

FERNDOWN
Upper School
Sixth Form



SIXTH FORM PROSPECTUS



WELCOME

We are proud to present our Sixth Form prospectus.

Entering the Sixth Form marks an important stage in your education journey. A stage where important choices and decisions are made that will determine your future pathway. You will want to make a choice that gives you the best possible chances and we believe at Ferndown Upper School Sixth Form you will find you are in the best position.

Our results are consistently amongst the best both locally and nationally and this has enabled our students to go on to their first-choice university/apprenticeships and careers.

We have aimed to keep our range of courses as broad and as varied as possible to meet individual needs. This is paired with excellent pastoral care, support and guidance from an experienced team that understand how to keep you motivated and make the most of your talents and abilities. Sixth Form life should not just be about the academic growth but also about your personal growth in to adulthood, we offer a wide range of enrichment activities that help to broaden your mind and develop lifelong friendships.

The Sixth Form is an integral part of our school community and we look to our Sixth Formers to be inspirational role models to our Lower School students, to get involved with our wider community and to contribute to the Ferndown Upper School Family. Sixth Form is truly an exciting time in your life and we strive to provide you with the best possible foundation for your future success. I look forward to you continuing your journey with us at Ferndown Upper School.



Philip Jones - Headteacher



A very warm welcome to Ferndown Upper School Sixth Form, an outstanding local sixth form with a track record of strong academic outcomes alongside a rich offer of character-building opportunities. It is a place where all students can flourish and grow, whatever their interests or aspirations. Our dedicated sixth form team support, advise and guide our students to reach their full potential both in and out of the classroom. FUS Sixth Form is a happy place and the natural choice for many of our year 11 students who know they will continue to reap the benefits of excellent teaching in all subjects they choose to pursue. I look forward to welcoming you to our sixth form community in the near future.

Charlotte Juddery - Head of Sixth Form

WELCOME

I am delighted to welcome you to our thriving sixth form where we believe that every student deserves the chance to succeed. Alongside our academic options we have a wide range of extracurricular opportunities that can support you as you develop into a young adult ready to follow your next steps. These include the Student Voice to ensure our students feel valued, enrichment opportunities to support wellbeing and social and charity events that allow our students to build a community they are proud to be part of. We are very much looking forward to welcoming you.

**Sara Jackson - Deputy Head of Sixth Form
Community and Culture**



Moving on to Sixth Form studies presents you with new opportunities and challenges, whether you are progressing from Y11 at Ferndown Upper, or joining us from another school. Whatever your background, you will be aiming to build on your achievements, explore the opportunities open to you and plan for your future. We aim to support and encourage you to help you achieve your career goals and realise your potential. During your time at Ferndown Sixth Form, you will learn about post 18 options and will be given access to a UniFrog account to assist with work readiness and your post 18 journey. I look forward to helping you reach your future goals.

**Katie Raisbeck - Deputy Head of Sixth Form
Destinations and Opportunities**

'One of the best things about Ferndown Upper School Sixth Form is the welcoming atmosphere. I was a new student this year and I have never felt as welcome as I do here.'

Year 12 Student

Pathways

At Ferndown Upper School Sixth Form we offer a wide variety of courses for you to choose from. Whatever you decide to study we strongly believe that these choices must be yours and so would encourage you to consider what you are passionate about, the subjects you are currently doing well in and also if you have a particular area that you would like to pursue as a career. It is vital that you research carefully before making your choices as you might like to go on to study a course at university where you are required to have specific subject combinations. As well as a wide variety of A level subjects, we are proud to be the first T level provider in Dorset with dedicated state-of-the-art facilities.



T-LEVELS
THE NEXT LEVEL QUALIFICATION

T Levels are a 2-year qualification that you can do as an alternative to A levels, other post-16 courses or an apprenticeship. They bring classroom learning and an extended industry placement together on a course designed with businesses and employers. One T Level takes 2 years of full-time study and is equivalent to 3 A levels.

T Levels are ideal if you have finished your GCSEs and want the knowledge and experience to get straight into employment, an apprenticeship or higher education. You will spend 80% of your time in the classroom and 20% on a 45-day placement with an employer to give you the skills and knowledge companies look for.

SUPPORT

'Well-rounded, motivated students who strive to reach their potential and make a positive impact on the community.'



At Ferndown Upper Sixth Form we value your wellbeing and have a dedicated pastoral manager to support you whilst you are with us in Sixth Form. Appointments are available to be made by students if required with our pastoral manager as well as the Sixth Form Team who are committed to ensuring that you feel safe, happy and looked after.

