

Clifton High School

SENIOR SCHOOL AND SIXTH FORM





Welcome from the Head of School

Mr Matthew Bennett Head of School



Change. Change is what everyone reading this booklet is considering, at a time when change seems to be all we are seeing in the wider world. From the changes wrought on us by the pandemic, to the shifting political landscape; from our change in Prime Minister to the accession of a new monarch, navigating change has become the norm. For our young people, no matter their age, change can be quite daunting. However, understanding, information and open communication can all help,

and so we encourage you to find out as much as you can about our School.

At Clifton High School, we believe that the privilege of a lifetime is to become who you truly are. The world in which our young people are growing up is more liberal and accepting than in previous times, and yet it is perhaps more divided than it has ever been. This can make finding a path harder and more confusing, and this is where we seek to intervene. The Clifton High community is a place for young people to realise their individual brilliance, and to prepare to enter the wider world with ambition, compassion and resilience.

Clifton High School's values drive personal discovery within our thriving community. We encourage the **Curiosity** of our young people – about learning, relationships, and themselves – so that they become comfortable and confident in their own skin. The sense of belonging at Clifton High School, as well as the socially conscious initiatives often developed by our young people

themselves, cultivates **Empathy** and **Love**; Clifton High pupils respect themselves and one another, prizing their own strong opinions and beliefs while understanding that not everyone thinks the same. Clifton High pupils are always encouraged to find their own **Direction**, and are supported in this not only academically, but also by our outstanding co-curricular provision and the well-established pastoral structures that exist throughout the School. We may always be looking to the future and responding to the wider world as change continues to unfold, but at the same time we want pupils to value the moment they are in, experiencing School as an exciting time to develop themselves and their ambitions.

This booklet will provide you with the key information you need to know about our School, but this is just a small part of what we are about. We encourage you to visit us, for a tour or for an experience day, so that the right fit can be found and so that change, when it comes, is welcomed.



Senior School

Our School

As an all-through school, we make sure each pupil feels part of the wider School community; as such, it is important that all our pupils and their families are engaged in School life. Events such as Christmas celebrations, Sports Days, performances, prizegivings, concerts and many more provide a vibrant social calendar that our parents and pupils alike look forward to being involved in.

With a sense of belonging and community at the heart of our culture, we see in our Senior School pupils a strong desire to better the School and the world around them. Their charitable and pro-active attitudes towards change and giving to others is evident through group fundraising events and individual action, which span a range of causes including climate change and social and economical justice. The positive impact that our pupils have on others, both in and out of School, is a distinctive quality of a Clifton High pupil and a true asset to our School.

We are an academically selective school. Our pupils are intelligent, able and creative individuals who work hard to achieve excellent results in and out of the classroom. Class sizes are small, offering exceptional support and an individualised educational experience.

Pupils are placed into co-educational forms with two form teachers who also act as personal tutors, meeting with pupils on a 1:1 basis. This facilitates a deep individual knowledge of pupils by bridging our academic and pastoral support networks.

GCSEs

Choosing GCSE options, starting in Year 9, signifies a progression in a child's educational journey. This is when pupils begin to find their own direction, and we ensure they are supported and remain curious as they think about their futures. They are encouraged to choose nine subjects as well as to take advantage of the co-curricular activities and programmes available to ensure a

well-balanced education. Innovative offerings, which have this year seen the introduction of elite swimming training interwoven with GCSE study, help pupils to truly realise their individual brilliance.

Examination results at Clifton High School are well above national averages. Since the GCSE reform to grades 9-1 (2018), our pupils have achieved more than 20% of grades at top level; in 2022, 33% of our grades were 8 or 9. However, the true indicator of a child's success is the Value Added: the measure of a pupil's progress since they began at Clifton High School. We are proud to be the best school in Bristol for Value Added, as it shows the positive impact our education and approach has on our pupils.

Entry and Scholarships

Pupils who possess sufficient ability may be considered for a Scholarship, which are awarded at the point of entry into Year 7, 9 and 12. Please visit our website or ask our Admissions Team for more information.



Across the Senior School and Sixth Form

Senior School Subjects

- | | |
|--------------------------|------------------------|
| • Additional Mathematics | • Health and Wellbeing |
| • Art and Design | • History |
| • Biology | • Latin |
| • Chemistry | • Mathematics |
| • Computing | • Music |
| • Drama | • Physical Education |
| • English | • Physics |
| • Food and Nutrition | • Product Design |
| • French | • Religious Studies |
| • Games | • Spanish |
| • Geography | • Swimming |
| • German | |

Pastoral & Parent Communications

Safeguarding is paramount to our offering, and a key part of that is Pastoral Care. The School has outstanding and well-established pastoral structures, which staff and parents both recognise make a significant difference to a pupil's wellbeing and development. The combination of small class sizes with our tutor system allows for staff to really know the pupils

and form strong relationships with them and their families, and for each child to be connected with a number of people who are specifically there to support them. In addition, there is a Head of Year for each cohort and a Deputy Head specifically for Pastoral care.

In assemblies, during lessons and at co-curricular clubs, social issues are discussed and explored openly and respectfully. Health and Wellbeing lessons encourage pupils to recognise how best to tend to their own wellbeing as well as that of others.

As well as the teachers, support can also be found in our School Nurses and Counsellor, to whom all the pupils have regular access.

At Clifton High we strongly believe in the three-way partnership between pupils, the School and parents. Providing parents with information they need to support their child is essential, and annual parents' evenings provide full and interim reports for families. An open line of communication is

encouraged and evident in our School community.

