



— UNLOCK YOUR POTENTIAL —

Westcliff High School for Boys Sixth Form



WELCOME FROM THE HEADMASTER

To join the Sixth Form at Westcliff High School for Boys is to become part of an ambitious and dynamic community of students and staff committed to academic excellence. Founded in 1920, the School has a rich heritage, strong values, and a clear sense of purpose which fosters intellectual curiosity and a true sense of self-worth in its Sixth Form students.

Through our exceptional teaching and promotion of the seven attributes of our

Learner Profile, WHSB encourages Sixth Form boys and girls to think independently, and to value knowledge. We are proud of our students' exceptional achievements which have made us one of the highest ranked schools in the country.

As an outstanding school in an increasingly interdependent world, we help students to develop the confidence to become active, tolerant, and compassionate lifelong learners. We believe this inspires and

enables our students to realise their full potential. Each year, our students take up places at the country's top universities.

Our Sixth Form students are leaders within their School community, who act as mentors to younger pupils, offering them subject support, guidance, and encouragement. The extensive extra-curricular programme and House activities are overseen and supported by Sixth Form students, who benefit from the opportunity to develop leadership skills, and to give something of value to their community.

The Sixth Form at Westcliff High School for Boys enables its students to establish foundations for life-long success. We take great pride in creating a friendly and supportive Sixth Form and School community in which our students know they belong, and in which they can grow and feel empowered to contribute and succeed.

I hope you find this prospectus helpful in getting to know our Sixth Form.

MA Skelly, Headmaster



“ FROM THE MOMENT I JOINED
THE SIXTH FORM, I FELT AN
IMMEDIATE SENSE OF BELONGING ”

Annamaria

WELCOMING OUR SIXTH FORM STUDENTS

We understand the challenges of moving from Year 11 into the Sixth Form, especially for those new to the School. Warmly welcoming every student into our Sixth Form is important to us. Our staff appreciate every individual as a unique member of our community and we want our students to feel settled and happy, so that they can realise their potential.

Westcliff High School for Boys is a warm, welcoming, and supportive School. We take immense pride in our history, and every new student becomes an integral part of our heritage. We have senior students who mentor and support students joining our Sixth Form, and we are committed to ensuring that each student enjoys learning, makes progress, and participates in the broader life of the School. Our extensive range of extra-curricular activities, including Sports, the Arts, Combined Cadet Force (CCF), House Competitions, and Societies, provides ample opportunities for our students to extend their interests, take on new positions of leadership, and develop new skills. This holistic approach prepares them to become confident and responsible citizens, ready to contribute positively to society.

Our shared passion for inspiring young people and fostering a love for learning drives us every day. We believe that education is about academic achievement and personal growth and development. At Westcliff, we aim to nurture well-rounded individuals who are intellectually curious, resilient, and equipped to face the challenges of the future.

THE LEARNER PROFILE

The seven attributes of our Learner Profile are integral to our teaching, and to the personal development of each student at Westcliff High School for Boys.

Through our Learner Profile, we ask each Sixth Form student to be Intellectually Curious, to maintain Personal Integrity, to be Collaborative and Supportive, to remain Open to Opportunities, to be Globally Aware, to be an Effective Communicator and a Lifelong Learner.

By developing these attributes in our Sixth Form students, we aim to raise their aspiration and set high standards to enable them to realise their ambitions on their journey to becoming well-rounded and principled young adults.

The Learner Profile strengthens our sense of community, enables our Sixth Form students to acquire a respect for scholarship and learning, and develops values which are worthwhile. It helps our Sixth Form students to acquire an appreciation of human achievement, but also to learn to think critically, to respect evidence, to distinguish between opinions and prejudices, and to make balanced judgments of their own.

“ THE LEARNER PROFILE
CREATES THE MINDSET
REQUIRED FOR SUCCESS ”

Samuel





“ MY TEACHERS ARE ALWAYS WILLING TO PROVIDE ADDITIONAL SUPPORT OUTSIDE LESSON TIME ”

Adrian

ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE THROUGH EXTENSION

Westcliff High School for Boys seeks to develop in our Sixth Form students a love of learning, scholarship, and a sense of intellectual curiosity that will stay with them throughout their lives. Our Public Examination outcomes are consistently of the highest order; the extent to which attainment at the School exceeds national outcomes is significant and growing. The School helps our students to achieve the A/A* grades that are a prerequisite for access to competitive courses at the most prestigious universities.

Students specialise and exercise freedom of choice over their courses when they enter the Sixth Form. Because we understand that making such choices can be daunting, students are offered support in choosing those courses that best fit with individual interests and aptitudes. Students can also choose to undertake the Extended Project Qualification (EPQ).

