

THE COTSWOLD SCHOOL



INDSHIP - KNOWLEDGE

  
**SIXTH FORM**  
THE COTSWOLD SCHOOL

# Welcome to The Sixth Form

I am delighted to introduce you to The Sixth Form at The Cotswold School – a vibrant and successful learning environment.

Our Sixth Form flourishes, with over 280 students enjoying exceptional teaching across 28 subject areas, offering a broad, engaging and challenging curriculum. Achievement is 'Outstanding', with A Level results that rank consistently in England's Top State School Sixth Forms.

The Sixth Form at The Cotswold School is known for its highly successful university preparation. Year on year our students set their sights on and win places at the country's top universities – including Oxford, Cambridge and other Russell Group Universities. Our students also progress to competitive Apprenticeship Programmes.

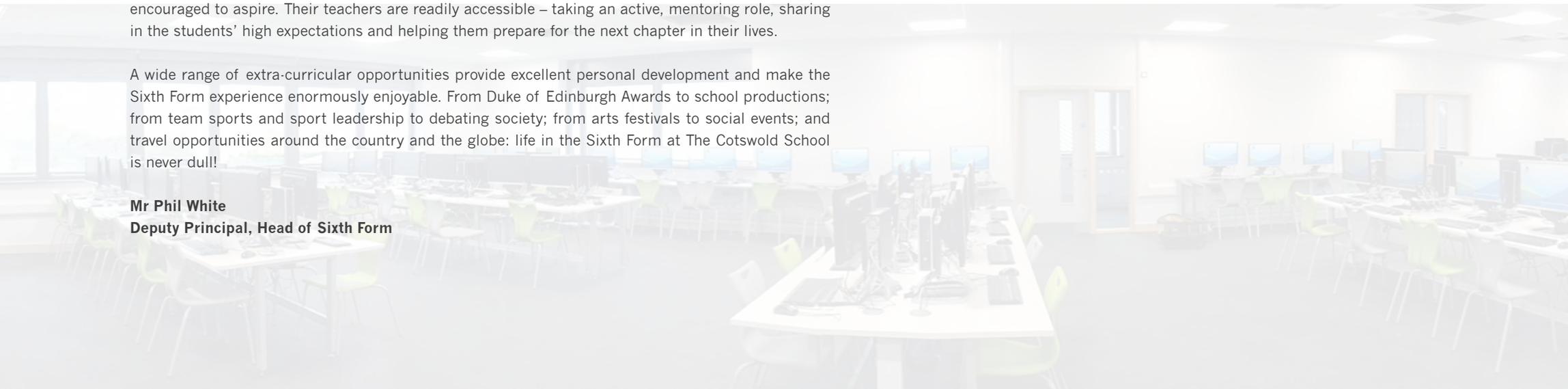
Facilities are excellent, with a spacious bespoke Sixth Form Centre which opened in 2018. This provides excellent learning facilities for the students, including a fully networked Study Room with 60 PCs and a large Common Room with space to work, socialise and eat. The Sixth Form is regarded as the 'flagship' of the school – a privileged position from which students can benefit from and also enrich the life of the school as a whole.

The Sixth Form shares the positive, enthusiastic, focused atmosphere that is evident throughout the school and which is often remarked upon. Additionally, the Sixth Form has its own distinctive character – one that reflects the growing maturity and independence of the young adults who form it. Working in this friendly, caring environment with its strong academic ethos, our Sixth Form students are encouraged to aspire. Their teachers are readily accessible – taking an active, mentoring role, sharing in the students' high expectations and helping them prepare for the next chapter in their lives.

A wide range of extra-curricular opportunities provide excellent personal development and make the Sixth Form experience enormously enjoyable. From Duke of Edinburgh Awards to school productions; from team sports and sport leadership to debating society; from arts festivals to social events; and travel opportunities around the country and the globe: life in the Sixth Form at The Cotswold School is never dull!

