



URSULINE SIXTH FORM

PROSPECTUS 2019



FROM THE HEADTEACHER

Ursuline Sixth Form is about developing you as a confident, aspirational young woman willing and able to seize new opportunities. You will join a community who are committed to learning and who work collaboratively with teachers to attain their best. The sixth form is characterised by its friendliness and diversity as well as respect and kindness.

Beginning the Sixth Form is an exciting time when you will be making important decisions about the next step in your education. We offer a rich and excellent pathway to your chosen university, further education, apprenticeship or first job. We prepare you for the independent learning needed for lectures and seminars. Our expert Careers Team offers support and one to one advice and guidance on university, apprenticeships and career choices as well as work shadowing places in Year 12. We also offer students specialist support from our Oxbridge Coordinator, Medics Coordinator and seminars for students applying to the Russell group of Universities. We want you to have the freedom to make the right choices to develop into being your very best.

As a student at the Ursuline you have access to courses at Wimbledon College as part of our partnership arrangements. This facilitates a greater choice of subjects as well as different combinations.

Every Sixth Form student is invited to take full part in the life of the school through enrichment programmes, student societies, the prefect system, leadership training and community service programmes. Our enrichment programme adds breadth and depth to learning, we give every student the opportunity to find their passion and develop themselves.

We have flourishing music, drama and PE departments with many opportunities to participate in performance and sport. There are school visits including field work and cultural trips. Recent visits have included New Orleans, New York, Dallas and China.

We are confident that you will find the Sixth Form challenging and rewarding and an excellent preparation for either university, further education or the world of work.

We look forward to welcoming you into our Sixth Form in September.

Julia Waters

Ms Julia Waters BSc (Hons) MA
Headteacher



Ursuline Sixth Form Centre

Christmas Party for the Retired



OUR ETHOS

Serviam

We are a Catholic community who embraces and welcomes all faiths. Having celebrated 125 years we are part of a worldwide network of Ursuline schools, and follow the teaching of St Angela Merici to develop young women as leaders and active members of the school and local community. The ethos of the Sixth Form promotes inclusivity, tolerance and respect for others within a supportive, caring community which values diversity.

Chaplaincy encourages students to support a number of community projects:

- Volunteering with local charities: Operation Christmas Child, Mencap, Wimbledon Foodbank, Merton Faith in Action Homelessness
- The Eucharistic Minister Programme
- Catholic Youth Ministry Federation, Faith in Action Award
- Helping to support younger students at school events
- Perseid School – working with students with severe learning difficulties
- Silver Surfers – helping the elderly with technical support

In addition, all students continue to develop and grow spiritually through a programme that enables them to reflect critically and engage in discussion about religious belief and explore and respect different faiths within society.



Operation Christmas Child

“Our school motto, Serviam – I will serve, is at the heart of school life and encourages us to develop our gifts and talents for the benefit of others.”

OUTSTANDING TEACHING AND LEARNING

Inspire

2019 RESULTS

(A Level or equivalent)

A* - A – 27%

A* - B – 62%

A* - C – 85%

These results reflect the outstanding Teaching delivered by staff and commitment to studies shown by students.



Each and every student matters to us. Through engaging lessons and a challenging curriculum, students make sustained and substantial progress. At the Ursuline the teaching and learning is a journey that is explored by both students and the teachers to enable all students to achieve their ambitions. Teachers are experts in their field and motivate students to independently research topical issues. Students are encouraged to feedback research through class discussion which makes the learning environment more stimulating. Several staff are also examiners and have first-hand experience of how the marks are awarded which in turn ensures our students are better prepared to achieve outstanding results.

“The teachers have strong subject knowledge and give me regular feedback to enable me to make the progress I am capable of.”

9
QUALIFIED
A LEVEL
EXAMINERS

52
SPECIALIST
SUBJECT
SIXTH FORM
TEACHERS

2
DEDICATED
STUDY
CENTRES



We are conscious that a student needs more than just good examination results to be successful in adult life. This is more important than ever in our modern global world. Teachers focus on deepening students' knowledge enabling them to access challenging concepts.

