



Mark Rutherford School

Motivated • Respectful • Successful

Sixth Form

Welcome To Mark Rutherford School

Thank you for your interest in the academic, high achieving and very successful Sixth Form at Mark Rutherford School. The Sixth Form is an important part of our school and many of our Year 11 students choose to stay on to study post-16.

We also welcome external applications and are joined by a number of new students every year.

Our aim is to provide you with a high-quality learning and teaching environment, while also equipping you with the most valuable qualifications for your chosen career path. To ensure you are prepared for your future, we aim to inspire every student to aspire and achieve, so you are ready and able to respond to the challenges and opportunities that present themselves in the future.

Collaboration is an important feature of what we do. From our highly qualified and dedicated teaching staff to our team of tutors, open and honest communication is fundamental to ensuring you achieve to the best of your abilities. We have high expectations of every student. However, we maintain these in a supportive environment where we all aim for success.

Moving into the Sixth Form is an exciting time and we hope that this prospectus provides you with all the information you need. If you would like additional information, or a tour of our facilities, then please do not hesitate to make contact. Please also speak to our existing students or our expert staff to ensure you are equipped with all the information you need to make the right choices.

We look forward to receiving your application and welcoming you into the Sixth Form at Mark Rutherford School.

The Sixth Form Team



Mrs K Foster
Headteacher



Mr Ladd
Director of Sixth Form



Mr Nicholls
Head of Year 13



Mrs Henderson
Assistant Head of House



Why our Sixth Form?

We will provide you with the care, guidance, information and support required for this level of study whilst still recognising that every student is unique. We provide a supportive learning environment where information, advice and guidance is personalised to recognise the needs and talents of each student.



We understand and know how important it is to support you as you continue to grow academically and personally to become an increasingly independent learner. Sixth Form teachers and tutors work hard to enable you to develop the skills you require, whether this is for Higher Education, Further Education, an apprenticeship, training or employment.

We are proud of the stimulating learning environment we provide alongside the care and support of a dedicated team of staff. Academic challenge is important and this will take place in a happy, safe and supportive environment. You will be encouraged to take increasing responsibility for your learning and progress. We also expect you to develop your independent learning skills; a requirement for this level of study.

“Sixth Form life is challenging but rewarding. The Sixth Form Team and teachers support me so I have settled in well and am thoroughly enjoying my time here.”

Sixth Form Student

We have an active Sixth Form Council which enables students to develop their character and confidence in leading on important aspects of the Sixth Form to ensure we continue to meet your needs. We expect students to take part in a Personal Development Activity (PDA) such as helping our younger students with their reading, supporting lessons or coaching a sporting team.

You will have access to dedicated facilities including The Vicinity and The Study Room, both furnished with computers to support you with independent study. In addition we have a Common Room for more interactive group work as well as recreational use at break or lunch time. You will also be able to use the Space for Learning during the school day.

“The Sixth Form is a strength of the school. Sixth Form students are excellent role models.”

