



Caroline Chisholm School



Ambition Confidence Success
Everyone Every Lesson Every Opportunity



Welcome

I am immensely proud to welcome you to our school.

We are an oversubscribed, academically successful school that strives to develop young people into ambitious, high achieving, happy and resilient young adults. We make learning enjoyable from our Early Years' Foundation Stage right up to Key Stage Five. We provide a challenging academic curriculum, a supportive pastoral system and an outstanding extra-curricular programme that, together, are designed to grow and nurture the strengths and talents of all of our students.

In this prospectus we provide potential sixth form students and their parents with information about our sixth form provision. Applications are welcome from all current Year 11 students, whether they are our current students or students who currently attend other local secondary schools.

As a school, we pride ourselves in striving for excellence in all areas of learning. We build into our students an expectation that with hard work, determination and investment, almost everything is achievable. However, being a successful student is as much about developing as a young adult and learning to give back to society as the grades that you achieve in public examinations.

This prospectus gives you a good flavour of what we have to offer at our school. However, please do not hesitate to ask for additional information from any member of the Sixth Form team or curriculum team.

David James
Principal



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Our Vision

Some sixth forms are too much like school, whilst some colleges are too impersonal. We endeavour to offer the best of both worlds. Students have the freedom to express themselves as young adults, whilst still receiving the advice and guidance they were used to up to the age of 16. Our superb facilities include a designated sixth form area, but students can still access the facilities and support across the whole school campus and community.

Caroline Chisholm School is a safe, secure and inspirational learning environment at the heart of our community where everyone is equally valued and respected, a community built on:

Ambition

By developing the school culture, where everyone:

- strives to be the best they can become
- aspires to ambitious goals
- nurtures and supports

Confidence

Where everyone develops self-belief by:

- overcoming challenges
- taking calculated risks
- upholding our shared values

Success

Where everyone is inspired to:

- become a high performing learner
- embrace a range of rich and diverse opportunities
- celebrate achievement in all its forms

We know that the most successful students, not just academically but also personally, are those that feel happy and supported. This allows them to develop a real interest and passion for the subjects they have chosen to study.

Our vision for when students join the sixth form is that after two years with us they will not only have excellent academic qualifications to access the best universities and careers in the world, but that they feel happy and confident to make the most of their next steps, wherever that may be.

Whilst academic excellence and exceptional teaching and learning are central to our sixth form, we know that we need to develop and provide much more than this so that, as students move into a world beyond school, they are ambitious, confident and successful, making the most of the opportunities presented to them, and even more importantly having the determination to create their own.



A Message from the Sixth Form Team

Sixth form is an exciting time, as students enter the final stage in their school-based education. We provide a dynamic learning environment that inspires academic ambition and challenges our students to excel.

Our students are expected to take on responsibilities not only towards their own education, but also within the wider community. We empower them to be the best they can be by offering a wide range of academic subjects which facilitate progression into university, higher-level apprenticeships or full-time employment.

Academic qualifications will open doors to future opportunities, but we are mindful that it is also our responsibility to equip students for the future through informed decisions that will impact positively on their well-being, independence and longer-term success. We will help them to build resilience and transferable life skills, which enable them to contribute purposefully to society. All of our students are expected to volunteer and participate in the **Enrichment Programme** and should aim to achieve the **100 hours Lions Award**.

The **Sixth Form Student Leadership Team**, led by the head students, play an active role in the development of opportunities for students. They ensure student views are taken into account and, as role models, they play a central part in forming a successful partnership with teaching and administrative staff as well as external organisations.

The role of the sixth form staff team is to support the academic and social progress of students and to prepare them for life after school. Whether it be university or the world of work, all students are advised and guided through the relevant application process and we have a comprehensive programme of support for whichever pathway students plan to follow when they leave us.



"Every teacher I have is incredibly passionate in the subject they teach. We engage with them, because they engage us. They want to be with us in the classroom."

What We Offer

Our students are ambitious, confident and creative learners who strive to be the best that they can be.

Our curriculum is designed to ensure that students can move effectively into their chosen next phase of education or employment.

