



Mayflower High School
Success and Opportunity for All



“We have a long-standing reputation for achieving high academic standards and adding value to our students’ education.”

Headteacher’s Introduction

I am delighted to introduce to you the Sixth Form brochure, which outlines the wide variety of courses and activities available at Mayflower High School. It gives you a taste of what the Sixth Form can offer in a supportive and inclusive learning environment.

We are very proud of our Sixth Form provision. Mayflower High School has a thriving and expanding Sixth Form. *The Overall Effectiveness of the school was described by Ofsted as being Outstanding.* Inspectors concluded that “students in the sixth form achieve well, with increasing numbers of students achieving the higher grades”. We have a long-standing reputation for achieving high academic standards and adding value to our students’ education. In an ever increasingly complex world, it is important that our students are equipped to make the most of themselves and the opportunities on offer. They need to be flexible in their attitude to the future, but very focused on their learning, confident to face the challenges ahead. Students are guided towards courses that match their aptitudes and ambitions. A successful course will enable them to develop existing talents and recognise their true potential. *“Learners are well supported by tutors who provide excellent information, advice and guidance about the pathways into future education and careers. This guidance is highly personalised and enables the school to provide study programmes that suit the individual needs of the learners.” Ofsted*

In addition to their studies, students will have the opportunity to play an important role in the life of the school and will be encouraged to develop their inter-personal, social and intellectual skills and cultivate their capacity in the fields of leadership and responsibility.

Our dedicated Sixth Form Centre provides outstanding facilities which enhance the Sixth Form experience even further, providing a first-class learning environment. The brochure is the first step in a new journey; one which I hope you will wish to share.

We look forward to meeting you soon and welcoming you to our Sixth Form.

Mr Lee Brumby
Headteacher



The Mayflower Sixth Form Experience

Mayflower High School's Sixth Form has a great deal to offer. We have an established tradition of academic excellence and added value, which is brought about by the close mentoring and monitoring of academic progress by tutors, subject staff and the Student Support Managers.

We boast an excellent higher education programme of support and guidance to help students select the right university. If students are looking to go into the world of work, then we offer a detailed programme to support them with preparation for employment.

We are particularly proud of our distinct Sixth Form Centre with excellent facilities and an atmosphere that will enable students to develop intellectually, socially, spiritually, morally and physically. At the end of a their time here, it is hoped that each individual will be a confident, articulate and active citizen.

“They have done **everything** they possibly can to make the **sixth form experience** the **best** it could possibly be.”

(Year 13 student)

Mayflower High School has specialist teachers who are highly qualified in the areas they teach and are interested in every student's academic, social and personal progress. Ofsted commented that our teachers have “very good subject knowledge and use sound planning” to build upon a student's prior achievements well. Support and guidance are always available from the Student Support Managers. For those progressing from Year 11, the Sixth Form offers continuity in students are taught by staff who know them and who use specifications based on what is taught in the earlier years of the school. To help students achieve their goals, we provide fully equipped study facilities.

Each student has a personal tutor, who will take particular interest in his or her personal and academic progress. Students will have an individual tutorial with their tutor at least once per half term. References are prepared by personal tutors who know individual students talents and abilities. It was expressed by Ofsted that “learners are well supported by tutors and mentors who provide excellent information, advice and guidance”.

The Sixth Form offers participation in school life outside the classroom and in the wider community through social functions, various positions of responsibility and by developing leadership potential.



Sixth Form Facilities

The Sixth Form Centre was opened in 2008. It is situated in a discrete location on the edge of the school and has its own entrance. While the Sixth Form is still very much part of the school, the dedicated centre has a distinct atmosphere to reflect the increasing maturity of our sixth form students. The centre underwent further refurbishment in 2012 to reflect increased student numbers and to incorporate up-to-date technology.

The facilities that Mayflower High School has to offer students enhance and support every area of the curriculum and every aspect of school life. We are well equipped to cater for the needs of all our sixth form students.

Currently, our sixth form facilities include:

- an extensive and well-equipped study area;
- a large lounge area with kitchen facilities;
- a dedicated canteen service;
- classrooms used exclusively by sixth form classes;
- an outside area with picnic-style tables, parasol umbrellas and patio surrounded by our students art work;
- an interview and meeting room;
- Free Wi-Fi exclusively for Sixth Form students to enable effective working;
- biometric registration;
- plasma screens to keep students aware of day-to-day information.

