

FINDING OUT MORE

You are always welcome to come and visit our school and Sixth Form to see the facilities, experience lessons and talk to staff and current students.

To ask any further questions or to arrange a personal tour please arrange an appointment by contacting Mrs Lynne King either by phone or email.

If you wish to find out more about Thomas Gainsborough Sixth Form and the school as a whole you will also find more useful information on our website.

Download our App on Googleplay or Apple Appstore and search for Thomas Gainsborough Sixth Form.

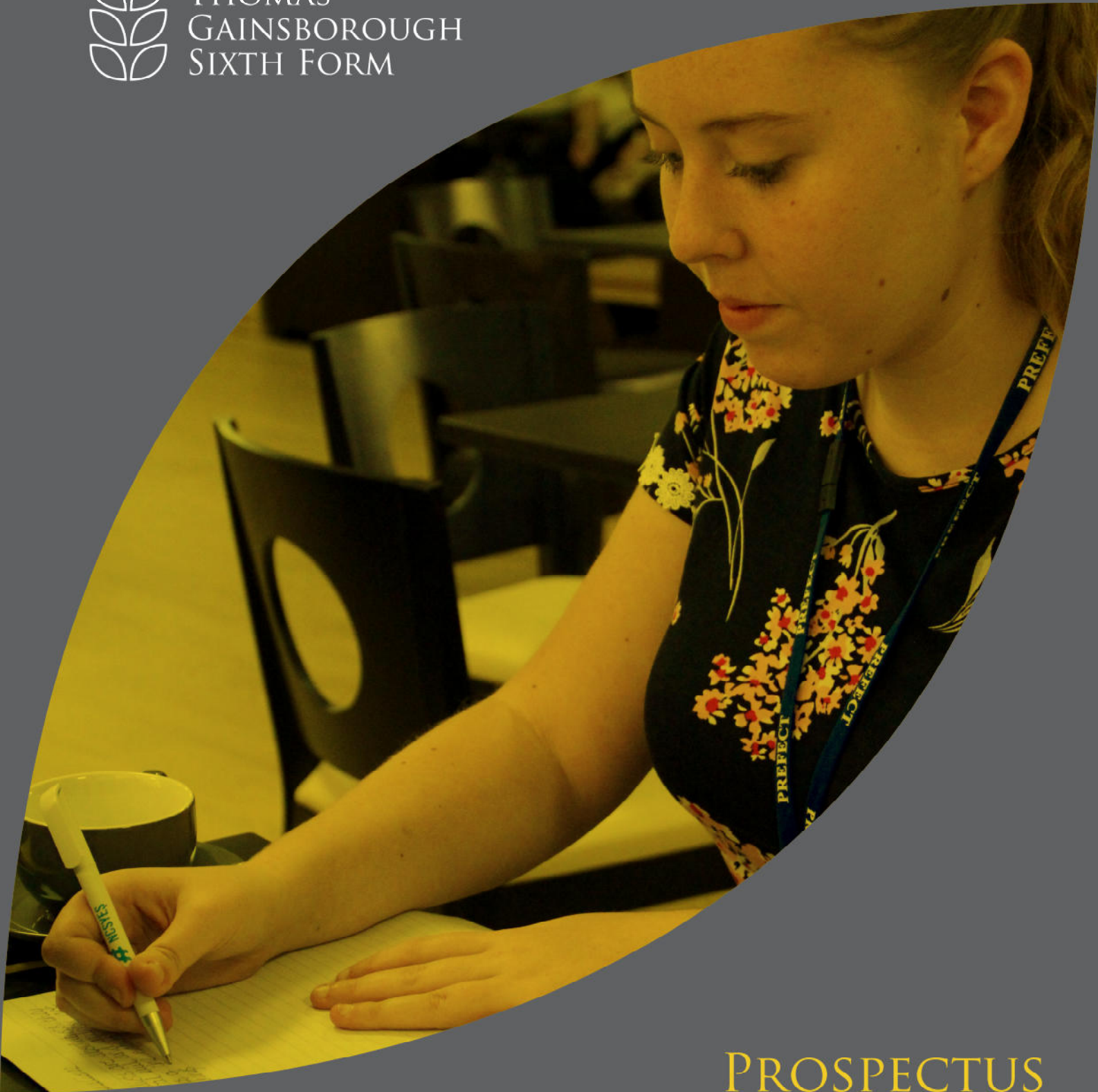
We look forward to welcoming you to our Sixth Form.

