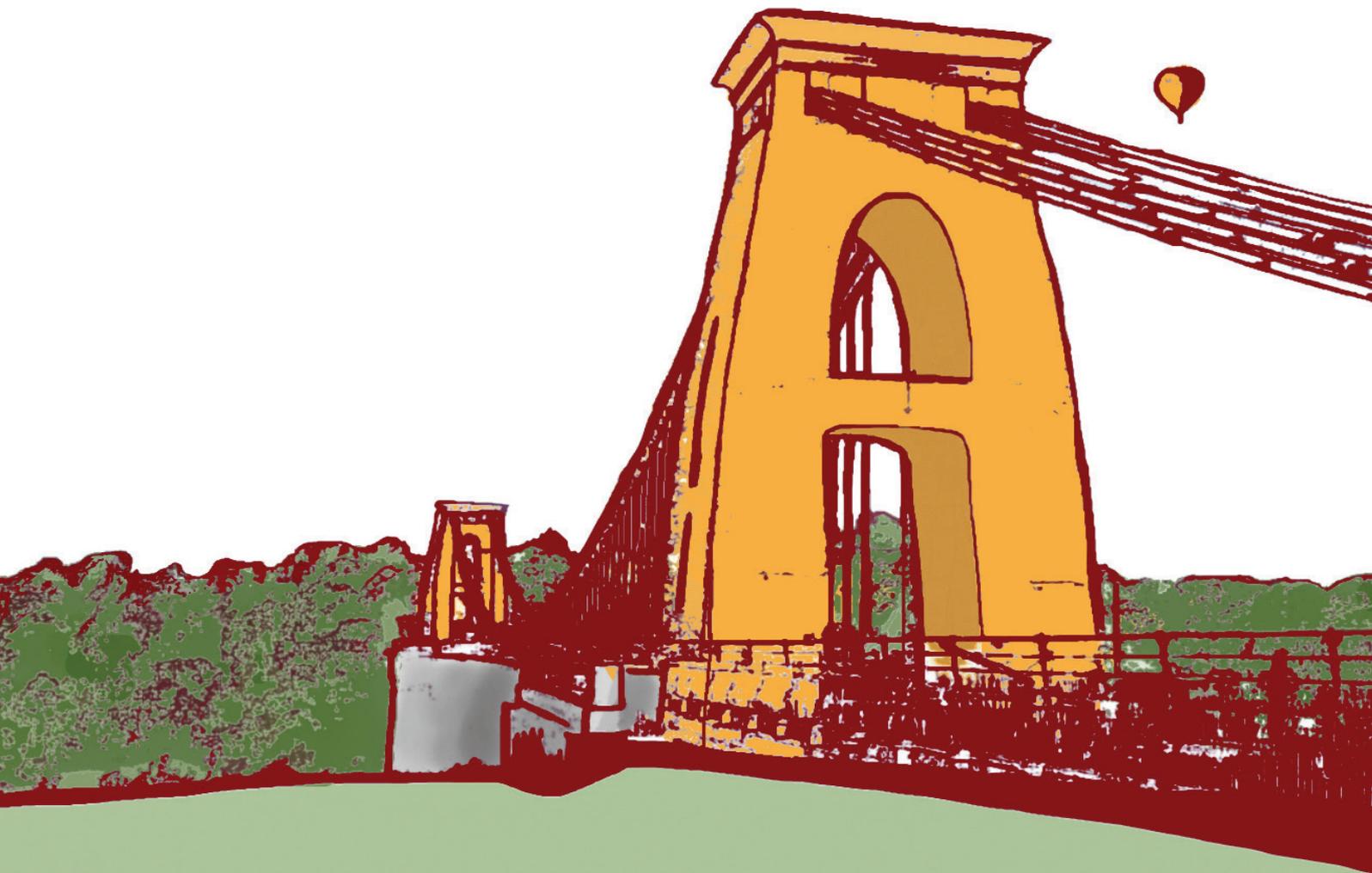




St Katherine's School



Sixth Form Prospectus





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Full course details are in our Course Outline booklet and on our website www.stkaths.org.uk



Welcome to St Katherine's Sixth Form, a small, community-focused Sixth Form in a beautiful rural setting, which allows students to flourish both inside and outside the classroom.

If the events of the last two years have taught us anything, it is the utmost importance of community. As our Sixth Form gradually returns to normality, we are proud of the way we have worked together to maintain a culture of support, high aspiration and togetherness here at St Katherine's through the most trying of times. Whilst adapting and developing together, we have continued to encourage students to develop a love of learning and independent inquiry, and become self-governing, high-functioning members of wider society.

