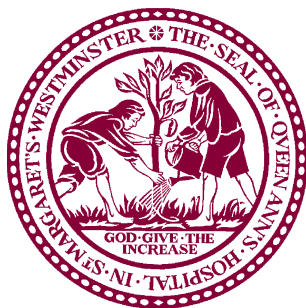


THE GREY COAT HOSPITAL

SIXTH FORM
PROSPECTUS
2010



THE GREY COAT HOSPITAL SIXTH FORM

Dear Student,

This is an important moment for you. You are coming to the end of the time when your educational path is laid down by law. From now on, as an independent young adult, you are responsible for making your own decisions about your next steps in education. This is a powerful opportunity, but if you are to make the most of it, you need information and advice to help you make the right choice for your future career. This prospectus has been written to help you weigh up the educational experience on offer in the Sixth Form.

Your course is obviously the most important part of what you will be doing at your chosen school. We have high expectations of students who enrol in The Grey Coat Hospital: we expect you to work hard and also to learn to work in ways that will be new to some of you. You will have to read more, to consult 'background' books in the Library; you will have to learn to make your own notes from them and to write longer and more detailed essays. We expect you to learn to use the periods you have for real private study, working quietly in the study rooms provided. The courses in Years 12 and 13 are demanding; there are new kinds of work required for both A-Level and BTEC subjects. But we are prepared to support and encourage you in these new demands.

We welcome into Year 12 everyone who comes ready to work hard and to make the most of the opportunities that are offered. We will do all we can to see that you obtain the qualifications that you need and also to develop the other skills that will help you to succeed in a job or in further study when you leave school.

There will be opportunity for many extra curricular activities; students will be able to participate in: the Duke of Edinburgh award scheme at gold level, debates, the ASDAN universities award, the young enterprise scheme, citizenship projects, work shadowing, charity work, sports activities, drama productions, the senior choir and there is also the opportunity to become a Prefect.

Rachel Allers

Headteacher

COURSES IN THE SIXTH FORM

September 2008 saw the introduction of a slightly different A Level structure, following on from the major reorganisation of the Sixth Form curriculum in 2000. Depending on your GCSE results, you are now able to study a wider range of subjects in Year 12 than had been previously possible, taking up to four AS or BTEC subjects. You will then be able to choose which of these subjects to continue up to A2 Level in Year 13.

In addition to specific subject courses, the Sixth Form curriculum offers you the chance to develop ICT Key Skills at levels 2 +3, which are much in demand by employers.

ADVANCED LEVEL COURSES

The Grey Coat Hospital, with its partners within the 6f Westminster Consortium, is able to offer an extraordinarily wide, and well supported range of subjects at AS and A2 Level. These are academic courses, which result in the majority of students continuing on to university. Grey Coat graduates have built up an excellent record of achievement in Higher Education over the past few years.

Since September 2000, all Advanced Level courses have been modular, with students taking AS in Year 12 and A2 examinations to complete the A-Level qualification at the end of Year 13. In many subjects there is a coursework component, which contributes to the final mark.

GNVQS/BTECS

General National Vocational Qualifications and Business Technology Education Council qualifications are more directly related to the world of work than A-Levels. They offer a choice of routes at different levels. You can decide whether to go into work or to continue with Further or Higher Education. Universities accept BTEC Level 3 as an entry qualification for certain courses.

WILL THESE COURSES HELP ME TO MOVE ON TO UNIVERSITY?

One pass at A2 Level will lead to an HND course at university. Often HND qualifications can be converted to a degree later if desired (2 years HND followed by 1 year to complete the degree).

Two passes (grade E) at A2 Level or BTEC double award could lead to a degree course at university.

The more prestigious universities, however, will require more. Entry requirements for particular courses also depend on the subject you want to study. For example, even three A grade passes at A-Level might not be enough to study medicine at Cambridge.

Our curriculum offer at Level 3 expects all students to study a minimum of three Advanced level subjects.

