

Welcome to Pensby Schools Sixth Form

We are very pleased that you have decided to review our high quality sixth form. Please take time to read the enclosed literature and contact us should you require any further information. Contact details appear on the flap of this brochure.

Pensby Schools Sixth Form offers excellent tuition in a wide range of subjects and courses. It has a long and successful history and was formed over twenty years ago through the collaboration of the high schools of Pensby Boys and Girls. The two schools share the same campus and provide for more than two hundred young students located in two sixth form centres.

The sixth form is jointly managed by two Heads of Sixth Form. Mrs. Powell takes ultimate responsibility for the welfare of young ladies while Mrs. Turvey does so for young men. All courses are open to both boys and girls.

We recognised that, in joining a sixth form, you are about to invest one, two or even three years of your life. We value this investment enormously. You would be particularly keen to join our sixth form should you welcome a level of support that guides you through the transition from GCSE to sixth form work and then keeps you on track whether you are planning to enter higher education, take up a career or enter an apprenticeship.

We would welcome you if you are hard working, sociable and want to succeed in life. We value and celebrate achievement in all senses, personal, social, sporting and academic. In so doing we build the confidence of our students, create self-reliance and form the managers of tomorrow's society.

We are also a Specialist Sports College. As such, we offer all students a wide range of sporting and sports-related experiences that increase personal motivation and self-management skills.

Tuition

Each subject is taught for 5 hours per week, frequently in subject-specific accommodation. Students are taught by well-qualified and experienced teachers who use a variety of approaches to help achieve results. There is an emphasis on building independent learning skills for it is these that distinguish able students who are valued in all walks of life.

The subject teacher will work closely with pastoral staff to ensure the progress of each individual. Your progress is closely monitored and success celebrated. Soon after you join Pensby Schools Sixth Form, you are independently assessed as to the progress we can expect. Should you, for whatever reason, fall behind the expected rate of achievement, this will be brought promptly to your attention together with constructive advice on how to come back on track. This is important – remember you are investing at least a year of your life in this venture.

Courses Available

While the number of students entering higher education from our Sixth Form has increased in recent years, so too has the diversity and range of courses on offer. You can choose to gain qualifications in any of the following areas.

- * GCSE Grade improvement
- * Leadership
- * Vocational Qualifications achieved in 1 or 2 years
- * Advanced Level Courses

Clearly, in order to pursue a course you must have certain minimum qualifications. For Advanced Level studies you should have a minimum of five GCSE passes in the A* to C grades and at least grade B in your chosen subjects. For other entry requirements consult the enclosed information or contact a Head of Sixth Form.

The result of our comprehensive course range and the support we give is that each student is able to progress as far as they wish along a very personal learning path.

It's Your Life

When our students can tell us that we are no longer needed to help them learn, then Pensby Schools Sixth Form has done its job well and we can all be satisfied. When we help you to become self-managing in terms of learning, we have helped you to develop an invaluable skill.

Not surprisingly then, we place a lot of emphasis on your developing key skills. These skills include,

- * The ability to communicate effectively using speech
- * The ability to communicate effectively in writing
- * Knowledge of how to use numbers
- * How to work as a member of a team
- * How to be self-motivating and self-managing
- * How to solve problems
- * How to use Information and Communication Technology

These key skills are some of the tools used in your chosen subjects.

To enhance them further you will be

- * Taking part in a short residential team-building course on entering the sixth form
- * Given access to quiet study areas
- * Provided with high quality ICT facilities
- * Involved in special events and extra-curricular activities
- * Given regular careers advice
- * Given financial advice
- * Prepared for higher education where appropriate

It's your life, your future and together it is our responsibility to secure it.

The time spent in the sixth form is one of great change in a young person's life. As an emerging adult in a sixth form it is important that each student sees that he or she is a valued member of the organisation and can take pride in achieving a place. Since our Sixth Form is the joint collaboration of the High Schools for Boys and Girls, each school wants its younger pupils to look up to its sixth form as examples of what they themselves should aspire to be. Within a school environment, a sixth former is a role model.

Consequently, sixth form students are invited to contribute to the general management of the schools. This may take the form of paired reading – assisting a youngster to improve reading ability – or in looking after a new pupil following transfer from primary school – this is called peer mentoring. Management may involve carrying out prefect duties, public speaking, charity work, joining the schools council or being involved in the local community. Whatever you choose to do, you will find that the experience has proved very worthwhile and something employers want to know about.

Our students are very sociable and enjoy a variety of activities including drama productions, discos and sports, art and travel events.