As the vast majority of our students move onto university, our students typically study three A level subjects. In exceptional cases, students will be able to study four A level subjects.

Students who meet the entry requirements will also be able to supplement their studies by undertaking an Extended Project Qualification (EPQ) in Year 13.

We advise that students wishing to apply for top-level universities consider taking at least two subjects.



Applying for a Place

- **Existing Caroline Chisholm School students** should make their application for a place via the 'Insight' system.
- **External students** are able to apply via the school website and register on the site to complete their application.

The deadline for applications is midnight on **Sunday 17 January 2020**. Any applications received after this time will be considered, but only if there are places available both in the sixth form and on the relevant course. The published number of admissions for external applications is 50.

Detailed admissions criteria and the subject course guide are available on the school website. Appeals information is available on the school's website.

All initial offers of places to internal and external students are conditional and are only confirmed when the student shows evidence of achieving the required grades for their chosen subjects.

Availability of courses are dependent on number of applicants and viability of running them. For this reason we ask students to also select a reserve subject. If there is a change to their chosen subjects we will notify students and parents as soon as possible.

Entry Requirements

Students wishing to attend CCS Sixth Form can follow one of two pathways:

Pathway 1: Students may choose to study three A levels from our complete range of subjects. We require that students have achieved all of the following requirements:

- A minimum GCSE grade 5 (or equivalent) in at least five subjects;
- A minimum of grade 5 in one of their English subjects and a minimum of grade 4 in the other;
- A minimum of grade 4 in Maths;
- The minimum entry requirements for their chosen subjects as outlined in the course guide.

Pathway 2: Students may choose to study a Diploma (equivalent to two A 'Levels) in either Business or Health and Social Care, and choose one other A level from a range. We require that students have achieved all of the following requirements:

- A minimum GCSE grade 4 (or equivalent) in at least five subjects.
- A minimum of grade 4 in both English Literature and Language
- A minimum of grade 4 in Maths
- The minimum entry requirements for their chosen A level subject as outlined in the course guide.

Sixth Form Life

Our students enjoy a mixture of timetabled lessons, independent study sessions, enrichment and voluntary work and also have time to relax should they require it.

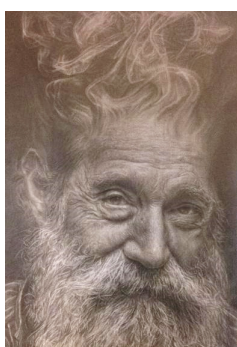
Whilst we expect students to work hard, it is also important that they manage their time in order to mix with friends and enjoy the social benefits of life in this vital stage of their school journey. Students have a unique study centre, monitored supported by a dedicated pastoral team. There are a number of 'break-out' rooms available to them. Students are encouraged to bring their own laptops into school.

Teaching and Learning

We encourage students to be active learners, conduct their own research, organise their own time and take a leading role in lessons. Every student is part of a tutor group which meets each morning. Tutors meet with students on an individual basis to monitor progress, help them develop study skills and discuss any concerns. Our extensive range of educational trips enhance and bring to life students' learning experience in the classroom. Trips to date have included: skiing in Iceland and trips to Venice and Florence, Uganda, Malawi, Pembrokeshire and CERN, Switzerland.



Former Caroline Chisholm Student, Tom Stent won first prize in the prestigious University of Northampton Schools Art Award for the drawing category. His drawing was also recognised as the most outstanding piece submitted overall. (Pictured right)



High Performance Learning

At Caroline Chisholm School we adopt a High Performance Learning approach within lessons. HPL is a research-based, pedagogy-led philosophy developed by Professor Deborah Eyre. This approach sees all students as high performers who are not limited by ability, and this reflects our own ethos of "everyone, every lesson, every opportunity".

HPL makes the ambition of high performance the expectation for all students in the school and uses a teaching and learning framework to systematically grow minds and develop the cognitive skills, values, attitudes and attributes needed to reach success. Our students are encouraged to use their thinking skills to build on existing knowledge, generate their own ideas and opinions and to solve problems effectively, both individually and in collaboration with their peers.



