

Sixth Form

Prospectus

Tudor Grange Academy
Solihull

2023 – 2024





Tudor Grange Academy
Solihull





Principal's Address

I am delighted that you are considering our Sixth Form for the next stage of your education. We are extremely proud of our Sixth Form provision, and I am confident that you will have a challenging and positive experience with us.

Our most recent results demonstrate that we are leading the way with Sixth Form education.

We are not complacent and will continue to focus on our aim of achieving the best outcomes for all students and developing them into adults who have the skills and qualities needed for future success.

As well as academic support from their teaching staff, students in our sixth form receive exceptional pastoral support from our dedicated team of tutors and the Sixth Form leadership team. This includes supporting students to make informed decisions about their destinations Post-18. In 2023 we supported students to achieve places at universities on competitive pathways such as medicine and dentistry, on apprenticeship courses and in employment.

There is an abundance of opportunity waiting for you here at Tudor Grange Academy Solihull. Our personalised approach, rich curriculum and wider curricular offer make the Sixth Form a very positive place to learn.

We really hope you choose to study with us and I look forward to welcoming you and your parents to Tudor Grange Academy Sixth Form and working with you to achieve your potential.

Mrs C Smith
Principal

Director of Sixth Form's Address

Tudor Grange Academy Sixth Form epitomises the culture of the school in which it resides.

Our Sixth Form students are a vibrant component of our community. They are excellent role models and make valuable contributions to our society.

We offer a diverse range of academically robust courses, which when complemented by our pastoral programme, lead to a positive and supportive learning environment, ensuring student happiness is at the heart of our values. Our aim is for each student in our care to flourish whilst they are with us and reach their destination of choice.

We were once again delighted with our destinations achieved by students this year. Many students made successful university applications and were accepted onto a wide variety of courses at strong institutions. We celebrated success on competitive pathways to Medicine; Dentistry and Veterinary Science. The number of students gaining places on prestigious apprenticeship and employment programmes has also been excellent, especially in light of the current climate. Places have been secured at Morrisons; Price Waterhouse Coopers and on Gap Year programmes.

Our success comes as a result of the high standard of teaching at sixth form level and the hard work of our students. Staff members offer a personalised approach to students, bespoke learning programmes and place a high emphasis on higher order skills.

We are also incredibly proud of our extensive support networks via our tutor system, the sixth form leadership team, and our specialist support staff.

Sixth form is an experience and to ensure that this extends beyond academia we also offer our Enrichment Electives programme to ensure that our students reach their chosen destinations as well rounded people with a high level of social capital.

Above all else, we prioritise student wellbeing. This is a brilliant environment in which to achieve. We look forward to welcoming you to our sixth form. You will have a wonderful time here.



Mr James Bargh
Director of Sixth Form

Executive Board

The Executive Board is comprised of students who have been elected by their fellow peers. Two students are then selected from the board members to fulfil the roles of Head Student. The main aim of the Executive Board is to create a link between school leadership and the student community. Students from Year 12 are also selected to help support the sub-committees: Charity, Extra Curricular, Social and Student Welfare.





Charity

The charity committee endeavours to provide help to outside organisations by raising money within the Sixth Form and Academy at large. Fundraising activities include: cake sales, car washes, non-uniform days and sports fixtures. This year, the focus of the committee is to help smaller charities within our community. In the previous academic years, we have raised over £1000 for Acorns Children's Hospice, which is providing care, support, fun and laughter for children with life limiting or life threatening conditions and their families.

Extra-Curricular

The Sixth Form aims to continue the outstanding provision provided in extra-curricular activities. The main focus of the extra-curricular committee is to organise a wide variety of activities that appeal to diverse interests and are thereby inclusive for both year groups.

Our students work very hard and it is therefore crucial to provide some relief from the pressures that A Levels can bring. Current activities include football, badminton, dodgeball, rounders tournaments, a designated Sixth Form band, and we culminate each year with our very own Sixth Form sports day.

Social

The social committee devise, organise and deliver successful social events throughout the year with a view to uniting the two year groups into a cohesive community. Two standout events are the Winter Social in December which invites both year groups and the Summer Graduation Ball for year 13. Both these events involve getting dressed up and enjoying good food before dancing the night away to a DJ and capturing the fun in a photobooth.

Student Welfare

The Student Welfare Committee provides students with the academic and pastoral support they need, ensuring that each student enjoys their time here at the Academy as well as achieving the grades they desire. This year, the committee secured funds to establish a designated Sixth Form library, which will undoubtedly have a positive impact on academic attainment. Committee members are also dedicated to the mentoring programme that runs throughout the Academy. Here, Year 12 and 13 students support teaching staff and work with students in younger years for either academic mentoring or peer-mentoring.



