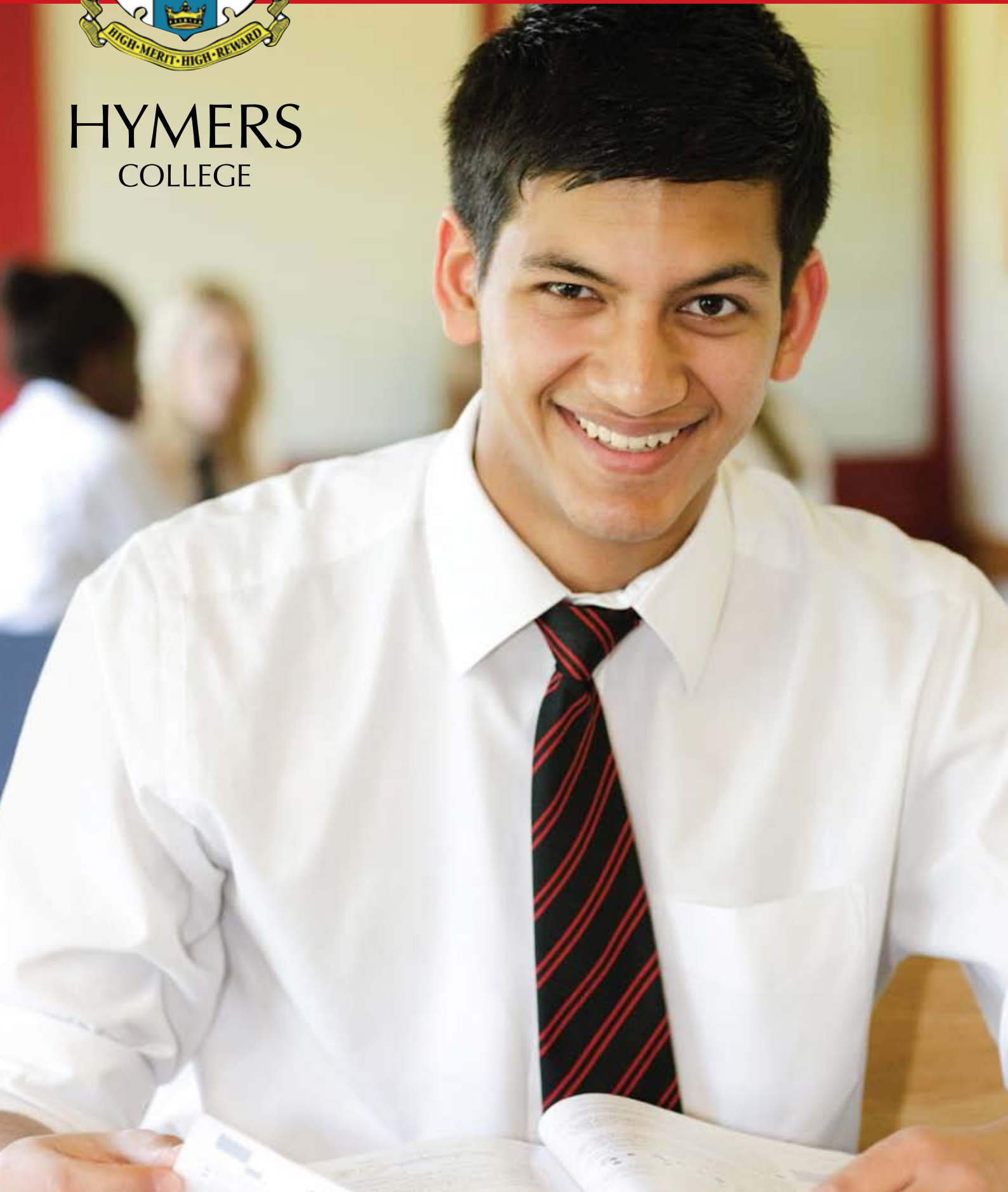




Sixth Form Prospectus 2012/2013

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The aim of our Sixth Form is not only for you to achieve academic success but also to enable you to develop as contributing members of the school community and to be responsible, self-disciplined young adults. At this crucial stage of education, our Sixth Form balances pupil freedom with a high level of support and guidance.



