

SIXTH FORM PROSPECTUS



Pool Hayes
Academy



WELCOME

To Pool Hayes Sixth Form

Thank you for considering Pool Hayes Academy as a place where you can continue your learning and development. I am very proud to be leading the team that will support you through the next stage in your educational journey. I appreciate the choices you will now make are not easy ones and that is where we are here to offer guidance and support through the application stage.

We have specialist subject teachers who provide the best teaching and learning experiences, enabling all students to maximise their potential and to experience academic success. As stated in our OFSTED report 2018, *'Teaching in the sixth form is good because students are taught by the school's strongest teachers. These teachers are specialists in their subjects.'*

We pride ourselves at Post-16 in conducting ourselves in a professional manner and we dress accordingly. I am extremely proud of the business dress code that we have in our Sixth Form and if you choose to join us, you will be expected to follow our dress code.

Everyone has the opportunity to be part of large-scale charitable events such as Children in Need, Remembrance Parade and others. Our Sixth Form are also encouraged to take part in the annual school musical whether it be on stage or helping either front of stage or back stage. The contribution made by our Post-16 students to the life of our school is truly inspirational and you can and will be part of the success story.

We have a Post-16 student leadership team. We value the opinions of our students and at Post-16 we encourage you to use your voice and work alongside staff to help us to make improvements around our school.

By choosing to study at Pool Hayes Academy Sixth Form you will be opting to study in an environment with a strong sense of community; where everyone is valued, supported and encouraged to develop both academically and socially.

I look forward to sharing the next part of your educational journey alongside you and offering you a new and exciting experience.

Mrs L Macey
Assistant Principal - Post 16

Mr T McDowall
Principal



Unlocking Your Potential Empowering Through Success

"Having now completed our first year at Pool Hayes Sixth Form, we can safely say that Pool Hayes has helped us grow and mature as individuals.

Our Sixth Form has a wide range of courses from A levels in Maths, Languages, Sociology and Sciences to BTECs in I.C.T and Performing Arts, among many other subjects. In Sixth Form we strive to achieve our best, with the copious amount of help offered by the Sixth Form teachers, leadership team and careers advisers about exam preparation, university open days and fairs, apprenticeships, work experience, jobs, CV writing, UCAS applications and so much more. We are well prepared for our next steps.

Pool Hayes is a unique sixth form, with a common room specifically designed to cater for our needs but also a place that is able to teach life skills, such as communication and the ability to be independent. Pool Hayes Sixth Form makes every pupil feel valued and has been extremely useful in helping us decide the academic or work path we wish to take.

We can happily say that we are proud to be a part of Pool Hayes Sixth Form, and could not wish to study anywhere else."

Sixth Form Student Leadership Team



OPPORTUNITIES

Sixth Form Curriculum

All students have to take three subjects that they will continue with across their two years with us. We run two course types – Level 3 BTEC subjects and A Level subjects.

In order to study in our Sixth Form, students will need to achieve at least 5 GCSEs at grade 4 to be able to study on the BTEC route and, for the A Level route, they must achieve a minimum of a grade 6 in the subject they wish to study.

As well as their chosen options, all students are encouraged to take part in an enrichment activity, such as a sport, LAMDA, reader mentoring, volunteering as a classroom assistant, additional online courses such as MOOCS or Work Experience.

Many students take the opportunity to engage in extracurricular activities either in or out of school.

Aspirations and Futures Week

All students will be given personal mentoring sessions throughout their time in the Sixth Form and one of the areas of focus will be careers. Our academic mentor will discuss future options with students and help to support them in arranging a relevant, career focused work placement in Year 12, as part of our Futures Week.

During this time, students will experience a range of career workshops and Higher Education advice before they embark on their placement. We then provide a follow up day after the placement where students will be taken through guided action planning and next steps to ensure that they are set up to achieve their career goal.

Throughout the year, there will be a range of PHL sessions focused on Study Skills, University speakers, seminars from professionals as well as a range of career relevant trips and experiences.

Careers/UCAS Advice

All students are encouraged to take part in Higher Education/Careers conferences and have access to expert advice on careers and university applications, including Oxford and Cambridge universities.

An independent adviser is available for careers advice and placements, and the Sixth Form tutors are highly experienced in giving advice about university applications.

Students have the opportunity to attend university open days and we invite former students in to the Academy to discuss university life and the application process. We also educate our students about the financial implications of going to University.

Charity Work

Charity work and volunteering is something that the Sixth Form are keen to become involved with. Each year, students elect a variety of charities that we fundraise for. We also invite charities into school to talk to our students and discuss the impact of their fundraising.

Leadership Roles

We aim to provide a wide range of leadership roles for our students to take on in the Sixth Form, to help build wider experience and skills.

We elect a range of students to the rolls of Presidents, Vice Presidents and Prefects each year and these students represent the Sixth Form at a range of events. They also represent the Sixth Form at senior leadership meetings and regularly meet with the Principal to discuss their ideas on how to improve the Academy.



INFORMATION

Equal Opportunities

Pool Hayes is committed to an equal opportunities policy. Every effort will be made to fulfil the needs and aspirations of all intending students.