TEDxYouth @CarolineChisholmSchool

Innovative Year 13 student, Charlie Atkins applied for and obtained a TEDx licence and successfully organised an independent event with six speakers and two performers in the summer of 2020. The aim of the initiative was to bring people together to create a platform for discussion and to empower students with knowledge and curiosity to learn through broad range of Interdisciplinary talks.



All speaker talks are available to watch via the TEDx Talks YouTube channel.

TEDx
Youth@CarolineChisholmSchool
x = independently organized TED event

The Enrichment Programme

The Enrichment Programme offers diverse experiences which develop a range of transferable skills applicable to life beyond the sixth form:

- Participation in the Student Leadership Team
- A flexible timetable to allow for regular, relevant work experience
- Voluntary work through involvement in local community projects towards the YLIS award
- Supporting younger students in both primary and secondary phases
- Undertaking the NCS Award
- Undertaking the Sports Leaders Level 2 Award
- PSHE programme delivered through tutor sessions and from visiting speakers
- Visits, including university open days and career fairs
- Educational trips

"It was helpful when I attended the careers fair. I found out everything I needed to know to become a midwife in only half an hour."

Induction

Induction into the sixth form for prospective students takes place shortly after following the completion of students' GCSE examinations. Induction is an opportunity for our new students to experience sample lessons and try out a range of A level subjects that will be studied when they start in September.

External students are offered an extended induction programme to give them the opportunity to gain an insight into life at our school and familiarise themselves with the school environment before they start.



Dress Code

We expect students to dress appropriately for the modern workplace and follow the published sixth form dress code. The sixth form team and tutors will intervene where dress falls below our expectations.

There are some items which we consider inappropriate for school context, including:

- Ripped trousers
- Flip flops & Sliders
- Sports & Gym wear/ leggings
- Clothing with offensive/ adult-themed images
- Revealing clothing
- Visible facial piercings & visible tattoos
- Excessively short shorts, skirts or dresses
- Excessively high heels
- Camouflage trousers
- Blue denim



"Tutor period has helped me understand what I have to do to apply to university and the assembly programme broadens my global perspective"



16-19 Bursary

The **16-19 Bursary Fund** helps students continue in education where they may otherwise struggle for financial reasons. We target funds allocated by the Educational Funding Agency to support these students. Completion and submission of the school's 16-19 Bursary Application Form, available from the sixth form administrator, will be required.

Students who do not qualify for a bursary may apply for a **Discretionary Individual Hardship Payment** for a specific educational purpose. It should be noted that funds under this scheme are extremely limited and will only be made available after level 1 and level 2 bursaries are fully allocated.



Facilities

Our school has state-of-the-art classrooms, laboratories and specialist-teaching facilities, including dedicated dance, drama and music, science and technology and visual arts rooms. Our students benefit from their own, silent study area, break-out rooms for small group work and a café area, which provides hot snacks, drinks and other refreshments during the school day. Our high-tech ICT network allows students to log in to our network from home and every student has email and internet access. Our wireless system is designed to give maximum access to these services and many of our sixth form courses include ICT and internet-based assignments.



We all know that it is a tough world out there, so how do students make themselves stand out from the crowd? Students are not on their own; our job is not only to get students through exams, but to equip them with the skills and experience necessary to enable them to fulfil their life ambitions, whether it is moving onto higher education, an apprenticeship or full-time employment.

The sixth form team helps students through the entire process of university applications (UCAS). For some universities, additional study and preparation is essential and there will be timetabled support sessions for those applying to competitive universities where students are required to sit admissions examinations.

Our team will identify students who are likely to be interviewed for places and hold weekly sessions with them where necessary. Guidance is provided for students on choosing universities, to aid the completion of the UCAS application form. If a student's next career step is employment, an apprenticeship or another direction for training, we will help and support them through various events and activities, including work experience placement assistance, careers fairs and sharing up to date advertisements for positions with them.

At Caroline Chisholm we are proud to offer an extensive range of Level 3/A level qualifications, which provide a variety of student opportunities and pathways, illustrated in the word cloud below:



Notes

Notes

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