Welcome to the Hymers College Sixth Form Prospectus

For most Hymers students the Sixth Form is the most rewarding part of their time at school. In academic terms, you will be studying subjects that you enjoy and which you excel at, and you will develop a knowledge and understanding that will give you a genuine interest and enjoyment in your work.

However Sixth form at Hymers is not just about working hard on your chosen subjects. It is also about a broad education, being part of a friendly community, taking on leadership roles and developing new skills and interests.

The support provided is designed to guide and increase your skills and at the end of the two years you will be knowledgeable, confident, and ready for the challenges of university and subsequent employment.

Sixth Form life at Hymers will be busy and challenging, but also fulfilling and enjoyable.

This prospectus will provide you with an insight into the life of our Sixth Form. If you would like to find out more, you are very welcome to visit the school or if you are an existing Hymers student, spend some time in the Sixth Form Centre.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'David Elstone'.

David Elstone
Headmaster

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Life in the Sixth Form

In the Sixth Form you will be much more independent and the organisation of your day will be more flexible with the freedom and challenge of taking responsibility for managing your own time. There is more of a partnership between you and your teachers, and you are expected to be more self-reliant, and show greater initiative.

“The Junior Common Room is a great place to be with friends and socialise, but also has a great working atmosphere during lesson time.”

Olivia Leafe, Year 13

You will have many opportunities to develop responsibilities, teamwork and leadership skills. The prefect system, allows you to look after younger members of the school, and allows you to organise many activities and projects.

Help and guidance will be given by your Form Tutor, Subject Teachers, UCAS and Careers Advisors and the Director of Sixth Form so that appropriate choices are made, whether for higher education or for a career.

Classes will be smaller and less formal and you will find that you have a more open relationship with teaching staff based on your shared enthusiasm for the subject.

You can benefit from up to date facilities including a swimming pool, a theatre, a fitness suite, together with a dedicated and comfortable Sixth Form Centre, better known as the JCR (Junior Common Room) - with recreational games, music, TV, work areas and an IT study area. At various times of the day there is also a snack bar which provides drinks, and hot and cold food. There are also tables and chairs outside for the summer months.

Whether you are an existing Hymers student or you enter the school at Sixth Form, there will be the opportunity to forge new friendships which can often last a lifetime. Indeed most students who join at Year 12 have settled in very quickly and made friends easily.

You will have some time during the week where you have private study periods and it will be up to you how you decide to use them. You can work in a resource room, complete an essay, or use the internet for research. Alternatively, the Sixth Form Centre is there if you decide you need to relax, socialise or work on a project or assignment.

There are plenty of opportunities you can get involved with including the school magazine, running a club, helping to produce school productions, train as a pool lifeguard, run a music group or ensemble, or share your experience or hobbies in assembly.

In the Sixth Form at Hymers, whatever your interest or skill, you will be able to develop it.



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Curriculum

A Level studies are much more specialized than the broad range of subjects taken at GCSE. We encourage you to take the subjects that really inspire and interest you and that are required for your future career plans.

“Wherever your interests lie, Hymers provides the encouragement and help to ensure you reach your goals in and out of the school curriculum.”

Daniel Ming, Year 13

A Level courses are modular in structure. The AS (Advanced Subsidiary GCE) examination is taken as 2 or 3 modules at the end of Year 12. The AS may be the first half of an A level course or it may be a course in itself, in which case a certificate is awarded on the basis of the units examined.

The full A level (Advanced GCE) qualification is made up of the AS units plus 2 or 3 more units studied at a higher level in Year 13. The second half of the course is sometimes called A2.

