

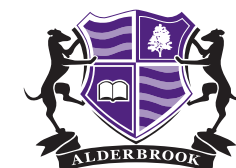
Discover **Your** Potential



Alderbrook Sixth Form
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**Alderbrook School
& Sixth Form**
AMBITION | BRAVERY | KINDNESS

WELCOME

Hello from the Director of Sixth Form

Students enjoy studying in the Sixth Form here and year on year they achieve excellent examination results.

We are very proud of our Sixth Form students; without fail they make the most of the wide range of opportunities to lead and support others and are excellent role models for all members of the community and ambassadors for the school.

Whether you wish to go to the best Universities in the country, into employment or to any one of a wide range of specialist colleges or higher education establishments, you will receive personalised specialist support. The staff at Alderbrook School will go out of their way to support you and care for you during your time here. Our teaching staff are passionate subject experts who inspire students with their knowledge and enthusiasm.

We believe that our Sixth Form is genuinely an **Ambitious, Brave and Kind** community that allows all of our students to reach their full potential.

Please read carefully through this prospectus and speak to the Sixth Form team to find out more.



Mr Tom Beveridge
Headteacher

Whether you are a current student at Alderbrook, or one of the many external students who choose to join the school in Year 12, it gives me great pleasure to introduce our Sixth Form to you. The next two years will be some of the most exciting of your academic journey. Filled with new challenges, subjects, staff and hopefully new friends too, here at Alderbrook we aim to nurture these precious years and help you take your final steps into adulthood with confidence.

We offer a fantastic range of subjects at A Level here at Alderbrook; however, our programme is designed to equip you with more than just good grades. For you to succeed beyond the school environment you will need to demonstrate independence, confidence and determination. We want to ensure you are given every support in planning your chosen route past Sixth Form education, whether it is to university, an apprenticeship or full time employment.

You will be part of an extremely exciting, friendly and happy learning community at Alderbrook School as one of 250 intelligent and articulate young adults. We boast smaller than average class sizes and this means we can focus on you as an individual. We can offer you more time and support. You will be studying in an environment where staff care about your personal development and your academic progress and there is strong pastoral support.

Thank you for considering Alderbrook as your Sixth Form. We believe that in choosing to study with us you will be making the right choice.

We look forward to welcoming you soon.



Mrs Anna CJ Allen
Director of Sixth Form



The Sixth Form Curriculum

Programme of Study

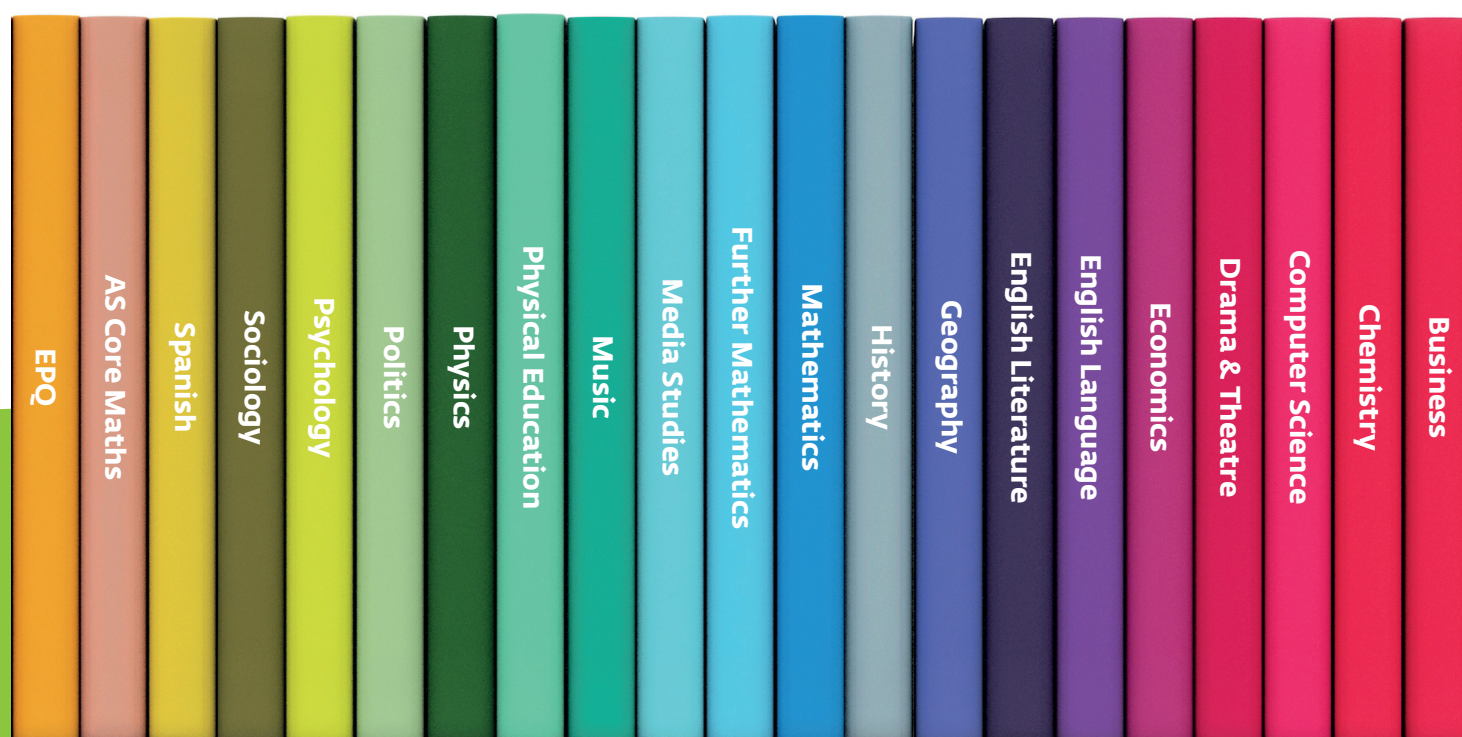
The Programme of Study refers to the academic subjects a student will choose alongside independent study, enrichment and work experience. At Alderbrook you can have a choice of what this will be:

