



GORDANO
SIXTH FORM
PROSPECTUS
 **2025-2026**

Dream big

Do your best

Give back



Welcome

Sixth Form years can be the most important in your education and help determine the path you take in future life. We want these years to be an enjoyable and fulfilling time; each year we see our students achieve more than they could believe possible as they work towards their chosen destinations. Our Sixth Form students are great ambassadors for our school and inspire those that follow in their footsteps. All we ask is that they dream big, do their best and give back.

Our results and student destinations ensure that we enjoy a leading reputation in the region and are nationally recognised for the quality of our provision Post-16. Our Sixth Form Centre provides state of the art facilities to cater for independent work. Students choose our Sixth Form to be stretched and challenged on a wide range of Level 3 courses; they also enjoy the social aspects and the wide variety of extra-curricular opportunities.

Pippa Ramsay and Tom Heysham
Co-Directors of Sixth Form



"We encourage students to take responsibility for their learning and for their community in order to achieve. We want Sixth Formers to have a greater level of independence in Sixth Form, and a healthy amount of fun!"

Carolyn Tipler
Deputy Head & Director of Key Stage



A Learning Curve

Specialist facilities, dedicated solely for your use

We recognise that young people need to work in different styles and environments. Throughout your time in the Sixth Form you will benefit from a wide range of specialist facilities, which are open before and after timetabled lessons.

Our Learning Curve and Study Hub are used solely by Sixth Formers for independent study and complemented by a multi-use lecture theatre and supported study areas.

Adjacent to these facilities is a Common Room and a Sixth Form café.

Students also have access to all Gordano's dining facilities.

Sixth Form students also make good use of our extensive wider school facilities which cater for a huge variety of interests, including sports Astro turf, 3G quad, extensive playing fields, new sports hall, squash courts, indoor climbing wall. **Creative Arts, facilities include music studios and practice rooms, dedicated art work areas for both Year 12 and Year 13 and fully equipped drama and dance studios.**



Sixth Form Student Leadership

We provide plenty of opportunities for students to develop their leadership skills. Students can apply for prefecture on one of our community working groups - led by our Senior Students who take an active role in the whole Sixth Form council, which leads fundraising for RAG week each year.





Support and guidance

Helping you develop through your Sixth Form career

We will help you develop the awareness, experience and skills needed to thrive through your Sixth Form career and beyond, we do this in a wide range of ways:

Your subject teachers are happy to support you in any way they can, and there is always additional support available in the form of twilights, drop-ins and workshops.

Your tutor will be the first point of reference for any information and advice you need, and they will also be responsible for monitoring your performance and discussing your progress with you.

Our careers programme includes essential study skills and input from outside agencies including employers, universities and gap year

organisations. This is led by our Careers Advisers, who are also available for independent advice and guidance.

For those choosing to progress to university, specific training is given to support applications, including the offer of mock interviews. There is a formal preparation programme for students applying to 'Oxbridge', including the Higher Education + Programme (HE+). A Gordano trip to Oxford University ~~at Easter~~, a series of seminars, and individual preparation sessions.

All of our students have access to Unifrog - a portal for Post-16 careers advice and have the opportunity to work with students in our partner LSP Sixth Forms.

A young man with curly brown hair is leaning over a desk, focused on a project. He is wearing a dark blue hoodie and an orange lanyard with "GORDANO SCHOOL" printed on it. On the desk, there is a white glue stick, a pencil, a pen, a ruler, and some crumpled blue paper. The background is a plain, light-colored wall.

“We use Unifrog software to support our Sixth Formers with every aspect of their Post-18 applications, pathways, and destination choices.”

Miss G Van Den Eeckhaute-Jones
Curriculum Link for Careers

A curriculum to suit you

Learning is at the centre of everything we do

We offer a truly comprehensive Sixth Form with a large combination of subjects in over 30 courses - both A Level and vocational. This means we are highly likely to be able to offer the right combination to match your interests and strengths and to keep pathways open to a breadth of Post 18 choices.