Year 12

- You should aim for 4 subjects at AS, generally 3 of which will be taken to A2.
- At the end of Year 12 you will take AS examinations in your 4 subjects.
- You are encouraged to consider taking subjects that give you some breadth but the main consideration should be to take subjects you are good at and that you like.
- AS modules are generally taken in May and June

Year 13

- Most students will continue with 3 of their subjects to A level, although it will be possible to continue with all 4 subjects
- At present AS level General Studies is taken by all students in January
- Most students will take A2 General Studies in June
- Other A2 units will be taken in January and June





Subjects you can choose from:

- Art
- Biology
- Business Studies
- Chemistry
- Design & Technology
- Drama & Theatre Studies
- Economics
- English Literature
- Geography
- History
- Information & Communications Technology
- Latin
- Mathematics & Further Mathematics
- Modern Languages (French, German and Spanish)
- Music
- Physical Education
- Physics
- Politics
- Psychology
- Religious Studies (with Philosophy)

Your Form tutor will provide guidance, information and advice throughout the two years of Sixth Form which is also supported by the Director and Assistant Director of Sixth Form. There is also a team of 20 teaching staff who provide help and support in your chosen subjects. The progress of all our sixth formers is regularly assessed and reviewed to ensure the progress and welfare of every pupil.



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Beyond the Classroom

You will also have the opportunity to take part in a wide variety of extra-curricular activities, from being a member of some of the most successful sports teams, orchestras and choirs in the region, to helping others through community service, both in and out of school, or going on field trips in the UK and expeditions abroad.



Students undertake many activities from helping in local primary schools to compiling Christmas parcels for the elderly. From time to time money is raised through various fundraising activities, which are often initiated by the students themselves.

The Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme provides scope for personal development in terms of building confidence and a sense of responsibility and self-discipline. There is also a voluntary Army Cadet Force (ACF), a Debating Club and an Amnesty International Group which provides opportunities to develop and express your ideas and opinions.

Students are also encouraged to enter – and have been successful in – regional, national and international awards and competitions. Recent successes have included:

- Netball and Hockey teams reaching the National Finals
- Winners of the Team of the Month, Rugby World
- Winners of the Royal Society of Chemistry's National Practical Competition, Hull & East Yorkshire round
- Winners of the national Young Engineers Competition
- Winners of the National Starpack Design Awards

Key Fact: Over 70% of sixth formers are involved in mentoring younger pupils either at Hymers or in local primary schools.



Hymers also has an enviable track record in the Young Enterprise Competition. A national educational charity, Young Enterprise aims to provide pupils with the skills and attitude required for personal success. Over sixty students from Year 12 participate in the competition each year, and Hymers has made it to the National Finals three times, going on to represent their country twice in the European Finals, which is a considerable achievement.

In Year 12, we also have an interesting and varied lecture programme, which brings speakers from all walks of life. Recent visitors have included Richard McCann - the son of the first victim of the Yorkshire Ripper, Rudi

Oppenheimer - a holocaust survivor, Robert Elstone - CEO of Everton Football Club, Dr Sandra Scott - TV Psychiatrist, and Joy May who gave a practical cooking demonstration for when students go off to University.

Many sixth formers help run the clubs they join, sharing their enthusiasm and interest with younger pupils and making an important contribution to the life of the school.

Wherever your interests lay – art, politics, music, drama, or sport – you will be able to find something at Hymers to develop your talents.

“There are roles for those in Sixth Form which encourage leadership and personal development. You can become a ‘buddy’ or a ‘prefect’, and both roles are very rewarding as you provide support to others in the school.”

Jessica Fletcher, Year 13

Some of the many and varied activities available:

- Army Cadet Force
- Art
- Athletics team
- Badminton
- Basketball
- Chemistry Club
- Chess
- Computers
- Cricket Team
- Debating Society
- Drama
- Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme
- Environment Club
- Fencing
- Golf
- Hockey team
- Mentoring
- Music – brass group, choir, orchestra, senior strings, wind band
- Photography
- Poetry club
- Rugby team
- School Bank
- Ski trips
- Stage technicians
- Technology workshop
- Tennis team
- Theatre visits
- Young Enterprise



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Academic Success

Although there are many aspects to our Sixth Form one of the most important is academic achievement. Our standards of teaching together with the commitment and efforts of our students ensure that we consistently achieve excellent results - the best in the area.