Mrs Keiser



Mrs Paszkowski



Mr Bargh



Miss Murphy



Mr Clarke



Mrs Dunn

Support

Our high retention rates demonstrate that students who join us stay with us. Students receive high levels of support and guidance: academic feedback from subject teachers; advice and strategies from the tutor programme; pastoral care and provision from the Sixth Form team.

The Sixth Form Team

Students are placed into a Sixth Form tutor group under the guidance of a designated tutor. Students meet with their tutors for morning registration and are advised to utilise their tutor for subject support, organisation and queries regarding future prospects. In addition, Sixth Form students can speak to the Sixth Form Team. This comprises of the Director of Sixth Form **Mr Bargh**, with Assistant Directors of Sixth Form **Mr Clarke**, **Mrs Paszkowski** and **Miss Murphy**. We also have two designated Sixth Form administrators **Mrs Keiser** and **Mrs Dunn** and an external counsellor **Mr English** with whom appointments can be booked.

Attendance

The tutor programme is varied and diverse. Students must attend tutor times every day of the week expecting to attend one assembly, three tutor periods and one day of TG societies. TG Societies is an opportunity for students to follow individual passions and take part in student led extra curricular activities. Punctuality remains an important priority. Students must be with their tutor group for 8.35 am. Attendance at the Academy is compulsory: every day between 8.35am and 3pm. However, if students do not have a timetabled lesson during period 5 or 6, they are free to sign out at 2pm.

Specific Needs

Students with special educational needs, disability or long-term illness will be given support. Some students with particular requirements may receive additional support in class. Close links will be maintained with home and the curriculum will be modified if necessary. A member of our mentoring team is also dedicated to support sixth form students with their studies.

Preparing Students for Competitive University Courses

A programme of opportunities and support is made available to all students with an ambition to apply for Oxbridge and other highly competitive university courses such as medicine or veterinary science. Students will be offered the addition of specific mentoring sessions aimed at supporting students in making applications as well as helping them prepare for potential entrance tests, including LNAT and UCAT.

Sixth Form Bursary

Financial support is available through the Sixth Form bursary fund. Various factors may mean that a student is entitled to apply. Details of the policy and application forms can be found on the 'support and guidance' section of the Sixth Form website. Any student who was eligible for free school meals in Year 11 and whose circumstances have remained unchanged should see the Director of Sixth Form for further details. Other students who live in households in receipt of certain benefits may also be eligible for the fund and are encouraged to enquire.

Study Areas

There is a choice of designated working areas for Sixth Form students. The Sixth Form café can be used as a social working space where students can discuss work with their peers, use the IT equipment or take advantage of the catering that is on offer from the Tudor Grange catering services. Alternatively, students can work in the Sixth Form quiet room where there is space for students to catch up on their classwork or use the IT facilities. There is also a designated Sixth Form library within this space to be used by students to complete wider reading and research around their subjects. Finally, students can use WG1, a silent study area with work desks and facilities for independent learning. Students are also invited to bring in their own IT devices such as tablets or laptops to support their studies outside of lessons.



Study Skills

Making the jump from GCSE to A-Level is not always straightforward. Subjects require development from the skills demonstrated at GCSE level. There are six key skills, which, if honed and worked on, will be vital to academic success:

Revision Technique; Time Management; Exam Technique; Note-Taking; Wider Reading; Personal Organisation.

Employability Skills

At the end of these two years, students will be making decisions that will affect their future careers and pathways. There are six key skills, which, if refined and rehearsed, will be imperative to achieving these accomplishments:

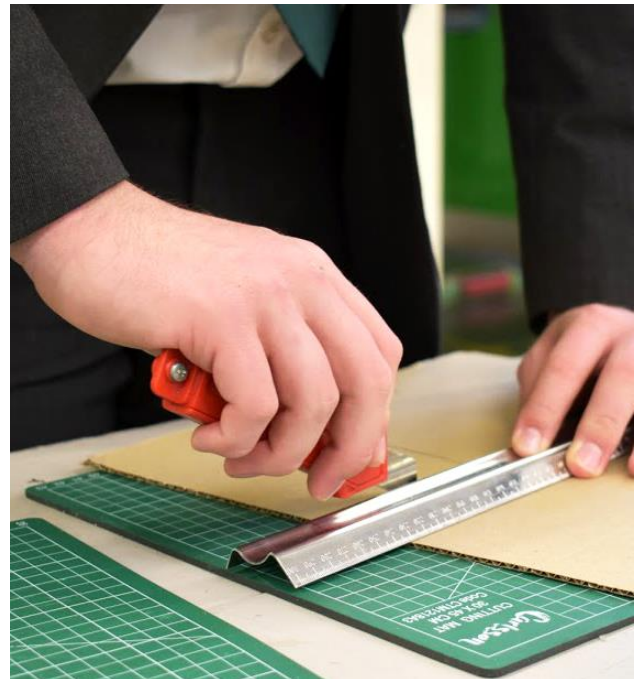
- Careers and Employment Knowledge;
- Creating a Positive Digital Footprint;
- Developing Soft Skills;
- Gaining Experience;
- Increasing Social Capital;
- Interview Skills.