In all lessons, we aim to develop the students' skills with particular focus on:

- Questioning
- Challenge
- Critical evaluation
- Examination Technique

To support this, Learning Conferences are organised with specific focus on:

- Higher order revision skills
- Developing resilience
- Mind-set
- Learning habits

“ The sixth form really encourages us to become strong and independent learners. ”

WIMBLEDON COLLEGE PARTNERSHIP

Collaboration



Year 13 Prom

The opportunities available to me from the joint projects encourages me to become a strong independent woman with strong interpersonal skills.

To offer the students the best possible curriculum we have a partnership with Wimbledon College.

This enables the girls to study a wider range of courses through accessing subjects at both sites. The schools work closely to monitor teaching and learning and student progress. The partnership also encourages social and cultural experiences and the students are involved in the following activities:

- Drama and Musical productions
- Cultural activities
- The Prom

Courses

We offer a diverse range of A Level and Technical qualifications and thanks to our partnership students can choose from a list of 30 A Level or equivalent courses.

Our course guide and pathways can be found on our Sixth Form Website under Curriculum.

STATE OF THE ART FACILITIES

Opportunities

We have two dedicated Sixth Form Centres that provide students with purpose built areas to learn and work independently. Each centre has free wireless internet access and pupils are encouraged to bring in their personal laptops which can be configured to be compatible with the school system.

There is a dedicated Learning Resource Centre (LRC) designed to further support students' independent study. The LRC has free wireless internet access, printer access and over 12,000 reference and fiction books. In addition the LRC and Study Centres are regularly updated with copies of both International and National newspapers and magazines to enable the students to keep abreast of current affairs.

Not only do the facilities cater for academic needs but there is also a gym for use by students and the Sixth Form have additional catering facilities.

FREE
WIRELESS
INTERNET

GYM FOR
USE BY
STUDENTS

12,000
BOOKS



ENRICHMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Widen Horizons

We are aware that any prospective employer, apprenticeship or university is looking for more than just academic achievement and as such we seek to empower our students to gain additional depth to their studies and develop themselves as well rounded individuals.

We are delighted to be able to offer our Year 12 students a unique choice of non-examined timetabled activities across a wide range of subjects and interests. Some of the courses may lead to an external accreditation. With the reform of the A Level syllabi, depth of knowledge and transferable skills such as independent research, self-reflection and effective communication have become paramount.

Enrichment courses include:

- Mentoring Programme
- Duke of Edinburgh Gold Award
- Guardian Young Writers' Scheme
- Canon of English Literature
- Biology Gold Crest Award
- Chemistry Gold Crest Award
- Physics Gold Crest Award
- Covent Garden Challenge
- Sports Leadership
- Maths and English Nursing and Midwifery for Year 13 applicants
- Coding
- Art Portfolio





Duke of Edinburgh

Students achieve their Duke of Edinburgh qualification by completing volunteering work alongside developing their Physical skills and Resilience in an outdoor setting. Students complete a number of overnight expeditions where they are expected to be self-sufficient in the organisation of their equipment and supplies and refine their navigational skills.

Covent Garden Challenge

Teams of Year 12 Ursuline students travel to 9 local primary schools to run this enterprise challenge with Year 5 pupils. Developing their own leadership skills, the 6th form students work with younger pupils to help them come up with an innovative product to sell in Covent Garden Apple Market.

Guardian Young Writers' Scheme

Year 12 students take part in the local Guardian young journalist scheme working as a journalist on the online paper. Students write articles which are reviewed by staff and the paper's editor and are then published. Previous participants have been awarded highly commended in the 'Best Interview Category' at the Young Reporter Awards Ceremony run by Newsquest, and in addition, won the NHS Award for an article titled 'A world without Downs' about the experience of people with Downs Syndrome.

WELCOME
TO THE
NEXT LEVEL



WELCOME
TO THE
NEXT LEVEL

WELCOME
TO THE
NEXT LEVEL

The gold standard.

T Levels are a brand new qualification designed to give you a head start towards the future you want.

They follow GCSEs and are equivalent to 3 A Levels.

The 2-year qualification brings classroom and work placement together, on a course designed in collaboration with the best employers.

World class education.

T-LEVELS
THE NEXT LEVEL QUALIFICATION

80%

CLASSROOM

20%

WORKPLACE



You'll spend 80% time in the classroom and 20% on a 45-day placement to equip you with the knowledge and skills companies are looking for.

