

EPCS6

Stay close to go far...





Thinking about studying post 16 with us in EPCS6?

You'd be warmly welcomed!

Please take the time to review the prospectus giving information on courses and tour the dedicated facilities we offer. A typical Sixth Form course is 70 weeks, we aim to get you to spend those weeks wisely.

The student experience in the Sixth Form is different; students build upon positive relationships they have with staff and are given significant responsibility for their learning. We offer supportive tutors to monitor progress, and personalised support to establish career pathways.

Our study facilities are excellent with easy access to teaching staff either in person or through email. Our Google environment supports students to complete assignments at every level and is excellent preparation for university study or the world of work. These features were positively recognised by Ofsted in our most recent inspection

To broaden their horizons, successful students take the time to get involved in developing themselves, and we offer many leadership opportunities, work experience or community support options. As well as being very rewarding, you will add to your CV and skill set in preparation for your next steps.

We welcome students' contributions to the life of the school and their participation in events and support of the whole school vision makes them a key group to the continuing success of the school. Ex-students have returned to tell current students about opportunities available after sixth form study and we are proud of the excellent ambassadors and role models they have become.

I hope you will want to join them and look forward to welcoming you back as a young adult in the next phase of your learning.



Liz Cook
Headteacher





Personalised learning and support

Specialist teachers leading small classes

Regular monitoring and feedback on your progress

Bespoke intervention and preparation for exams

Career focused lectures to secure your next steps

Leadership opportunities to build your CV

Quality work experience placements

Visiting speakers and mentoring program



A great experience at EPCS6!

Welcome to our Sixth Form. I am extremely proud of all the hard work that our staff and students put into the Sixth Form and I am delighted to share this with you.

Within this prospectus you will find all of the information about the wide range of subjects we offer here at EPCS6. The aim of this booklet is to act as a starting point for any questions you might have; however, all members of staff and existing EPCS6 students are always on hand if you need further guidance and advice. We appreciate that there is no "one-size fits all" approach to post 16 education and the staff here have a wealth of experience in helping students make the right choices.

There is a wide range of options available to students post 16 and ensuring they study at the correct establishment for these formative years is of vital importance. Here at EPCS6 we offer a Sixth Form experience which develops a community spirit whilst also fostering the skills needed to be an independent learner. We are a Sixth Form which has enjoyed excellent results in recent years and provide an environment where everyone is challenged to be the best they can be.

Whilst our teachers and results are very impressive, I believe that our greatest selling point are the students themselves. Working with enthusiastic young adults our Sixth Form develop into is a privilege and I encourage you to speak to our current students about their experiences here. When not in lessons it is not unusual to find our students in study rooms, on the sports field, in rehearsals for pantomimes and musicals, entering their business ideas into competitions and arranging events. Whatever interest a student may have we aim to find a way to help them develop this further.

Thank you for taking the time to read our prospectus and please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.



Ronnie Tamale

Senior Teacher – EPCS6

What can I study?

There are two pathways through the Sixth Form and the one that you choose will largely be dictated by the grades that you achieve at the end of Year 11.

The difference between them is that Academic A-levels are almost exclusively assessed through long examinations at the end of Year 13 whilst the Applied General Level 3 qualifications focus on continuous assessment with a smaller examination component. Therefore, for many students, the Applied General Level 3 qualifications would be more appropriate and may form either a full programme or be mixed with Academic Level 3 qualifications.

There are few careers (Medicine, Engineering, Veterinary science and Dentistry being the main ones) where your choice of Level 3 course is crucial; for most degrees, it is evidence of success at Level 3 study that is more important and you should choose subjects that you are good at and enjoy, as you are most likely to be successful with them.

LEVEL 3 PATHWAY

This pathway is for those students who achieve a minimum of five subjects at grades 5 and above, including in English and Maths, at GCSE or the equivalent in BTEC (combination of grades 4 and 5 will be considered on an individual basis). Each subject listed will also have an entry requirement that you will need to meet in order to study it. We put these entry requirements in place because we know that without them, you will struggle to be successful in Level 3 courses. Most students study a Level 3 programme.