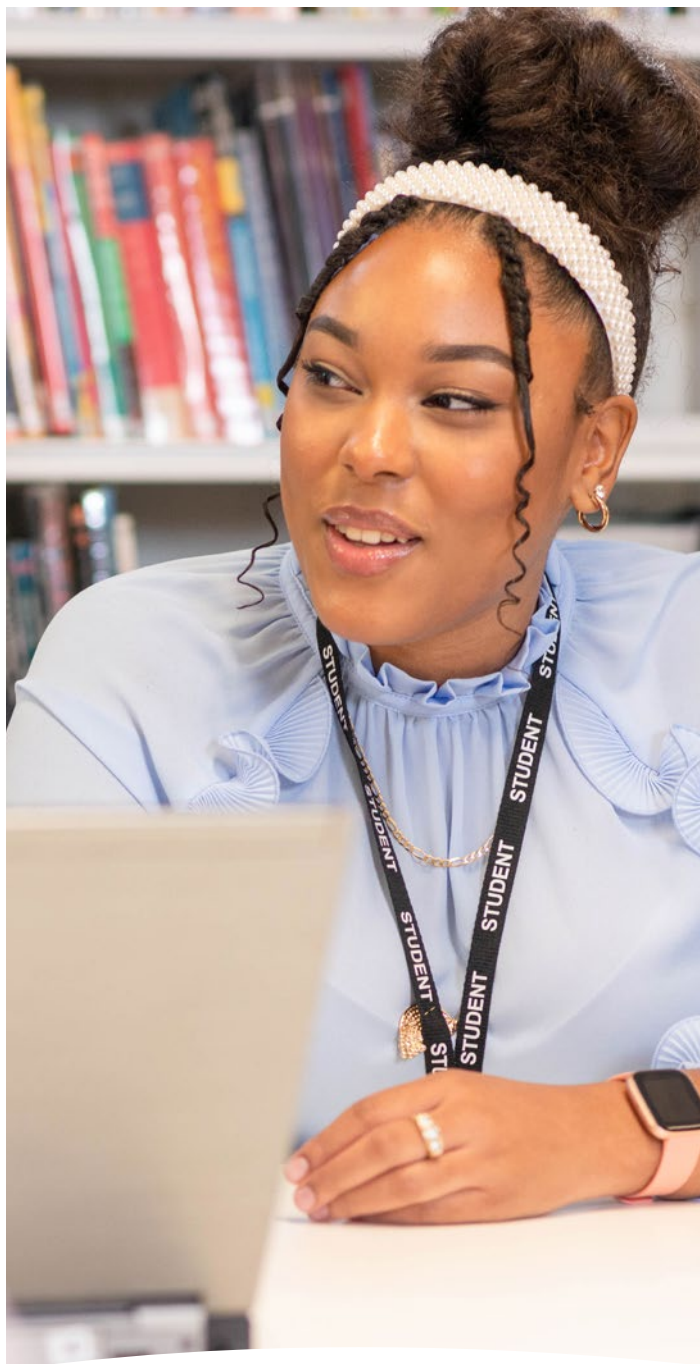
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Support for Success

Tutor

You will be part of a Sixth Form tutor group that will be made up of Year 12 and Year 13 students to develop a sense of community and to help form positive and supportive relationships. You will see your tutor daily to ensure you have the support and guidance to be both happy and successful.



Support

There is a good network of support for you in the Sixth Form. We also know that the link between home and school is fundamental to your success. We are keen to develop strong and positive links with parents/carers.

Wider partnerships include external agencies, local businesses, Higher Education institutions, charities and Business Mentors; these are well established and prove to be important in helping our students manage their studies.

Each year we host a number of international students who are keen to experience the British education system and develop their written and spoken English. They are part of our community for an academic year, usually in Year 12. Staying with a host family locally, they follow the Sixth Form academic learning programme in order to immerse themselves fully in the Mark Rutherford School experience.

**"Many thanks to the
wonderful Sixth Form
Team and teachers
for all the support
you have provided."**

Parent



How do you apply via Applicaa?

Please complete our online application form, which is available on the Sixth Form area of our website.

If you are already a student at Mark Rutherford School then you must ask your relevant teachers to approve your subject choices. If you are choosing a new subject then we do not require approval at this stage. Your application form also needs your current tutor to complete a short reference.