**Mr Phil White**  
Deputy Principal, Head of Sixth Form

*There is a sense of freedom in the Sixth Form .... Here, you are given the tools and all the help and support you need, then given the independence to get on with your work*





**Mr Phil White**  
**Deputy Principal, Head of Sixth Form,**  
**Careers Leader, Teacher of Geography**

Mr White joined The Cotswold School in 2012, having spent five successful years as a Head of Sixth Form in south London.

A great believer in the amazing potential of all students, Mr White has led a number of developments to the Sixth Form curriculum, the provision of wider educational opportunities and student support at The Cotswold School. He is very pleased to see the new Sixth Form Centre up and running, which is providing our students with exceptional facilities and resources.

Mr White is delighted that the quality of teaching, learning and pastoral support in the Sixth Form continues to go from strength to strength. This has enabled our students to achieve impressive examination results and be ready to embark upon an exciting range of university courses and careers.



**Ms Angela Rodrigues**  
**Deputy Head of Sixth Form,**  
**Head of Year 13, Teacher of English**

A teacher and leader at The Cotswold School since 1999, Ms Rodrigues says that one of her greatest pleasures is being a member of the school's exceptional Sixth Form community.

With a wealth of experience in all aspects of Sixth Form leadership, Ms Rodrigues currently takes a leading role in our Higher Education and Careers programme and oversees the Extended Project Qualification. She supports students in the crucial final year of their Sixth Form studies and has been instrumental in ensuring that all students achieve excellent examination results and graduate from the school having developed a broad range of personal and academic skills.



**Miss Julie Franklin**  
**Deputy Head of Sixth Form,**  
**Head of Year 12,**  
**Teacher of Design and Technology**

Miss Franklin has been at The Cotswold School since 2010, as a teacher of Design and Technology. She is an experienced Head of Year, having previously led Years 10 and 11. Now as the Head of Year 12, Miss Franklin plays a key role in ensuring that all students have a smooth transition to their Sixth Form life and make excellent progress in the first year of their new A Level subjects. The Sixth Form is a welcoming place and she enjoys working with a team that cares so much about the students' wellbeing and pastoral care as well as their progress.



**Miss Rosie Moser**  
**Sixth Form Administrator**

Rosie joined The Cotswold School in 2016, having worked in hospitality for many years. From the wealth of this experience, Rosie is friendly, approachable and is very much used to a lively and professional buzz – she feels right at home in the Sixth Form!

Having joined the Sixth Form Team in September 2018, Rosie is the first port of call for parents and students on all matters relating to the Sixth Form. Always happy to help, Rosie also provides administrative support to staff and students and is a mine of information. She is integral to the smooth running of the Sixth Form.

**email:**  
**[sixthform@thecotswoldschool.co.uk](mailto:sixthform@thecotswoldschool.co.uk)**



# Our Curriculum

## 1. CORE CURRICULUM:

We offer a broad range of Level 3 subject options, all taught by well-qualified specialist teachers. Year 12 students either take four or three core subjects; the vast majority then concentrate on three subjects in Year 13. We also offer four Level 3 vocational courses: Business, Health & Social Care, ICT and Sport. These qualifications are at the same standard as A Levels and include coursework assessments (at least 50% of the qualification) and examinations. For Business and Health & Social Care we are offering the Diploma (the equivalent of taking two A Levels over two years), for ICT we are offering the Introductory Diploma (the equivalent of taking one A Level over two years) and for Sport we are offering the Introductory Diploma and, if there is sufficient demand, the Diploma as well.

All AS/A Levels nationally are now linear qualifications, which means that the AS examination results will not count towards the final A Level qualifications, and the retaking of individual modules is not permitted. A Level examinations will test students on the knowledge, understanding and skills they will have gained over their two years of study.

The table below lists the subjects that we plan to offer for September 2020. All of these qualifications are at AS and A Level, unless otherwise stated.

