

# Ivybridge Sixth Form

PROSPECTUS



**Tommy Chapman**

**A Levels**

Mathematics A\*,  
Further Mathematic A,  
Chemistry A, Biology A\*

**After Ivybridge**

University of Cambridge  
(Selwyn College)

Natural Sciences

Now Tommy is a teacher  
at Hurstpierpoint College.



**Phoebe Wakely**

**A Levels**

Biology, Psychology and  
Sociology

**After Ivybridge**

University of South  
Wales

Midwifery

Registered Midwife

Working around  
Australia through an  
agency for the next two  
years.

Do something  
today that  
your future  
self will thank  
you for

“It's amazing where  
life after Ivybridge  
can take you...”

Former Year 13 student



**Dan Gavin**

**A Levels**

Applied Business, Applied Science, Design

**After Ivybridge**

UWE Bristol

Product Design (placement year with SharkNinja)

SharkNinja liked my work so much, I was welcomed  
back with no interview!

If I could start over, I'd look at who offers graduate  
jobs and find out if they offer apprenticeship  
programmes.

Experience gets you a career, not grades!



**Peter Pugh**

**A Levels** BTEC Extended Diploma in  
Public Services

**Bill Durante**

**A Levels**

A level Biology, History and IT  
AS Core Maths

**After Ivybridge**

We are now an On call firefighter at Ivybridge fire  
station and a confined space rescue operative for  
Red One in HM Devonport Dockyard.

# A Warm Welcome to Ivybridge Sixth Form

Each year, the College welcomes students from Ivybridge Community College as well as many new students from local schools and colleges.

The College offers a broad and balanced curriculum to suit the needs of our students, from a good variety of National Certificates, National Extended Certificates, Subsidiary Diplomas and Diplomas, to a full suite of A Levels. We also pride ourselves on the extensive extra-curricular opportunities available to enrich their studies: in sport, music, performing arts, languages and many, many more. We are extremely proud of our students and the journey that they make in the Sixth Form. The broad destinations of our students after Sixth Form is a real success story: whether that might be into the workplace, securing a higher-level or the very competitive degree-level apprenticeships, going to art college or RADA or on to university. Typically, a third of our university-bound students each year progress on to Russell Group universities and students successfully apply to Oxbridge and even Harvard.

High expectations, academic excellence and strong pastoral support from the dedicated Sixth Form Team allow our students to achieve their full potential whilst in the Sixth Form. We believe in preparing our students for life, helping them leave Ivybridge as well-rounded young adults, ready to enter the next stage in life as mature, responsible people who can not only think for themselves but also respect those they meet. Every year student feedback is extremely positive and students comment on the strong sense of community that the Sixth Form offers. Our specialist Sixth Form Team support students in all aspects of Sixth Form life throughout their two-year journey. Ivybridge Community College is an exciting place to learn and we are delighted that you have taken an interest in joining our Sixth Form for your Level 3 study.



## Our Values

**Respect** by valuing others and our College environment and by acting with responsibility.

**Aspiration** by aiming high in everything that we do.

**Integrity** by doing the right thing even when no one is looking.

**Compassion** by seeking to understand the feelings of others and by showing kindness.

## In the Sixth Form, we aim to:

- Provide you with an outstanding education which offers you opportunities to fulfil your potential in subjects which you enjoy
- Challenge you and support you to further develop your knowledge and skills
- Provide you with the skills needed to respond to a changing world with confidence, knowledge, respect and humility
- Help you by offering advice and guidance in choosing your courses and in your future pathways on leaving College



# Curriculum and Courses

There are a wide range of courses available in our Sixth Form with a good level of flexibility in the options students can choose.

We currently offer over 30 different courses in our Sixth Form.

- The majority of these are GCE A Level subjects, which all have examinations at the end of Year 13

We also have a growing number of vocational qualifications on offer:

- Subsidiary Diplomas and Certificates (equivalent to one or two A Level subject choices)

These are typically coursework based, but do contain an element of formal examination as well. Some of these qualifications can be studied alongside A Level courses.

## What could your programme of study look like?

All students must choose a three-course programme of study. You are allowed to study four courses; however, this is very demanding. All student must have at least a three-course programme of study that must include at least one A Level.

We strongly recommend that all students choose a 3.5 model pathway including one of our AS Levels or equivalents.

“Sixth-form students are extremely positive about the quality of education at the school.

They value the expertise of their teachers and learn well.”

