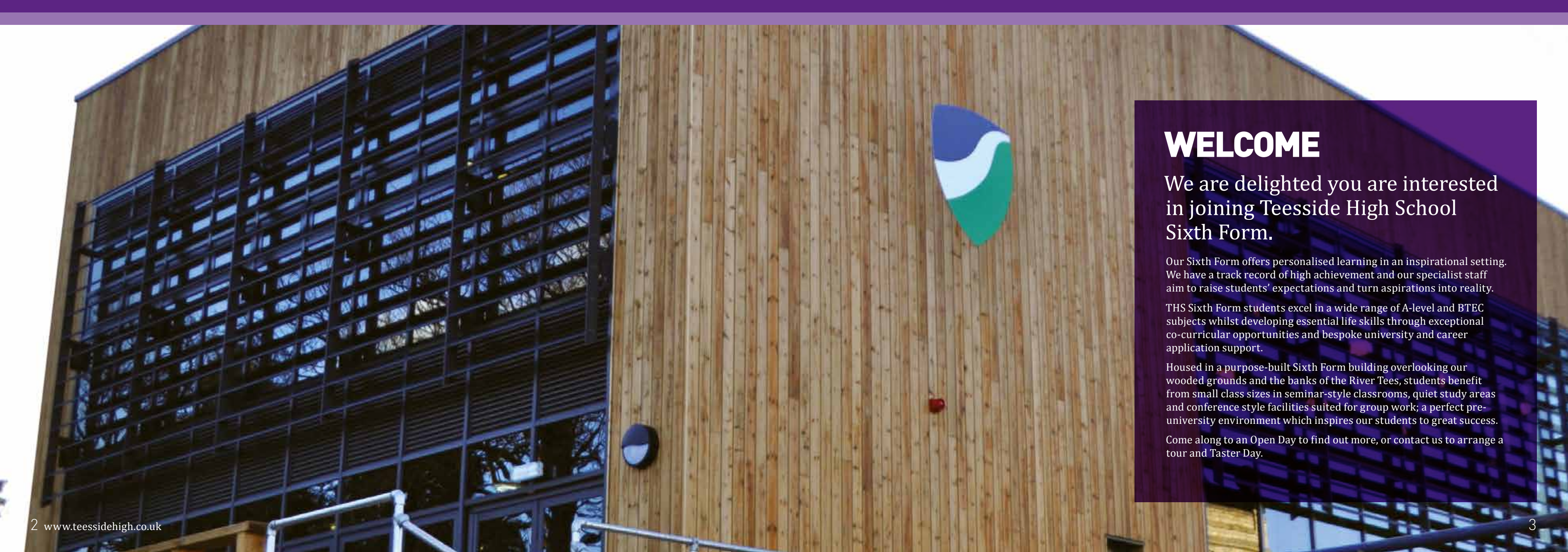




Welcome to THS Sixth Form



Teesside High School
Education as it should be



WELCOME

We are delighted you are interested in joining Teesside High School Sixth Form.

Our Sixth Form offers personalised learning in an inspirational setting. We have a track record of high achievement and our specialist staff aim to raise students' expectations and turn aspirations into reality.

THS Sixth Form students excel in a wide range of A-level and BTEC subjects whilst developing essential life skills through exceptional co-curricular opportunities and bespoke university and career application support.

Housed in a purpose-built Sixth Form building overlooking our wooded grounds and the banks of the River Tees, students benefit from small class sizes in seminar-style classrooms, quiet study areas and conference style facilities suited for group work; a perfect pre-university environment which inspires our students to great success.

Come along to an Open Day to find out more, or contact us to arrange a tour and Taster Day.

LIFE IN THE SIXTH FORM

Sixth Form years are a crucial time in every student's life; not simply because of the importance of achieving excellent results, but also because it is during these years that young adults develop the necessary resilience and life skills to cope with increasing independence.

At THS Sixth Form, we place equal importance on both academic and pastoral care. You can be confident that by attending our Sixth Form, you will not only achieve the best grades of which you are capable, but you will benefit from personal care and support to ensure you leave us a happy, rounded and resilient young adult, ready to face the challenges of university and the world of work.

You will be encouraged to stretch yourself, make yourself heard and assume a great deal of responsibility as you find yourself at the head of our successful school.

We are renowned for our outstanding facilities. In the Sixth Form, students benefit from well-equipped seminar rooms, a large common room, a kitchen and an atrium with café-style seating, as well as an external terrace for relaxing or working in fine weather. Personal lockers are provided and students have access to IT rooms and devices to support digital learning. The atmosphere is friendly and informal in a space separate to the Senior School.



INTELLECTUAL CHALLENGE

We offer students over five hours' of specialist teacher contact time, the highest level amongst our local competitors.

In recent years, post-16 qualifications have become increasingly rigorous and demand the very highest level of independent study.

We therefore combine academic lessons with private study time; it is vital that students use this time constructively and use our designated work areas to complete classwork and revision, free from noise and interruption.