Art & Design: Fine Art	German (A Level only)
Art & Design: Textiles	Health & Social Care (Level 3 Diploma)
Biology	History
Business	ICT (Level 3 Introductory Diploma)
Business (Level 3 Diploma)	Mathematics
Chemistry	Further Mathematics
Computer Science	Music
Design & Technology: Product Design	Physics
Drama and Theatre	Psychology
Economics	Religious Studies
English Language	Sociology
English Literature (A Level only)	Spanish (A Level only)
French (A Level only)	Sport (Level 3 Intro Diploma / Diploma)
Geography	

If there is sufficient demand and we have appropriate staffing, we may add other options to our curriculum. Although unlikely, we may withdraw an option if the number of students opting for a subject is very low.

All of our Year 12 students will sit public examinations in all of their AS/A Level subjects in May/June of Year 12, with the exception of English Literature, French, German and Spanish – in these four subjects they will sit our own internal end-of-year examinations. Students will be required to achieve a minimum of a grade D at AS Level (or be at the equivalent standard in the non-AS Level subjects) in order to continue that subject in Year 13.

The normal entry requirements for our Sixth Form are that students must achieve a minimum of five GCSEs at grade 4 or above and they must show evidence of a positive, self-motivated approach to learning. Each of our Sixth Form courses also has its own entry criteria; these are shown on an insert in the prospectus and can be viewed on the School website. Students with lower than a grade 4 in GCSE Mathematics or English Language must attend lessons in these subjects to enable them to improve their grades in these GCSEs, as they are essential qualifications for many careers and Further Education courses.







### Hal Pett

**A Levels results 2019:** Fine Art A\*, History A\*, Religious Education A\*

**Destination:** University of Birmingham to read Philosophy, Religion and Ethics

*"My passion for philosophy definitely grew during my time at The Cotswold School, particularly in Religious Studies lessons where the teachers created an atmosphere where I was able to discuss the complex concepts being taught and put forward my ideas. I enjoyed the Sixth Form immensely, and the responsibilities and challenges as Deputy Head Boy, Religious Studies Ambassador, but also the many opportunities we were given, whether in our learning or within extra-curricular activities; I personally enjoyed having larger roles in the school production such as Baker in the production of 'Into the Woods'."*



### Brooke Maskell

**A Levels results 2019:** Biology A\*, Geography A\*, Mathematics A\*

**Destination:** University of Bristol to read Geography

*"The Cotswold School provided me with so many opportunities. Through the school I was able to spend a month travelling around Vietnam, Cambodia and Laos – something I would not have been able to have done otherwise. I was given a tremendous amount of support and encouragement from all of my teachers. This support also extended beyond the subjects I was studying, including a lot of help and guidance with writing my personal statement and my university application. The Cotswold School is a friendly place and it provides all of its students with the opportunity to thrive and reach their full potential."*



### Kate Edgerton

**A Levels:** History (AS grade A), French (AS grade B), Geography (AS grade B) and Spanish (AS grade B)

**Intended destination:** Kate has applied to Cambridge University to study Modern and Medieval Languages

*"During my time in the Sixth Form, I have enjoyed participating in the History Society as well as going on the French exchange to Brittany where I completed my work experience. At Easter this year, I also visited Madrid with my Spanish class where we undertook further work experience in various clothing retailers. As current Head Girl, my main objective is to give something back to the School through fundraising. I love the friendliness of The Cotswold School, the supportive and happy atmosphere, which helps make it the successful place that it is."*



### Jake Pugsley

**A Levels:** Chemistry (AS grade A), Mathematics (AS grade A), Further Mathematics (AS grade A), English Language (AS grade A), Psychology (AS grade A)

**Intended destination:** Jake has applied to Cambridge University to study Natural Sciences

*"The Cotswold School has always encouraged me to challenge myself in my subjects, and Sixth Form is no different. Having studied 5 subjects in Year 12, I've learnt to improve my organisational skills and develop my interest in a variety of disciplines, from languages to the sciences. This only grew with the school's nurturing ethos, without which I'd most likely never have the confidence to apply for Cambridge University."*