Education and training opportunities and the meeting of personal needs will be provided on the basis of equal opportunity for all. Everybody is somebody within the Sixth Form.

Contract and Expectations

Being a student at Pool Hayes Sixth Form is also about making a commitment to sharing our values and expectations. It is essential that students achieve excellence in their studies and fulfil their academic potential.

We therefore expect that, by taking a place in the Sixth Form, students and parents agree to fulfil and cooperate with the following conditions:

1. Attendance and Punctuality

Attendance in the Sixth Form is full time. Students are expected to attend every day and arrive on time. Attend all timetabled lessons, as well as registration. Appointments such as doctors/dentists/driving lessons should be arranged outside of school time. Holidays during term time are not permitted. If students are late, they will have to stay back at the end of the day.

If students are absent due to illness, parents must call the school on every day of the absence. Students are expected to catch up on all missed work. Attendance levels below 95% seriously damage both a student's exam results but also their future life and career chances.

If we have concerns about attendance, we will arrange parental meetings and support will be offered to improve attendance.



2. Standards

In the Sixth Form, we expect very high standards of conduct. This is because students are role models to the rest of the school, setting an example for other pupils, and also represent the Sixth Form to the wider community.

- Students are expected to respect staff and other students in both attitude and language used. Bad language in the study area will not be tolerated.
- The study area, common room and school property must be treated with respect. Students must adhere to the rules of the study area at all times.
- Smoking and vaping is banned anywhere on site and around the school gates.
- Ensure that part time work is kept to a minimum (no more than 10 hours per week) and that it does not affect studies.
- Please note that students will be required to attend after school study sessions until 4.30pm in the case of missed deadlines or falling behind on studies.
- Students will be expected to follow the smart dress code at all times.

Academic and Standards

Meeting coursework deadlines is crucial for success. Missing deadlines means that you get behind on your studies, causing a build-up of work. This will have a negative impact upon achievement. It is important that we work with students to ensure that this situation is prevented.

If a deadline is missed, students will be expected to attend an after school study session until 4.30pm to complete the work. Attendance to these study sessions is expected until the work is completed. If this becomes a persistent issue, parents will be contacted and will be required to attend a meeting to discuss progress.

We are committed to ensuring you achieve your full academic potential. Therefore, the after school study sessions are a way for us to support and help students to get back on track.

We recognise that some of our students require extra time to gain their English/Maths GCSEs. Students who have not achieved a grade 4 in either or both English and Maths at GCSE will continue to study these subjects in the Sixth Form and retake examinations.

Tutor Time

All Sixth Form students are part of a tutor group, and will follow a programme of study where various topics including study skills, stress and time management, and revision skills are addressed, along with health and well-being sessions.

🔑 We work hard consistently to fulfil our ambitions and achieve our potential.



PATHWAYS TO SUCCESS

Our Sixth Form offers three main pathways. We know from experience that you will need at least five GCSEs at level 4 or above, including English and Maths, to be successful on most traditional A Level courses.

We also know from experience that you will need GCSEs at level 6 or above to be successful in some A level courses. For some of you, our successful vocational courses will be the best route to success.

PATHWAY 1 - A LEVEL

All GCSE Grades: Grade 6 +

Programme of Study

2 Years study with Sixth Form
3 A Level Courses
Work Experience

Progression

High Grades at A Level (*BBB or higher*)
University
Level 4 Apprenticeship

- Art
- Biology
- Chemistry
- English
- Geography
- History
- Mathematics
- Music/Music Technology
- Philosophy & Ethics
- Physics
- Sociology
- Spanish

PATHWAY 2 - MIXED

Most GCSE Grades: Grade 5 +
BTEC: Merit +

Programme of Study

2 Years study with Sixth Form
3 A Level or BTEC Courses
(*subject to individual entry requirements*)
Work Experience

Progression

University
Level 4 Apprenticeship

- Art
- Biology
- Chemistry
- English
- Geography
- History
- Mathematics
- Music/Music Technology
- Philosophy & Ethics
- Physics
- Sociology
- Spanish

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- Applied Science
 - Business Studies
 - Creative Technology
 - Health & Social Care (*Single and Double*)
 - ICT (*Single and Double*)
 - Performing Arts - Dance
 - Performing Arts - Drama
 - Sport (OCR Cambridge Technicals) (*Single and Double*)

PATHWAY 3 - APPLIED GENERAL

Most GCSE Grades: Grade 4 +
BTEC: Pass +

Programme of Study

2 Years study with Sixth Form
3 BTEC Courses
Work Experience

Progression

University
Level 3/4 Apprenticeship

- Applied Science
- Business Studies
- Creative Technology
- ICT (*Single and Double*)
- Health & Social Care (*Single and Double*)
- Performing Arts – Dance
- Performing Arts – Drama
- Sport (OCR Cambridge Technicals) (*Single and Double*)

Please note that courses will only run if there are sufficient numbers wishing to study them.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Applications

All applicants must be 16 years old or over when the course starts. Application forms are available from the Academy. All prospective students will have an interview and after the interview the student may be offered a place as long as:

- They will benefit from a period of continued study.
- They meet any entry requirements for the course they wish to take.
- The course chosen has sufficient numbers of students to allow the course to run.

