



WELCOME TO HIGHDOWN



ASPIRATION RESPECT EXCELLENCE



The school of choice for parents in Reading: where success is **desirable**, **demand**ed and **achieved**.



ASPIRATION RESPECT EXCELLENCE



Exceptional A-Level Success

- **30%** of A Levels earned an **A* or A** grade.
- Average grade for **vocational subjects** was **Distinction**
- **95%** of students were accepted into their University of choice or onto an Apprenticeship Pathway



WHAT REALLY MAKES HIGHDOWN'S SIXTH FORM GREAT?



Applying to Highdown

Your questions answered

Kevin Prior
Head of Sixth Form



Why Highdown?

- Over 300 students and a team of 12 mentors
- Wide range of courses at Level 3
- Academic monitoring and pastoral support
- Timetabled weekly enrichment sessions
- Strong track record in supporting High Achievers
- Range of leadership opportunities



What does studying in the Sixth Form involve?

- 3 (sometimes 4) 'Level 3' subjects studied for two years
- Timetabled Independent Learning sessions
- A focused CCC programme in mentor periods to support academic, social and personal progress
- Timetabled weekly 'Enrichment'
- Developing a wide range of supercurricular experiences to impress university admissions tutors and employers



What types of course are offered?

- **A-Levels**

- 25 different courses
 - English Literature, English Language and Literature
 - Maths, Further Maths
 - Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Psychology
 - History, Politics, Sociology
 - Geography
 - Business Studies, Economics
 - Computing
 - Art, Photography
 - Textiles, Design and Technology
 - Drama and Theatre, Music, Music Technology
 - French, Spanish, Chinese

- **Vocational Courses**

- Level 3 – Digital Media, Sport

- **Academic Enrichment qualifications**

(1 year courses)

- EPQ
- Core Maths (Mathematical Studies)



Course Requirements?

- Minimum is 5 passes at GCSE, including English **and** Maths
- Subjects usually have their own specific entry requirements



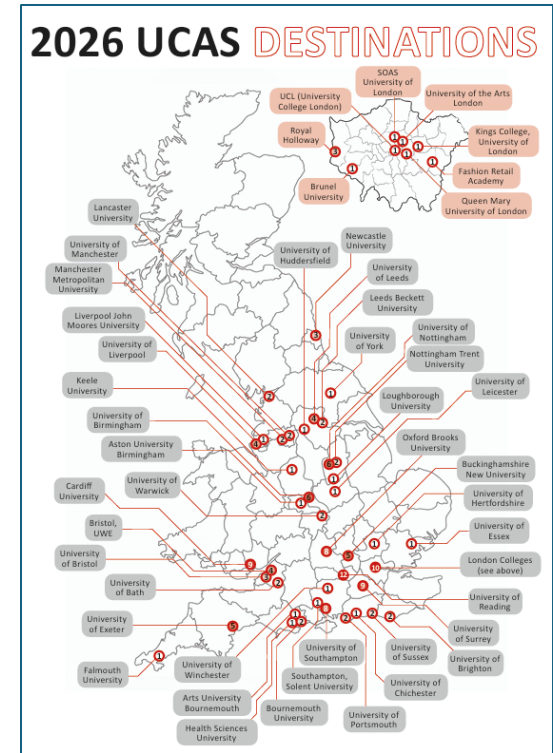
Academic and Pastoral Support?

- Learning Mentor
- Supervised Study Room
- Independent Learning Sessions
- A focused induction programme to support academic, social and personal progress
- Sixth Form Welfare Lead
- Promotion of a wide range of supercurricular experiences to impress university admissions tutors and employers
- 16-19 Bursary support



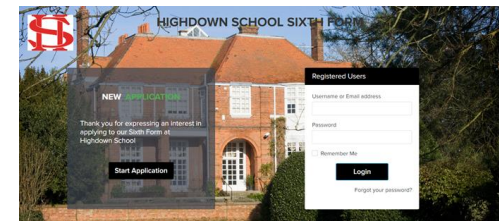
Life after Highdown?

- Advice and guidance from mentor team
- Aiming High group set up in autumn of Year 12 to raise aspirations towards Russell Group applications
- Work Experience week in Year 12
- Support students in applying for Sutton Trust and Oxford summer schools
- Oxford University trip
- Liaison with outside support – including ‘Pathways’ evening in September of Y13
- Mock interview programme
- Guidance and support for competitive subjects and Oxbridge candidates



What is the Application Process?

- Online application forms available from 3rd November, and due in by 4th December 2026
- Meetings from January
- Provisional offers made following meetings - see Entry Requirements document
- Induction at the end of June 2027
- Enrolment day on 19 August 2027



Thank You



www.highdown.reading.sch.uk

sixthformadmissions@highdown.reading.sch.uk



ASPIRATION RESPECT EXCELLENCE

Feedback Survey

Thank you for attending
the Sixth Form Subject
Fair

If you would like to
leave feedback, please
scan the QR code