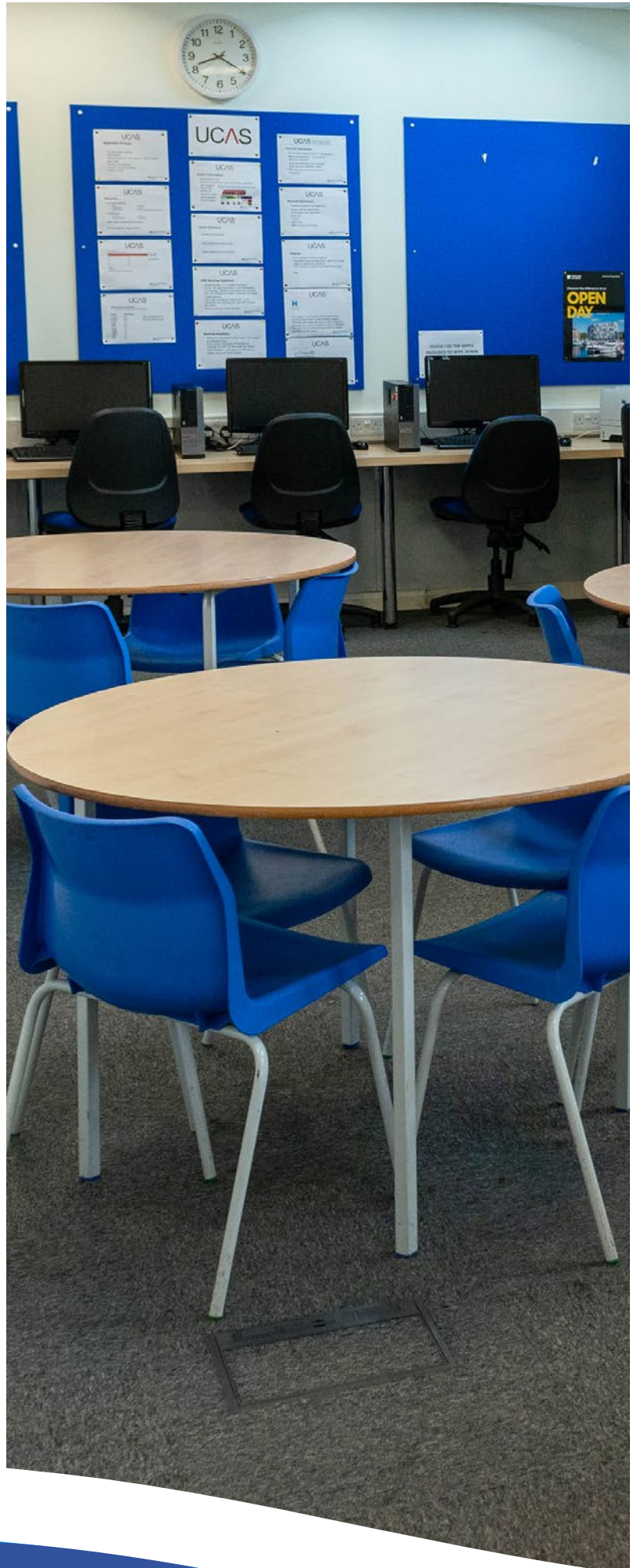
Interview

All applicants will be interviewed by a senior member of teaching staff – the interviews take place during the Spring term of Year 11. This is a key part of the application process as it is an opportunity to discuss your subject choices and future plans. It is important that we ensure you have made the right choices for you.

“In the Sixth Form, students achieve very well. They benefit from well-planned lessons that are interesting and engaging.

Teachers have a high level of expertise in the subjects they teach.”

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Conditional Offers

Once you have been interviewed, most students will receive a conditional offer based on you achieving the published entry criteria for your chosen subjects.

If you would like to accept this conditional place, we request that you confirm via your online application.



Induction

All students who are offered a conditional place are expected to attend Sixth Form Induction. It is important that you experience taster lessons in your chosen subjects to ensure you have made the right decisions and also understand the expectations of a Sixth Form student at Mark Rutherford School.

Enrolment

This will take place once GCSE results have been published.

For most students the transition into the Sixth Form is an easy one.

All students complete enrolment via Applicaa in order to be signed onto their chosen courses.

More specific details about Sixth Form enrolment are issued by letter closer to the time. However, if you have any enquiries about admissions or subjects then please contact the Sixth Form team using the email address given below:

sixth.form@mrus.co.uk

“Learners here receive good guidance and make well-informed choices about their courses.”

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Choices

We have designed our curriculum to meet the needs of all students. We are proud that we offer a wide range of both A Level and BTEC courses. We review our curriculum each year to ensure it meets your needs and that it will also prepare you for your future.

It is important that you attend our Sixth Form open evening and the Options, Choices, Careers 4 U (OCC4U) event so you can get full details about the Sixth Form at Mark Rutherford School and also meet with our students and teachers to discuss the courses we offer. Specific information about courses will be available at the OCC4U event and also on the Sixth Form area of the school website. If you would like to discuss any of our courses further then please email the Sixth Form team at sixth.form@mrus.co.uk.



Transition

Your daily routine in the Sixth Form will be very different to what you have been used to. The Sixth Form team, including your tutor and subject teachers, are here to help and support you throughout your time in the Sixth Form. You will be part of a tutor group and the House system and will be required to meet our expectations in relation to attendance, punctuality and commitment to your chosen courses. As a Sixth Form student you will have increased independence and a greater responsibility for your own learning and progress.

You will also have opportunities to develop your leadership skills and also take part in a range of extra-curricular activities. You will need to commit to achieving to the best of your abilities, working with our dedicated staff who are here to support you.

We look forward to receiving your application and seeing you in our Sixth Form.



"Thank you so much for all the support from the Sixth Form teachers; it has been greatly appreciated."

