



URSULINE SIXTH FORM

PROSPECTUS 2025





## FROM THE HEADTEACHER

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I am delighted to introduce myself as the Headteacher of this wonderful school, which has a proud tradition of delivering an outstanding Catholic education to our community for 131 years. An Ursuline sixth former is committed to their faith and our core value of Serviam—'I Will Serve.'

Our students are part of a national and global network of Ursuline schools, sharing the common goals of delivering academic excellence, service in the spirit of St Angela Merici, and outstanding pastoral care in developing young people into leaders. Students explore their faith by becoming people of action who use their gifts and talents to benefit others. Through this formation, they make a difference in the school and wider society and are kind, forgiving, generous of spirit, and persevering.

The Ursuline Sixth Form enjoys a reputation for high standards of academic achievement, supported by a consistent record of excellent examination results. We are proud of our students' exceptional progress and are committed to the pursuit of excellence in teaching and learning throughout the curriculum. The remarkable progress and results recorded each year speak for themselves and affirm our position as one of the highest-performing comprehensive schools in the country.

Our students work hard and show respect and courtesy towards others. To support these high standards, we nurture our sixth formers in an inclusive and progressive environment where they feel safe and secure in their learning. We offer a wide-ranging programme of sports, arts, languages, and cultural enrichment. Our extensive careers and student leadership programmes prepare students for the opportunities of life beyond school. Our staff go above and beyond to provide the best possible pastoral care, guidance, and support to ensure all our students achieve success.

The continuing success of the Ursuline Sixth Form is based on strong partnerships, especially our shared values with parents and the wider community. Together, we ensure the highest standards of achievement and personal development.

We understand that choosing a sixth form is an important and challenging decision. Should you entrust us with your child's education, we look forward to welcoming your family and will do everything we can to ensure your child is happy, thriving, and reaching their full potential at Ursuline.

We very much look forward to welcoming you to our sixth form.

Best wishes

**Mr Eoin Kelly**  
**Headteacher**







Day of the Girl



## OUR ETHOS

### Serviam

We are a Catholic community that embraces and welcomes people of all faiths. As part of a global network of Ursuline schools, we follow the teachings of St Angela Merici to develop young people into leaders and active members of both the school and the local community.

Our Sixth Form ethos promotes inclusivity, tolerance, and respect within a supportive and caring environment that values diversity. We believe that everyone has a crucial role in fostering equity, and our robust Anti-Racist policy is embedded in all areas of school life.

We support students on their individual journeys to become the best versions of themselves. We encourage student leadership and strive to create an inclusive environment where all students feel safe, heard, and empowered

Our chaplaincy program encourages sixth formers to engage in various community projects, such as:

- Volunteering with local charities, including the Catholic Children's Society Christmas Gift Appeal, Wimbledon Foodbank, and Merton Faith in Action Homelessness.
- Participating in the Eucharistic Minister Programme.
- Engaging with the Catholic Youth Ministry Federation and the Faith in Action Award.
- Supporting younger students at school events.
- Collaborating with Perseid School to assist students with learning difficulties



"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."

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.



# OUTSTANDING TEACHING AND LEARNING

## Inspire

### 2024 RESULTS

Combined VTQ and A-level

**A\* - A – 27%**

**A\* - B – 58%**

**A\* - C – 84%**

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

We provide students with;

QUALIFIED  
A LEVEL  
EXAMINERS

SPECIALIST  
SUBJECT  
SIXTH FORM  
TEACHERS

DEDICATED  
STUDY  
CENTRES



Each and every student matters to us. Through engaging lessons and a challenging curriculum, our students make consistent and significant progress. At Ursuline, teaching and learning are seen as a collaborative journey between students and teachers, designed to help all students achieve their ambitions.

Our teachers are experts in their fields, inspiring students to independently research and explore current issues. Students are encouraged to share their findings through class discussions, which enriches the learning environment and makes it more stimulating.

Several of our staff members also serve as examiners, bringing valuable insights into how marks are awarded. This experience helps ensure that our students are exceptionally well-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."





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."



# STATE OF THE ART FACILITIES

## Opportunities

**Year 12 and Year 13 students have their own dedicated independent learning centres, each equipped with free wireless internet access. Pupils are encouraged to bring their personal laptops, which can be configured to be compatible with the school system. Alternatively, students who are part of our Governors' Development Fund have access to a school laptop.**

Additionally, the school offers a dedicated Learning Resource Centre (LRC) to further support students' independent study. The LRC provides free wireless internet, printer access, and a collection of over 12,000 reference and fiction books. Both the LRC and the study centres are regularly updated with copies of international and national newspapers and magazines, enabling students to stay informed about current affairs.