Facilities

- Music Rooms, including Music Technology Suite
- Senior School and Fiction Library
- Rose Theatre and Main Hall for performances and creative arts
- Science Laboratories
- STEM Room
- Food Technology Room
- Art and Design Rooms
- MAC Design Suite
- Design Technology Rooms
- Dining Hall, recently refurbished
- MUGA (multi-use games area)
- Swimming Pool
- Gymnasium
- Climbing Wall
- Health and Fitness Suite
- Common Rooms
- Presentation Space*
- Student Café/kitchen*
- Coombe Dingle Sports Complex

*Sixth Form, coming Autumn 2022



Welcome from the Head of Sixth Form

Miss Katherine Rich Head of Sixth Form



A student's journey through Sixth Form has the power to be one of the most formative and memorable experiences

in their school career. Clifton High School is an extraordinary place for students to spend these important two years. Offering a broad and diverse range of A level options alongside a wealth of co-curricular activities and leadership opportunities, Sixth Form students at Clifton High are free to develop their strengths and pursue their passions in a uniquely close-knit and supportive environment. Our goal is not only to ensure that our students achieve excellent academic results, but also to foster in them the confidence, empathy and resilience needed to flourish in the wider world.

It is an especially exciting time to be a Sixth Form student with us. In 2021 we opened our new Sixth Form Centre, and a second building is due for completion in autumn 2022. The separate location of our modern Sixth Form Centre provides students with

a greater degree of independence, recognising their increasing maturity, while a clear and open route to facilities on the existing School site ensures they remain a key part of the wider School community.

Whether you are a Clifton High pupil moving up to the Sixth Form or studying at another school and considering joining us, our Sixth Form provides a tailored environment for personal growth and discovery. There are great opportunities to develop new friendships and take on new challenges, all the while being supported by a dedicated team of Sixth Form staff who will help you to excel, both inside and outside of the classroom.

I would encourage you to visit us to see for yourself what Clifton High Sixth Form can offer you.

Opportunities and Responsibilities

As the oldest members of the School, the Sixth Form have more independence, unique opportunities and added responsibilities. With Clifton Village on our doorstep, students are allowed to go off-site during lunch times. They adhere to their own smart business dress code, and have study periods to manage their workload as well as personal study outside scheduled lessons.

Popular programmes such as Young Enterprise, Three Peaks Challenges and Gold Duke of Edinburgh are offered, as well as courses bespoke to Clifton High which prepare students for their next steps. These include Futures and Skills Evenings, at which professionals share their experiences in industry to help the students think about their own future paths, and The Employability and Leadership Course which teaches students specific skills applicable to the working world. Students are fortunate enough to be supported by the parent body as well as our Friends of Clifton High community and the Rosarians (former pupils) who generously offer time, advice and mentorship.

Sixth Form students are supported to take on important roles of responsibility. These include becoming part of the Head's Team, taking on senior roles in the Student Council and acting as House Captains. Students may also become part of the Prefect body, with a diverse range of responsibilities within the School including roles in Diversity and Inclusion, Charity, Community and Outreach, Eco Matters and many more. As issues become prevalent, new roles are created in response to the changing world these young adults are about to step into.



Sixth Form

Academic and Pastoral

Within our broad curriculum offering of twenty-seven subjects, students are encouraged to take three, alongside enjoying other aspects of School life. Many students opt to complete the Extended Project Qualification (EPQ) alongside their A level courses; this highly respected endeavour develops students' capacity for independent study, academic research and time management, bridging the gap between school and undergraduate study. Small class sizes guarantee every student a high level of personal support from their experienced and knowledgeable subject teachers. This facilitates excellent individual progress, with the majority of students going on to study their first-choice university or higher education course.

Students also receive first-rate pastoral care from an outstanding team of tutors. They work alongside the Head of Sixth Form to ensure each individual can successfully navigate their way through what can be a challenging period both academically and personally. Each tutor typically works with a group of between ten and twelve tutees, and these relationships last throughout the two years of Sixth Form. This allows tutors to get to know each tutee, recognise what makes

them tick, and ensure their strengths are harnessed and their victories celebrated.

Academic success is underpinned by the ethos we foster in our Sixth Form; staff hold high expectations of students and encourage high aspirations, academic curiosity and individual initiative. There are many resources and opportunities open to the students, including lectures in our Scholars' Forum, all designed to encourage intellectual growth in preparation for life after Clifton High.

A level Subjects

- Art
- Biology
- Business
- Chemistry
- Chinese
- Classical Civilisation
- Computer Science
- Drama
- Economics
- English Literature
- French
- Further Mathematics
- Geography
- German
- History
- Latin
- Mathematics
- Music
- Music Technology
- Philosophy
- Photography
- Physical Education
- Physics
- Politics
- Product Design
- Psychology
- Sociology
- Spanish

Life after Sixth Form

These two years of study are aimed at preparing and equipping students for life after Clifton High School, whether that be at university, in industry, an internship or apprenticeship, or even a gap year. An unlimited amount of advice and support is offered in choosing next steps, particularly navigating the UCAS process.

Our students leave Clifton High with a strong sense of self, high academic achievements and a love for learning. They also, importantly, have an awareness of the world around them and a desire to contribute to it through their own individual vocation or passions. They will always be warmly welcomed back and automatically become a Rosarian, ensuring they remain a valued part and member of the School.

Now you have read all the essential information, we would like to invite you to visit us! There is no better way to find out about Clifton High than by being here and getting a true feel for our School.

www.cliftonhigh.co.uk
admissions@cliftonhigh.co.uk
0117 933 9087