We believe that our facilities provide the perfect environment in which to work hard, study diligently and make progress, whilst at the same time engendering an enjoyable and relaxing atmosphere.



The Broader Sixth Form Experience

All students are allocated to a tutor group with a personal tutor who will take particular interest in their progress. They will have a pre-arranged individual tutorial at least once every half term which will focus on progress related to target grades.

The tutor will track their progress, offer mentoring advice and write their reference for university entry or job applications.

Once a week, there is a timetabled pastoral period, where students will spend time targeting study skills issues, self-assessment and university or job applications with their tutor. There are frequent presentations from outside speakers, covering social, moral, political, environmental and career issues.

There are many opportunities for sixth formers to become involved in other areas of school life and the wider community. A large number of our students participate in volunteering both inside and



outside school. There are also social and charity events that take place throughout the school year.

All Year 12 students are expected to dedicate one period a fortnight to supporting younger students in the school. This is an invaluable experience and one which all students find extremely rewarding. Many students in Year 13 continue to offer support on a voluntary basis. Not only does this provide useful experience to include in university or job applications, but it also encourages students to think about their own effective learning strategies and develops valuable transferable skills.

The Sixth Form Council is elected by Year 12 students. They meet to organise social events, administer the sixth form fund and put forward and discuss ideas for charity fund raising functions. They also represent the sixth form at formal and informal school functions and are a forum for discussion. They form a link between students and staff. Events are organised every term with the Christmas dinner and the Year 13 Prom always being memorable occasions.

All Year 12 students are invited to apply for the posts of Head Boy, Head Girl and deputy positions. These positions are prestigious and the successful students represent the school on numerous occasions in a variety of circumstances.



“Expectations of the learners as they enter sixth-form life are raised appropriately and they take on a range of further responsibilities.”

(Ofsted)





The Sixth Form Curriculum

Within the limits of our school environment, we offer as many courses as we can and aim to cater for the needs of students of all abilities. We believe there is no such thing as a typical student and our sixth form programmes provide a flexible framework from which students can select. Ofsted concluded that “the curriculum is good and offers a broad range of academic and vocational subjects”. Each level of course requires different admissions criteria. All details of the courses on offer and the admissions criteria are available on the school website and are fully explained during our Sixth Form Open Evening.

A Levels

An Advanced Level is a Level 3 qualification gained after two years of study. There is a large increase in cognitive demand between a GCSE and A Level. Students on an A Level pathway study towards three or four A Levels.

AS Levels

An Advanced Subsidiary Level is also a Level 3 qualification worth 40 – 50% of an A Level depending on the subject taken. An AS Level is gained over a one year period. The Extended Project Qualification is an AS Level which attracts higher UCAS points than other AS Levels.

Vocational Courses

Vocational courses are usually Level 3 qualifications which are the equivalent to one or two A Levels depending on the subject taken. A vocational qualification is gained over a two year period and is a practical, work-related course designed around realistic work place situations, activities and demands.

Resit English and Mathematics GCSE

In line with government policy, we ask all students without GCSE Grade C in English and/ or mathematics to resit these key qualifications. Ofsted recently praised the school by stating that we are “particularly successful in ensuring that the majority of those learners who have previously not attained a higher grade in GCSE English and mathematics do so by the time they leave”.

“Student **achievement** is built upon well through **good-quality teaching and assessment.**”

(Ofsted)

Target grades are made available to students, subject staff and tutors at the start of Year 12 and all progress is compared to these grades. The tutor, subject teachers and the Sixth Form Pastoral Team are responsible for tracking and monitoring student progress throughout the Sixth Form. Additional support and mentoring is provided by the Student Support Managers.