“The sixth form at Hymers provides a genuine sense of freedom, independence and respect for your adulthood, with a wide range of extra-curricular activities and all the universities and career advice you require.”

William Wadsworth, Former Pupil (1998 to 2008),
currently a Cambridge University student

Our results speak for themselves. In 2011, the overall pass rate for A Levels (A*- E) was 100% with 12% at Grade A*, 41% at Grade A and A*, 71.3% at Grades A*- B, and 89% at Grades A*- C. One pupil achieved 5 A*s and two pupils achieved 4 A*s. The majority of students go on to University with several being accepted at Oxford and Cambridge Universities.

To celebrate the successes of our students' achievements, our annual Speech Day which is held in the City Hall in Hull, is where the top academic, sports and arts achievers are awarded with various prizes and certificates.

Key Fact: *In the recently published tables of the top 50 Independent Schools, Hymers was placed 14th in the country for A Level results - the best in Yorkshire, January 2011 – Source, The Independent Newspaper.*





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Beyond the Sixth Form

Your form tutor, the Director of Sixth Form, the Head of Careers and a team of experienced staff are there to guide you through the process of applying to university and to help you make the best use of the resources and support that we offer.

"I had a great experience at Hymers in the 6th Form and formed lasting and valuable friendships. Through work experience schemes, I met future colleagues and contacts, which helped me forge my career as a solicitor. A fantastic two years."

Mary Walker, Former pupil (1988 to 1990),
Solicitor

You will be able to tap into their experience and knowledge and ensure that you make the best choices with your future academic goals and career plans in mind.

There will be talks on entry into Higher Education from University admissions tutors, advice on getting the most out of University Open Days and guidance on completing your UCAS form and writing your Personal Statement. In Year 13 there are also practice interviews for students.

We'll advise on work experience and if you are planning to apply for a course or University with particular entrance requirements we will help with extra support, information and advice. We also supply supplementary work and reading lists for Oxbridge candidates, with

several of our students being accepted at Oxford or Cambridge each year.

If you are considering a year off, visits from previous gap year students will help provide advice and guidance and we can also point you in the direction of other sources of information on working or studying abroad and voluntary work.

An unrivalled source of knowledge, advice, and contacts is provided by the annual Careers Convention. Over 100 occupations and professions are represented and the evening offers you the opportunity to talk to experienced professionals about the work that they do.

Key Fact: *Over the last 3 years, 98% of Hymers students have gone on to university after leaving Sixth Form.*



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Admissions

Students enter the Sixth form not only from within Hymers College but also from other independent and local authority schools.

"I have found Hymers Sixth Form to be the highlight of my school career; there is a huge range of opportunities provided by the school, and the support for my UCAS application has been invaluable."

Charlie Bowers, Year 13

The entry requirement is to achieve five B Grades at GCSE.

There will also be an interview with the Headmaster and a report from your former school if you are an external applicant.

This prospectus provides only an outline of the exciting opportunities in the Hymers College Sixth Form.

The Sixth Form Information evening will be held during March. It offers a chance to meet subject staff, discuss AS and A Level choices and hear from current Sixth Formers about life in the Sixth Form.

Those not already studying at Hymers will also find the evening the best way to learn about what our Sixth Form

can offer. As well as speaking to subject specialists you will also be taken on a tour of the school and Sixth Form facilities by current Sixth Formers, have an opportunity to meet the Director of Sixth Form and to ask any questions you may have.

As an Independent school, the availability of bursaries ensures that we are able to accept talented students irrespective of their financial circumstances. For further information on our Fee Remission Scheme contact the school's Bursary.

Applications can be made at any time for the Sixth Form. If you have questions about the application process, please contact the General Office on (01482) 343555 or email enquiries@hymers.org

Key Fact: *Once a Hymerian, always a Hymerian. There is an active Old Hymerians Association which provides former pupils with help and support, providing a network for life.*

For further information:

Tel: (01482) 343555 | Email: enquiries@hymers.org | Website: www.hymerscollege.co.uk



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Disclaimer

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