We are acutely aware that every student is different, and offer a wide variety of additional courses to suit any student's individual needs.

We offer the Extended Project Qualification, core maths and Elective opportunities to supplement the normal curriculum.

Any Sixth Form student who has not yet achieved crucial grades in English Language or Maths GCSE will be enrolled in retake classes

Specific course details are provided in the 'Course Handbook', which is to be found on the school website.



“Our Sixth Form environment encourages both the working and the social side of Post-16 life. Our students have an active student voice and take a strong lead in organising both Sixth Form events and their learning environment.”

Tom Heysham
Co-Director of Sixth Form





In the classroom

High quality, dynamic teaching

We are proud of the high standards of teaching and learning that our students experience. You can expect to receive high quality, dynamic teaching from subject experts, supported by access to a wide range of excellent resources to support your learning.

Students in Year 12 have a packed timetable, but in a different way to in the lower school - with supported study periods and study skills sessions. In Year 13, students can elect to take independent study periods at home if this suits their learning style.

Pastoral Care

We hold students' welfare in the highest regard and place pastoral care at the centre of our approach. Each Sixth Form student is assigned a dedicated tutor whom they interact with on a daily basis.

The students are organised into year group tutor groups, which actively foster strong, productive connections between the tutor and the student cohort throughout the two-year program.

Our commitment to maintain robust and fruitful partnerships with parents and carers is a point of pride for us. We not only encourage parents to attend parent information and subject progress evenings but also emphasize maintaining regular communication with their child's tutor. Through this collaborative effort, we ensure the success of every student within our Sixth Form.

Sixth Formers have access to all the well-being pathways provided to lower school – we aim to support in a more mature environment.

“Gordano Sixth form is all about preparation for Post-18 life; whether it be from an academic, social, politically aware or moral standpoint, we pride ourselves on setting our students up to make informed individual decisions about their next steps and choices.”

Pippa Ramsay
Co-Director of Sixth Form



Beyond the classroom

Extra curricular engagement

We recognise that each student is much more than a set of exam results. This is an important time for developing your wider skills and personality to take into your adult life. We make it a priority to give you a host of opportunities that will enable you to develop these key 'life skills'.

We expect you to be involved in at least one additional option from our diverse Electives Programme – you could choose anything from lifeguarding to sign language.

Sixth Form students also widen their enjoyment and experiences by involvement in many other activities. There are sports fixtures against other Sixth Forms and the Sixth Form organise their own 'alternative' sports day each July. Our Sixth Formers play a vital role in the musical life of the school, from school musicals and orchestras to ~~ambling bands~~. We place great importance on providing a range of other challenges

for students – debating, visiting speakers, trips, both local and further afield – and we encourage students to initiate many other opportunities themselves.

Our Sixth Form lecture theatres are used for speakers covering topics such as Finance, Gap Years, Careers and Personal Health. We liaise closely with Gordano Business Partners to provide work experience opportunities.

Our trip offer is diverse and we fully encourage students to engage in at least one trip during their time with us. These include day trips to the UCAS convention and the University of Oxford to help with Post-18 options.





“Our Electives Programme gives the opportunity for students to broaden their range of talents and interests and prepare for future careers.”

Electives Co-ordinator



Giving back

Be part of a wider community

As a member of the Sixth Form at Gordano, you belong to a wider community. Students who choose to exercise their active leadership skills will have opportunities to participate in a range of projects and events.

These are well publicised throughout the year. Students work with internal and external groups and we encourage links with our local community.

The Sixth Form annual RAG Week has become a highlight of the school calendar, each year raising thousands of pounds. Held in December, the Sixth Form chooses two charities to support for a week of full-on events and fancy dress.

Events have included charity karaoke, a charity auction, dodgeball against the staff, RAG Fest and the ever-growing RAG Fayre.



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A charitable company limited by guarantee registered in England & Wales
(company number: 07662102)