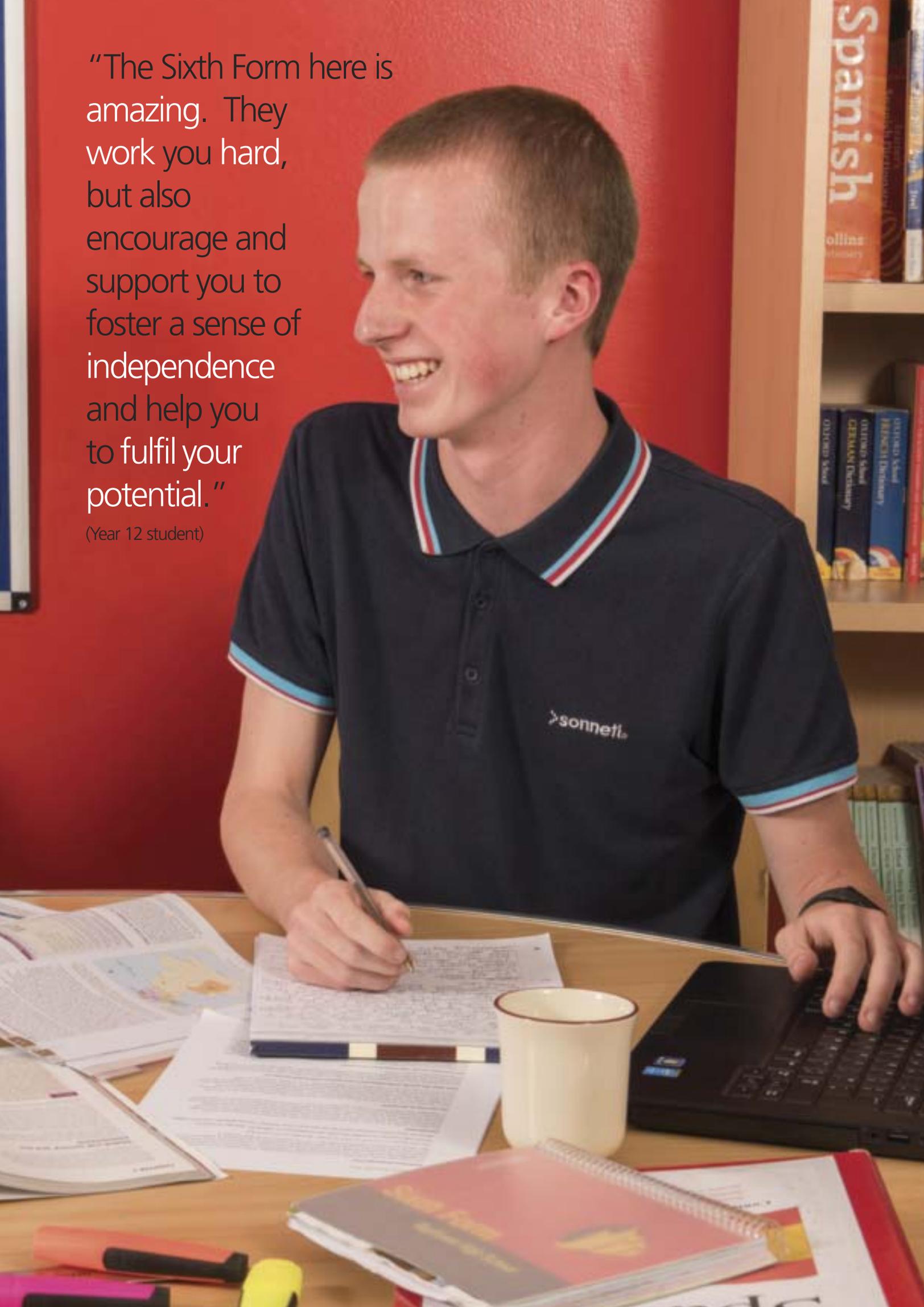
Successful sixth form study requires a more independent approach with assignments set by subject teachers comprising only a part of the total study time. Students are expected to spend time in the Sixth Form Study Centre, supervised by staff, as a compulsory part of their timetable. Study at home is crucial and the partnership between the school and parents is vitally important. We recommend a minimum of 4 hours' work is completed outside lessons per week for each subject studied.

“**High retention** rates and the learners' consistently **good achievement** ... has been successful in securing very good destination outcomes for the learners”

(Ofsted)

“The Sixth Form here is amazing. They work you hard, but also encourage and support you to foster a sense of independence and help you to fulfil your potential.”

(Year 12 student)





Mayflower High School

Mayflower High School • Stock Road, Billericay, Essex CM12 0RT Tel: 01277 623171 Fax: 01277 632256
Email: educate@mayflowerhigh.essex.sch.uk • Website: www.mayflowerhigh.essex.sch.uk