Thomas Gainsborough Sixth Form
Wells Hall Road, Great Cornard, CO10 0NH
01787 375232
enquiries@tgschool.net
www.tgschool.net





THOMAS
GAINSBOROUGH
SIXTH FORM



PROSPECTUS
2017 - 2018

THOMAS
GAINSBOROUGH
SCHOOL



*Excellence:
for each, for all*

WELCOME TO YOUR SIXTH FORM



*It is time to make the biggest decision of your lives so far!
What lies ahead, beyond Year 11?*

You are about to make a choice that will define the pathways and opportunities available to you in adulthood. It is a fantastically exciting time (if not a little nerve-racking) and one that I am sure will take you in the direction of your dreams.

Learning with us at Thomas Gainsborough Sixth Form is about joining a community whose sole purpose is to enable you to fulfil those dreams. We know our students, we care about our students, we place great value on the importance of strong relationships and teamwork in order to ensure that every one of our students achieves success.

Developing mature young people in the Sixth Form is about personalising learning, support and experiences to meet every single student's needs. We believe in a close three-way partnership between students, their families and the school. We work together for one goal and that is you achieving the best you possibly can in your learning and developing as a person.

Our Sixth Form is characterised by teachers who know their students well. They are able to provide regular and highly effective feedback in students'

learning. They share information regularly and effectively with parents and students so that parents are involved in the learning journey.

Our students develop self-confidence in their learning; ensuring they become independent, resilient, happy young adults who make a positive contribution to their community.

This Prospectus is designed to provide you with an insight into what goes on here at Thomas Gainsborough Sixth Form both within the classroom and beyond. Sixth Form is about becoming the person that you want to be. It is about grasping opportunities and making the most of the exciting, enjoyable and fulfilling years of your entire school career.

Wayne Lloyd
Headteacher

EXPLORING YOUR EXCELLENCE

Thomas Gainsborough Sixth Form offers you the chance to explore your own learning pathways. You are at the centre of your learning journey and we will help you build a curriculum that meets your needs, your strengths and your goals.

Meeting these aspirations that you have for yourself is a challenging task. You are about to undertake two years of difficult study. Your success will be based upon your own endeavours but the support that you will get from Thomas

Gainsborough Sixth Form will ensure that, with every challenge that you meet, people who know you, understand your learning style and care passionately about seeing you do the best, will be with you every step of the way.



LEADING YOUR COMMUNITY



*Your tutors, your teachers
and learning mentors
provide regular feedback
and set learning targets
with you constantly.*

You are the leaders of this community. Every student at Thomas Gainsborough Sixth Form is a future leader. We place high value on developing these skills throughout your time with us. Whether you are on a Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme activity, taking part in the Sixth Form Challenge event, whether you are enjoying work experience with business and industry leaders or playing a lead role in student politics, we encourage all our students to see the development of the skills needed to prepare for positions of responsibility and authority as an integral part of your time in our Sixth Form.

Our Academic Sixth Form tutoring and House Systems are designed to develop these roles. Universities and employers will be looking for recruits who have shown their skills in leading and developing other people. This can involve being Head Boy or Head Girl or becoming a Senior Student attached to the leadership of each House but it can also involve the support and mentoring that you might give to younger students. Being a student at Thomas Gainsborough Sixth Form is being a member of a wider community:
your community!

Your time here will be rewarding. It will be rewarding intellectually, it will be rewarding academically, but life at Thomas Gainsborough Sixth Form is not just about what happens in the classroom.



EXCEEDING YOUR EXPECTATIONS

This is an exciting time and decisions, plans, ideas and subjects you commit to now will help forge the bright future that is ahead of you. The Thomas Gainsborough Sixth Form will provide you with an outstanding environment to help you meet and exceed your potential. We will have high expectations of you both academically and personally and we will expect you to work hard, aim high and seize all the opportunities that will be provided for you. Above all, we expect our Sixth Form students to be courageous and creative thinkers, able to meet challenges and to care about others within their community.