Life Skills

With maturity comes increased responsibilities and it is important that students are prepared for life beyond 'school'. These are the six key life skills the sixth form promotes in its students:

Risk Awareness; Awareness of Current Affairs; Knowledge of Personal Finance; IT Literacy; Understanding of the Importance of Language and Communication; Civic Responsibilities.

Each of these areas – Study, Employability and Life Skills – will be covered in the tutor provision programme and through assemblies, with subject teachers also utilising strategies in their lessons.



There are three considerations to make when selecting a diet of A Levels:

- Students can opt to study three A Levels
- Students can opt to study four A Levels
- Students will select additional enrichment options from our programme of 'Electives'

Decisions should be made based on subjects students enjoy and which they also perform well in. Specific subjects required in order to pursue future university or career plans must be considered at the earliest stage.

In order to study three A Levels students must obtain:

- A minimum of a 5 in Mathematics and in English Language/Literature
- Six GCSE grades of 6 or above, with a 6 in any subject you wish to continue at A Level

Although most students will study 3 A Levels, there is the option to study four. However, the majority of the most respected universities state that this is advisable only for a minority of students where there is a clear advantage in them doing so, such as studying both Mathematics and Further Mathematics.

In order to choose a four A Level pathway students will need:

- Six GCSEs at grade 7 or above
- A minimum of a 6 in Mathematics and in English Language/Literature

If external students wishing to apply to TGAS have not studied a traditional GCSE curriculum (e.g. BTEC, Cambridge Nationals, etc.), then please contact the sixth form administration team for advice and guidance.

iGCSEs are not offered as part of the TGAS curriculum. Therefore, they won't be accepted as GCSE equivalent for internal applicants. For students who are applying from other schools and Academies where iGCSE is offered as part of the standard curriculum (and there has not been the opportunity to take a GCSE qualification), TGAS will accept the iGCSE as a GCSE equivalent.

In addition to A Levels, students will be expected to broaden their experiences by choosing from our in-house programme of 'Enrichment Electives.'

Examples of just some of the electives on offer are listed:

- Completing the Core Maths Qualification
- Completing the Extended Project Qualification
- Opting to undertake a regular work experience placement
- Attending competitive pathway coaching sessions to prepare them for university entry tests such as UKCAT, LNAT etc.
- Partaking in elite sporting or musical commitments
- Volunteering through our care home partnership
- Completing Massive Open Online Courses in a designated **MOOC** hour

Subject List:



Art and Design



Biology



Business Studies



Chemistry



Computer Science



Core Maths



Criminology



Economics



English Literature



Extended Project
Qualification (EPQ)



French



Further Mathematics



Geography



German



History



Mathematics



Media Studies



Music



Philosophy & Ethics



Photography



Physical Education



Physics



Politics



Product Design



Psychology



Sociology



Spanish

Subject Results 2022-23	% A*-B	% A*-E
Art	33	100
Biology	43	95
Business Studies	70	100
Chemistry	57	95
Computer Science	40	95
Economics	76	100
English	83	100
French	14	100
Further Maths	73	91
Geography	65	100
German	50	100
Government & Politics	70	100
History	67	100
Mathematics	60	99
Media Studies	86	100
Music	40	100
PE	86	100
Physics	56	96
Photography	17	100
Product Design	78	100
Psychology	66	98
Sociology	81	100
Spanish	75	100



Our students lead active lives and this is absolutely to their credit. Some of the opportunities available within the Sixth Form in addition to our comprehensive enrichment electives programme are listed below:

- Academic mentoring of younger students across a wide range of subjects
- Wellbeing mentoring of younger students
- Helping to deliver sport, literacy and numeracy lessons at our partner primary school TGPA, St James
- Joining our highly successful and established Duke of Edinburgh Scheme
- Involvement in performances and concerts staged by our Music department. We also have a dedicated sixth form band
- Taking part in extra-curricular programme of 'TG Societies'
- Participating in student societies and embarking on UK and international adventures including PGL and Barcelona
- Lead student committees in areas such as charity fund-raising, media and publicity, website development and curriculum input
- Organise large scale student events such as the Winter Social and the year 11 A Level convention.
- Representing the school in the Lord Mayor's Quiz and sporting fixtures
- Attending lectures and forums organised by local institutions, such as the forensic chemistry lecture at The University of Birmingham

