



THE PURBECK SCHOOL

# The Purbeck School

## *SIXTH FORM*

Prospectus



***“During our time here at Sixth Form, we grow and become young adults who are ready to cross the bridge to further education and the world.”***

The Purbeck School Sixth Form is a unique place to learn that embraces the pursuit of academic excellence, fosters leadership, and creates opportunity, all within a supportive and nurturing environment.

We are a national leader as an educational establishment. In every area of the school, students are taught by dedicated and expert staff who are passionate about their subject. Students who study at The Purbeck School Sixth Form routinely outperform those from other schools across the country and progress to renowned universities or sought-after apprenticeships.

However, it is not just the academic performance that we aim to enhance at The Purbeck School. We also ensure that our students become young adults who are prepared to face the modern world with confidence and determination. Student leadership is an important part of sixth form life, as noted by Ofsted: 'A cabinet of sixth form students contributes to key areas across the school'. Our students organise visits by university speakers, mentor younger students, raise money for charity, and liaise with local businesses; we ensure that students leave this school with the self-confidence to progress to their chosen pathway.



This is supported by a comprehensive enrichment programme that allows our students to embrace and thrive in the modern world. This can take many forms: political debate, sporting competitions, trips and visits, learning first aid, how to cook for yourself, or listening to varied and interesting speakers from different walks of life. There is a constant commitment to widen the life experience of our students. Supporting all of this is our unswerving commitment to student well-being.

There is a dedicated team of sixth form staff who are here to support sixth form students. We understand that life and learning are not always smooth, so we have a network of support for each student through the comprehensive tutoring system and the sixth form office.

Being a smaller sixth form allows us a deep knowledge and understanding of each student is something that we pride ourselves on. We hope you decide to choose The Purbeck School Sixth Form and we look forward to welcoming you.

**Adam Darley**  
Headteacher



# Why study at The Purbeck Sixth Form?

The Purbeck School Sixth Form offers students an opportunity to thrive in a supportive, friendly and hardworking environment. By joining our sixth form you will be choosing to grow. We will help to nourish your academic knowledge. We will help to extend your wider skills and experiences and you will be responsible for the depth of your development.



We are highly committed to developing our students both academically and experientially. In short, they can expect to be taught by highly qualified professionals who will challenge them to become well-disciplined and imaginative experts in their fields. Additionally, our enrichment offer is designed to shape softer skills and broader understanding, with opportunities to supplement their studies with the LAMDA drama qualification and the Extended Project (EPQ), both of which gain additional UCAS points, as well as a leadership qualification in partnership with The National Trust, and activities such as helping to teach in local schools, sport, cooking, film and gap year clubs, essential first aid and financial knowledge.

The size of our sixth form means that we know each of our students well, being able to provide well-informed careers advice, additional study opportunities, and also a kind word and caring guidance when things feel a bit tough. There is a wealth of leadership opportunities, and students enjoy themselves on our infamous Christmas charity fancy dress day, at barbecues and a wide range of other informal events.



In addition to the many Purbeck students who choose to commence post-16 A Level and BTEC study, our sixth form welcomes those completing their GCSEs in other local schools, and we enjoy hosting international students from countries such as Denmark, Germany, Italy and the United States. After completing the two years of study with us, Purbeck sixth formers pass through a Grow Graduation Ceremony and leave well-equipped to embrace the wider world, progressing to study as undergraduates in a range of top universities including Oxford and Cambridge, or gain excellent higher-level apprenticeships with companies such as Aerospace, Babcock and JP Morgan.

We look forward to working beside you in the next stage of growth as an individual.

**Simon Holmes**  
Head of Sixth Form/Assistant Head

Grow





## The Purbeck School Sixth Form Curriculum

We offer a range of stimulating courses to suit different needs and abilities. Students can study bespoke packages; whether these be very academic facilitating subjects, vocational courses or a combination of A levels and vocational courses. Please see our dedicated Subject Information Booklet for full details.



A B C

A photograph of two students sitting at a blue table outdoors, studying. The student on the left is a young woman with long blonde hair in a ponytail, wearing a dark blue sweatshirt with 'HOLLIS SUP' visible. She is looking down at a book. The student on the right has long, curly brown hair and is wearing a brown sweater, also looking down at a book. On the table are several colorful folders (pink, green, yellow). In the background, a dark brick wall features large, white, out-of-focus letters 'A', 'B', and 'C'.

We will offer you all this within the stability of an established and highly regarded community; you will receive excellent support both academically and pastorally. We will expect you to study hard as work in the sixth form is a significant step up from GCSEs - but a rewarding one; we will expect you to commit to growing, in not only your academic studies, but also by developing your experiential portfolio of skills and wider knowledge. You will participate fully and make the most of the many opportunities you are given.