Moreover, we have a new sixth form common room exclusively for sixth formers. In addition to having access to the main school canteen, sixth form students enjoy the privilege of two cafes reserved just for them.



FREE  
WIRELESS  
INTERNET

GYM FOR  
USE BY  
STUDENTS

12,000  
BOOKS



# ENRICHMENT OPPORTUNITIES

## Widen Horizons

**We recognise that prospective employers, apprenticeship programs, and universities seek more than just academic achievement. Therefore, we strive to empower our students to enhance their studies and develop into well-rounded individuals through our Year 12 enrichment programme.**

We are delighted to offer our Year 12 students a unique selection of non-examined timetabled activities across a wide range of subjects and interests. Some of these courses may even lead to external accreditation. We understand that in-depth knowledge and transferable skills, such as independent research, self-reflection, and effective communication, are now more important than ever.

### Enrichment courses include:

- Imagineering project with King's College Wimbledon
- Duke of Edinburgh Awards
- The Guardian Young Writers' Scheme
- Working with local primary schools (St Teresa's, St John Fisher, Sacred Heart,)
- The Covent Garden Business Challenge
- Crochet
- Choir
- Sports leadership
- Philosophy enrichment



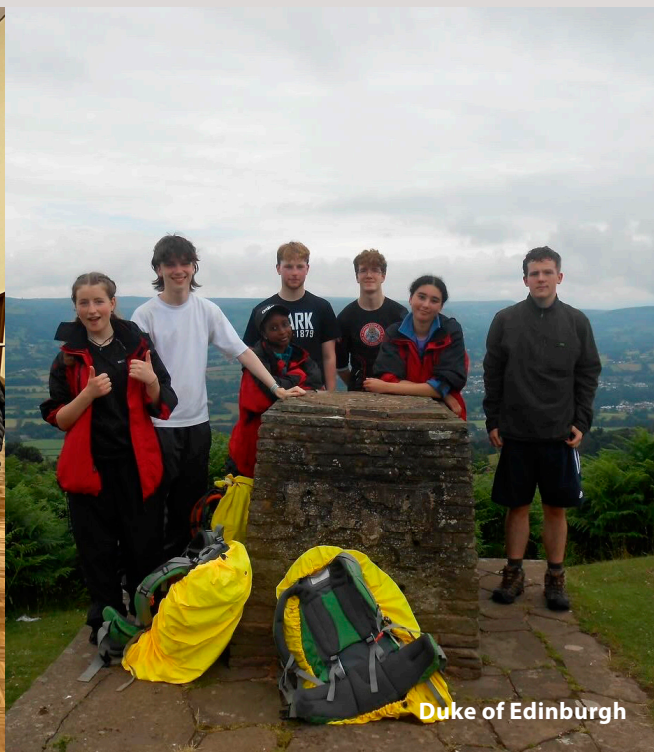
• Merici Choir



• The Guardian Young Reporters



**Covent Garden Challenge**



**Duke of Edinburgh**

## 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 at the Young Reporter Awards Ceremony run by Newsquest. Our most recent winner Aisling was high commended in the 'Sports Category', for her article on 'The Surprising Joys of Open Water Swimming'.



## T LEVELS

# Develop Your SkillSet

**T Levels are an innovative qualification designed to give you a head start towards the future you desire. These courses have been developed in collaboration with employers and education providers so that the content meets the needs of industry and prepares students for entry into skilled employment, an apprenticeship or related technical study through further or higher education. A T-Level is the equivalent to three A Levels and carries the same amount of UCAS tariff points.**

## HOW YOU WILL STUDY

**80% of time in the classroom  
20% on a work placement**

This will equip you with the knowledge and skills companies are looking for.

The 2 year programme combines classroom learning together with a work placement, on a course designed in collaboration with the best employers and businesses.



## T Level Courses Available

- **Digital (Digital Production, Design and Development):** Learn the core knowledge that underpins most jobs in the digital industry and develop occupationally-specific skills
- **Laboratory Science:** Develop an advanced knowledge and skillset of Biology, Chemistry and Physics and learn about the fundamental practices in place in the Science industry
- **Health (Adult Nursing):** Develop an advanced knowledge and skill-set of human biology, infectious diseases and the principles of delivering outstanding care in various health care environments.
- **Business**  
The qualification will help you gain an understanding of the Management and Administration sector and you will cover topics such as: Business Context, People, Quality Compliance, Project, and Change Management.



What sets the T Levels apart from all other courses is the opportunity to gain real life experience of the working world.