We do not allow students to resit a year.

Entry Criteria

The minimum entry criteria is 5 GCSEs at grade 4 or above preferably including English and Maths. If English and/or Maths falls below grade 4, students will be automatically entered into a re-sit GCSE group on arrival into Sixth Form.

A Level Courses

You must achieve at least a grade 6 or above at GCSE in the relevant subject to study the course at A Level. Maths requires a grade 7 at GCSE; preferably to have been in set 1 and to have completed the higher curriculum. Sociology requires a grade 6 in English at GCSE. All Science courses require a grade 6 in Maths at GCSE.

A Level Subjects

Art, Biology, Chemistry, English, Geography, History, Mathematics, Music/Music Technology, Philosophy & Ethics, Physics, Sociology, Spanish.

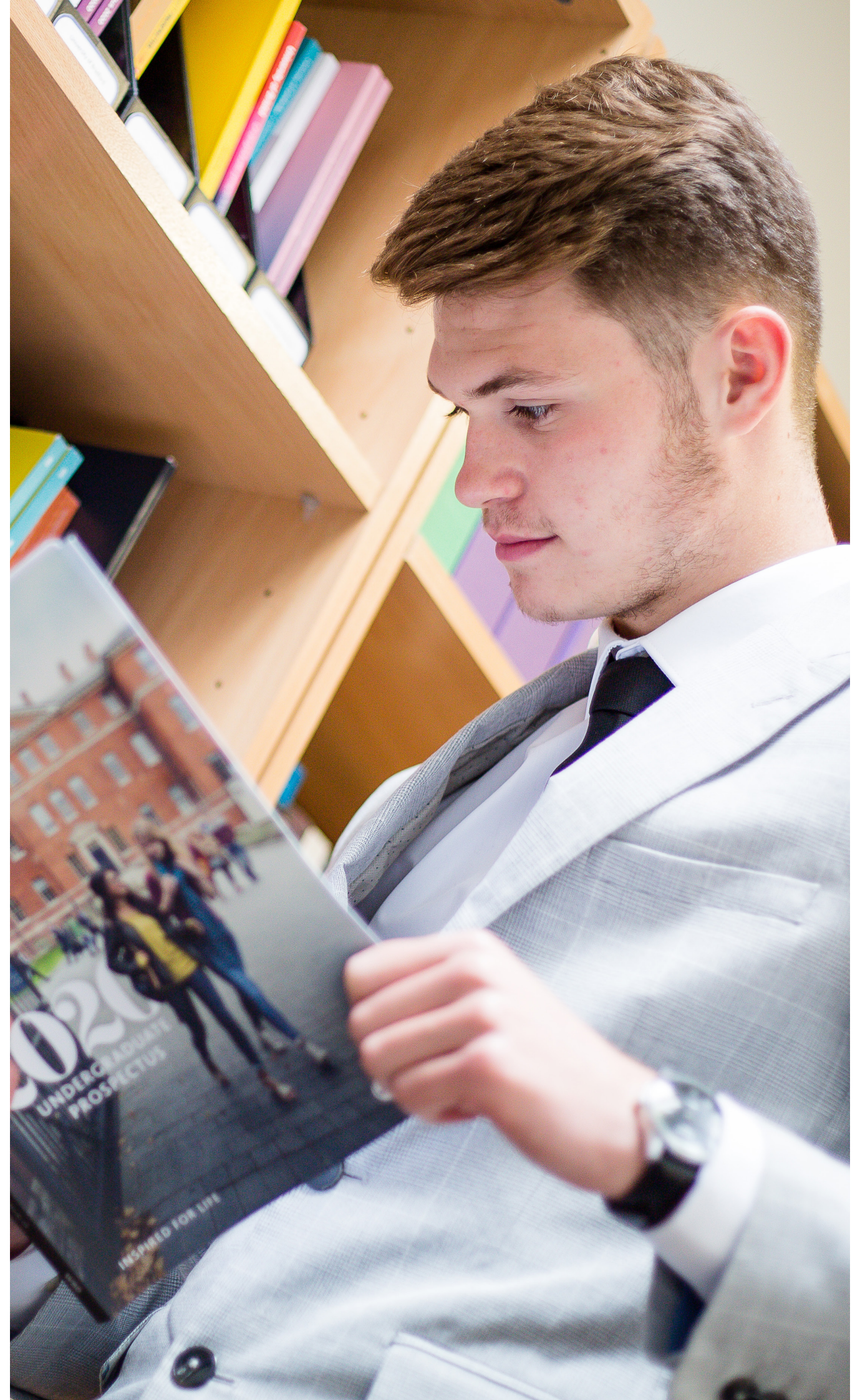
BTEC Courses

Students must have achieved at least a merit at BTEC in the relevant subject. There are some exceptions that would need to be discussed on a case-by-case basis if you did not study the subject in Year 11.

BTEC Subjects

Applied Science, Business Studies, Creative Technology, Health & Social Care, ICT, Performing Arts, Sport.

 *We have high expectations of our conduct and lead by example at all times.*





Pool Hayes
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