

# THE GREY COAT HOSPITAL

SIXTH FORM  
PROSPECTUS  
2012



# THE GREY COAT HOSPITAL SIXTH FORM

Dear Student,

This is an exciting time for you. You are coming to the end of your GCSE courses and compulsory education. From now on, as an independent young adult, you will be responsible for making your own decisions about the next stage of your education. This is an important time for you and to support you with your choices you need information, advice and guidance to help you make the right choice for your future career. This prospectus has been written to help you to consider in depth the educational experience on offer in the Sixth Form at Grey Coat.

The courses you choose to study will be the most important part of what you will be doing at your chosen school. Here at The Grey Coat Hospital we have high expectations of all our students: we expect you to work hard and to develop the ways in which you work so that you continue to develop your independence. You will have to read more, to complete 'background' reading in your chosen subjects using books and resources available in the library; you will have to learn to make effective notes from books you read and to write longer and more detailed essays. We expect you to learn to use your study periods effectively for independent work, working quietly in the study rooms provided. The courses in Years 12 and 13 are challenging both at A Level and in our BTEC course. We are committed to supporting and encouraging you with these new demands.

We welcome into Year 12 everyone who comes ready to work hard and to make the most of the opportunities offered. We will do all we can to help you to obtain the qualifications you need and also to develop the leadership, team and life skills which will help you to succeed in further study or in your choice of career.

We provide a great many opportunities for you to take part in extra-curricular activities and to contribute to the life of the school for younger students; the Duke of Edinburgh Award scheme at gold level, debating, the young enterprise scheme, the Envision scheme, citizenship projects, work shadowing, charity work, helping to run our annual theme day, sporting activities, drama productions, the senior choir, as well as the opportunity to become a Prefect.

I wish you all the best for your examinations in the summer and with your choices for the next stage of your education.



Headteacher

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## 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.

## 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.

All Advanced Level courses are 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.

## BTEC

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.

***“It’s Brilliant, it’s great!”***

Sixth Form Student

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## 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"><li>• <i>BTEC level 3 Certificate in Sport Studies with an additional AS/A2 subject</i></li><li>• <i>3 AS Levels in Year 12</i></li><li>• <i>3 A2 Levels in Year 13</i></li></ul> |
| 7 grade A* to C passes   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>4 AS Levels in Year 12</i></li><li>• <i>3 A2 Levels in Year 13</i></li></ul>   |
| 10 grade A* to A passes  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>4 AS Levels in Year 12</i></li><li>• <i>4 A2 Levels in Year 13</i></li></ul>   |

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# 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.

## 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.

## FREE/STUDY PERIODS

It is essential that students spend their “free” periods studying. Many 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.

# THE GREY COAT HOSPITAL SIXTH FORM

## 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.

## 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.

# THE GREY COAT HOSPITAL SIXTH FORM

## 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 the Envision 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 2012 – 2013

SINGLE SUBJECT COURSES/ENRICHMENT SUBJECTS

Mandarin – Short Course

Young Enterprise

### Two Year Courses 2012 – 2014

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

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### ART

AS/A2 LEVEL

Exam Board: AQA

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

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### BIOLOGY

AS/A2 LEVEL

Exam Board: OCR

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

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### BUSINESS

GCE APPLIED BUSINESS

Exam Board: Edexcel

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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## CHEMISTRY

AS/A2 LEVEL

Exam Board: OCR

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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## ENGLISH

AS/A2 LEVEL

Exam Board: WJEC

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

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**

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

SIXTH FORM STUDENT

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## FRENCH

AS/A2 LEVEL

**Exam Board: Edexcel**

**F**rench 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.**

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## GERMAN

AS/A2 LEVEL

**Exam Board: Edexcel**

**B**uilding 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**

**G**eography courses encourage students to focus on current global issues and provide them with a framework within which to investigate them. Fieldwork opportunities include the local area and Wales for four days which allows collection of data for their Geographical Investigations paper. 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**