### Ethan Hadad

**A Levels results 2019:** History A\*, Economics A\*, Spanish A

**Destination:** University of Oxford to study Arabic and a subsidiary language

*"I had an enjoyable time in The Sixth Form at The Cotswold School. Whilst studying for my three A Levels, I was able and given the opportunities to further develop my areas of interest in great depth. I enjoyed being an active member of the Sixth Form Debating Society and the History Society, as well as entering essay competitions and doing a MOOC (a short online university course)! All of these experiences, I believe, will stand me in good stead as I embark on my degree at the University of Oxford."*

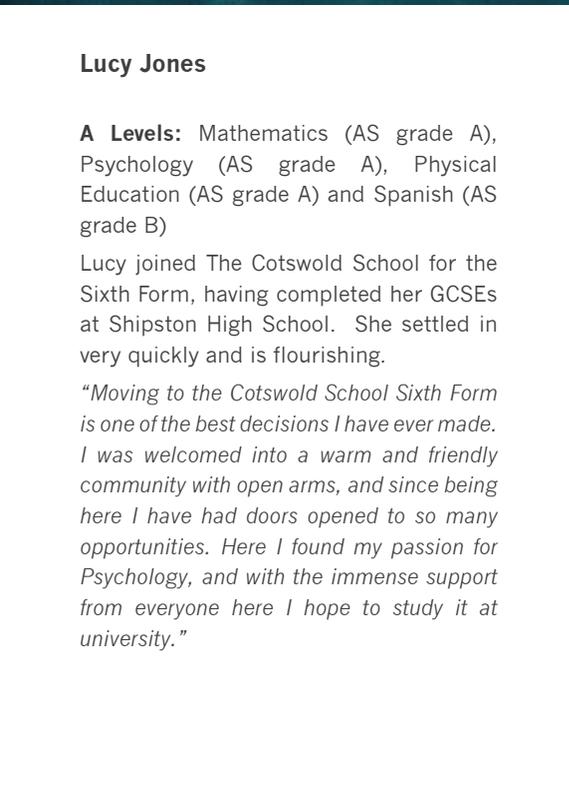


### Emma Parker

**A Levels results 2019:** English Literature A\*, French A\*, Mathematics A\*, Spanish A\* and the Extended Project Qualification A\*

**Destination:** Christ's College, University of Cambridge to study Linguistics

*"The Sixth Form, in its separate building, has a more relaxed atmosphere than the lower school. There is a strong work ethic and I believe having smaller classes and fewer subjects made school even more enjoyable. Perhaps more importantly, all my teachers were absolutely lovely; whenever I was struggling with anything, whether it be coursework, personal statements or maths, I always received loads of amazing support without which I would have not achieved the results I have, including an A\* in my Extended Project Qualification, entitled 'Which teaching/learning strategy could be considered the most effective in teaching a foreign language?'"*



### Lucy Jones

**A Levels:** Mathematics (AS grade A), Psychology (AS grade A), Physical Education (AS grade A) and Spanish (AS grade B)

Lucy joined The Cotswold School for the Sixth Form, having completed her GCSEs at Shipston High School. She settled in very quickly and is flourishing.

*"Moving to the Cotswold School Sixth Form is one of the best decisions I have ever made. I was welcomed into a warm and friendly community with open arms, and since being here I have had doors opened to so many opportunities. Here I found my passion for Psychology, and with the immense support from everyone here I hope to study it at university."*



### Ralph Skliros

**A Levels:** Mathematics (AS grade A), Physics (AS grade A), Computer Science (AS grade A), Chemistry (AS grade A)

**Intended destination:** Ralph is applying for a Software Engineering degree at university and then wishes to pursue a career in Cyber Security

*"As well as excellent teaching, The Cotswold School has always provided lots of opportunities beyond the classroom – visiting the large hadron collider in Switzerland in Year 12 was a fantastic experience and has given me a unique insight and wider perspective on my study of Physics. All Cotswold students do work shadowing at the end of Year 12 – I found this very enjoyable and it enabled me to gain valuable experience within the computer science industry. The focused environment and great facilities in the Sixth Form help me to be independent with my learning and will hopefully propel me to achieve top grades at A level and go on to enjoy success at uni and in my chosen career."*





# Life in the Sixth Form

Life in the Sixth Form at The Cotswold School provides you with the means to develop as an individual. While you will be challenged and supported academically, extra-curricular activities, Extended Project Qualifications, taking on school leadership responsibilities and professional work shadowing will broaden your perspective and enhance your personal statement for universities and applications for apprenticeships or careers.