Ofsted 2025

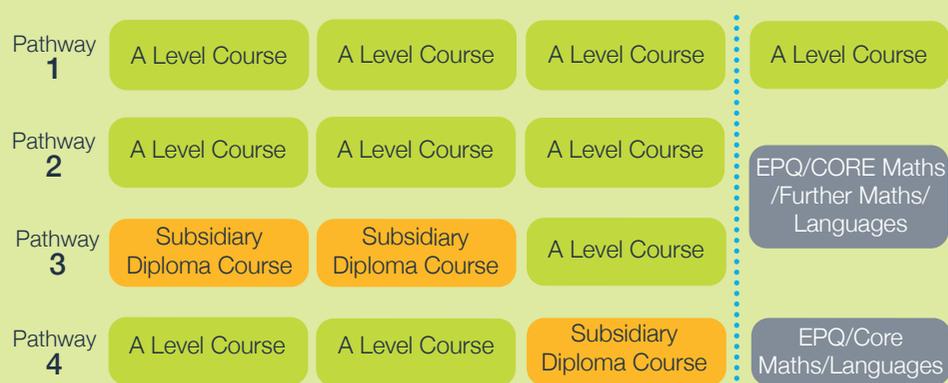


**Alumni profile :** Emily France

**A Levels :** Psychology, Geography and Media Studies.

**After Ivybridge :** BSc Psychology at Aston University, followed by travel and work, then PhD in Educational Psychology at Bristol University.

Here are four example pathways. As you can see, it is possible to study a mix of A Level and Diploma courses and you could add in the **EPQ, Core Maths** or an **AS Further Maths** or **Languages** to any of the pathways.



## Entrance Requirements and Course Descriptors

We want you to succeed on your chosen courses and it is important that they are right for you. Your GCSE results do matter as these are a good indicator of your potential success on each course. All courses are subject to specific entrance requirements, based on GCSE grades.

**Further information can be found in the Entrance Requirements insert.**

Detailed descriptors for all available courses can be found on our College website: [www.ivybridge.devon.sch.uk](http://www.ivybridge.devon.sch.uk)

## The .5 Option: The EPQ, Core Maths, AS Further Maths, AS Languages

We recommend all students study a 3.5 programme. These are completed during Year 12 and allow all students an enriched curriculum.

### The Extended Project Qualification (EPQ)

This is an opportunity to carry out a project in an area or subject you feel passionate about.

It requires over 90 hours of work, so it is important that you enjoy working on your chosen project. Your final submission has a great deal of flexibility, such as a written report, organising a charity event or even creating a computer game. All students must also give a presentation about their project.

This is a great opportunity to develop your skills in:

- Independent learning
- Creatively problem solving
- Planning and organising
- Taking the initiative
- Researching, analysing and evaluating

### Core Maths

This is an opportunity to study Maths beyond GCSE but not to A Level.

It is well regarded by employers for skills you acquire, particularly in problem solving. It is an excellent support to other subjects, including Geography, Business and Applied Business, Psychology, PE, Economics, Biology, Chemistry and Applied Science.

### Further Maths

Enhance your A Level Maths course with an additional Further Maths AS. This is an excellent opportunity to extend your mathematical skill set in Pure Maths, Mechanics and Statistics developed in A Level Maths without committing to the full A Level Further Maths. This could really help support your application and for you to stand out in competitive University courses and in a future career.

### AS French or Spanish

Enhance your three main subjects with an additional language qualification. This is an excellent opportunity to extend your learning from GCSE without committing to the full A Level. This would help develop excellent linguistic skills which could really help your application stand out in a future competitive world.

These AS qualifications are completed in Year 12.

## A Level Courses

- Art, Craft and Design
- Biology
- Business
- Chemistry
- Computer Science
- Dance
- Design Technology
- Drama and Theatre
- Economics
- English Language and Literature
- English Literature
- Environmental Sciences
- Film Studies
- French (A Level and AS Level)
- Geography
- History
- Mathematics
- Further Mathematics (A Level and AS Level)
- Core Mathematics (AS)
- Media Studies
- Music
- Photography
- Physical Education
- Physics
- Politics
- Psychology
- Religious Studies
- Sociology
- Spanish (A Level and AS Level)
- Textile Design

## Opportunity

### Subsidiary Diplomas and Extended Certificates

- Extended Certificate in Health and Social Care
- WJec Diploma in Criminology
- RSL Subsidiary Diploma for Music Practitioners
- Extended Certificate in Performing Arts
- Uniformed Protective Services
- BTEC Sport

**Please note:** Courses may be subject to change due to national funding and student enrollment numbers.



# Excellence

## Tips on choosing the right courses

### Independent Study

We recognise that the transition from Year 11 to the Sixth Form can be a big step. It is vital to realise the importance of independent study from the outset and it is expected that you use your non-timetabled lesson time productively. Sixth Form study can be demanding, but if you stay on top of your work, you will find it much more rewarding and enjoyable!

It is essential that you plan your time well and acquire good study skills. As part of your Tutor Programme, you will be supported in planning the week ahead. This is to help you organise your time more effectively as you move from Year 11 to Sixth Form. The main difference in Sixth Form is the inclusion of non-timetabled blocks in your timetable. We recommend that you allocate specific subject or study objectives for each of your non-timetabled blocks and there will be time and support during Tutor block to help you with this.