Sixth Form student

Sixth Form Entry Requirements

Our **preferred** entry requirement for the Sixth Form is 5 GCSEs at Grade 5 or above, which must include English **or** Maths. Individual Sixth Form subjects have additional preferred entry requirements as detailed below.

Applied Science (BTEC)	Two Grade 4s minimum in GCSE Science.	Italian	Grade 5 or above in GCSE Italian (higher tier).
Art and Design	Grade 6 or above in GCSE Art. At least a Grade 5 in English is advisable.	Maths	Grade 7 in GCSE Maths.
Biology	Grade 7 or above in GCSE Biology and at least a Grade 6 in Chemistry or Physics, or at least one Grade 7 in Combined Science. A Grade 5 or above in English and Maths is also required.	Maths (Further)	Grade 8 in GCSE Maths.
Chemistry	One Grade 7 in GCSE Combined Science or a Grade 7 in Chemistry. You will also need at least a Grade 6 in Maths.	Media Studies	Grade 5 in GCSE English Language.
Computer Science	Minimum Grade 5 in Maths and a Science and an interest in Programming and Computer Science.	Music	Grade 6 or above in GCSE Music and a Grade 5 in GCSE English is advisable. A demonstrated instrumental/vocal standard at least Grade 5 ABRSM or equivalent. Candidates who have not studied Music at GCSE may still apply to take A Level Music. We will assess candidates for suitability on a case-by-case basis, but typically we would require instrumental/vocal standard of Grade 5 ABRSM or equivalent, and either Grade 5 in Music Theory and/or a portfolio of compositions.
Criminology (WJEC Applied Diploma – A level equivalent*)	At least a Grade 5 in English Language is advisable.	Performing Arts (BTEC)	It is expected that you will have at least one Grade 4 in GCSE Drama, Dance or Music. If these have not been studied at GCSE, you must attend a department audition. A keen interest and experience in the subject would also be an advantage and a willingness to participate in performance activities is essential.
Dance	Grade 5 or above in GCSE Dance and/or a strong dance background. At least a Grade 5 in English is advisable.	Photography	A project is to be completed before Sixth Form Induction and a Grade 5 or above in GCSE English is advisable.
Design and Technology (Product Design)	Grade 5 or above in a GCSE Design and Technology subject and a Grade 5 in English and Maths is advisable.	Physical Education	Grade 5 in English Language and 2 sciences as well as either GCSE PE grade 5 or BTEC Level 2 Sports based course as strong pass. You must also be a regular participant of sports outside of school and perform at a good standard, ideally County level or above.
Drama and Theatre Studies	Grade 5 in GCSE Drama and a Grade 5 in English. If you have not studied Drama at GCSE you must attend a department audition.	Physics	Grade 7 or above in Combined Science or in GCSE Physics. You will also need at least a Grade 6 in Maths.
English Language	Grade 6 or above in both GCSE English Language and GCSE English Literature.	Politics	Grade 6 or above in English Language. Politics is not a GCSE subject but you should have a Grade 6 at either Geography or History GCSE if taken.
English Literature	Grade 6 or above in both GCSE English Language and GCSE English Literature.	Sports Academy: Football	You will need to have an interest in developing your football playing and coaching ability. You must have the self-motivation and discipline to commit to regular training sessions and match commitment.
French	Grade 5 or above in GCSE French (higher tier).	Spanish	Grade 5 or above in GCSE Spanish (higher tier).
Geography	Grade 5 in GCSE Geography if studied. Grade 5 in English and Maths strongly advisable.	Sport and Exercise Sciences (CTEC): Single, Double or Triple	Grade 4 in Maths, Grade 4 in English Language and 2 sciences as well as either GCSE PE Grade 4 or CNAT Level 2 Sport based course as strong pass.
Health and Social Care (BTEC) – Single	Grade 4 in GCSE English and Maths. If students have studied Health and Social Care at Level 2 they will need to have gained at least a Level 2 Pass.		
Health and Social Care (BTEC) – Double	Grade 4 in GCSE English and Maths. If students have studied Health and Social Care at Level 2 they will need to have gained at least a Level 2 Pass.		
History	Grade 6 in GCSE History and a Grade 5 in English Language.		
Information Technology (BTEC)	Grade 4 in GCSE English and GCSE Maths preferred, as well as an interest in IT.		

*Please note that some of the subjects offered may be subject to change based on the number of students applying from the applications received.

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