- **3 A Level Subjects**
(standard entry)
- **3 A Level Subjects + AS Core Maths**
- **3 A Level Subjects + an EPQ**
- **4 A Level Subjects**
(at least six 9-8 GCSEs)

We are proud to offer a broad and varied A Level curriculum. We hope you will be able to select courses that suit your skills and talents – ask your current teachers, and Sixth Form students who you know, more about the A Levels you are interested in.

You will be encouraged to study with ambition and enthusiasm. Sixth Form classes are smaller, attention is individual and lessons increasingly become like university seminars, taught by passionate subject specialists. Whilst maintaining a supportive structure of monitoring and guidance, we gradually devolve greater responsibility for learning to our students in order to equip them with the right skills and disciplines sought by leading universities.

Students also have the option to take the rigorous, research-based Extended Project Qualification, which is highly prized by universities since it demands a degree of independence and intellectual maturity beyond traditional A Levels.



“ At Alderbrook, the subjects offered are varied but specialised. With all my subjects I feel that the teacher always is able and willing to answer any of my questions or queries and support me if I feel I am falling behind. The balanced timetable also manages to fit all 4 of my subjects along with plenty of independent study sessions into the biweekly timetable and make sure I don't feel overwhelmed and still manage to allot time for enrichment. ”

Jennifer

Head Girl 2018-2019

Joined us from Langley

Art & Design

Biology

Business

Chemistry

Computer Science

Drama & Theatre

Economics

English Language

English Literature

Geography

History

Mathematics

Further Mathematics

Media Studies

Music

Physical Education

Physics

Politics

Psychology

Sociology

Spanish

AS Core Maths

EPQ

Visit our School website to find out more about what content is taught on each course at www.alderbrookschool.co.uk

Entry Requirements

- Candidates should normally be sixteen years of age, but not yet seventeen on 1 September.
- Five 9-5 GCSEs will be required including English and Mathematics.
- Grade 6 will generally be required in the chosen subjects where it has been studied at Key Stage 4. However, you should refer to the subject specific information to confirm this, as individual subjects may be higher and other GCSE qualifications may be required or desirable. You can find this on our website.
- A commitment to learning evidenced from school reports.

If you do not achieve the grades you expected or had hoped for, it will be important to seek advice from our enrolment team on GCSE Results Day. In some circumstances, and dependent on your choices of A Level subjects exceptions may be made, however it should be noted that this is very rare. All courses will be offered as full two year Linear A Level qualifications.

If there is a subject you are interested in studying which is not listed above eg: Film Studies, Photography, please do contact us at: enquiries@alderbrooksixthform.org

Please note: All A Level course options are subject to demand.

Some courses and careers require A Levels in specific subjects, but for many students the chances are that you may not find a career directly related to your studies at A Level or Degree.



The Whole Person : The Whole Point

Our Enrichment Programme underpins our Sixth Form. Whilst the emphasis in Years 12 and 13 is on academic studies, students will be preparing to enter a competitive world either through further study, training or employment. It is important that students have an opportunity to build their CV, develop their personal interests and broaden their wider skill base.

Alderbrook Sixth Form offers a wealth of opportunities for students to get involved in, from team sports to Arts qualifications, from mentoring our younger students to volunteering in the local community. An exciting range of enrichment activities is offered to all Sixth Form students every term, with the chance to add to your UCAS points, gain relevant life skills and work experience. Wednesday afternoons are non-contact time and are set aside for students to undertake enrichment. It is an ideal opportunity to make new friends and try something new. Some of these opportunities are available because we are an 11-18 school, and we pride ourselves on the vast range of experiences our staff are able to offer Sixth Form students.