Your T Level will help you to step straight into your chosen career, an apprenticeship or a degree.

Wherever your future is heading, take it to the next level.

We will be offering T Levels in Digital, Construction, Education & Childcare from September 2020.

For more information, visit [gov.uk/dfes/t-levels](https://www.gov.uk/dfes/t-levels)



STUDENT SOCIETIES

Networking



Business & Enterprise Society



“The Ursuline High School values the contributions that Sixth Formers make in shaping the world around them.”

Sixth Form students at the Ursuline have the invaluable opportunity to set up, run and get involved with societies. These societies are led and organised by students for students.

These societies seek to enrich student experiences and promote academic rigour whilst developing key relationships with younger students. Additionally they allow students to develop leadership skills beyond the curriculum.

Each society organises events such as debates, lectures and guest speakers. In addition they look for opportunities to attend trips and events that would engage and enrich their learning beyond the curriculum.

Current societies include:

- Psychology Society: engaging in the developing world of Psychology
- Girl Power Society: exploring the issues that face women today
- Unconventional Careers Society: promoting exploration of careers that fall outside of the mainstream
- Business & Enterprise Society: deepening knowledge of the world of business and enterprise
- Cultural Cuisine Society: celebrating the fabulous food of a range of cultures
- Politics and International Relations Society: engaging students with politics and developments in international relations

INTERNATIONAL LINKS AND EXPERIENCES

Explore

Ursuline Sixth Form provides students with further opportunities to gain experiences beyond the curriculum through international links with Ursuline schools all around the world.

Sixth Formers have an opportunity to participate in international trips to Dallas, New York and China. Students value the opportunity to experience different cultures and gain a greater understanding of communities across the world. Languages students are provided with the chance to partake in international work experience in Germany, Spain or France to gain the invaluable experience of living and working in a foreign country.

Several trips and visits are available for Sixth Form students including: Debating, Mock Bar competitions, visits to universities to hear subject specialist speakers and academic enrichment trips to places such as CERN to see the Hadron Collider.



New York Trip

HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

Understanding


The Personal Development Programme is delivered through the assemblies which are led by the Head of Year, other key speakers and Ursuline staff.

The programme covers:

- Mental Health
- Personal Safety
- Online Safety
- Sexual Health
- FGM
- CSE
- Radicalisation
- Student Finance
- The UCAS Process and Apprenticeships
- Interview Techniques

In addition to the overall Personal Development Programme, students have dedicated tutors who they meet with daily to support them with their academic and personal needs. Furthermore, at the Ursuline we have outside agency support through the School Nurse and a dedicated Student Counsellor.

Ursuline Sixth Form is committed to ensuring that all students leave with the necessary knowledge and skills for successful and ambitious futures. This is carried out by having high standards of attendance and punctuality and a dress code resembling that of a working environment.



“The personalised support I receive from sixth form staff helps me to cope with the challenges of academic success.”

