

# **HIGHDOWN SIXTH FORM**

## **INDUCTION DAY**

**2021**

**@Highdown6thForm**



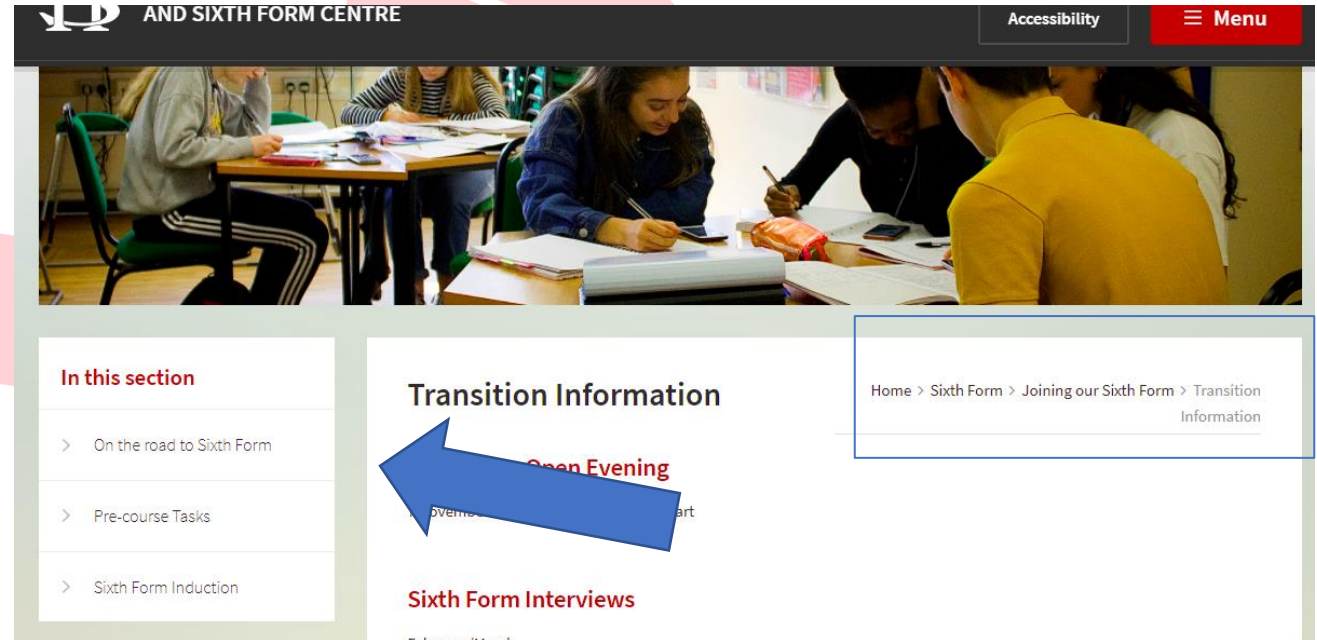
# Aims for the Induction Process

- To help you prepare for a successful start to your Sixth Form studies
- To answer questions you may have about Sixth Form life
- To inform you about the range of opportunities you will experience as a Highdown Sixth Former



## Transition resources

- A narrated and pdf version of this presentation
- A range of 'pre-course' tasks – these need to be completed by September
- A range of 'Road to Sixth Form' resources – these are optional, but are great preparation for September



## Helpful People

- Mr Prior – Head of Sixth Form
- Mr Flynn – Head of Achievement
- Miss Gundry – Assistant Head of Achievement
- Mrs Kaminska – Learning Mentor, Study Room Supervisor
- Mrs Phillips – Sixth Form Administrator
- Miss Rojas-Rodriguez – Disadvantaged student lead



## What does studying in the Sixth Form involve?

- 3 (sometimes 4) 'Level 3' subjects studied for two years

OR

- Level 2 course, with GCSE resits in Maths and English
- Timetabled Independent Learning sessions
- A focused PSHCE programme in mentor periods to support academic, social and personal progress
- Timetabled 'Enrichment' on a Wednesday afternoon
- Developing a wide range of **supercurricular** experiences to impress university admissions tutors and employers



# How is the Sixth Form experience structured?

- Start A-Level and Level 2 courses in September 2021
- A-Level linear PPEs April 2022 and December 2022
- University application Sept – Nov 2022
- A-Level linear exams May/June 2023
  
- Level 2 Students – Applications for Level 3 courses are due in December



# What are our expectations?

- Work hard and be nice!
- Dress code – no uniform although you will need to dress in a way suitable for a learning environment.
- ID badges - compulsory
- Study Zones
- Independent Learning slots
- Attendance – Flexible working passes



## Enrichment – Every student should embrace enrichment

### Every WEDNESDAY Period 5

- Film Club
- MOOCs
- Sport
- School newspaper – The Highdown Herald
- Learn a new language
- Debate Club
- Community work
- Hairdressing

Students can also organise their own Enrichment opportunities

### Other opportunities

- Brookfields Party
- Young Enterprise
- Mentoring
- Classroom assistants
- Student leadership
- World Challenge
- National Citizenship Service
- Work Experience





# The 16-19 Bursary

- **For students who are:**
  - disabled,
  - in care or care leavers,
  - from a low income household;
- **Highdown Sixth Form offers financial support in form of the Bursary.** It covers the cost of:
  - school equipment or other essential materials,
  - a bus pass,
  - textbooks and revision guides,
  - school trips and outings,
  - travel to university and careers events,
  - other things needed to succeed in school.
- Additionally, Highdown Sixth Form supports the Bursary students through **regular meetings with a Learning Mentor** to help them realise their potential.
- To take a full advantage of this scheme, **apply in the Finance Office in September.** Contact Mrs J. Kaminska if you would like to find out more about it.