Through our enrichment programme we are also able to support our aspiring Higher Education 'early applicants' through the Medics Society and Oxbridge mentoring. The MedSoc is run by Year 13 students who have committed to applying that year for Medicine or Dentistry. A range of health professionals visit regularly and host masterclasses for the society. Potential Oxbridge students are taken to both Oxford and Cambridge during Year 12. We enjoy meeting Alumni students who are proud to host us in their various Colleges. Alderbrook staff who attended Oxbridge themselves, also serve as mentors using enrichment time for focused discussion, application and interview preparations.

A sample of further options include:

- GOLD Duke of Edinburgh Award
- Arts Award GOLD (up to 16 UCAS points)
- Sports Society
- Creative Writing
- Student Learning Mentors at KS3 & KS4
- Photography
- Make a Difference Programme: volunteering in the local community
- Cooking Masterclasses



“ Students benefit from an impressive variety of enrichment activities, ranging from a medics club to a weekly club for elderly residents. Students take part in a well-planned and structured tutorial programme, including the 'Power Hour' that prepares them well to move on to the next stage of their learning. ”

Ofsted
April 2018

Shaping **Your** Future

Students can be assured that they will receive expert support and guidance in helping to choose either a career, or a Higher Education institute for further study. Students will receive independent and impartial guidance from Year 12 onwards, which will be delivered through workshops and at least two individual 1:1 meetings with our full time Careers Co-ordinator.

Careers events and university visits will form part of Sixth Form life and students will have opportunities for high quality and relevant work experience placements in the summer term of Year 12. We have forged good working relationships with leading universities which enable our Sixth Form students to access advice for their future higher education. Students are allocated a personal tutor, who will guide them through the UCAS application process and how to complete the personal statement. If an apprenticeship or employment route is of more interest to you however, Alderbrook has strong links with local businesses and organisations, through our 'Life Ready' Programme so there will be equal support for these pathways too.

Alderbrook invest in an award winning ICT platform called 'Unifrog', which parents and students have found an excellent resource. The programme, which can be accessed anywhere, provides additional support in researching and selecting Post 18 courses and live apprenticeship opportunities.

Once a fortnight students benefit from the 'Power Hour' Lecture series – a collection of future pathway explorations delivered by either highly successful individuals or leading University faculties. Notable guests to date include, Alexander Campbell, Principal Dancer of the Royal Ballet; Neal Coupland of Wasps RFC; Phil Neale of Britain's Got Talent fame; Clare Connor OBE, Director of England Women's Cricket and Graham Short, famed micro-artist. These personalities are counterbalanced with lectures by Birmingham University's College of Medicine and Dentistry and the University of Warwick's Law School.

At Alderbrook our 'Life Ready' Programme also contributes significantly to preparing Sixth Form students for life beyond A Levels and education. For three days per year the curriculum is folded and students partake in a range of activities tailored to their needs. In Year 12 these days have included: Certified St John's Ambulance First Aid courses, Political Engagement, University Open Day visits and workshops. In Year 13 the focus shifts to interview technique, so that students are empowered to perform well under pressure. Motivation and goal setting in preparation for exams are also covered, as well as 'Next Step Survival' – a day of budgeting, basic cooking skills and personal safety.

Our Sixth Form team will continue to be available to support students in the practical steps after they have received their A Level results.

“ Careers education, information and guidance are strong. In 2017, all students went on to higher education, employment or training. Students value the high-quality and independent advice they receive as well as appropriate work experience. ”

Ofsted
April 2018



Student Life

Alderbrook has a strong community feel and no less so in our Sixth Form. The current Year 12 and 13 students are excellent role models for the rest of the school, although we recognise the need for them to maintain an independence from other year groups. Students in the Sixth Form benefit from having excellent contemporary and attractive facilities, including their own social space and bistro; a silent study, discussion room and large ICT suite for independent learning, as well as the exclusive use of their own outside facilities.

Sixth Form students enjoy a separate wellbeing support system, tutor time and communal meetings appropriate to their needs. Each student is also assigned their own tutor with whom they will forge a strong working relationship over the two years. The Heads of Year, alongside our Sixth Form Learning and Wellbeing Manager, oversee all aspects of student care. In essence, there is always someone to listen to and support students, and for parents too, there is always someone available.