All kinds of Level 3 courses (Academic and Applied General) are equally acceptable to universities, employers, and the university admissions service (UCAS). UCAS studies show that a quarter of undergraduate students now enter university having studied at least one Applied General qualification as part of their school education. Once at university, 90 per cent of former Applied General learners go on to receive a first or second class degree.

LEVEL 2 PATHWAY

This pathway is for those students who either do not want to study Level 3 courses, or who do not meet the entry requirement to do so, or who would prefer to stay at school for an additional year before looking for vocational training, apprenticeships or employment elsewhere.

Our 'Ready to Work' course has been designed to gain you additional qualifications and skills that will help you to move either on to a Level 3 course with us or training and employment. It is divided into core units and a Level 2 vocational qualification in Travel and Tourism.

Subjects we offer at Level 3

unless otherwise indicated

STEM

Biology
Chemistry
Further Maths
IT
Maths
Physics

LINGUISTICS*

German
Spanish

*May be delivered through a combination of home centre learning and e-tuition

CREATIVE

Art and Design
English Language
English Literature
Film Studies
Graphics
Media Studies
Music
Performing Arts
Photography

HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

Business Studies
Criminology
Geography
History
Psychology
Sociology

VOCATIONAL

Hospitality
Sport

[Ready 2 Work Level 2](#)

If there is a subject that you are interested in that is not listed here, then please come and talk to the head of sixth form.

The following website is useful in helping you to think about subject choices:

[university.which.co.uk/
advice/what-a-levels-do-
you-need-for-the-degree-
you-want-to-study](https://www.university.which.co.uk/advice/what-a-levels-do-you-need-for-the-degree-you-want-to-study)

If you are interested in studying to degree level then the UCAS website is the most comprehensive database of Higher Education courses:

[search.ucas.com/](https://www.search.ucas.com/)



Personal development

These sessions are based on the VESPA model which helps all students to develop their Vision, Effort, Systems, Practice and Attitude. The ethos behind this is to help develop a Sixth Form 'mindset' as well as focusing on employability skills. A key feature of this is providing students with a wealth of study skills support from the Sixth Form team, including advice on memory improvement techniques and how to cope with the potential anxieties caused by examinations.

Students are also encouraged to think about the transferable skills they have and how their time in Sixth Form will help prepare them for the future. In Year 12 we are unusual in that we offer a week of work experience to all students, where they will be supported to find placements to help them with their future career paths. Last year, a group of students came third nationally in Micro-Tyco, a finance and fundraising competition which saw nine of our students gain invaluable work experience with Deloitte.

Ofsted highlighted that for our students "Staying on into the sixth form gives them time to mature in a familiar and supportive environment. They make the most of this time and leave well prepared for their future lives."



A well-being programme

One to one tutor support

Wi-Fi access site wide

Dedicated sixth form hub

Two dedicated study rooms

Enrichment curriculum

Opportunities to mentor younger students

Access to dining hall throughout the day



DIVERGENT LEARNERS

AT EPCS6

“Divergent learners are empowered with a unique variety of personality traits that separate them from the general population, and many of these traits are related to their academic achievement and effective leadership.” – Dr Carol Johnstone



Many EPCS6 students act as mentors for students in the lower school and they have proven to be excellent role models and sources of support. Ofsted commented that, “their behaviour is exemplary and they contribute much to school life.”



Every Wednesday afternoon is timetabled for enrichment where you can undertake a variety of volunteering activities including an opportunity to arrange charity events. The Sixth Form currently support the Hotcourses Foundation, a charity which works to raise money for Nyumbani projects in Kenya.



You also have the opportunity to participate in a variety of sporting activities. Inside the classroom, students may undertake the Extended Project Qualification. Offered in the summer term of Year 12, this is a chance to gain an additional AS qualification in a research area of your choosing. Universities and employers rate this highly as it shows independence and for some students helps them secure a place at their preferred university.



What's next? Student destinations

Last year, 100% of our students who applied through UCAS secured a place at university.

University undergraduates

We are very proud of our students and how well they have done in their exams.

Recently we have seen students go on to study a variety of courses at university including Accountancy, Chemical Engineering, Criminology, English Literature, Geography, Graphic Design, History, Law, Maths, Medicine, Politics and Psychology at institutions including Cardiff, King's College, Coventry, Hertfordshire, Loughborough, Oxford Brookes, Kent, Royal Holloway and Warwick Universities.