I volunteer at Ugborough Football Club every Saturday morning from 9:30am-11am. I aim to use this as experience to become a Level 1 FA coach, from there I can take on a role as a coach for younger children and hope to help them love football as much as I do.

The process of choosing your Sixth Form subjects is different for everyone, but here are some tips.

- If you have a career in mind, research routes and qualifications you might need
- Think of how your subject choices might complement each other and provide a broad foundation for your future endeavours
- Think about how different courses might complement each other in terms of the type of study required - you may want to give yourself some diversity
- Think about how much you enjoy a subject rather than how good you are - you need to stay motivated!
- Speak to your current teachers about your suitability for your chosen courses
- Find out about the course content and, importantly, how you will be assessed - play to your strengths!
- Speak to current Sixth Form students to get a student perspective
- Consider the exams you are entered for Foundation Maths and Science students are unable to take pathways that require a 6 in Science or Maths'

Study in the Sixth Form is not just about your academic work. There are also many extra opportunities available throughout your time here to widen your skills and experiences and help you be successful beyond Sixth Form.

### Enrichment Opportunities

There are many clubs and societies that offer great opportunities to develop your wider skills in areas such as sport, music, performing arts, communication, leadership, mentoring and coaching and not least, to have some fun!

We would encourage all of our students to get involved in some kind of enrichment activity to support their study.



# Studies and Enrichment



## Endeavour



“I decided to volunteer at a charity shop to build my confidence around people. I’m also hoping it will give me the necessary retail skills to secure weekend work whilst I am in Sixth Form. I’m really enjoying volunteering at Barnardos, especially serving/advising customers. I already feel comfortable working with the team and speaking to the public.”

“I do my volunteering at the New4You Youth Club in the town centre in Plymouth. I organise games and sport for the children to play. I feel like it's a good way to help people and get to know some people less fortunate than me.”

### Community and Service

We encourage all of our students to get involved in volunteering within the wider College and community. It is a time to show leadership and be of service to others. Typical activities include voluntary work in hospitals and primary schools, work with the elderly, College clubs, mentoring younger students, assisting in lessons in the lower school, being a book buddy and sports coaching. We strongly believe that our students can make a meaningful contribution to the lives of others.





“Pupils and sixth-form students learn about the importance of democracy, individual liberty and the rule of law throughout the curriculum. They demonstrate empathy and kindness to each other. The school is highly inclusive.”

Ofsted 2025

# Preparing for the Future

## Pastoral Support

Above all, we want our students to be happy; confident that they have tools to excel in their chosen subjects and supported in securing their future pathways – their academic success follows naturally from this. We have a dedicated Pastoral Team in the Sixth Form including a non-teaching Pastoral Leader and a Personal Development and Wellbeing Leader, providing support for welfare and future pathways.

At the heart of our pastoral system is a student's Tutor, who sees them through Years 12 and 13.

Students meet with their Tutor daily, which is important for building a relationship that allows a Tutor to provide pastoral support. Students will also receive a one hour PSHE lesson each fortnight. This PSHE provision in the Sixth Form underpins our Enrichment Programme; research has shown that students with higher levels of emotional, social and behavioural well-being have higher levels of academic achievement and engagement, now and in the future.

Sessions have been tailored towards the Sixth Form students as young adults, and every care has been taken to focus on future career planning too, whether that constitutes an apprenticeship, a university application or a GAP year, in order to prepare for responsibilities and experiences in later life.

We aim to create and deliver sessions that allow the students to develop habits of good living and to create an environment where they can flourish as a human being, both currently and later in life.

Sixth Form is a crucial stepping stone to a student's career aspirations, and much support is given through the pastoral system in securing students' post-Sixth Form pathways, be they Higher Education, apprenticeship or employment. We are extremely proud of what our students go on to achieve. Our annual Futures Week, apprenticeship workshops, careers fairs, Year 12 work experience, talks from local employers, and sharing of local employment and internship opportunities are just some of the many ways that we support students in reaching their goals.

## Successful Learning

We believe strongly that a student's academic success in Sixth Form is less of a function of innate ability and more one of developing the right combination of character traits for successful learning.

Assemblies, activities in Tutor time and academic mentoring throughout the year are used to build the characteristics of successful learners and help students to fulfill their potential.

In short, as described in the VESPA model of Oakes and Griffin (2015), the characteristics of a successful learner are:

- **Vision** a knowledge of what you want to achieve
- **Effort** a willingness to put in many hours of proactive independent study
- **Systems** a robust system for organising your learning resources and time
- **Practice** practising and developing the skills required by the course
- **Attitude** being able to respond constructively to setbacks

Based on our regular reporting system, we also identify students who could benefit from extra support and use the VESPA model as a basis for tailoring one-to-one mentoring to enable them to achieve their potential.

