

22nd September 2023

Dear Student and Parent/Carer,

SIXTH FORM OPEN EVENING & SIXTH FORM STUDENT OPEN DAY

You are invited to our **Sixth Form Open Evening on Tuesday 3rd October from 5.30pm – 8.00pm**. Our aim for the evening is to give you an insight into the type of high-quality experiences you will encounter as a student here.

During the evening, there will be an information seminar at 6pm, repeated at 7pm in the Hall. You will also have the opportunity to speak to teachers about the courses on offer and meet students already on the courses who can talk about their experiences at Highcliffe Sixth Form.

Our excellent examination results maintain Highcliffe's position as a leading provider of Sixth Form education in the Christchurch, New Forest and Bournemouth areas and confirm Ofsted's judgment that "the Sixth Form is a real strength of the school." This is reflected in the very good results achieved in 2023.

We are exceptionally proud of our ongoing record of students progressing to top Universities. Almost a third of the year group are now going to one of the prestigious Russell Group research universities such as Southampton, Cardiff, Bristol, or other top-ranked universities. Many students are going onto degree courses with national reputations for excellence at local universities including Bournemouth Arts University, AECC and Winchester University, or on to apprenticeships/degree apprenticeships with major companies including JP Morgan, BAE and IBM.

As mature young adults, the views of Sixth Form students exert considerable influence over the way their Sixth Form works. We have a strong student voice and leadership team. We are currently putting in place a range of initiatives, as a result of students' feedback and with their support, to further improve the learning experience. These are all focussed on enhancing the College/University-style independent learning culture in the Sixth Form, which makes it a very different experience to studying at GCSE level and excellent preparation for university or employment at age 18.

When asked what they believe makes their Sixth Form special and successful, Highcliffe students point to the quality of teaching, the excellent relationships with staff, small class sizes and the many enrichment opportunities available to them; but mainly to the warm, supportive, welcoming and mature adult ethos of the students themselves and the staff who work with them. Even for students who studied at Highcliffe for their GCSEs, the adult atmosphere of the Sixth Form is surprisingly different to the main school.

Sixth Form Student Open Day (Taster Day)

On **Friday 10th November**, we are running a **Sixth Form Student Open Day** for Year 11 students from Highcliffe and for students currently attending other schools in the area. Students will experience a day in the life of a Sixth Former, so will attend in non-uniform and will attend five subject taster lessons of their choice.

The decisions students take at 16 are important in defining their future career path and opening up additional avenues for personal fulfilment and discovery. As a Sixth Form, we are committed to delivering high quality information, advice and guidance, as well as providing courses that enable individuals to grow and develop into adults, whilst maintaining the supportive structure that only a Sixth Form environment can provide.

With this year's results reinforcing our academic excellence, the college/university-style adult ethos of independent learning, and the extra-curricular opportunities, we believe it is a great time to be a Highcliffe Sixth Form student.

If you have any questions regarding provision in the Sixth Form, please do not hesitate to contact the Sixth Form team on 01425 282322.

Yours sincerely,



Miss L Swan
Assistant Headteacher: Head of Sixth Form



**SIXTH FORM
OPEN EVENING**
for Year 12 entry in September 2024

Tuesday 3rd October 2023
5:30pm - 8:00pm
Presentations at 6pm & 7pm

Student Open Day
Friday 10th November 2023

**IN PURSUIT
OF EXCELLENCE**

Highcliffe Sixth

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