Dear Student

Making the right choice about where to continue your studies after Year 11 is a very important decision. Sixth Form is a stepping stone to your future and it is vital you choose the place that is the right fit for you.

The Hanson Sixth Form is a large vibrant community of 290 students from diverse backgrounds. We are supportive of each other resulting in every student having the best chance of success. This is our strength. We pride ourselves on an inclusive approach with a friendly atmosphere and a culture of achievement.

With over 30 academic and vocational courses on offer we are confident that you will find courses to equip you for your future. To accompany this we run a large variety of enrichment and work experience, trips and careers preparation activities to supplement your academic qualifications.

We have high expectations of our students and insist prospective students have a positive work ethic, excellent attendance, punctuality and behaviour records. If you have these attributes you will succeed at Hanson School Sixth Form.

We look forward to meeting you soon.

Ben Irving
Director of Sixth Form

Curriculum

At Hanson Sixth Form, we have many courses on offer, including traditional A Levels and a range of vocational courses at Level 2 and Level 3.

Most students will choose a bespoke timetable comprising of 3 courses. It is very important to think now about the courses that will get you into the career you want to have. This is why at Hanson we offer careers support and guidance prior to embarking on your studies.

Courses run alongside numerous exciting extra-curricular and enrichment opportunities. Students will have the opportunity to supplement their academic studies with a broad range of activities to make them more employable in the future.

In addition, we have a strong focus on progression from Sixth Form to university, apprenticeships and employment and all Year 12 students will have timetabled lesson to prepare for higher education or employment.

Students are tested regularly to check progress and interventions are put in place where students need extra support to reach their targets.

The post 16 curriculum seeks to broaden horizons and provide the platform for academic and personal success. Our very good A level examination results and our outstanding BTEC results are the product of high quality learning, teaching and supportive pastoral care.

Sixth Form students make a good contribution to the life of the school and strive to do well in their studies.”

OFSTED Feb 2015
Combination Pathway
2 year course

This allows you to mix A Level courses with Vocational courses and is a very popular pathway for many students. This pathway requires a minimum of 5 GCSE passes at 9 to 5 (or equivalent). English and Mathematics at grade 4 or above is expected.

If you follow this route you will be expected to take 3 subjects.* from the following:

• Biology
• Chemistry
• Physics
• English Literature
• Maths
• Further Maths
• Geography
• Politics
• History
• Art
• Physical Education
• Sociology
• Psychology
• Philosophy & Ethics
• Product Design
• French
• Spanish
• Music
• Media Studies
• Fine Art

* All courses are subject to viability
Enrichment

All Hanson Sixth Form students are encouraged to focus on personal development in order to become more employable. We have a range of activities to help students develop their skill base.

Courses include:
- Duke of Edinburgh Award
- Learning British Sign Language
- Fitness class and recreational sports clubs
- Community Sports Leadership Award
- Film making
- Active citizenship
- Debating
- Peer mentoring
- First Aid training
- Cooking
- Dance Leadership Award
- Assisting in lower school lessons
- Student leadership group
- HTML Website Coding
- Technical Writing
- Acting Club
- Ceramics
- Media Club

"I have learned so much from working as a peer mentor, not just about my mentee, but about my own skills and strengths too."
Year 12 student

"I left Sixth Form with more than just good grades - Hanson gave me the confidence and skills to start my full time job."
Ex Hanson student

Facilities

Hanson School is served by new buildings. We have state-of-the-art Sports facilities, practical Science and Technology rooms, modern Media and Creative Arts suites and a variety of learning bases. All of these rooms are served by an innovative ICT solution, with over 1,500 pieces of computer equipment.

The School is especially proud of our Additional Resource Centre (ARC) in which students with additional needs can be supported using up to date specialist equipment and resources. The ARC supports Visually Impaired (VI) and Hearing Impaired (HI) students at the school by providing a personalized programme that includes learning in mainstream lessons and alternative specialist provision.

Hanson School hosts the Goals sports complex (one dance studio, ten floodlit astro turf courts and a full size floodlit football pitch) as well as the Pulse fitness suite that students have access to.