We reflected on the achievements of the last year with a great deal of pride, having sent double the national average of our university applications on to prestigious Russell Group universities, including Oxford and Cambridge. That such remarkable success can emerge from such challenging circumstances is testament to the excellent work being done in our Sixth Form, year after year.

We offer a wide range of course options which cater for all students and future pathways, from traditional academic routes to a small number of vocational options, all taught to an exceptional standard by our experienced Sixth Form teachers. Smaller class sizes means bespoke learning, with teachers who are able to truly get to know you as a person, and a student. Uniquely, we are the only school in the UK with

a high quality restaurant on site. We hope that we can soon reopen to the public and enable our students to make full use of this exceptional facility.

Our dedicated post-16 tutorial team offer excellent pastoral care, from delivering study skills sessions designed to prepare students for Key Stage 5 study, to supporting them in achieving their desired post-18 pathways, be that university, apprenticeship or working life. In St Katherine's Sixth Form we place great value in leadership and enrichment beyond the classroom. Those who attend will find themselves frequently challenged, nurtured and empowered with the skills and knowledge to become their best selves, and to leave our school gates and embark on successful futures. We understand how important choosing a Sixth Form is for you and hope that this prospectus will answer your questions. You can find out more about the Sixth Form, courses and entry requirements by going to www.stkaths.org.uk or by contacting the school by phone.

Geraint Davies
Head of Sixth Form



Facilities and Sixth Form Council

St Katherine's Sixth Form is based in its own purpose-built block, separate from the school, with dedicated facilities designed to meet our students' needs.

THE COMMON ROOM

A modern, collaborative learning space where Year 12 and 13 students can study and share their stresses and triumphs. The Common Room is also used to welcome guest speakers from industry and universities as well as assemblies, quizzes and charity events.

LEARNING RESOURCE CENTRE

The library offers a wide range of literature, resources and extensive ICT access, as well as a quiet, calm study area.

THE WORK ROOM

An exclusive space for Sixth Form students, the work room is equipped with workstations for silent, independent work. A vital area for making the most of dedicated study periods.

CHROMEBOOKS

All Sixth Form students use Chromebooks or laptops to access their learning. We use Google Classroom so students can enrich their understanding and collaborate with one-another on pieces of work both inside and outside of lessons. For more information on Chromebooks and other devices, please contact the Head of Sixth Form.

BREAKOUT AREAS

As well as the lounge areas of the Common Room, Sixth Form students have access to outside facilities such as outdoor seating, table tennis tables and fields during break and lunch times: spaces to relax and catch up with friends.

The Sixth Form is proud to promote leadership opportunities which enable significant contributions to be made within the school and wider community.

LEADERSHIP

We have a thriving sixth form leadership programme which encourages all of our students to actively participate and have a positive impact in our school community.

The structure builds on the lower school house system, taking the same colours (blue, green, red and yellow) and adding associated ambassador roles: equity, wellness, environment, literacy, house, subject, P16 and enterprise. Following a leadership course, students select the area they want to represent and develop their own leadership skills whilst contributing to the improvement of the school and local community.

In an increasingly competitive world, we know how vital 'soft skills' such as leadership and communication can be, and we afford each student the opportunity to thrive in these areas.



I'm **lucky** that I've had **opportunities** to lead the school. I know these kind of opportunities will give me a **competitive edge** when I leave here.

Year 13 Student



At St Katherine's Sixth Form, we want all students to access the very best teaching and learning.



Students have access to the most effective technology and 21st century educational environments to accelerate their progress. This helps them develop skills to prepare them for life after sixth form, whether they choose to go to university, take up an apprenticeship or go into full time employment.

GOOGLE DRIVE

Teachers and students use Google Drive to collaborate on work, model best practice and provide regular, effective feedback.

GOOGLE CLASSROOM

Teachers use this innovative forum to provide students with dynamic educational resources enabling them to engage with the breadth and depth of their courses.

CLASSCHARTS

Sixth Form students use the ClassCharts platform to keep track of home learning. ClassCharts helps ensure students are fully supported in school and at home in achieving their goals. They receive commendations for exceptional work or behaviour through the system and teachers can notify tutors and parents of any missed deadlines or lessons.

The move from KS4 to KS5 can be both daunting and challenging so we work hard to ensure this transition is as smooth and effective as possible for each student.

Making subject choices is a very important first step so each applicant is invited to a Course Consultation Meeting with the Head of Sixth Form. Parents and carers are welcome to join this discussion around subject choices and the opportunities they bring beyond the Sixth Form.