Our dedicated teachers will provide you with excellent teaching. They will build upon the knowledge they might already have of you to fully understand your core strengths and to identify areas where you need extra encouragement and motivation. They will be accessible not just during lesson time but via e-mail and also after school to provide additional support. Our wide-ranging curriculum, consisting of A Levels, BTECs, Extended Project Qualification (EPQ) and work experience will fire your imagination and inspire you to develop your unique opinions and attributes, unlocking a world where there are no parameters to possibility and potential.

“Our Thomas Gainsborough community is growing with more new students choosing to attend our Sixth Form.”

CREATING YOUR CURRICULUM

Learning at Thomas Gainsborough Sixth Form is supported not only by the excellent teaching but the recently refurbished and updated facilities.

State of the art computer and media suites, including the use of iMacs, supplement well-resourced teaching rooms and an outstanding library. Our Physical Education facilities include a four court sports hall, gymnasium, fitness suite, swimming pool, dance studio and floodlit Astro turf.

The Media Studies suite comprises of a fully working TV studio including a fifty foot green screen. Science, Technology and the Arts also enjoy specialist facilities ideal for post 16 learning. Dark rooms, photography studio and dedicated Sixth Form art studio complement well resourced laboratories, workshops and IT support facilities.

The Wayman and Long Law Suite, and Walter Wright Accountancy Suite offer a unique opportunity to access exclusive work placements, as well as the possibility of higher apprenticeships or a potential Law training contract.

You will enjoy greater independence in managing your own learning and time in the Sixth Form.

To support and enhance your experience students will have independent use of the teaching and sporting facilities; four dedicated Sixth Form study areas, including our reading room; prioritised access to the dining areas before the lower school



and, if students are meeting the required academic standards, Home Study Agreements can be arranged

Our Sixth Form Course Guide will give you detailed information about the different courses we offer and the GCSE qualifications and grades required. It will also provide you with additional information to help you make informed choices and the support available to help you make the correct decisions. You may wish to specialise in specific subject areas or you might want to choose a wide-ranging study programme; both routes are possible.

ENRICHING YOUR STUDY

In addition to the expansive offering within your core subjects, which will see you take part in field trips and cultural visits with your academic studies, you will also benefit from numerous opportunities to broaden your horizons, provide leadership opportunities, accrue additional qualifications and improve your curriculum vitae.



Sixth Form students organise and run their own clubs and activities ranging from whole school charity events, their own in-school business and visits to cities such as Paris and London. They take an active part in the many whole school House Competitions which include sporting events and the Sixth Form University Challenge. They participate in the BASE Challenge, the annual essay writing Competition, the Duke of Edinburgh award, the TGS Media Team and the annual school production. They attend and lead the numerous after school activities such as Film club, Go-kart racing, Dance, Cipher Challenge and Poetry.

During the academic year there are also three de-timetabled enrichment days during which Sixth Form students are able to experience a range of activities including: Cooking on a budget, Self

Defence, Financial Management, Health Awareness, Team Building and Interviewing Skills. The Sixth Form also benefits from very close links with the University of Cambridge and University of Suffolk, who regularly provide our students with opportunities to raise their aspirations through talks and visits, as well as practical help and guidance in completing UCAS forms and preparing for interviews.

As a student of Thomas Gainsborough Sixth Form these opportunities will provide you with additional skills, new challenges and an enriched curriculum vitae which will benefit you considerably when applying for University, apprenticeships and future careers.

FOOTBALL SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAMME

The Norwich City Regional Football Scholarship Programme in partnership with Thomas Gainsborough School is an exciting opportunity for young people between the ages of 16-18 to continue their academic, footballing and career development through Norwich City Football Club.

This unique and high quality experience will combine focused, small-group educational sessions with our designated education tutor alongside the opportunity to train with qualified coaches and represent Norwich City Football Club and Thomas Gainsborough School in our football fixture programme.



Education: The Norwich City Scholarship Students can either study for a Level 3 BTEC Diploma in Sport, OR can select a combination of A Levels and Vocational subjects.

The scheme will follow a carefully planned pathway of modules to provide you with a broad range of knowledge and experience whilst remaining linked to potential career pathways.