# Aiming High?

## **To help you apply for the best universities, we...**

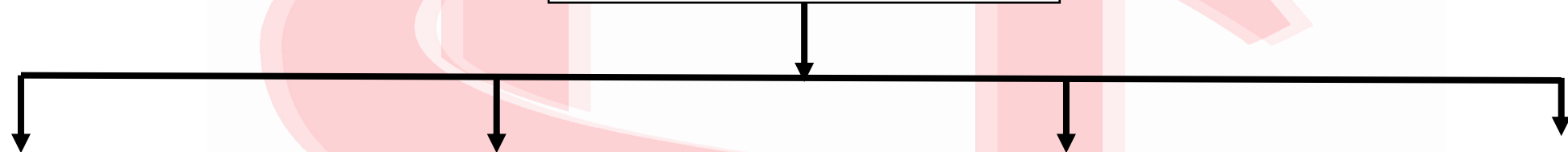
- Offer students the chance to take the Extended Project Qualification
- Run a regular 'Aiming High' club at lunchtimes
- Support students in applying for Sutton Trust and Oxford summer schools, as well as support students through the Sutton Trust US University programme
- Run a trip to a college at Oxford University, and support remote opportunities
- Have a talk from University of Oxford on 'applying to competitive courses'
- Send students to Oxbridge Interview preparation courses
- Offer small group seminars on UCAS course research and effective applications
- Offer mock interviews from members of our local rotary club



## Leadership Team Opportunities

This year we are restructuring the leadership team to give you even more opportunity to develop your CV / UCAS personal statements and gain valuable LORIC skills for your PiXL Edge Masters.

### Head Boy & Head Girl



#### House Captain: Arts

*Fancy a career in theatre, journalism, the music industry?*

- Select, compose and record the house song.
- Curate the House Art exhibition.
- Direct House drama
- Edit House magazine...

#### House Captain: Sports

*Fancy a career in coaching, sports journalism, sports management?*

- Organise Sports Day
- Referee interhouse events
- Work towards sports coaching qualification.
- Organise sponsorship deals for your House teams...

#### House Captain: Community

*Fancy a career in event management, the charity sector, passionate about helping others?*

- Select and liaise with House Charity of the year.
- Organise and run Highdown RAG (Raise and Give) week including the Great Get Together...

#### House Captain: STEAM

*Fancy a STEM career: medicine, engineering etc?*

- Take part in the STEAMBassador programme working with primary schools.
- Organise and run Pi Day...

All house captains and Head Boy and Girl will be expected to present at assemblies and after-school events. You will form the student leadership team, and, as well as your role responsibilities, you will work as a team towards a school improvement priority - decided by you. House Captain positions are open to both Year 12 and 13.



## Enrolling in the Sixth Form

- GCSE Results Day is Thursday 12 August 2021. This will also be Sixth Form enrolment day
- We are expecting this to take place in person and will confirm via email later in the term
- Don't worry – in the event of a remote results day, there will be an advice service so that you can access the Sixth Form team, Curriculum Leaders, Adviza and the Examinations Team



## Starting Year 12

- **Start of September Term 2021 – The Plan!**
- Induction Day: Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2021 – time and venue to be confirmed
- Most of the day will be spent with your new mentor.
- Teaching will commence on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> September 2021 at 8.40 a.m. (mentor time)
- Welcome Evening – Monday 13<sup>th</sup> September 2021 – 6.00 p.m. (online)



## Changing Details?

- Before the end of term (16<sup>th</sup> July)
  - Please contact Mrs Phillips– [caphillips@highdown.reading.sch.uk](mailto:caphillips@highdown.reading.sch.uk)
- During the holidays
  - Please contact the Sixth Form Team–  
[sixthformadmissions@highdown.reading.sch.uk](mailto:sixthformadmissions@highdown.reading.sch.uk)



How you spend your summer holidays can make a real difference to your A-Levels, as well as your UCAS and Apprenticeship applications!



# Supercurricular activities

Activities that you do outside of school that are to do with your subject

- Summer Schools
- Work placements (esp. medicine, law, teaching)
- Public lectures
- Voluntary work
- Competitions
- Online courses
- Opportunities in the local area (and beyond)
- Reading!





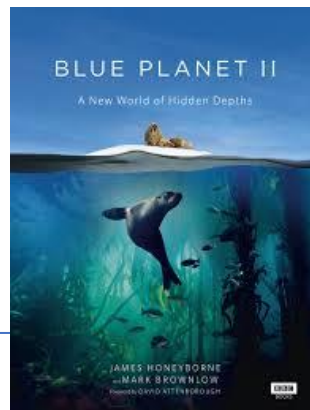
- Read magazines



- Listen to the radio / download podcasts / watch TED talks



- Watch more TV (the right kind of TV!)



- Subscribe to a MOOC – Massive Open Online Course (many are free!)



- Try a virtual museum visit



- Check out ‘subject specific’ societies (the chances are, most A-Level subjects have a ‘society’ that have free resources for Sixth Form students)



- Follow academics on social media (or be old-fashioned, and write to them!)



# **HIGHDOWN SIXTH FORM CENTRE**

[www.highdown.reading.sch.uk](http://www.highdown.reading.sch.uk)

On Twitter -  
[@Highdown6thForm](https://twitter.com/Highdown6thForm)