ADDITIONAL SUPPORT

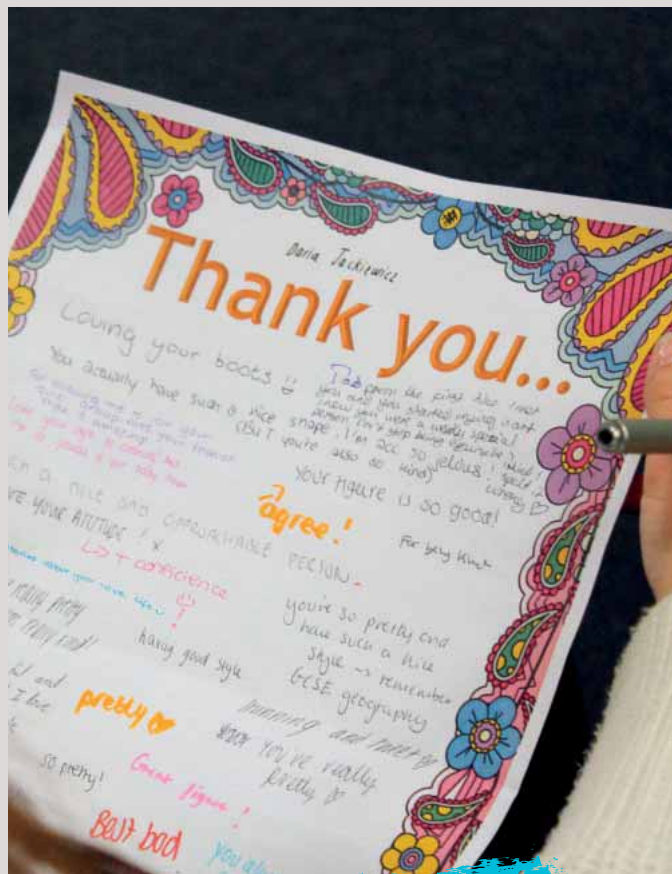
Encourage

Personalised Support

At the Ursuline we aim to cater for the individual learning needs of all students. Personal Development Programmes are designed to support students with social and emotional health care as well as sensory and/or physical needs. There is a dedicated learning support centre led by the SENCO with support from teaching assistants who work in partnership with subject teachers across the curriculum.

Bursary

The Bursary Fund provides financial support for students from low income families. Students can apply for the Bursary fund which is assessed on household income. Finance is provided to eligible students (subject to attendance) for financial support with books, materials, trips and sixth form social events. Free school meals, served in the main school dining hall, are also available for eligible students.



“ As a student who joined the Sixth form from another school, I have never felt like an outsider. Everyone is so welcoming and supportive and the school has a great atmosphere. ”

PATHWAYS BEYOND SIXTH FORM

Development

We understand it is never too early to begin planning for life after Sixth Form. An established support network is available to consider all post-18 options such as apprenticeships, higher education and employment. The Careers programme also incorporates a range of guest speakers, including former students who deliver careers insight talks.

“Having not only the support from the Ursuline Staff but also several external visitors means that I feel confident with all my options and the next steps I need to take.”

Our dedicated Sixth Form Careers Adviser co-ordinates a range of appropriate resources for:

- University and College prospectuses
- Information on gap year activities
- Student finance at university
- Apprenticeship opportunities
- Studying abroad

In recent years, a number of sixth form students have been selected to take part in a number of national programmes including:

- The K+ mentoring programme offered by King's College London where students are paired with an undergraduate mentor, as well as having the opportunity to take part in summer school and master class activities
- The residential Sutton Trust Summer School programme offered by a number of Russell Group Universities
- The Sutton Trust American Summers School scheme
- The Ernst and Young Smart Futures programme

Through personalised support and guidance, students from the Ursuline have gained experience on many highly competitive schemes such as:

- Nuffield Research Placements (previously Nuffield Science Bursaries)
- Ernst and Young summer scheme
- Queen Mary (University of London) Physics Academy
- Step into STEM

Many of our Year 12 students successfully negotiate a range of interesting work shadowing every summer along with summer school placements at Universities such as Bath, East Anglia and Keele. All students are encouraged to participate in placements close to their chosen professions and the following are some examples:

- BAE Systems
- United Nations Refugee Agency
- House of Commons
- Rio Tinto
- St George's, University of London
- Telegraph Media Group
- TFL Cross Rail Project

Year 12 'Your Skills and CV Workshop'



UCAS UNIVERSITY APPLICATION

Independence

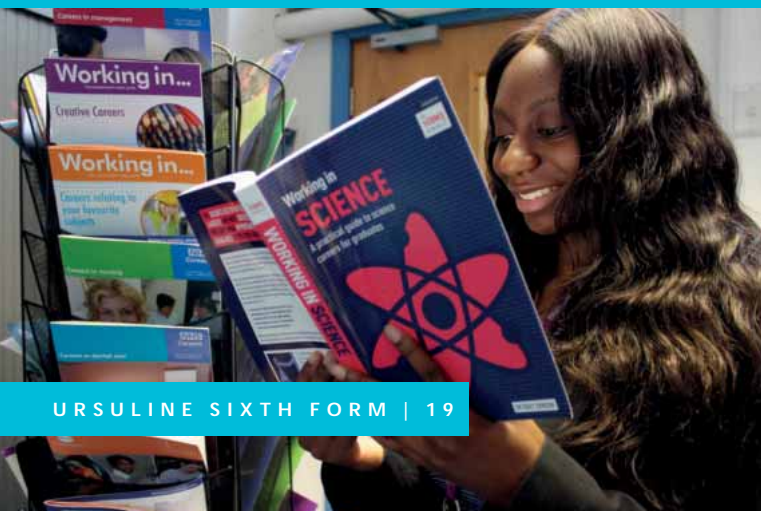
Our two Oxbridge co-coordinators as well as our Medics co-ordinator run specific programmes from January in Year 12 to December in Year 13 to support the preparation of those applying to study Medicine or at Oxbridge. The programme includes workshops, master classes and skills sessions. During the summer holiday at the end of Year 12, those students who are interested in a career in medicine or the health sciences have the opportunity to apply for a two week work experience placement with St George's University.