In the Sixth Form, we have a social area, common room and canteen which is open daily just for sixth formers. We have designated study areas equipped with ICT facilities and students can also access library resources outside lesson times. We also have our own desktop and laptop computers which are solely for Sixth Form use.
“Systems and procedures to care for, guide and support students are strong and much appreciated by students”
OFSTED Feb 2015

“Work Experience
All Year 12 students are encouraged to spend some time in work placements, this is often related to their career plans. Students will have careers guidance meeting with their personal tutor.

Placements this year include an ERASMUS funded 2 week work experience programme to Italy working in a ski resort as well as local work options shadowing clinicians in hospitals, attending court with barristers and supporting lessons within local schools.

“Careers
A great deal of support is given to students planning their next steps. We have strong links with local universities and encourage all students to consider continuing their education at a higher level.

We provide continuous guidance and support regarding students intended future pathways and provide 1:1 tutoring for UCAS applications starting early in Year 12. All Year 12 students will study the higher education progression module as part of their timetable.

Over 75% of our Year 13 students go on to university study. Every year students go to a wide variety of universities across the country including Russell Group Universities.

We also have good links with local businesses and employment agencies who offer apprenticeships and other work-based training programmes.

“Guidance
We place a strong emphasis on pastoral care within the Sixth Form from Form Tutor mentoring to Peer mentoring. Each Year 12 student is assigned a Form Tutor with whom they spend time with having 1:1 mentoring, as well as developing study skills and following a PHSCe curriculum to equip them for the modern world.

The Sixth Form team also includes the Director and Deputy Director of Sixth From, Student Support Officer, Higher Education Progression Officer, and Progression Champion all based in the Sixth Form centre. Students are encouraged to discuss any issues that are affecting their progress, be this academic, financial or emotional.

Community
The Sixth Form Head Student team plans and organises our annual social events such as the Year 13 Leavers’ Ball. We also hold regular fun charity fund-raising campaigns in school and we support a variety of local community projects e.g. Christmas Shoe Box Appeal and ‘Bake Off’ competitions.

There is a good balance between hard work and fun within the Sixth Form year. I really enjoyed the fancy dress charity days
Year 13 student

There are lots of students in the Sixth Form but I have always been treated as an individual and have always felt included
Year 13 student

“You have put together a really good balance between work and play. I am enjoying the Sixth Form year”
OHSAS March 2014
Why Hanson?

At Hanson School:

- You will have a bespoke study programme tailored to your future career aspirations.
- We have a very wide range of subjects and pathways from which you can choose.
- You will be taught in small groups and will receive personal attention.
- You will receive lots of support with university, job applications and organising the next step of your career.
- You will have the opportunity to take part in a range of enrichment projects, activities and events.
- You will be part of a lively, friendly community.
- We will work with you to ensure you reach your full potential.
- We achieve excellent A level and Vocational results.
- We provide excellent study support.
- We have our own identity within the school.
- Staff care about you and not only offer support but go above and beyond to provide intervention where needed to ensure you reach your full potential.

"Students receive good advice in choosing their Sixth Form courses and when moving on to higher education, colleges or employment." OFSTED Feb 2015

"I came to Hanson from another school and quickly settled in to Sixth Form. Staff here are very helpful and supportive." Year 12 student

Partnerships

Football Academy

We are very proud of our Football Academy programme which has been running successfully for 2 years. This pathway is for talented footballers who wish to maximise their football potential as well as develop their academic ability. This is achieved through daily training sessions and weekly matches in very competitive regional leagues, as well as daily lessons in the Sixth Form. We run the Football Academy in partnership with Pro Elite Football Academy, who are a highly reputable local company run by ex professional footballers. In the Football Academy students will study a vocational sport course to compliment their football training. There is the option to pick up extra vocational courses along with sport if students aspire to go to higher education.

Dance Academy

We also have a Dance Academy run in partnership with Footsteps Theatre School which allows dancers to develop their performance and technical range through daily focussed sessions with professional dance teachers. This is run primarily at Footsteps Theatre School, with BTEC lessons delivered at Hanson Sixth Form. Students will study a BTEC dance qualification to enhance their performance so they may go on to higher education if they choose to.