Football: The Norwich City Regional Scholarship Programme will see scholars train 6-8 hours per week using a technical programme based on technical and tactical development.

The squad of players will play in the British College League ensuring a competitive fixture programme on a weekly basis.

We are delighted to also announce a link with semi-professional club Cornard United who will offer their pitch and facilities for our initial trial.

MEET OUR STUDENTS



Alex

Hello, I'm Alex and I am the Head Boy at TGS. The subjects I study are Sociology, Philosophy and English Language. I chose TGS because it really felt more personal than the other Sixth Form options available. The teachers are fantastic, friendly and really make you feel welcome and part of the lesson. The leadership team of the school, especially the Sixth Form, is very supportive. I changed my mind multiple times about my subjects and choices before starting, and even during my A-Levels, but with the advice of the Sixth Form Leadership Team, all were very helpful in supporting me and finding the best combination of A-Levels for me.

TGS has not only provided me with a platform to kickstart my future beyond A-Levels, it has also provided a place where I feel happy to come and study.



Cerys

I am the current Head Girl at TGS. I am in my second year of Sixth Form, studying A levels in English Language, History and Philosophy as well as working towards research for an EPQ which will open doors for my future career in business. I decided to study here at TGS because I feel as though I am treated as an individual - not to mention the deliberately small classes to encourage a stronger relationship between the student and teacher. I enjoy the atmosphere at our Sixth Form; it is positive and welcoming. The Sixth Form staff treat us as though we are adults, and let us have the independence we need to develop and flourish for when we choose our next steps.

Thomas Gainsborough Sixth Form has helped me find myself. I am now more confident and knowledgeable than I ever have been - I wouldn't choose anywhere else.



Katharine

I am currently in my second year of Sixth Form, studying English Literature, History and Sociology, and working towards an EPQ project involving dance and acting. I am also the President of the Student Parliament, which I really enjoy and use to represent the student voice. All of the extra opportunities that I have been given at the Sixth Form, like being President, have really made my experience. TGS was the right place for me because the teachers are the most supportive, interesting and helpful people. Anytime I have struggled or felt overwhelmed with any of my A-levels, all of my subject teachers have been there to guide and help me in any way they can. *Being at the Sixth Form whilst it grew in numbers, has not changed the personal touch that made me want to stay here after being in the lower school. I am very glad I chose to stay at this Sixth Form.*



Connor

I am really enjoying my time here at Thomas Gainsborough Sixth Form. When I came to look at the school all the teachers were really friendly and their support is second to none. I hadn't even shaken their hands and they were planning my future, talking about various different routes I could go down or tailoring my courses to what would suit me best for the future. Additionally, with the vast range of courses they offer I was able to do all the subjects that I wanted/suited me which are: Biology, Chemistry and Geography.

To me, it just made sense to go to the place that would give me the best opportunity.



Francesca

I am currently in my first year of Sixth Form, and I am studying Mathematics, History and Philosophy and Ethics. I'm really enjoying my studies at the moment as well as my mentoring opportunities in the lower school, which are incredibly fun and rewarding. These include assisting students within their lessons as well as helping out with extra curricular clubs and activities. In the future, I hope to study philosophy as part of a joint honours course alongside either maths or modern history. Part of why I chose to go to Thomas Gainsborough Sixth Form was because of our careers links and university application support, as well as our facilities.

We are a welcoming and close-knit environment, due to our relative size compared with other local colleges. Therefore my learning feels more personalised and tailored to me and I feel like a valued individual and a part of our school community.

“You are never alone at TGS. Our Sixth Form is a strong community as part of the wider school community.”

SPOTLIGHT ON SUCCESS

Thomas Gainsborough Sixth Form Alumni



Shannon Smith

*Thomas Gainsborough Sixth Form
from 2014-2016*

“At TGS Sixth Form I studied Applied Science, Business Studies and IT, all Level 3 Btec.

I am currently studying a level 3 science technician apprenticeship at Stour Valley School in Clare. In the future, I aim to progress to the level 4 at Stour Valley and if that all goes well I will be offered a full time job at the school, or I may want to move into a similar environment.