We can then ensure students are placed on a programme of study that is right for them and enables them to progress to their chosen route when they leave us. All prospective Sixth Form students are invited to join our 'Step into Sixth Form Day' which gives them first-hand experience of the level of work and dedication required to succeed. Coupled with our Summer Work programme in the weeks after GCSEs, this helps prepare students for those first important steps in moving from Year 11 to Year 12.

Additionally, our careers advisor and tutor team are on hand to provide up-to-date information, advice and guidance to ensure students understand the context of their educational journey. Our extensive enrichment programme of CV writing skills, interview techniques and advice on how to complete apprenticeship and UCAS applications, helps our students to be competitive in both the employment and university markets.

This high quality support enables students to realise their aspirations. Each year the majority of our students apply to university with others going on to secure a range of alternative pathways, including high quality apprenticeships and full-time employment.



There is a **good support** network within the **Sixth Form** - if I have a problem I know that it will be resolved quickly.

Year 12 Student

Enrichment and What our Students Say

St Katherine's Sixth Form students access a rich variety of enrichment opportunities.

At St Katherine's sixth form we believe in a quality enrichment program that will support students to develop positive learning habits and provide opportunities that prepare them for higher education, apprenticeships and the world of work.

Students can select a one or two year pathway guided by the enrichment areas: **challenge, converse, create, compete and contribute**. The programme allows students to navigate through various activities including: The English Speaking Board (ESB), EPQ, Yoga, Outdoor Education, Social Enterprise opportunities and introductions to creative software such as Adobe photoshop.



ACADEMIC PATHWAY

A LEVELS

- My timetable is highly academic and is designed for me to access universities, including the Russell Group.
- I have chosen three A level subjects that will prepare me to study a wide range of university courses.
- My timetable has the right blend of lessons, flipped learning periods, assessment periods and non-contacts.
- By having structured activities set for me during flipped learning periods, I have been able to become more focused.
- My lessons are engaging and my teachers really care about my future. They really want me to succeed.
- I have enrolled into the Access to Bristol programme at Bristol University which is giving me a real insight into university life and ensures I can receive a contextual offer.
- I am studying the Extended Project Qualification which is great for developing research skills and is something that universities look for.
- The Sixth Form has organised for me to attend university open days, careers fairs and lectures which is really helping me decide what I want to study.
- I really enjoy taking part in the enrichment activities like fundraising for charities and use a lot of my non-contacts to plan events with other students.
- This path has met my needs as I can secure a number of university courses when I leave.

APPLIED PATHWAY

VOCATIONAL COURSES

- I have chosen the applied pathway which gives me the option of university or apprenticeships.
- My timetable has academic aspects such as flipped learning periods, but also practical tasks such as managing an event. This allows me to stretch myself academically through revising content and developing exam skills and also helps me become more employable through working in teams on projects.
- My teachers set me clear tasks and using Google Classroom, I can see exactly what needs to be done and have access to everything I need all day.
- Having a Chromebook makes it easy for me to manage my time and be productive when working with other class members.
- I have taken part in a number of enrichment activities including practical interview sessions run by Lloyds Bank. This has allowed me to develop important life skills.
- I have received careers guidance throughout my time in sixth form and have listened to university student ambassadors and business advisors, so I feel informed about my next steps.
- I have received support in arranging a challenging work experience placement which gave me an insight into working life, as well as looking good on my job applications.

Reasons to Study with Us and Enrolment Timeline

Personalised learning experience

Options of both **academic** and **vocational pathways** to suit each student

52% of grades in 2021 A-A*

University Destinations for 2021 include **Oxford, Cambridge, Imperial College London, Durham, Manchester, Edinburgh**, and a range of other prestigious institutions.

Enrichment and extension opportunities including Extended Project Qualification, Access to Bristol, HE+ and the English Speaking Board

Exceptional standard of pastoral care and expert guidance

Extensive **student leadership** opportunities

Small class sizes

Taught **study skills** across Years 12 and 13

21st Century Learning through the use of Chromebooks and Google Classroom



St Katherine's is like **one big family**. It's **supportive** and **comfortable** and the teachers do anything they can to help."

Sixth Form Student

ENROLMENT TIMELINE

**10TH
JANUARY
2022** Application form deadline

**EARLY
2022** Subject taster sessions

**NOVEMBER
2021 TO
MARCH 2022** Course consultation meetings

**25TH
AUGUST
2022** GCSE results

**SEPTEMBER
2022** Enrolment for St Katherine's Sixth Form



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