Outside of core lessons, we encourage students to take the Extended Project Qualification (EPQ), equivalent to an AS-level and highly regarded by universities and employers alike. Our EPQ results are consistently excellent and often prove useful in securing particularly competitive university places.





PASTORAL SUPPORT

A rather unique feature of Teesside High School is the friendly and welcoming atmosphere where the Sixth Form, in particular, is a small, family-like unit.

Unlike in larger environments, staff know all of our students very well, enabling us to offer unique one-to-one support and guidance when necessary.

Regular form time and PSHE lessons offer a chance to explore a range of concerns and topics relevant to students at this stage, including mental health and emotional intelligence, as well as study skills such as evaluative writing and referencing. This time also allows students to develop research and debating skills. We are very fortunate in that we are regularly able to host guest speakers to hold talks on pertinent issues such as university applications, finance and social matters. Form Tutors and their students are continuously engaged in a process of reflection, and Learning Conversations at key points in the year give these a familiar format and structure.



CO-CURRICULAR OPPORTUNITY

We encourage all students to participate in our exceptional range of co-curricular opportunities to enrich their time in the Sixth Form.

There is a variety of activities ranging from choir, orchestra, drama and film clubs to Duke of Edinburgh, charity fundraising and dance, for example.

Our Tycoon in Schools programme is exceptionally successful and allows students to experience life running a start-up business, with profits being donated to charity.

There are also opportunities for students to be involved in other parts of the school and our wider community, often in a leadership capacity. Year 13s have the opportunity to stand for Games Captain, or to act as Head Boy or Head Girl. Other members of the Sixth Form become Subject Prefects, run clubs such as Debating Society, or act as mentors to younger pupils. Some volunteer in the Prep School by reading with younger children.

Each year, Sixth Form students organise a Christmas Party in a local day centre for the elderly, as well as organising fundraising activities for Children in Need and our highly successful Macmillan Coffee Morning. We also respond to students' needs to relax in a safe and relaxed environment, with events like Halloween and Christmas decorating parties, as well as some joint activities with Year 11 such as cooking together on Pancake Day and arranging bowling or shopping trips.

A social committee with representatives from each form meets to decide on destinations for meals out, fundraising opportunities, and purchases to further improve our facilities.

Physical Education is an important part of the Sixth Form curriculum. All students are expected to partake in a weekly enrichment to allow students to continue to develop a sporting interest, to introduce them to a range of additional sports and to further encourage physical activity as part of their healthy lifestyle.

A range of activities, both competitive (e.g. hockey, netball, basketball and football) and more recreational (e.g. trampolining, volleyball, golf and dance) are offered on and off site. Our Fitness Suite is available for Sixth Form use during and after the school day. The suite is a wonderful environment which encourages students to balance their studies with some relaxation and healthy physical activity.

Sporting interests are pursued to district, county and national level and inter-school matches take place on a regular basis, depending on the interests and aptitudes of the cohort.

PREPARING FOR THE NEXT STEP

THS Sixth Form aims to foster not only academic success, but independence of thought and spirit.

We realise how important it is to be workplace-ready. As students increase contact with the world outside school, choices about their future become better informed.

We actively encourage students to undertake work experience. The school's networks and contacts provide an excellent work experience database and students are supported in finding appropriate placements. We have an established link with James Cook University Hospital and students aspiring to medicine take full advantage of this when arranging to shadow consultants.

Visits to universities and conferences are regular. Additionally, there are many 'taster courses' during the school holidays where students can spend a few days at a university learning more about studying a non-school subject, such as Veterinary Science, Medicine or Law. In Year 13, we offer a professional Interview Training Programme, and our longstanding links with academics in appropriate disciplines are a great asset to our students' preparation. Visiting speakers from universities such as Oxford

and Durham lead our personal statement workshops and our unique digital system monitors students' progress through all of the intricacies of the application process, enabling parents to share an overview of what will be a major investment both emotionally and financially.

Contemplating your next step following Sixth Form study can be difficult and our staff are very much present at every step of your journey. Most of our students go to university, and students are given individual guidance when making choices about university courses and a great deal of one-to-one support when completing their UCAS (Universities and Colleges Admissions Service) applications and writing the all-important personal statements. We also support students in sourcing Higher Apprenticeship opportunities.

For students choosing to pursue careers in Medicine or courses at Oxbridge, we offer unique 'Pre-Med' and 'Oxbridge Preparation' enrichment programmes which provide further specialist support and guidance throughout a rather complex admissions procedure.



ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Entry to THS Sixth Form is subject to five or more GCSE grades being achieved at 5 or above, including grade 6s in those subjects chosen for A-level/Level 3.

Teesside High School has a proud history of achievement and is keen to continue to attract outstanding pupils who will most benefit from the opportunities and experiences available here. We offer a number of scholarships (Academic, Music, Sport) to recognise able and gifted students. Scholarships are awarded on the basis of written tests and auditions and an interview with a member of the Senior Leadership Team. For more information, contact our friendly admissions team on 01642 782095 or visit www.teessidehigh.co.uk.

Means tested financial assistance may also be available. Please visit our website or contact our Finance Manager for more details.



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