Being in the Sixth Form is a position of privilege from which you can make a positive contribution to the life of the whole school. Positions of responsibility available to Sixth Formers include coordinating roles on various committees, house captaincies, student council, assistant librarians, subject ambassadors, and the roles of Head Girl and Head Boy and their deputies.

The extra-curricular opportunities on offer at The Cotswold School are broad and everyone is encouraged to take part. Just some of the options are: debating society, science journal club, history and politics society, the Duke of Edinburgh award scheme, theatre productions, choir, music ensembles, fashion show, charitable events, and any of the many sporting opportunities available.

Your performance in the Sixth Form will very much depend on your physical wellbeing. Our commitment to your health begins with the excellent range of fresh food produced daily on our school premises as well as a session of PE each week. Sports teams and clubs in school and locally are readily accessible, as are the fitness suite and swimming pool, situated just a few metres away from our new Sixth Form Centre.

Alongside University Open Days and Taster Courses, there is an extensive array of national and international trips available: History trips to the Somme, Berlin and Krakow; sports tours around the UK and abroad; skiing in the Alps; Geography excursions in Wales and Iceland; cultural tours to various European countries, China and the United States; work experience abroad; and month long team expeditions to far-flung destinations such as Borneo, Vietnam, India and Ghana.

All these elements help to create a lively, stimulating Sixth Form in which you can flourish academically and develop your individual talents and potential.



# Preparation for the Future

Post-16 subject choices play a vital part in making informed decisions about post-18 study and careers.

With approximately 280 students, our Sixth Form is both small enough so that we are able to get to know each student personally and large enough to enable us to provide a broad-based curriculum that can be tailored to each student's strengths and aspirations.

Sound, impartial careers advice and university guidance are given in both group and on a one-to-one basis to ensure that students are well prepared for their life after The Cotswold School.

Careers days and guest speakers – from universities, apprenticeship programmes and potential employers – help our students make the right choices.

We give guidance on how to get the most out of University Open Days as well as giving support in completing university and apprenticeship applications. Valuable mock interview sessions are provided with the generous support of our local Rotary Club and a network of professional contacts we have built up over the years.

We begin the UCAS process in Year 12, first with an information evening for students and their parents/guardians. All Year 12 students are encouraged to do something different, valuable and unique outside of school and during their long holidays, which they can usefully refer to when it comes to writing their Personal Statements.

In the second half of the summer term in Year 12, students are guided through the UCAS system. The Sixth Form leadership team and the Sixth Form tutors produce each student's higher education or employment reference.

Our programme for preparing our students has proven highly effective over the years, with our students consistently setting their sights on and winning prestigious places in higher education.



# How to Apply

Prospective students and parents are welcome to make an appointment to visit the Sixth Form at The Cotswold School and see it in action.

Although applications are accepted at any time of year, ideally they should be submitted by early December, to minimise the chance of option clashes.

All applicants to the school will be interviewed by a member of the Sixth Form leadership team. The focus of this conversation will be guidance on subject choices and finding out about the applicant's learning styles and wider interests. This will also be a good opportunity for applicants and their parents/guardians to ask any questions that they might have about the Sixth Form.

Application forms and further information can be obtained from the Sixth Form Administrator, Miss Rosie Moser via: [sixthform@thecotswoldschool.co.uk](mailto:sixthform@thecotswoldschool.co.uk) or from the School website: [www.cotswold.gloucs.sch.uk](http://www.cotswold.gloucs.sch.uk)

*In March 2015, Ofsted ranked  
The Cotswold School 'Outstanding'  
across all categories, stating:*

**‘The Sixth Form is outstanding. Students respond well to excellent teaching and pastoral support and make outstanding progress. The academy’s strong partnerships with universities, colleges of further education and industry provide students with excellent opportunities to pursue careers of their choice.’**





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