The table below shows what you might choose to study if you achieve the appropriate minimum requirements for acceptance. You need to know that individual subjects may have additional requirements at GCSE. For example you may be expected to have a B grade pass in the subject concerned or B or C grade pass in English or Mathematics.

<i>IF YOU ACHIEVE THE FOLLOWING MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS AT GCSE</i>	<i>YOU COULD STUDY</i>
5 grade A* to C passes	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>BTEC level 3 Certificate in Sport Studies with an additional AS/A2 subject</i>• <i>3 AS Levels in Year 12</i>• <i>3 A2 Levels in Year 13</i>
7 grade A* to C passes	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>4 AS Levels in Year 12</i>• <i>3 A2 Levels in Year 13</i>
10 grade A* to A passes	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>4 AS Levels in Year 12</i>• <i>4 A2 Levels in Year 13</i>

THE GREY COAT HOSPITAL SIXTH FORM

SIXTH FORM – AN OVERVIEW

All students based at The Grey Coat Hospital follow a two-year A-Level or BTEC course. The number of Sixth Form students varies from year to year. There are normally over one hundred in Year 13 and one hundred and fifty in Year 12. In September 2002, however, students began studying between three to four AS levels with the option of developing ICT Key Skills at levels 2 or 3.

TUTOR GROUPS

Groups are randomly composed of students from different disciplines and with a mixture of both Year 12 and Year 13 students. There are twelve different form groups and they meet with their tutor once a week.

ATTENDANCE

All students are required to achieve at least 90% attendance in any single term for each of their courses. If your attendance falls below this, you may well not be allowed to continue on that particular course. In the event of unsatisfactory attendance to lessons, parents/ guardians will be contacted. Students are formally registered at each lesson so an accurate account of all students' attendance is kept. **For students receiving an EMA (Education Maintenance Allowance), full attendance is required.**

FREE/STUDY PERIODS

It is essential that students spend their "free" periods studying. Many A-Level and GNVQ students will be set work for these periods by their subject teachers. Study periods should be spent in the Library or the study area at St. Michael's.

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PASTORAL PROGRAMME

On top of their subject lessons, each student is expected to attend two pastoral lessons. One is every Monday morning with Ms Stevenson, Mr Chesterman and Ms Thomas where guest speakers address the Sixth Form or a formal debate is held. This pastoral period is the weekly opportunity for all important Sixth Form notices and business to be carried out. In the past we have had speakers address issues ranging from biomedical research to working as an M.P. These sessions are also used for Further and Higher Education advice.

The second session is a tutor period, where the form groups work together with their tutor on a range of activities. The programme ranges from developing awareness of citizenship issues to preparing for work shadowing and applications to Higher Education.

ACADEMIC TUTORING

All Sixth Form, students will have individual Academic Tutorials with their Form Tutor on a termly basis. Students will be required to write a self assessment and identify targets and strategies for the next term and these will be reviewed at the following tutorial. All students are given a target grade which is an aspirational target based on their GCSE results.

IDENTITY CARDS

In order to secure safety in both buildings, all students are required to carry identity cards. These must be shown when entering each building. Failure to do so may well result in the student being refused entry to the building.

All procedures have been drawn up with the students' best interest in mind and every effort has been made to keep rules and regulations to the absolute minimum.

It is important, therefore, that all students comply with these procedures. Regular attendance, punctuality and sensible use of free time are essential if students are to achieve their full potential.

YEAR 12 WORK EXPERIENCE

All Sixth Form students are given the opportunity to gain work experience.

All Year 12 Advanced level students are asked to participate in our Work Shadowing scheme. Work Shadowing differs from work experience in that the students observe all aspects, barring obvious confidential moments, of the daily work of a manager or professional person. Work Shadowing often gives students a different perspective of the working environment and can provide new insights into how successful people manage their working lives.

It also helps those students who wish to follow courses such as Law or Medicine at University, as many University departments now prefer students to have some form of work experience in the field of their chosen course.