“ I joined Alderbrook in September 2016, but feel like I’ve been here for years! I love the environment and ambience of the school. Teachers are friendly, engaging and supportive. Although work is of the utmost importance, the social aspect of sixth form is also significantly important with the Committee organising regular events throughout the year. ”

Alexandra
Deputy Head Girl 2017-2018
Joined us from Lode Heath

Student Voice and Leadership is an integral part of our Post 16 community. We want to build excellent relationships with our young adults and we encourage them to be proactive in their learning and experiences with us. As such, we give students a variety of ways to voice their opinions and invoke change: Senior Leadership Roles, Student Committee, Subject Ambassadors, and Conferences. Highlights for students are often our lively social events including charity dress-ups, cultural trips – both home and abroad – annual Christmas Dinner and Quiz, Prize Giving, Leavers’ Picnic, all culminating in the Grand Summer Ball.

Alderbrook Sixth Form employs a dress code, based on smart business attire. Full details of the Dress Code can be found in the Sixth Form area of the school website. Financial help is available at Alderbrook through the 16-19 Bursary. This fund exists to provide support to learners who are facing financial difficulty, which may otherwise mean that they would be prevented from, or struggle to, participate fully in education and training.

Life in the Sixth Form at Alderbrook is energetic; full of opportunities and challenge. Whatever your future goals and career aspirations we can help you on your road to success!



Freshers Weekend

Each year approximately 1/3 of places are successfully gained by external students, with the remaining 2/3 being filled with our own Year 11s. Students from other schools settle well with us and quickly become valued members of our school community.

As part of our Sixth Form induction, all Year 12 students are given the opportunity to attend a teambuilding weekend in September. A three day adventure; we enjoy the beautiful surroundings of the Shropshire countryside whilst taking part in a range of activities from raft building to archery, climbing to zooming downhill through the trees on a zip wire.

The evening campfires provide an excellent opportunity to socialise further, munch on melting marshmallows or indeed have a jolly good singsong in the middle of the woods! Sixth Formers comment on the close relationships they forge during their time with us, and the induction weekend really helps to kick-start these long lasting friendships.



Proud to introduce...

At Alderbrook we are incredibly proud of our Sixth Form students and all that they achieve. We aim to facilitate the development of the whole student to achieve the very best results both academically, socially and in relation to their onward destinations and continuing journey of lifelong learning.

“ I joined the Sixth Form from LodeHeath School in 2015. I was standing where you are today; an outsider looking in. I settled in really quickly and I never looked back. I really enjoyed my two years at Alderbrook; the teachers are great and I made some lifelong friends. ”

George
BSc (Hons) Geography & Open Planning,
University of Birmingham

“ EPQ was an opportunity for me to indulge a passion that did not fit within a traditional subject. I truly believe it was the individuality that I displayed here which set me apart in my application to study History at Durham University. I am here now; I am having the time of my life. Thank you Alderbrook – for everything! ”

Sarah
BA History,
St Mary's College, University of Durham

“ I have really enjoyed my time in the Sixth Form. The extensive enrichment opportunities organised, alongside my academic study, have given me the confidence to feel ready to start my degree in Mechanical Engineering. ”

Fraser
BEng Mechanical Engineering,
University of Leeds

“ Alderbrook offered constant support to me as a student in the Sixth Form including tailored, individual help to achieve my goal to study Dentistry. All the lectures, enrichment opportunities and life skill activities will stick with me forever! ”

Ayesha
BDS Dental Surgery,
University of Birmingham

“ For me, Alderbrook Sixth Form is not only a fantastic place to learn, it's also an amazing community to belong to. I shall miss it dearly but thanks to the support and guidance I have received from staff, I am now looking to the future and the exciting opportunities that are ahead! I wish all current and future students the very best. ”

James
BA (Hons) Theatre & Professional Practice,
Coventry University

“ My academic success within the Alderbrook Sixth Form enabled me to get onto my first choice course at Russell Group University; Exeter. I studied for A Levels in Dance, Geography and Biology and loved the entire two years, enjoying the creativity, small classes, personal relationships with the teaching staff, as well as the academic stretch. I am now enjoying the next stage in my development! ”

Annalise
BSc Sport & Exercise Science,
University of Exeter

“ As an internal Year 12 student I was initially unsure of my decision to stay. Would the grass be greener elsewhere? I soon realised that I had made the right choice and became a proud member of the supportive community. I have so many happy memories of my two years, both inside and outside the classroom that will stay with me forever. Alderbrook Sixth Form has shaped me into the confident person I am today! ”

Adam
BSc Mathematics,
University of Warwick

...our alumni



“ Alderbrook Sixth Form provides well for its students with an ethos based on high expectations. Relationships between staff and students are very positive. Students said that the Sixth Form provides a perfect balance between support and independence. ”

Ofsted
April 2018



“ Alderbrook Sixth Form is an exciting place, where each day is different. From the Gold D of E to the trips to Berlin and Bruges, I havemadememoriesforlife.The dedicated teachers have helped prepare me, and many others, for the next stage in our lives. I am now studying at Worcester College, Oxford and look forward to hosting future Alderbrook students here. ”

Dan
Head Boy 2019-2020
Joined us from Alderbrook