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## HISTORY

AS/A2 LEVEL

**Exam Board: OCR**

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**

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## CORE MATHEMATICS & MECHANICS CORE MATHEMATICS & STATISTICS

AS/A2 LEVEL

**Exam Board: Edexcel**

Students study Core Mathematics and choose an applied Unit from Mechanics or Statistics. Core 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. Students study 4 core modules and 2 applied modules over two years. The course can be studied at AS Level

**Assessment: Examinations**

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## MATHS

AS/A2 LEVEL

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## WITH FURTHER MATHEMATICS

For exceptional candidates and dependent on take up it may be possible to offer Maths with Further Mathematics. This leads to two A Levels at the end of the two years. Instead of the normal 6 modules studied over two years, students are expected to study 12 modules over two years. Students complete their A Level in 1 year and the Further Mathematics A Level in the second year. It may be possible to complete AS Further Mathematics in the second year by completing an additional 3 modules.

**Assessment: Examination**

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## MUSIC

AS/A2 LEVEL

Exam Board: Edexcel

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

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

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## PRODUCT DESIGN – AS/A2 LEVEL

### GRAPHICS & RESISTANT MATERIALS

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#### **Exam Board: Edexcel**

The content for Design and Technology Product Design offers two distinct and creative pathways — Resistant Materials Technology and Graphics. Each pathway has its own specific content and emphasises two key factors — creativity and sustainability.

#### **AS outline**

At AS level students develop an understanding of a broad range of materials, with emphasis on the life cycle of products, manufacture and final disposal.

- Unit 1: Portfolio of Creative Skills - a series of exciting projects that enable students to develop a portfolio of design work within their own specialist field for example – graphics, typography, illustration, 3D design, architecture etc.
- Unit 2: Design and Technology in Practice – you will develop your knowledge and understanding of a wide range of materials and processes and discover how designers work in industry

#### **A2 outline**

At A2, the course offers students the opportunity to further develop the knowledge and practical skills from AS. Students will continue to develop a body of coursework alongside an understanding of the processes and procedures of commercial production and manufacture:

- Unit 3: Design for the Future
- Unit 4: Commercial Design

#### **Assessment**

One written exam and one piece of portfolio based coursework in year 12 and one piece of coursework and one written exam in year 13

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## PRODUCT DESIGN

### TEXTILES

AS/A2 LEVEL

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**Exam Board: AQA**

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

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## PSYCHOLOGY

AS/A2 LEVEL

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**Exam Board: AQA**

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: 2 exams AS/A2**

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## RELIGIOUS STUDIES

AS/A2 LEVEL

Exam Board: Edexcel

### 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

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## SOCIOLOGY

AS/A2 LEVEL

Exam Board: AQA

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:** 2 exams AS/A2

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## SPANISH

AS/A2 LEVEL

Exam Board: Edexcel

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.

*‘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

## DIPLOMA IN SPORT

BTEC LEVEL 3 (DEVELOPMENT, COACHING AND FITNESS)

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**Exam Board:** Edexcel

A 2-year course of 13 units equivalent to 2 A Levels. Units covered include:

### **Mandatory Units:**

1. Principles of Anatomy and Physiology in Sport
2. The Physiology of Fitness
3. Assessing Risk in Sport
4. Fitness Training and Programming
5. Sports Coaching
6. Sports Development
7. Fitness Testing for Sport and Exercise
8. Practical Team Sports / or 9 Practical Individual Sports

### **Optional Units:**

11. Sports Nutrition
13. Leadership in Sport
15. Instructing Physical Activity and Exercise
17. Psychology for Sports Performance
18. Sports Injuries
23. Organising Sports Events

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 38 pieces of coursework to be completed over 2 years.

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## THEATRE STUDIES

AS/A2 LEVEL

Exam Board: AQA

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**

### **Contact for further information:**

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