The Work Shadowing Scheme operates over the final two weeks of the summer term.

“It’s Brilliant, it’s great!”

Sixth Form Student

HIGHER EDUCATION

The school provides extensive personal counselling both from tutors and careers advisors. Many departments arrange residential visits to individual universities. For example, in some years the Chemistry class has spent two days at Leeds University gaining hands on experience of their laboratory equipment. The Physics class has been to Switzerland to learn about the mysteries of nuclear physics. The French and German classes have spent two weeks on work experience in France and Germany.

Many students participate in Summer schools at the end of Year 12, to help them to prepare for university. In addition, a small group of students are currently doing the Level 3 Extended Project, which will be awarded UCAS points.

It is advisable for anyone wishing to continue on to Higher Education to visit at least two locations, preferably a “campus” site and a town/city site to get the flavour of university life. For this reason Open Day Trips are arranged and these take place at times suggested by the universities when a full programme has been arranged for students attending. Students are also, of course, actively encouraged to attend the Open Days of the Universities to which they wish to apply in the final week of the summer term.

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OPPORTUNITIES IN THE SIXTH FORM

All students are encouraged to participate in extra-curricular activities; these are some examples of the opportunities available in our Sixth Form:

ACHIEVE an award in the Duke of Edinburgh Scheme or ASDAN Universities scheme

ACT in student stage productions or the Sixth Form Pantomime

ASSIST at Westminster Abbey Services

COLLECT for Oxfam

DEBATE in the Observer Mace Schools Competition

HOLIDAY in Switzerland

PARTICIPATE in the Christian Union, the paired reading scheme or help in a lower school lesson

ENJOY team games like basketball, football and badminton.

JOIN the Drama or Film club, the Science society or the Community Placement scheme

FOLLOW the physical fitness programme

WRITE for the 'Coat Rack'

SERVE as a Prefect

SET UP your own business as part of the Young Enterprise Scheme

WORK for the Envision Project with homeless and/ or other charities.

COURSE OFFER GRID

One Year Courses 2010 – 2011

SINGLE SUBJECT COURSES/ENRICHMENT SUBJECTS

Italian GCSE

Mandarin – Short Course

ICT Key Skills – Levels 2 and 3

Young Enterprise

Two Year Courses 2010 – 2012

For the subject grid, please refer to the separate

Sixth Form Grid insert,

which will be available at the Sixth Form Open Evening.

LIST OF COURSES

ART

AS/A2 LEVEL

Exam Board: AQA

Entry Qualification: B in Art and English at GCSE

Students complete two units of work in AS and a further two in A2. Students develop skills in a variety of media in response to themes set by the teacher and the exam board. All students make frequent class trips to galleries and AS students undertake a course in life drawing which will inform their coursework and also contribute to a portfolio for those applying for Art foundation courses. Imagination, enthusiasm, curiosity and talent are desirable.

Assessment: Examination and Coursework

BIOLOGY

AS/A2 LEVEL

Exam Board: OCR

Entry Qualification: B in Double Science
& Mathematics GCSEs

Biology encompasses a wide range of biological concepts, from basic Biochemistry and cell structure to the study of organisms as a whole and their relationship with the environment. The course has direct relevance to the world today.

Assessment: Examination & Coursework

BUSINESS

GCE APPLIED BUSINESS

Exam Board: Edexcel

Entry Qualification: C in Mathematics
& C in English GCSEs

The course will build student confidence and ability to work independently. It fosters imaginative and critical thinking as well as the acquisition of knowledge. It will help develop an understanding of the world of business and recognition of its value to local and national economy.

Assessment: Examination & Coursework

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BUSINESS BTEC FIRST DIPLOMA IN BUSINESS

Exam Board: Edexcel

Entry Qualification: E in Mathematics
& E in English GCSEs

This course prepares students for the GCE Applied Course and develops students' confidence and understanding of how businesses perform and operate. Students visit established businesses, and take part in stimulating class activities which involve group work. It also provides students with the opportunity to participate in work experience activities that will enable them to be accredited for a qualification called 'Preparing for Employment' at Level 1. They will also be studying Communication and I.T., Level 2 Key Skills.