All students attend one of the local UCAS fairs where they have the chance to speak to University admissions teams and to attend workshops and seminars about applying to University. Students describe this as very helpful and insightful into gaining a full appreciation of the range of higher education options available to them.

In the summer term of Year 12, the formal process of university application through UCAS begins with a formal 'Career Pathways' day where students make further use of the software programme 'Unifrog'; a secure online portal which allows them to explore university and course choices in more depth. They also attend a workshop on writing personal statements, delivered by a prestigious University. This year's presenter was from Southampton University.

University open days are advertised in the Sixth Form Study Centre and Careers Room. Students are encouraged to visit universities they are seriously considering applying to, and are allowed up to three days leave from school to attend Open Days, master classes or Taster days.

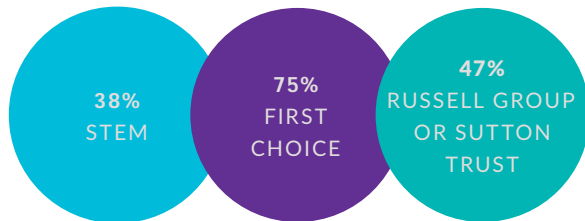




Results Day 2019

DESTINATIONS

Aspire



We are proud of our results with an impressive number of Ursuline Sixth Form students proceeding to higher education on completion of their course. In 2019 34% of our students progressed on to a range of prestigious Russell Group Universities. This is well matched with leavers following apprenticeship routes, who regularly secure impressive higher level placements.

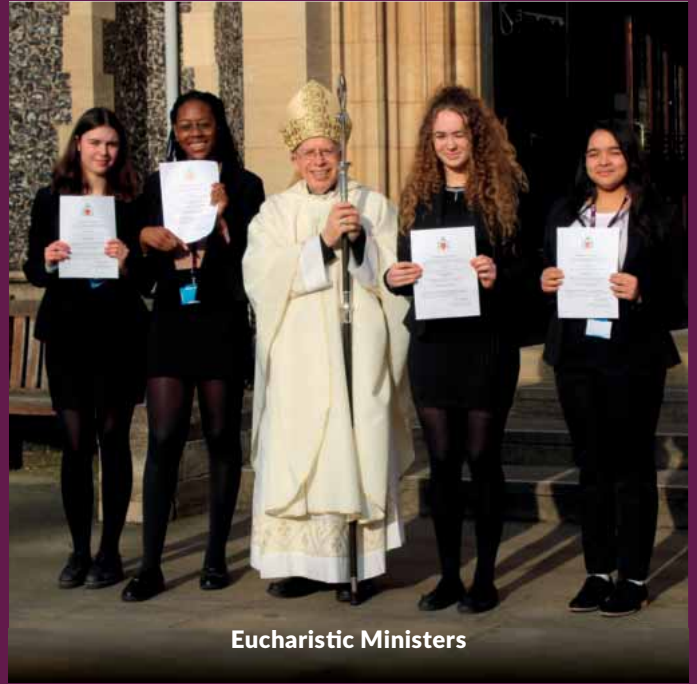
Students considering a vocational route when leaving Sixth Form, are provided with support from the Sixth Form Careers Advisor who is able to link students with National Corporations and Businesses in pursuit of apprentices.

Both A level and BTEC students successfully transition to a range of interesting university and career placements. Many of our BTEC students gain places at the prestigious Russell Group Universities, as well as the Sutton Trust list of 'Top 30 Universities'.