The T Level industry placement are a critical part of a T Level course as this is a change from traditional work experience usually only lasting a couple of weeks, to a longer and more substantial period of up to 9 weeks in the workplace.

The industry placement is our biggest opportunity to make sure that students leave education better prepared to be successful and thrive in the workplace. They also give employers the chance to ensure that young people are developing the skills and experience that are required to excel in a working environment.

To find out more information or to register for September 2025 please contact;

### Head of T Levels

Matthew Breese: Matthew.Breese@ursulinehigh.merton.sch.uk  
You can also visit the 'T Levels' section of our sixth form website.

**T-LEVELS**  
THE NEXT LEVEL QUALIFICATION

"I am so pleased I chose Digital T Level, my work experience was really fun and i am learning so much on the course!"



# STUDENT SOCIETIES

## Networking



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.

### Some of our current societies include:

- Model UN and International Relations
- Criminal Law and History
- African Caribbean Society
- Arts/Fashion
- Classical Civilisation
- British Sign Language
- Multi-Cultural Food Society

"With all of the stresses of completing your A Levels and generally coping with the demands of everyday life, we thought it was important to create a society that focuses on the importance of mental health, it's actually been really helpful tool for us.."



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

# INTERNATIONAL LINKS AND EXPERIENCES

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## Explore

**Ursuline Sixth Form offers students numerous opportunities to gain experiences beyond the curriculum through international links with Ursuline schools worldwide.**

Sixth Formers can participate in an international exchange with our partner school in Dallas, Texas. Additionally, each year we organise a trip exclusively for Year 12 students to a major European city for three nights. As the images below show, last year we visited Barcelona. We also run a variety of subject-based trips within the UK that deepen and enrich our students' learning experiences.

School trips are vital as they extend learning beyond the classroom, providing hands-on experiences that enhance pupils' understanding of various subjects. These excursions foster a sense of adventure and curiosity, build social skills, and strengthen peer relationships. By exposing pupils to new environments and cultures, school trips also promote personal growth, independence, and a deeper appreciation for the world around them.



Barcelona 2024



# HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

## Understanding

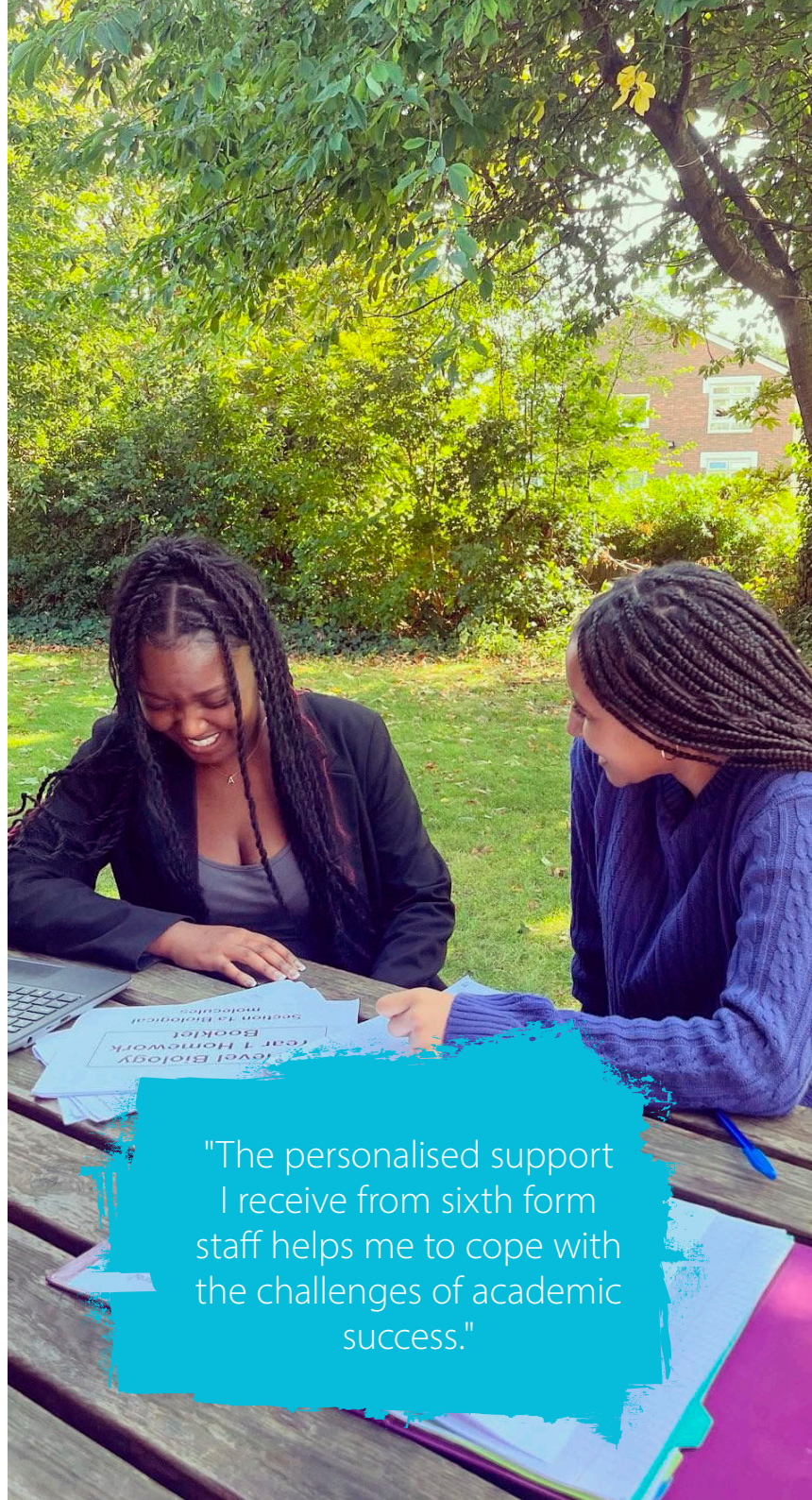
**The Personal Development Programme is delivered through the assemblies which are led by the Head of Year, other key speakers and Ursuline staff.**