Importantly, such help is always available on request from a member of the Sixth Form Team for any student and we aim to involve parents in the process as much as they wish.



“My teachers have tremendous passion for the subject which is very admirable and makes you want to learn and discuss.”

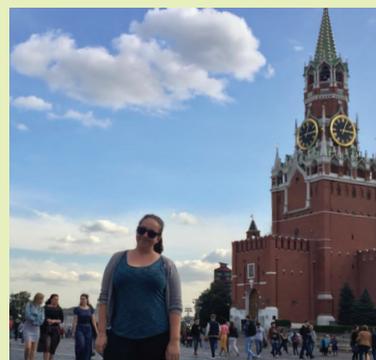
Current Student

## Achievement

“Sixth-form students are extremely positive about the quality of education at the school.

They value the expertise of their teachers and learn well. The school prioritises both sixth-form students' and pupils' academic study and social and emotional well-being.”

Ofsted 2025



**Alumni profile** : Jane Pursey  
**A Levels** : Biology, Chemistry, Maths, Spanish and History.  
**After Ivybridge** : Russian and International Relations at the University of Birmingham.  
Now working as a Policy Advisor for the Civil Service in Defra.



# Facilities

As a Sixth Form student, you have access to the extensive and high-quality facilities throughout the College. In addition, there are Sixth Form only areas to support your studies and development at College:

The **Sixth Form Learning Resource Centre** is a supervised study area, available throughout the College day. Here, you have access to computers and software, photocopying on a 'pay as you go' system, reference books (many also available in the main College Learning Resource Centre) and Higher Education prospectuses.

The **Neil Maythorne study area** is a large work area with desks and computers, available to use for both independent and group work. This area is supervised at times during the day.

The **Sixth Form Common Room** is a more flexible space, used for social time and study time and is available to use throughout the day.

**H1.07** is our newest study space that we share with Exams. H1.07 is a quiet and focused study room with study spaces and computers for you to use. This is where you will be expected to sign in and spend your designated study blocks. H1.07 is supervised throughout the day.

**The Vine** is a Sixth Form and staff only catering facility located in the Sixth Form Common Room serving breakfast, lunch, coffee and snacks throughout the day.

## The Bursary

The 16-19 Bursary Fund aims to help young people facing financial hardship to stay on in full-time education. Students may use bursary payments for transport, educational visits and equipment.

Applications for the Bursary can be made in September when further information will also be given to students.

**Information can also be found on our College website.**



## Transport

**Unfortunately, Post-16 students must pay for their travel into College.**

If you need to travel into College by bus, it is important that you apply for a place on one of our buses. This can be done in June.

For in-catchment students, buses are run by Devon County Council. We offer our own buses for students for some areas out of catchment. You can visit our website for information on bus routes, links to Devon County Council and our dedicated bus email address.

A limited number of parking spaces are also available for Sixth Form students when the time arises.

Application forms can be obtained via the Sixth Form office and permits will be issued accordingly.

# The Application Process

This is an important time for all students; you are making key decisions about the next stage in your learning. Whether you are applying from Ivybridge Community College or from another school, we are here to support and guide you through this process.

**Prospective students** who are currently at another school or college are invited to contact the College for further information and a chat with one of the Team.

What next?

## Application timeline

January	Open morning for prospective students. Applications to be completed online by the published deadline
January/February/March	You will be invited to a bespoke interview with one of the Sixth Form team who will talk through your application and programme of study with you to ensure that you have made choices that are right for you. You will be offered support, advice and guidance about your chosen courses and you will have the opportunity to ask any questions you might have.
June	Induction Day for all applicants where you will have taster sessions in your chosen courses, gain access to summer work and meet the Sixth Form Team. There will also be an Information Evening for Parents
August	GCSE results day. The Sixth Form team will be available all day and the days following results to offer advice, guidance and support in light of GCSE results. Your programme of study is finalised, and we enrol you onto your courses.
September	Welcome to Ivybridge Sixth Form. This is when your courses start. There will also be a day of induction activities which students are expected to attend

Contact us

If you have any questions about joining our Sixth Form, or if you are an external applicant and would like to talk to us to find out more, please contact our Sixth Form Admissions team on t. 01752 891774 or via the website

Further details on the Sixth Form and on all available courses can be found on the College website:

[www.ivybridge.devon.sch.uk](http://www.ivybridge.devon.sch.uk)



**Ivybridge Community College**

[www.ivybridge.devon.sch.uk](http://www.ivybridge.devon.sch.uk)

Ivybridge Community College, Harford Rd, Ivybridge PL21 0JA t 01752 691000