Assessment: Examination & Coursework

*‘Sixth Form has offered me
great opportunities that
not only sound impressive –
they have been great experiences.’*

SIXTH FORM STUDENT

CHEMISTRY

AS/A2 LEVEL

Exam Board: OCR

Entry Qualification: B in Double Science
& Mathematics GCSEs

Chemistry looks at the way in which materials behave and attempts to explain these observations in terms of the behaviour of atoms and molecules. There are three areas in this subject, Physical, Inorganic and Organic chemistry – all of which are directly related to industry and the environment.

Assessment: Examination & Coursework

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DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY AS/A2 LEVEL

Exam Board: AQA

Entry Qualification: 5 A-C passes at GCSE
and at least a grade C in
one of the Design and Technology
GCSE examinations.

The content for Design and Technology at A level has been designed to encourage candidates to take a broad view of technology and design, to develop their capacity to design and make products and to appreciate the complex relations between materials, manufacture and marketing. In the AS examination the assessment consists of written papers for Units 1 and 3 of 1 hour and 30 minutes each. These units cover Materials and Components and Design and Market Influences respectively and are each worth 30% of the total marks. Unit 2 is the coursework element and is assessed through a project folder or a portfolio of work from a number of projects and the made product. It is worth 40% of the total marks. In the A2 examination Units 4 and 5 are both coursework elements and are assessed through an extended report on a product and a project folder with its made product. They are worth 15% of the total marks each. Unit 6 is a written paper which examines all three main areas of the syllabus – materials and components, design and market influences and processes and manufacture.

Assessment: 1 written exam and 1 piece of coursework in Yr 12. 1 piece of coursework and 1 written exam in Yr 13.

ENGLISH

AS/A2 LEVEL

Entry Qualification: A/B in Language & Literature GCSEs

This course is suitable for students who enjoy close examination and thoughtful analysis of literary texts and, above all, for those who enjoy reading.

Assessment: Examination & Coursework

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FILM STUDIES

AS/A2 LEVEL

Exam Board: WJEC

Entry Qualification: C/C in Literature & Language
(either combination) GCSEs

This successful and popular course focuses on the study of contemporary Hollywood and British Film and their consumption by audiences. It then goes on to explore World Cinema such as French New Wave and looks at theories of gender, censorship and auteur theory, to name a few. 40% of the course is practical and involves scripting, storyboarding, directing and producing short films.

Assessment: Examination and Coursework

FRENCH

AS/A2 LEVEL

Exam Board: Edexcel

Entry Qualification: B in French GCSEs

French A-Level enables you to develop your linguistic skills and your knowledge and understanding of French culture. Activities include debates, watching and discussing French films and literature, learning about the culture and the geography of French-speaking countries. Students are expected to take part in exchange programmes in Year 12.

Assessment: Written, Oral & Listening Examinations
& Coursework at A2.

GERMAN

AS/A2 LEVEL

Exam Board: Edexcel

Entry Qualification: B in German GCSE

Building and expanding on the language skills learnt at GCSE, students develop a general understanding of German-speaking culture and society, and are encouraged to research aspects which particularly interest them in greater depth. A variety of activities are used, including group discussion, video, film, cassette, literature and IT. There is the opportunity to visit Germany through a well-established exchange programme. Students are expected to take part in this exchange in Year 12.

Assessment: Written, Oral & Listening Examinations
& Coursework at A2.

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GEOGRAPHY

AS/A2 LEVEL

Exam Board: Edexcel

Entry Qualification: B in Geography GCSE

Geography courses encourage students to focus on current global issues and provide them with a framework within which to investigate them. Fieldwork opportunities include Norfolk and Barcelona for four days which allows collection of data for coursework. They build on the skills and knowledge developed for GCSE although it is possible to take a Geography course without having previously studied the subject.