Extensive career guidance has supported our students into:

Apprenticeships – paid and training opportunities

Foundation courses in Art and Design

Full time employment

Further work experience offers



Message from the Head Team

Abi Blake and Harvey Sharman

Beginning our seventh year as EPCS students, we are excited to take on our responsibilities as Head Boy and Girl. We strived for the roles to make an impact on the school and reinvest our time back into our school community. As a Head Team, we wanted to get out of our comfort zones and try something new, whilst making a difference, which will hopefully inspire you to do the same!

At EPCS6, the teaching is able to be personalised to each individual student, which means the support you receive from not only your teachers is impeccable. Our staff have many years of experience, and their passion for their subject is evident from day one. With a recently introduced more advanced syllabus, the extended teaching periods give students more time to comprehend the lesson content, and allows the teachers to be less time-restricted with the support they offer, as well as time to review progress. EPCS6 students benefit from free periods and PREP time as an allocated time to review their studies and organise their time more effectively with the help of their tutors. Transferable skills such as public speaking are also offered to support university or job interviews.

Student life at EPCS6 offers an integrated social aspect, reflecting the community feel of the school. As Head Boy and Girl, we are involved in organising events with the Head Team, where the students from Upper and Lower Sixth get a chance to mingle and de-stress, such as Halloween fancy-dress and the prestigious winter Ice Ball. This all makes student life easier and more enjoyable, whilst maintaining a calm, focused, working environment which in our experience is reflected in positive attitudes to learning.

With the dedication and support given by staff at EPCS6, the ethos of "staying close to go far" couldn't be more appropriate. Our sixth form embodies the idea of community, respect and pride, and we hope you consider joining us at EPCS6.

Students say...

George



I WENT TO

EPCS

I'M STUDYING

English Language, Graphic Design and IT

I'LL BE

Going to University to study Graphic Design

Sixth Form has been a complete eye opener for me. I stepped out of my comfort zone and became Head of Houses. I now realise that my future has potential; recognising I have always been a creative person. Finding that subject, means more than anything. Work Experience, with WhatUni in Putney, was one of the best things from Year 12. I got to experience working in digital marketing, which was very interesting! I learned to have some fun, to be independent, to work as a team, adapt and be yourself! I can definitely say that everything counts at EPCS6!

Muk



I WENT TO

EPCS

I'M STUDYING

Business, Graphic Design and Media Studies

I'LL BE

Going to University to study Digital Marketing or Digital Design

My sixth form experience has been great so far. I have been welcomed by staff who give full personalised support when needed. The opportunity to have a creative space in which to work is essential due to the subjects that I've chosen. I'm hoping to get into university, after finishing my A levels, to do digital marketing or digital design. The school have really helped me through personalising my work experience. They take the time to understand you, are very supportive and concerned about your feelings.



ALUMNI

OF EPCS6



"EPCS6 didn't just offer opportunities to me, it also gave me the confidence to say 'yes' to them, and taught me to leave my comfort zone. I was given the honour of becoming Head Boy, organising work experience in an exclusive industry, and participating in the Extended Project Qualification, alongside my A-Levels gave me a strong academic portfolio and even stronger confidence to pursue an ambitious career. The support from EPCS6 has allowed me to pursue a Degree in Medicine at the University of Southampton in September."

Dan Rose



"EPCS6... what can I say? The amount of support from various teachers was amazing. All the help and pastoral care also meant that things were easier as there was always someone to talk to about any problem. My time here was incredibly fun (and hard work) but at the end of it all I'm proud to say that I went to EPCS6. I will now be studying Nutrition and Psychology at St Mary's Twickenham University."

Katie Dunbar



"It has been a blast to get to know my teachers and peers better in EPCS6. Reaching the end of my school career, in an environment which cares eminently about students and their development into the wider world is heart-warming. I have gained more confidence and I truly believe, from my experiences here and the plethora of inspiration I have gained from my subjects, that I will go far. I am pleased to say that I will be studying Marine and Natural History Photography at Falmouth University this September."

Hayley Eastabrook



Easthampstead Park
Community School



"It takes a whole village to raise a child"

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