Students that completed in 2019 are looking forward to embarking on a range of degree courses, including traditional subjects like Philosophy, History, Mathematics, Chemistry, Neuroscience, Law and Pharmacy but also Architecture, Engineering, Criminology, Marine Biology and Biomedical Science. Child and Adult Nursing, Primary Teaching and Business Management continue to be popular courses amongst students.



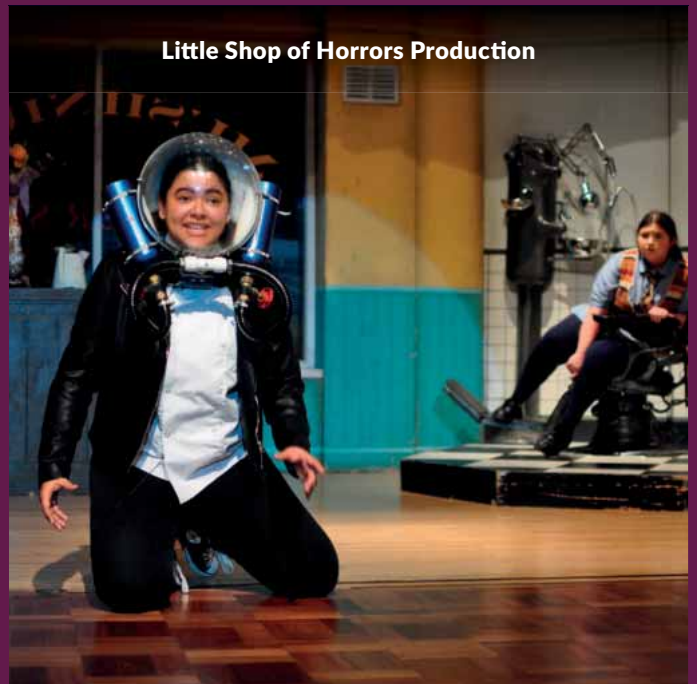
St Cecilia's Concert



Eucharistic Ministers



Multicultural Evening



Little Shop of Horrors Production



FORMER STUDENTS

Alumnae

Name: Hannah

Subjects Studied: A-Level Chemistry, Maths and Physics
Where is she now: Hannah is currently at the University of Oxford studying Chemistry.

Name: Liberty

Subjects Studied: A-Level Art, Photography and Sociology
Where is she now: Liberty is currently at Central Saint Martins studying Fashion Design.

Name: Jade

Subjects studied: BTEC Applied Science and Business
Where she is now: Jade is currently at Kings College University studying Nursing.

Name: Kate

Subjects Studied: A –Level Biology, Psychology and Sociology
Where is she now: Kate is currently completing a Degree Apprenticeship with the Government Economic Service and Kent University

Name: Norma

Subjects Studied: A Level Biology, Chemistry, Maths and Psychology
Where is she now: Norma is currently at the University of Nottingham studying Medicine

LEADERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Aspire

Sixth Form students take a key role in Leadership across the school. Not only have they led on conferences with several distinguished guests but they are also involved in the school leadership through mentoring, chaplaincy work and the student buddy systems. A Head and Deputy Head Girl team lead a team of senior prefects who are elected in Year 12. Leadership responsibilities include subject prefects and prefects for the community.



“ I gained new perspectives... hearing from expert speakers who are working to make a change. ”

Year 12 Student

Conferences

Empowering student-led conferences motivate students by enabling them to connect what they learn at school to their future success as well widening their career knowledge and developing their skills.

Climate Change; Time to Act

This year Sixth Form students ran a conference with the aim to examine our individual response to climate change, researching and debating together and coming to their own conclusions about how 'we' can make a change. Three questions were considered regarding possible ways to solve the problem of climate change. **“What action can I take as an individual?”**, **“What action can I take as part of my school and local community?”** and **“How can I influence political policy in the UK and across the globe?”** Speakers included John McLaverty, Oxfam's Youth and Community Organiser in London and southern England, Dr Erin Plunkett, lecturer in Philosophy and Religious Studies at the University of Hertfordshire and Dr Pippa Maslin, Green Party's prospective parliamentary candidate for Mitcham and Morden.