Assessment: Examination & Coursework

HISTORY

AS/A2 LEVEL

Exam Board: OCR

Entry Qualification: B in History GCSE

The History course offers students the opportunity to study aspects of British, European and World History. This course provides independent learning and study. Activities include discussion, debate, and the chance to hear the views of eminent historians on the subjects studied. The course aims to stimulate an interest in living History.

Assessment: Examination & Coursework

ITALIAN

GCSE

Exam Board: AQA

This is an accelerated course to enable students to reach GCSE standard in one academic year.

Assessment: 3 written examinations and one oral examination

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MATHEMATICS

AS/A2 LEVEL

Exam Board: Edexcel

Entry Qualification: B in Higher Linear Mathematics GCSE

Students study a combination of topics from the areas of Pure Mathematics, Mechanics and Statistics. Pure Mathematics enables you to study traditional areas of algebra, calculus and geometry. The study of Mechanics and Statistics allows you to apply these skills to the real world. The course can be studied at AS Level.

Assessment: Examination

FURTHER MATHEMATICS

AS LEVEL

Exam Board: Edexcel

Entry Qualification: A in Mathematics GCSE

It is possible to take three more modules, over two years, leading to a qualification in AS Further Mathematics.

Assessment: Examination

MUSIC

AS/A2 LEVEL

Exam Board: Edexcel

Entry Qualification: C in Music GCSE
and grade 5 on first instrument
voice, or equivalent

Music is a mix of creative, practical, academic and analytical skills. It is suitable for those students who wish to extend the skills acquired at GCSE or for musicians who have achieved Grade 5. You will compose, listen to and analyse a wide variety of music from 1600 to the present day.

Assessment: Examination & Coursework

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PHYSICS

AS/A2 LEVEL

Exam Board: OCR

Entry Qualification: B in Double Science
& Mathematics GCSEs

Physics AS Level studies aspects of the natural world that affect our lives – electrons and photons, waves, motion, force, power and energy. Three modules and a coursework investigation are taught by two teachers and examined at the end of the year.

Physics A2 takes a deeper and more analytical look at how force fields and energy interact for a module that is examined in January. There follows a study of the strange particles and forces that make up the atomic nucleus. A second investigation and synoptic paper complete the course in the summer.

Assessment: Examination & Coursework

‘An exciting institution that allows you to independently express yourself, this is helped tremendously by the support of teachers and the surroundings.’

SIXTH FORM STUDENT

PSYCHOLOGY

AS/A2 LEVEL

Exam Board: AQA

Entry Qualification: 5 GCSEs Grade A to C

This course gives a general introduction to psychological theory and research, with the opportunities to enable students to study and apply, in practical terms, their own selected areas of psychological enquiry. Main areas of study include Social Psychology, Cognitive Psychology and Physiological and Developmental Psychology, plus Research Methods and Individual Differences.

Assessment: Examination & Coursework

RELIGIOUS STUDIES

AS/A2 LEVEL

Exam Board: Edexcel

Entry Qualification: B in Religious Studies GCSE

PHILOSOPHY & ETHICS

This is the course for you if you want to apply high-level analytical skills to various philosophical texts and theories, ranging from Jeremy Bentham's utilitarian view of ethics to Ludwig Wittgenstein's understanding of religious language. This is an academic course which looks questioningly at the foundations and nature of belief, asking fundamental questions, such as 'Is there life after death?' and 'Is it ever right to fight?' It is suitable for open minded students of any faith or none. In addition to the exams, you will be supported in undertaking an extended research project from a selection of thought-provoking topics.