TGS Sixth form was the right choice for me as I knew 98% of the work already, which made it more relaxing when it came to completing the coursework, plus if I needed any advice from the staff, they already knew me. I also liked the size of the classes and the effect of the teaching environment; I felt like I was being treated as an adult. The school assisted me with retaking my GCSE English as the resit lessons worked around my academic lessons, which meant I didn't miss crucial lesson time. At the end of my time at TGS I achieved my C in English and three Distinction Stars in my A Level subjects.”



Lewis Wingate

*Thomas Gainsborough Sixth Form
from 2014-2016*

“Thomas Gainsborough School Sixth Form is somewhere very unique; the opportunities to excel yourself extend far beyond the curriculum. I was fortunate enough to take full advantage of some of these opportunities, one in particular:

With my expressed interest in the Law, Mr Alexander introduced me to local firm Wayman & Long. Thanks to the connection which was made, following a period of work related learning, I am now a Paralegal at the firm working part-time alongside my university studies. We are also beginning to lay the foundations for me to run my own department within the firm following the completion of my training contract.

This has set me apart from all other candidates in the same field allowing me to go on and become a member of my university's Law Society and go way beyond where I ever expected to be at the age of 19. These opportunities aren't just limited to the Law so I would highly recommend getting involved with the vast array of projects at this school... What you do now will set you up for success way beyond collecting your exam results.”



Harriet Barber

*Thomas Gainsborough Sixth Form
from 2014-2016*

“I left Thomas Gainsborough school in the summer of 2016 after studying Maths, Further Maths and Physics as well as Art and the EPQ in my first year. I have now gone on to study a Masters in Mathematics at the University of Exeter with the opportunity to study abroad in my third year.

Over the 2 years I was in the sixth form I found the whole sixth form team to be so supportive. Not only were they helpful with studies but they also helped with my UCAS application and gave many wonderful opportunities such as attending Cambridge Summer School which has all helped to get me to where I am now.

I'm not completely sure what career path I wish to go down, perhaps going into research or maybe even teaching. For now I feel I am on the right direction to achieve what I want to and I have the Sixth Form to thank for helping me get this far.”



We have a proven track record in preparing our students successfully for their post-18 pathways.

All of our Year 13 from 2016 - 2017 successfully moved on into Higher Education, Apprenticeships or employment.

DESTINED FOR SUCCESS

Our students went to a wide range of Universities this year to read an impressive variety of subjects.

Anglia Ruskin

Bath Spa

Bolton

Bournemouth

Brighton

Essex

Exeter

Herts

Lincoln

Nottingham Trent

Reading

Salford

Sheffield

Southampton

Sussex

University of Suffolk

Abnormal and Clinical Psychology

History

Law

Media Production

Social Work

Sports Science

Engineering

Journalism

Law

Forensic Science

Mathematics

Film Production

Psychology

Aeronautical Engineering

Music Technology

Fine Art



BURSARIES

Significant Sixth Form Bursaries, up to £1,200, are available to many students and can be used to subsidise transport costs, provide books and equipment, pay for field trips and other course-related costs and contribute to the costs of attending University interviews and open days.

Further information about travel routes and bursaries is available by contacting the Sixth Form.

TRAVEL

Thomas Gainsborough Sixth Form is easily accessible, with short travel time from all villages and towns between Halstead, Haverhill, Bury St Edmunds, Stowmarket, Sudbury, Ipswich, Hadleigh and Colchester.

Dress Code

Guide Lines:

Clothing should be professional attire, not casual wear.

Male students must wear a tie. Formal/tailored shirt, trousers and smart shoes should be worn, no trainers please.

Female students should wear smart business dresses or separates. Any cropped trousers should be formal and tailored. Skirts and dresses should be at least halfway between hip and knee. Shirts, blouses, knitwear and other smart tops may be worn, plus smart shoes or boots.

Hair should be neat and tidy.

Visible piercings should be restricted to the ears (a small nose piercing is allowed) and, wherever possible, tattoos should not be shown.

The following may be helpful in clarifying what is and what is not appropriate.

No demim . No shorts . No combat or cargo trousers . No leggings unless under an appropriate length skirt or dress . No low cut or strappy tops . No sweat tops/hoodies' . No inappropriate footwear e.g flip flops, backless sandals, casual boots and trainers including Vans which may contravene Health & Safety guidelines.