Our highly qualified and knowledgeable staff provide our students with tailored support as they explore their subjects, within and beyond the syllabus. The relationship between students and their teachers changes and matures in the Sixth Form, and there is an emphasis on mutual respect, warm collaboration, and flexibility. The well-equipped Sixth Form building facilitates silent study as well as collaborative learning. While desktop computers are still provided for online research, students may use their own technology via the wireless network to complement this work.

Academic extension and enrichment are an important part of the opportunities offered to our students in the Sixth Form. Some examples are: lectures from the Royal Geographical Society; the Chemistry Cambridge Challenge; the Biology Olympiad; the Industrial Cadet Gold Award; the Oxford Coding Challenge; the Warwick University Economics Summit; the Senior Maths Challenge; writing articles for the Westcliff Economist magazine; tailored interview practice for Medics, Dentists and Veterinarians; standing in Mock Elections; joining extra-mural trips to Germany (History), Norway (Geography), Geneva (Physics), and Almeria (Modern Foreign Languages).

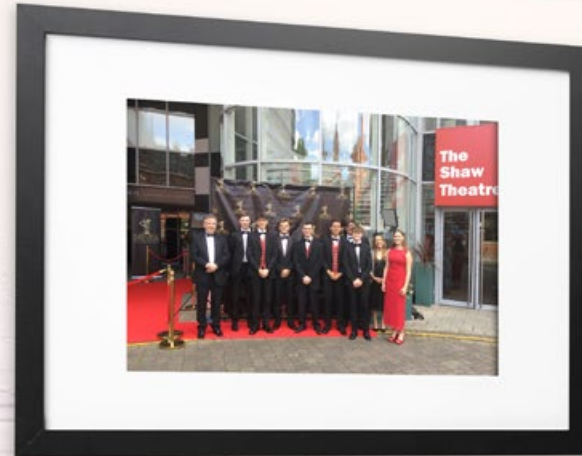
CENTRE OF ACTIVITY

A distinctive feature of life in the Sixth Form is our extra-curricular provision. We believe this is vital in building happy, successful, and well-rounded young people with the instinct and desire to continue learning and to be open to opportunity throughout their lives. The provision is diverse, wide-ranging, and continually evolving. We aim to offer something for everyone and we encourage all students to participate and to extend their horizons.

There are extensive opportunities for students to step out of their immediate comfort zones. In Music, there is the chance to join a variety of musical ensembles including the Sinfonia orchestra, string and jazz ensembles, and our popular Big Band. In Drama, students can take leading parts in performance, study for a LAMDA examination, and direct their own production. They can choose to further develop their understanding of military drill, first aid, camp craft, and how to fly and sail by involving themselves in the School's Combined Cadet Force (CCF), and begin to take responsibility for leading the training for junior members of their Section.

Sixth Form students can also become involved in Sport through coaching, leading, assisting, and actively participating, either recreationally or within representative teams. We have successful Sixth Form teams in a wide range of sports such as rugby, football, cricket, and netball. All students have access to our excellent sporting facilities including a Sports Hall, squash courts, and a modern Fitness Suite.

We have numerous clubs, societies, and House activities at School, and we encourage Sixth Form students to lead or establish new societies, extending their own interests in so doing, in areas such as Medicine, Law, Economics, Psychology, and Finance. Teachers conduct regular day and residential trips, ranging from theatre and musical visits, to excursions further afield to places of geographical, historical and cultural importance; there is never a dull moment in the Sixth Form.



“ WHSB OFFERS A WIDE RANGE OF DIVERSE EXTRA-CURRICULAR OPPORTUNITIES, INCLUDING WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON ACTIVITIES, WHICH BUILD OUR SELF-CONFIDENCE ”

Alok



“ I VOLUNTEERED AT A LOCAL DEMENTIA CARE HOME, WHERE I DEVELOPED ESSENTIAL SKILLS SUCH AS COMMUNICATION, PATIENCE, AND RESILIENCE ”

Hannah

BUILDING LEADERS

At Westcliff High School for Boys, our Sixth Form students are important leaders within the School community. Sixth Form students act as mentors to younger pupils, offering subject support, guidance, and encouragement. Our extensive extra-curricular programme and House activities are overseen and supported by Sixth Form students, who benefit from the opportunity to develop leadership skills and contribute meaningfully to their community.