Assessment: Examination & Coursework

SOCIOLOGY

AS/A2 LEVEL

Exam Board: AQA

Entry Qualification: 5 GCSEs Grade A to C

If you are interested in observing people and discussing how factors such as gender, ethnicity, age and social class affect our lives, chances are you should consider Sociology. You will be required to write regular essays. At AS Level you will cover units on research methods and theories, education and the family. At A2 you will cover units on crime and deviance, religion and research methods. Sociology encourages you to think critically about the world you live in. It relates directly to your own life and experiences and provides good knowledge and skills training for any career or university course.

Assessment: 3 exams in Year 12 and exams
and coursework in Year 13.

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SPANISH

AS/A2 LEVEL

Exam Board: Edexcel

Entry Qualification: B in Spanish GCSE

Spanish A-Level enables you to develop your linguistic skills and your knowledge and understanding of Spanish culture. Students learn about the culture, history and geography of Spain and Spanish speaking countries through a variety of activities which include the study of texts, debates, watching and discussing Spanish films, literature & videos, games and listening to cassettes. Students are expected to take part in exchange programmes as appropriate in Year 12.

Assessment: Written, Oral & Listening Examinations & Coursework at A2.

NATIONAL CERTIFICATE IN SPORT

BTEC LEVEL 3

Exam Board: Edexcel (Development, Coaching and Fitness)

Entry Qualification: 5 GCSEs A* - C

A 2-year course of 12 units equivalent to 2 A Levels Units covered include Training and Fitness, Principles of Sports Coaching, Sports Development, Working With Children in Sport, Nutrition for Sport, Sports Leadership, Psychology for Sports Performance, Body In Action, Sport Injuries, Practical Sports Study, Health & Safety and Fitness Testing. All units are theoretical with some units containing practical work to support written assignments. You do not need to be a specialist sports performer to do this course, although GCSE P.E. would be beneficial.

The course is taught in units with a variety of assessment tasks. **All assessment is through coursework. There are approximately 36 pieces of coursework to be completed over 2 years.**

PRODUCT DESIGN

TEXTILES

AS/A2 LEVEL

Exam Board: AQA

Entry Qualification: C in GCSE D&T Textiles

The Textiles course offers students an opportunity to gain a positive experience from working with a variety of textile materials. The practical problem solving processes encourage independent learning, creativity and innovation, and students produce individual products of high quality.

Textiles provides wide opportunities ranging from fashion and aesthetics to industrial uses of textiles, and from creative and individual work to aspects of manufacturing and industrial and commercial practice.

The students will cover several topics including the study of materials and components, the history of textile design, current design trends, fashion and textiles layout and presentation, textiles innovation, use of ICT and the processes and manufacture of textiles products, to name a few.

They will be required to keep up to date with current design issues, and visits to galleries, textile retail outlets, exhibitions and manufacturers will be an integral part of the course.

Assessment:

1 written exam and 1 piece of coursework in Year 12

1 written exam and 1 piece of coursework in Year 13

THEATRE STUDIES

AS/A2 LEVEL

Exam Board: AQA

Entry Qualification: B/B in English Language/
Literature or a B in Drama GCSEs

Students combine practical exploration of texts and practitioners' ideas with discussions and more formal teaching. Students visit the theatre on regular, organised trips but are also encouraged to develop their own interest in drama by experiencing a variety of live performances. GCSE Drama is desirable but not essential.

Assessment: Group – Practical Performance Examination
plus Written Examination

‘Grey Coat Sixth Form has given me the chance to do so many things including going on to a really good university.’

SIXTH FORM STUDENT

Contact for further information:

Mrs Tina Wells, Sixth Form Administrator

Telephone number 020 7969 1976

Fax: 020 7592 9633 – St Michael’s

Email: twells@gch.org.uk

Website: www.gch.org.uk



THE GREY COAT HOSPITAL

St Andrew's · Greycoat Place · Westminster SW1P 2DY

St Michael's · 98 Regency Street · SW1P 4GH

Telephone (Sixth Form Office) 020 7969 1958

Fax 020 7592 9633 · St Michael's

Email: info@gch.org.uk