### **The programme covers:**

- Mental Health
- Personal Safety
- Online Safety
- Sexual Health, Sexual Violence
- 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 strive to cater to the individual learning needs of all our students. Our Personal Development Programmes are designed to support students with social and emotional health care, as well as sensory and physical needs. We have a dedicated learning support centre led by the SENCO, with assistance from teaching assistants who collaborate with subject teachers across the curriculum.

#### 16 to 19 Bursary Fund

The Bursary Fund provides financial support for students from low-income families. Students can apply for the Bursary Fund, which is assessed based on household income. Eligible students receive financial assistance (subject to attendance) for books, materials, trips, and Sixth Form social events. Additionally, free school meals, served in the main school dining hall, are 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."

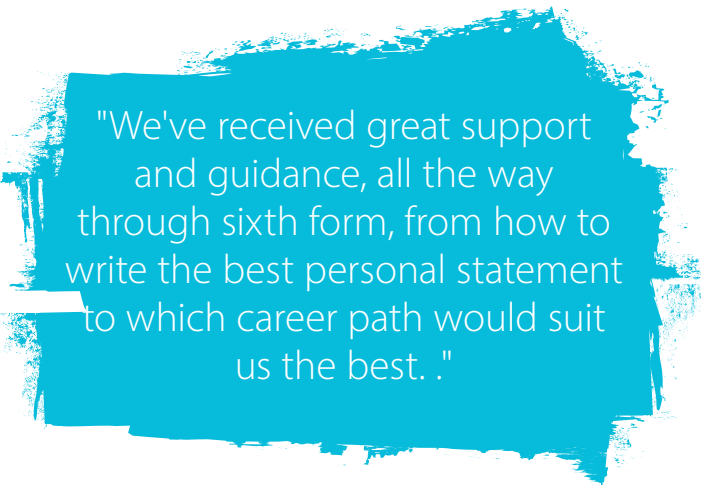


# PATHWAYS BEYOND SIXTH FORM

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## 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.**



"We've received great support and guidance, all the way through sixth form, from how to write the best personal statement to which career path would suit us the best. "

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

- University and College prospectus
- Studying abroad
- Student finance at university
- Apprenticeship and school leaver programme opportunities
- Information on gap year activities; working, volunteering and travelling

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
- In2Science UK Summer 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)
- St George's Hospital Healthcare Shadowing 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 LSE, 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
- Berkeley Homes





# UCAS UNIVERSITY APPLICATION

## Independence

**Our Oxbridge co-ordinator runs specific programmes from January in Year 12 to December in Year 13 to support the preparation of those applying to study at Oxbridge. The programme includes workshops, master classes and skills sessions.**



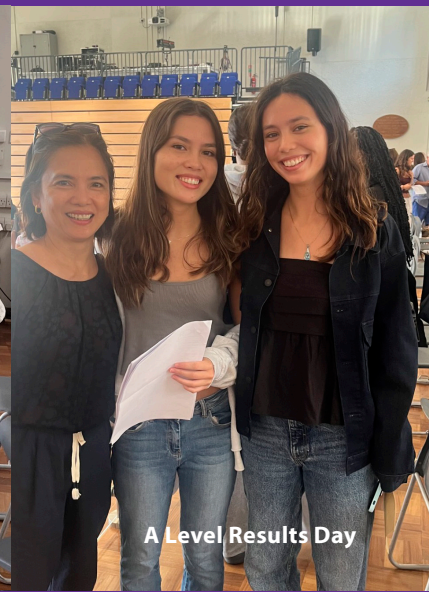
All students attend UCAS fairs where they have the opportunity to speak to University admissions teams, Apprenticeship organisations and to attend workshops and seminars. Students describe this as very helpful and insightful into gaining a full appreciation of the range of post-18 options available to 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. We work closely with the University of Bath and Exeter.