This is a thriving community where students are given the opportunity to flourish by taking responsibility for their own maturation. While our students are provided with a well-defined structure, we believe it is essential that they have the space to take ownership of their studies and personal development. The School's facilities enhance students' ability to achieve their goals, and the state-of-the-art Sixth Form Building fosters a mature learning atmosphere. Here, students can complete their work using modern equipment and bespoke areas designed for both independent and collaborative study.

Sixth Form students are encouraged to embrace roles of responsibility. These roles can range from being an inspirational Form Captain, acting as a Prefect, assisting with primary school events, running a club or society, coaching a junior sports team, training a group of cadets, or organising events for our Charity Days.

We are committed to nurturing the leaders of tomorrow. We believe that by providing our Sixth Form students with these opportunities, we help them to grow into confident, responsible, and capable individuals who are ready to make a positive impact in the world. Our shared goal is to inspire young people and to support them in their journey towards becoming well-rounded and accomplished leaders.

UNIVERSITIES AND APPRENTICESHIPS

There are numerous compelling reasons why over 90% of our Sixth Form students choose to apply to university. For many, the decision is driven by the recognition that obtaining a degree significantly enhances job prospects, offers higher earning potential, and provides greater economic security. For others, particularly those aspiring to careers in Medicine, Veterinary Science, or Law, a university degree is often a prerequisite for entering these competitive professions. We actively encourage our students to aim for admission to the most prestigious universities, both within the UK and internationally.

We believe that university education should not be viewed merely as a means to an end. Instead, we regard it as an enriching and transformative experience in its own right. University life offers students the opportunity to immerse themselves in a chosen discipline (or multiple disciplines) for several years within a vibrant academic community. During this time, they will engage in deep thinking, writing, debate, experimentation, and the broadening of their knowledge and perspectives. Beyond academic growth, university also fosters personal development, granting students greater independence, new friendships, and the discovery of new interests.

In recent years, national and international companies in fields such as finance and engineering have provided attractive opportunities to students finishing A Levels. These include Degree Apprenticeships where students can both work and study for a degree level qualification. The School has well established links with such firms in London and elsewhere and has helped a number of students to secure attractive Degree Apprenticeships.

Our mission is to ensure that this transition to Higher Education, an Apprenticeship or Employment is as seamless and straightforward as possible. We are committed to providing students with the necessary advice, guidance, and support to empower them to make informed decisions and rise to the challenges ahead.



“ THE SCHOOL-LED WORK EXPERIENCE HELPED ME TO EXPLORE CAREER OPTIONS AND GAIN SOFT SKILLS, WHICH ARE FUNDAMENTAL FOR UNIVERSITY AND THE WORKPLACE ”

Tobias



“ I RECEIVED EXTENSIVE SUPPORT WITH MY UNIVERSITY APPLICATION, WHICH HAS BOOSTED MY CONFIDENCE AND ENCOURAGED ME TO AIM HIGH IN MY UNIVERSITY CHOICES ”

Edith

OXBRIDGE ENTRY

At Westcliff High School for Boys, we are dedicated to providing comprehensive support for students aspiring to attend Oxford and Cambridge Universities. Our Oxbridge Support Programme is designed to guide and prepare students through every step of the application process, ensuring they have the best possible chance of success.

One of the key features of our programme is the invaluable support from our network of Oxbridge alumni. These former students, who have successfully navigated the rigorous admissions process themselves, are able to offer advice and guidance to Westcliff students aspiring to follow in their footsteps. They share their experiences, provide insights into college life, and help students develop the skills and confidence needed to excel in their applications.

Each year, we host an annual Oxbridge Conference which brings together prospective applicants, alumni, and guest speakers. The Oxbridge Conference includes workshops on personal statements, interview techniques, and subject-specific sessions, providing students with a thorough understanding of what is required to succeed.

We organise visits to both Cambridge and Oxford colleges. These visits allow students to experience the unique atmosphere of these historic institutions first-hand. The visits are designed so that students explore the colleges, helping them to make informed decisions about their academic future.

Central to our support system is the Oxbridge Society, led by our dedicated Oxbridge Coordinator. This society fosters a community of like-minded students, providing regular meetings, discussions, and additional resources tailored to Oxbridge applicants. Through the Oxbridge Society, students receive continuous support and encouragement throughout their application journey.

Our commitment to supporting Oxbridge applicants is unwavering. We believe that with the right guidance and resources, every student has the potential to achieve their academic ambitions.