Conference topics of previous years have included; Education, Equality and Social Mobility, a joint conference with Wimbledon College and #PressforProgress Women Transforming our Church and our World (held at Roehampton University) was a particular highlight, with the aim to empower young women to press forward and progress gender parity.

Additional Leadership

There are many activities that allow students to work with successful business women such as Wimbledon Bookfest and the Women of the Future Ambassadors Programme. These opportunities allow students to develop and discuss topical issues that face young women today.

Further leadership activities include; the Team (Global) Day at the House of Lords, Sixth Form Debating, networking at Lloyds Bank, the American Embassy, Twitter and AWA Asian Women of the Future Award ceremony. Choir performances at prestigious venues; Oxbridge Networking evening, Teach Wimbledon Open Day and participation in sporting competitions.

HOW TO APPLY

Next steps

Staying On

For many of you, joining the Sixth Form continues your education at the High School:

- With the opportunity to stay with your friends as well as make new ones.
- Where you are known already and where you will be treated as an individual with particular needs and talents.
- With opportunities to develop as all-rounded people through participation in numerous activities.
- And all the time you will rightly enjoy more freedom and more responsibility which we will help you to use well.

External Applicants

Each year a substantial number of students from a wide range of schools have joined the Ursuline. These students are inducted into the school through:

- A link with an internal student in the first days of joining.
- Inclusion in a two day induction programme with internal students.
- A welcoming environment where all are treated as individuals and where staff are supportive yet always challenging you to be the best you can be.

Admissions Criteria

There are 180 places in the Sixth Form. If a course is oversubscribed, priority for places will be given in the following order:

1. Current Ursuline High School students who meet the entry requirements.
2. External applicants who meet the entry requirements.
3. Current Ursuline High School students who do not meet the entry requirements but for whom a workable programme of studies can be arranged.
4. External applicants who do not meet the entry requirements but for whom a workable programme of studies can be arranged.

If you do not meet the entry requirements for some courses, you may still be offered a place on varying circumstances.

Entitlement To Free Education

The government is enforcing strict checks on entitlement to free education after the age of 16. You are only entitled to a free place in the Sixth Form if you are an EU Citizen or have a Visa which the Immigration Service has stamped allowing you to access state support in the UK. If your visa is marked: 'no recourse to public funds' we cannot offer you a place in the Sixth Form. Passport checks will be carried out on all Sixth Form applicants as part of the application process.

KEY DIARY DATES

Action

KEY DATES	ACTIVITY	NOTES
Thursday 10th October 2019	Sixth Form Open Evening at Wimbledon College, Sports Hall	An opportunity for current UHS and Wimbledon College pupils, and Year 11 students attending other schools, to see what the Sixth Form has to offer. Prospectus and Application Forms available.
Monday 14th October 2019	Offer letters to UHS students	This is the date by which we will send out a letter confirming that you have been offered a place in the Sixth Form (or not). All offers are conditional upon you meeting the Sixth Form and course entry requirements in your GCSEs.
Friday 1st November 2019	UHS students to confirm acceptance	This is the date by which you must let us know that you accept the offer of a place in the Sixth Form.
Friday 1st November 2019	Deadline for external applications	All external applications must complete the application form and it is to be submitted by this date.
Thursday 14th and Friday 15th November 2019	External interviews	All external applications are called to an interview.
Thursday 23rd January 2020	Year 11 Parents' Evening	Year 11 students at UHS applying for Sixth Form may be interviewed to discuss their application in reaction to the mock examination results.
Monday 22nd June 2020	Year 11 External students Induction to the Sixth Form	External students will be invited to school to meet with staff and some students to get to know Ursuline procedures.
Thursday 23rd June 2020	Year 11 External and Internal Induction to the Sixth Form	All Students will be invited to school to attend introductory classes in all subjects chosen. Preparatory work will be given for the summer holiday. Attendance is compulsory.
Thursday 20th August 2020	GCSE results day and Internal Enrolment	Year 11 students at UHS must come in to meet with Senior staff to enrol on their courses with their final results.
Friday 21st August 2020	External Enrolment	External applicants must come in to meet with Senior staff to enrol on their courses with their final results.

STUDENT ART GALLERY





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TRUST™

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& WIMBLEDON COLLEGE
SIXTH FORM

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