In recent years students have also had the opportunity to visit the following destinations / institutions*:

- Science trip – Master classes at Aston University
- A University experience day at the University of Birmingham
- An English and History study visit to First World War Battlefields in Belgium and France
- A Product Design exhibition at the University of Cardiff
- A Physics trip to Geneva, Switzerland to visit CERN
- A Government and Politics trip visiting Parliament in London
- A Geography fieldwork trip to Norfolk (physical) and a local study (human)
- A student experience day at Warwick University
- Theatre trips to the RSC in Stratford for English Literature
- Barcelona culture trip for year 12
- A media trip to London to visit the Guardian offices
- History trip to Auschwitz-Birkenau

**Opportunities and trips are subject to change.*



To apply for a place at Tudor Grange Academy Sixth Form, please complete and submit the online application form.

There is a separate form available for students who are in year 11 at **Tudor Grange Academy** (internal) and for those who are students at other schools (external).

The forms will be available from Thursday 9th November and can be accessed by following the link in the 'Apply' section of our website www.solihull.tgacademy.org.uk/sixth-form/.

We will confirm receipt of your application by email. The deadline for receipt of applications is **Thursday 1st February 2024**. An application received after the closing date will be classed as a 'late' application in accordance with our Admissions Criteria which can also be viewed in the Apply section of our website.

GCSE results are published on Thursday 22nd August 2024.

Those students who successfully meet the entrance requirements will enroll at Tudor Grange Academy on Thursday 22nd August 2024. Internal students are welcome to enroll between 9 am and 12 noon straight after collection of results. We then welcome external students to enroll between 1 pm – 3 pm on the same day. Please note that we only have a limited number of places available to offer external students and we have been forced to use our oversubscription policy in recent years. If you are applying as an external student, please read our oversubscription criteria carefully. It can be found in the admission criteria document on our sixth form website.

Applicants (internal or external) who have applied on time and wish to make changes to the courses selected on their application form should do this by contacting the sixth form administration team before 30th June 2024. Changes to courses following GCSE results can only be made on the day after GCSE results day and providing there are spaces available.



“What fundamentally distinguishes Tudor Grange Academy Solihull from other schools is the quality of teaching on offer - both in preparation for GCSEs and A-levels. Teachers are willing to go above and beyond to help every child achieve their goals. Their help proved invaluable in me achieving an offer from Cambridge and in ensuring that I met the conditions of that offer. Without Tudor Grange’s help and support, I am certain that I would not be where I am today.”

Zayn Richards, TG Graduate

Achieved A* A* A at A level and studied History at University of Cambridge.

“The learning environment was good because I feel that most people had similar aims and goals so it meant it was easy to get help from teachers but also other pupils on subjects and future planning for after TG.”

Yuvraj Sehmbi, TG Graduate

Achieved A* A* B at A level and now is studying Economics at the University of Birmingham.

“Tudor Grange Sixth Form provided me with the perfect place to study and socialise, creating an amazing environment for both learning and fun. While at TG I received the best kinds of help from staff, with likeable and understandable teachers to help me with my A-Level course content, and care from teachers, with my mental health. No ask was too much and I couldn’t be more grateful for their help. Tudor Grange also helped me with my self-motivation, encouraging self-guided learning outside of lessons, which is now essential at university. Overall, Tudor Grange Sixth Form was an amazing experience that I would recommend to anyone!”

Eleanor Gladwin, TG Graduate

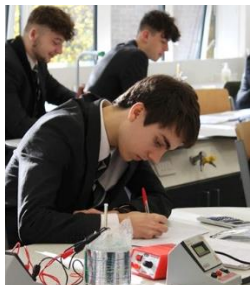
Achieved A* BD at A level and now is studying Physics with Astrophysics and Cosmology at the University of Loughborough.

“The Learning environment at Tudor Grange Academy is productive. The quiet area is an airy silent space perfect for independent revision as you can use the computers and if required the new library set up by students. The café is a perfect space for social revision and collaboration as I found the majority of the year worked in there so if ever you were stuck on a question you could easily find class mates to help. Best part of the sixth form is the socials and charity fundraising activities organised by the executive board. The annual social allowed both year 12 and 13’s to come together to celebrate and was a great way to inclusively mix outside of the school.”

Grace Holmes, TG Graduate

Achieved A* ABB at A level and is now studying Management Sciences at Loughborough University

A day in the life at Tudor Grange Sixth Form



Tudor Grange Academy
Solihull





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