# Study spaces and the learning environment

*"I like the set-up of the sixth form – there's a good community feeling. There are lots of places to get work done and I am very productive in quiet studies. The Sixth Form Centre is a very good place to study – it's clean, very quiet and easy to use. Great support from the Sixth Form staff who help you with whatever you need as much as they can."*



## Sixth Formers Say



Choosing to continue my studies in the sixth form has been one of the best decisions I have made. It has given me the opportunity to challenge myself academically while developing valuable skills such as independence, leadership, and resilience. The supportive teachers and welcoming environment have helped me grow in confidence, and I've enjoyed getting involved in opportunities beyond the classroom. Sixth form has prepared me for my next steps, and I am excited for the future.

**Faye**

Having joined The Purbeck School for sixth form as an external student, I was apprehensive and nervous, however it soon became apparent that my time here was instead going to be an exciting and fulfilling journey. It is without doubt that the sixth form here at Purbeck supports our personal needs and guides us through challenges, as staff members get to know us as individuals, ensuring we are on track and feel motivated. Teachers often have an open-door policy, meaning as sixth formers we are able to seek help with school work, and advice regarding further education at any time.

**Rosie**



The smaller class sizes and supportive teachers have created an environment where I've been able to challenge myself academically whilst feeling encouraged every step of the way. The staff genuinely want every student to succeed and are always there to offer support, whether that's with lessons, university applications or opportunities beyond the classroom. My time at The Purbeck Sixth Form has helped me become more independent, ambitious, and prepared for whatever comes next. I would encourage anyone considering sixth form here to make the most of every opportunity as you never know where it might lead.

**Theo**

The jump from GCSEs to A-Levels is significant but I felt supported and welcomed by the whole of the sixth form team. Every single one of the teachers is an expert in their subject and have an in-depth knowledge of both the content and the exams. The reduced class sizes mean you can build up a relationship with both your classmates and your teachers. If you have any issues, they are all there for you because they care about your welfare and want you to achieve. During our time here at The Purbeck Sixth Form, we grow and become young adults who are ready to cross the bridge to further education and the world.

**Mabel**



***"I like how flexible  
sixth form has been  
able to be."***

***"I have lots of work!  
This means I am never  
bored and always have  
something to do."***

***"There are very  
supportive and  
helpful staff."***

***"The Purbeck  
Sixth Form is  
what I expected  
so it's all good!"***

# Leadership

Our Sixth Form values leadership and encourages everyone to take part and develop their talent. The student leadership team have many opportunities to practise and demonstrate their leadership, acting as role models for the whole school student body.

Our leadership team consists of twelve students, all of whom have applied and interviewed for their roles. Each position is substantial and includes a job description which supports both the student and associated staff in providing a time-specific framework intended to secure strong experiential and practical outcomes. Roles include those of house captains and leaders of various teams including charity; welfare; wellbeing; press and promotion; student voice; social events coordinator. In addition, there are numerous opportunities to lead more informally within clubs, sporting and enrichment activities.



*“As student welfare prefect I lead other sixth form students in running a mentoring system, providing a friendly ear to listen to others whilst taking necessary action to improve school life for students. Being a part of the welfare team expands your communication skills and ability to help others; it is a very rewarding role.”*

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# Enrichment

We strongly believe that education is about personal growth and a wider understanding of society and endeavour to ensure that our students are able to contribute fully to their own and the wider community. In addition to Wednesday afternoon sports and inter-school matches, our enrichment programme enables students to take part in a wide range of activities such as: Drama certified by the LAMDA qualification; primary school teaching experience, first aid training, personal finance management; the Extended Project Qualification, and a host of volunteering and online course opportunities. We run a lecture programme featuring external speakers to provide knowledge, inspiration and understanding of the world around us, and indeed, visit Africa once every two years.

*"I have been given so many opportunities to expand my learning and to develop myself personally, such as the opportunity to travel to Africa to teach in, and rebuild, schools."*



*"I love enrichment and it's great to have an hour that's not academic and I like the wide variety of options on offer."*



## Careers

Careers and guidance activities that the sixth form has to offer include university visits and employment fairs, support from tutors, pathway events, and expert and professional advice. All of these aspects play a vital part for students to research and access their next academic step or begin their career path.



***“There is a really good online platform called Unifrog which gives us exposure to careers-related topics, ideas, courses and jobs. Also I have plenty of one-to-one careers advice, and the talk about barristers got me inspired to be one myself.”***



***“There are friendly and helpful careers advisors; I’m thankful for the regular careers emails that are sent out as we are kept right up to date with information and opportunities.”***

## The Purbeck School Sixth Form: a bridge to your future

Whatever your pathway, we look forward to working with you to pursue your goals.  
If you would like to book a tour of the school or if you require any further information, please contact us.  
***Together we grow.***





***“All in all, it is a really good, well-maintained sixth form.  
Lovely teachers.  
Lovely atmosphere.  
It’s been great - thanks everyone!”***



# **The Purbeck School**

## *SIXTH FORM*

**The Purbeck School**

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