey.

Yet our Sixth Form is about more than academic achievement—it's a place where students feel they belong. The sense of community, friendship, and support here creates an environment where every individual can flourish both personally and academically. From day one, we nurture confidence, leadership, and passion, empowering young people to grow and succeed.

We look forward to welcoming the next generation of students to our Sixth Form—a place where opportunities are plentiful, success is within reach, and every student is supported to thrive.



*A community where you can truly belong and succeed*



## *Life At Ursuline Sixth Form*



### **Welcome Year 12**

Year 12 got off to a great start as they settled into sixth form. They met their tutors, celebrated mass together, and reconnected after a summer break, making new friends, getting to grips with their courses, and helping each other along the way.



### **Voter Registration Week**

In September it was the Greater London Authority's (GLA) London Voter Registration Week. Big thanks to GLA who sent along a representative to engage in the voter registration process with our students.



### **Ursuline Global Scholars Programme**

We are very proud of our Year 13 students who recently completed the Ursuline Global Scholars Programme with presentations before a panel of judges. This is the first year we have run the programme, following the model set up by the UEN at Ursuline schools in the States. It is a demanding programme and the students did incredibly well. Well done to all of you!!



### **Sixth Form Enrichment**

There are many enrichment activities to choose from at our sixth form. Here are four of our Year 12s at their induction at Sacred Heart Primary in New Malden which they completed in order to help out each week in one of our feeder primary schools!

## Life At Ursuline Sixth Form



### Black History Month 2025

India and Realjoy kicked off Black History Month with a celebration of African and Caribbean culture, music and history! Dig deeper, look closer, think bigger.



### Student Voice

Huge congratulations to Anne who received the Dialogue Voice of the Month diploma from the Executive Director of the Nobel Peace Center, Oslo!



### Giving Back!

Our Foodbank champions were out at Morrisons and Waitrose helping Dons Local Action with food collections.



### Sixth Form Open Evening

We had a great turnout for our joint Sixth Form Open Evening with Wimbledon College this term. A huge thank you to our student helpers and everyone who attended! Our great results, knowledgeable staff specialists, impressive destinations (including apprenticeships), and focus on well-being, showcasing that at Ursuline High School and Wimbledon College Sixth Forms you can truly be the best version of yourself.

## Life At Ursuline Sixth Form



### Badminton Success

Shout out to Goldie who recently won silver at U17 Badminton England tournament with her mixed doubles partner! Goldie then went on to win silver in mixed doubles in the U19 Badminton England bronze tournament in Oxfordshire.



### Wimbledon Synagogue

In November Annabelle and Natalie visited Wimbledon Synagogue as part of their enrichment programme. An opportunity to engage in interfaith dialogue with other sixth forms. They were exceptional ambassadors for the school!



### Amazing Amazon T Level Placement

Our Sixth Form T Level Digital students Ella and Alex are recently completed a work placement with Amazon! They worked on different creative and media teams and put their knowledge to great use. Their work was outstanding, with our students showcasing Distinction work and learning new skills with other students. Well done!



### Head Team Hustings

Our Head Team Hustings were held on Wednesday 12th November, presented by our current Head team. Sixth form and Year 11 students heard excellent speeches from our Year 12 applicants Maia H-M, Bolu, Sophie T, Emma S, Lucia S, Catherine B, Evangeline H-J, Catherine C, Beila E, Orla D, Dani W, and Emma C.



## Life At Ursuline Sixth Form



### Covent Garden Challenge

On Wednesday 19th November, We held this years' Covent Garden Challenge semi-final. 70+ Year 5 local primary school students worked with our sixth formers to come up with a new product idea which they could sell at Covent Garden Market. There were some with some fab ideas including; a feeling flower - to provide encouragement with difficult emotions, special Christmas thermal clothing for cold days, Nibble Nator- a cool treat feeder for pets, and Aqua boots - using steam to keep your feet warm.



### Merton College - Oxford

Our Oxbridge programme gave some of our Year 12s the chance to visit Merton College, Oxford University this term. A very insightful day!



### Work Experience at IBM

Year 12 T Level Digital students completed their first placement this term - two weeks at IBM and a chance to apply their knowledge to tasks set by their employers. Well done everyone - a valuable experience and new skills learnt!



### New Student Leadership Team

This year's Student Leadership Team selection process was very competitive! We are delighted to announce the Heads' Student Leadership Team 2025-26 this year comprises of Joint Head Girls and one Deputy Head Girl position alongside four Senior Prefects.

**Joint Head Girls:** Catherine and Maia  
**Deputy Head Girl:** Emma



*A community where you can truly belong and succeed*



**Belong and Succeed**

[www.ursulinehigh.merton.sch.uk/sixth-form](http://www.ursulinehigh.merton.sch.uk/sixth-form)

**Instagram: @uhssixthform**