We have expanded our annual careers day to a careers fair across the whole school, with many speakers attending from a wide variety of career fields to provide parents and students with helpful advice on those vital next steps.

University open days are advertised in the Sixth Form Study Centre, Careers Room and Careers Bulletin. 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.





## DESTINATIONS

### Aspire

**We are proud to announce the outstanding achievements of our Ursuline Sixth Form students. The overwhelming majority have successfully transitioned to higher education after completing their courses. Impressively, nearly 30% of our A-level grades were A\* and A, with 13 students earning straight A\* or A grades. In A-level Maths, 50% of the grades were A\* or A.**

Our T Level results are equally commendable, with 100% of students completing and passing the equivalent of 3 A-levels, and 88% achieving grades from Distinction\* to Merit (equivalent to A\*-B at A Level).

Regarding university destinations in 2024, 45% of our students progressed to prestigious Russell Group universities, 54% to Sutton Trust universities, and three students began their studies at Oxford or Cambridge.



**45%**  
RUSSELL  
GROUP

**54%**  
SUTTON  
TRUST

**3**  
OXBRIDGE  
STUDENTS





A community where everyone Belongs and Succeeds





"A fantastic opportunity for the young people in our sixth form. The employability workshops sound fantastic and we are sure these will be beneficial in enabling students to utilise their skills."

Assistant Headteacher



# SURREY COUNTY CRICKET CLUB

## Partnerships

We are excited to announce our new partnership with Surrey County Cricket Club (SCCC) this year. SCCC is collaborating with state schools across inner-city London and the wider county to provide both male and female students the chance to complete their sixth form studies while benefiting from high-quality cricket coaching and strength and conditioning training.

Additionally, students will have access to Surrey Cricket's employability workshops, offering insights into various career opportunities within the club, such as finance, operations, marketing, coaching, performance analysis, and management.

Students will also have the chance to earn ECB coaching qualifications and certified courses in scoring and umpiring. This initiative aims to support students in gaining employment within the world of performance cricket both during and after the two-year program.





# 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 Leadership team lead a team of senior prefects who are elected in Year 12. Leadership responsibilities include subject prefects and prefects for the community.**



**Head Leadership Team**

## 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.

Our conferences always need students to help run, plan and present. We host a different conference for Year 12 each term and we also attend conferences at other schools, in particular the annual youth conference at Mulberry School for Girls and Model United Nations conferences.

Our own recent conferences have included: "Politics and Inequality", "Intersectional Feminism", "Breaking up Britain" and a special conference last year run jointly with Wimbledon Bookfest and our Afro-Caribbean Society "Black and Great" as a book launch of Rene Germain's book. We are hosting a politics conference this November for 170 sixth-form students from schools around London on the theme of "Impacting Politics".

## 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.

# WIMBLEDON BOOKFEST

# HOW TO APPLY

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## Next steps

### Staying On

For students continuing from our main school, staying on offers the opportunity to:

- Experience a completely new and different environment, focused on structured independence and treating you like a young adult.
- Maintain existing friendships and build new ones with students from various other schools
- Take advantage of numerous leadership opportunities available to our 6th form students, emphasizing both personal development and academic success.
- Enjoy greater freedom and responsibility, with our support to help you manage them effectively.

### External Applicants

Each year, we warmly welcome many students from various schools to the Ursuline family. To help you settle in smoothly, we offer:

- An induction day just for external applicants so you can meet each other and staff.
- A system that pairs you with a current student during your first days.
- A fun and engaging two-day induction program with your new classmates.
- A friendly and supportive environment where everyone is valued as an individual, and our staff are here to encourage and challenge you to reach your full potential.

### 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 depending 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.



## STUDENT ART GALLERY



"We are so proud of our St Angela Arts Centre, our students creative pieces are really outstanding and we enjoy showcasing these in our art gallery all year round."

Teacher



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**URSULINE HIGH SCHOOL  
& WIMBLEDON COLLEGE  
SIXTH FORMS**

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