PASTORAL CARE

The welfare of our students is a duty we take seriously. All members of staff have a responsibility for ensuring the well-being of each individual student. At Westcliff High School for Boys, education is underpinned by a pastoral system which meets the changing needs of our students from their carefully organised induction into the Lower Sixth, through to their completion of Public Examination and entry into Higher Education, Apprenticeship, or Employment. This is supported by the work of our Sixth Form Pastoral Office, overseen by the Senior Master (Sixth Form), together with the Director of Sixth Form. These lead a dedicated team of Progress Leaders, Form Tutors, and a full-time Pastoral Tutor.

In the Sixth Form, the Form Groups are purposely kept small so that Form Tutors have time to get to know each of their tutees. Parents can contact the Pastoral Office directly if they wish to discuss any aspect of their child's education and well-being. The Pastoral Office can also organise careers interviews, counselling, and help with option choices and UCAS applications, alongside the School's Higher Education Officer.

Many Sixth Form students are attached to the Form Groups of younger pupils, as Form Captains, and offer their services as academic mentors in their specialist subjects. We use our daily assemblies to encourage empathy, tolerance, and community service. Concern for others' welfare beyond the School is demonstrated through the wide range of charitable events which are led by the Lower Sixth to raise awareness of, and significant funds for, worthy causes.



“ THE SCHOOL PROVIDES AN EXCELLENT EDUCATION, WITH SUPPORTIVE, CARING STAFF AND A FRIENDLY ENVIRONMENT ”

Abdullah

“ WHAT I LOVE ABOUT WHSB IS THE INCREDIBLE COMMUNITY; THE FRIENDSHIPS MADE HERE TRULY FEEL LIKE MY SECOND FAMILY ”

Kaylan



COMMUNITY

At Westcliff High School for Boys, we promote the sense of belonging and a community spirit. All pupils learn that principles matter and that they underpin one's character, personal integrity, and reputation. They understand that honesty, reliability, and tolerance pave the way to personal growth and contentment. Sixth Form students are at the forefront of representing and upholding these values, as School Captain, Vice Captains, and School Prefects, as Subject Prefects and Mentors, and in leading Form time and Assemblies as Form Captains.

Through lessons, Assemblies, and our broad range of activities, students learn of those people across the globe who do not enjoy the same freedoms or prosperity that we do. Students are encouraged to recognise the interdependence of individuals, groups, and nations, and to appreciate that we have obligations to others and to our community. Each year, students from the Lower Sixth lead a Charity Committee, selecting two local charities to support, and working with other members of the Year Group to raise funds accordingly. Additionally, Sixth Form students support our MacMillan coffee morning, the 2000-can challenge for St Vincent's food bank, and have participated in the HARP 24-hour run.

The School values highly the links we have fostered and maintained with our local area. Our interaction with the wider community benefits those around us while broadening our students' horizons and enhancing their educational outcomes. On a Wednesday afternoon, all Sixth Form students follow an Enrichment Programme that provides the option of volunteering at local primary schools, care homes, and other venues. These endeavours place WHSB firmly at the heart of the community it serves, and they help to instil within our students a sense of civic responsibility and social conscience.

BEYOND WESTCLIFF

The School's investment in its students does not end when they complete their Sixth Form studies. WHSB is proud of its alumni's achievements and many Old Westcliffians enjoy highly successful careers in the private and public sectors. The School's alumni include world class academics, professionals at the forefront of their chosen fields, captains of industry, and leaders within the Arts, Media and Culture. Few state schools can boast four former students serving as MPs in Westminster concurrently, including a cabinet minister.

The WHSB alumni are an integral part of our community and they provide a strong network which supports current students, as well as allowing Old Westcliffians to stay in touch and support one another. The School maintains a database of Old Westcliffians who volunteer to support current students with their aspirations to enter particular fields. From Banking to Medicine, or Politics to Engineering, there are usually Old Westcliffians who can support our students on their journey towards their career goals.

Old Westcliffians come together at the School for social occasions and our Alumni Dinner provides an opportunity to catch up with old friends, network, and keep up-to-date with the School's development agenda. Old Westcliffians are generous benefactors of the School and have provided funds to support it. Of course, many Old Westcliffians work and live at some distance from the School, and we harness technology and the power of the internet to ensure that they can maintain regular contact with their School. Wherever in the world you may ultimately find yourself, as Old Westcliffians will testify, the experience of an education at WHSB stays with you throughout your life.



“ MY APPLICATION TO STUDY LAW WAS ENHANCED BY BEING ABLE TO SHADOW AN OLD WESTCLIFFIAN WHO IS A JUDGE ”

Nick




Westcliff High School for Boys

Headmaster: Mr M A Skelly M.A.



Please scan here
for further information
regarding Sixth Form Entrance

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