Nadia Abdulgani - Pastoral Manager

'At Ferndown Upper School Sixth Form every student matters and every opinion counts'
Year 12 Student

Our Independent Study Centre is a highly purposeful positive learning environment set up to support our students in their academic studies. Fully equipped with ICT and a dedicated Study Centre Manager the area is highly valued by our Sixth Form students as a environment that allows them to thrive. These sessions are timetable for students alongside their subject allocations meaning that they are given the correct amount of study time for their subjects to manage their workload and succeed.



OPPORTUNITY

'Our student voice team helps our sixth form build and strengthen its community, it allows students to feel listened too and appreciated.' - Year 13 Student



The Student Voice Team is made up of students who come together to generate and implement ideas within the community that they think would be beneficial for the student body. They are a voice for their peers and an advocate for what is important in their community. We have a variety of roles such as Head and Deputy Head Student, Marketing Lead, Charity Lead, Wellbeing Lead, Sustainability Lead and Diversity Lead. We also have roles for sporting events teams and social events teams. This is an excellent opportunity for students to develop leadership and team working skills which they can then take with them on their next steps.



CHARITY

At Ferndown Upper Sixth Form we are committed to supporting our local community, which is why we run dedicated charity events throughout the year. The BIG Sleep for YMCA is one of our largest events raising fifteen thousand pounds in three years and becoming one of the biggest fundraisers for the cause in Dorset. Alongside this, students are actively encouraged to support charitable causes through tutor fundraisers and other events.



'Enrichment provides a contrast to our academic studies and is beneficial to our own wellbeing.' - Year 12 student

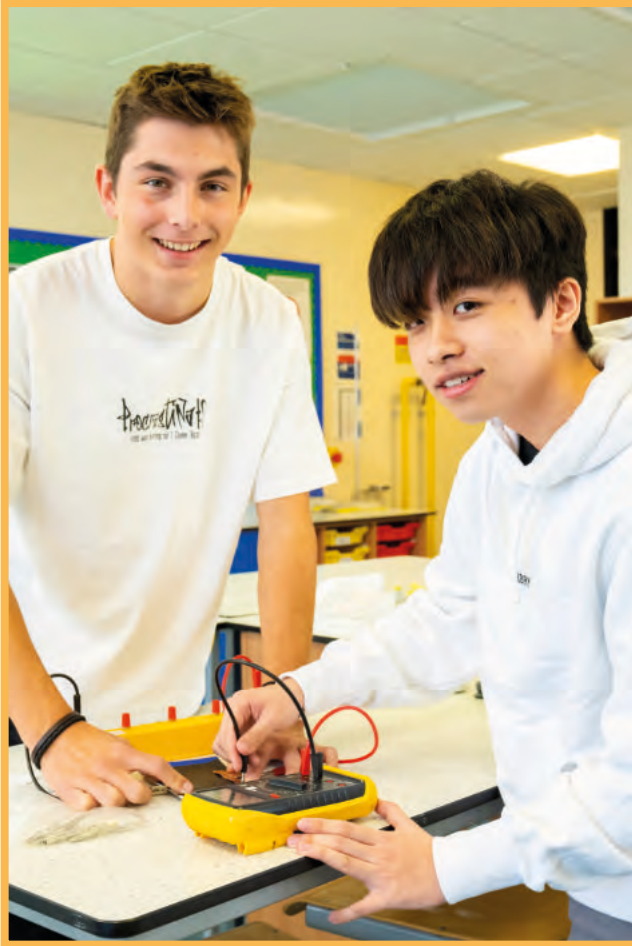


Our students well-being is of greatest importance at Ferndown Upper Sixth Form and we believe that a full and varied enrichment program is one step to reminding our students to focus on areas outside of their academic studies. Students may choose from options such as sport, karate, flamenco dancing, ukulele or even Rummikub club as a way to unwind and learn new skills. Other options such as our teaching assistant program allow our students to gain work experience and develop skills required for employment.



ENRICHMENT

EXTENDED PROJECT QUALIFICATION



The Extended Project Qualification is an academic pathway students may choose to study in their enrichment time. The project allows students to explore a topic outside of their studies in more depth as they conduct their own secondary and primary research and evaluate their own response to a question they have written. Students complete this with the support of a subject supervisor who will guide them in the topic and receive long written skills and research skills tutorials by an enrichment tutor. Students are graded and receive UCAS points for this as well as demonstrating to their future steps an advanced level of long report writing skills needed for higher education. Many universities adjust offers for students awarded top grades in the EPQ qualification.



DESTINATIONS

We want to support students in reaching their next steps following their time at FUS Sixth Form whatever their intended destination. We have an experienced in-house UCAS coordinator to guide students through the process of applying to universities and colleges, as well as a dedicated careers advisor in school. All students are able to book one-to-one appointments to get individualised advice and guidance to support them as they continue their journey with us.

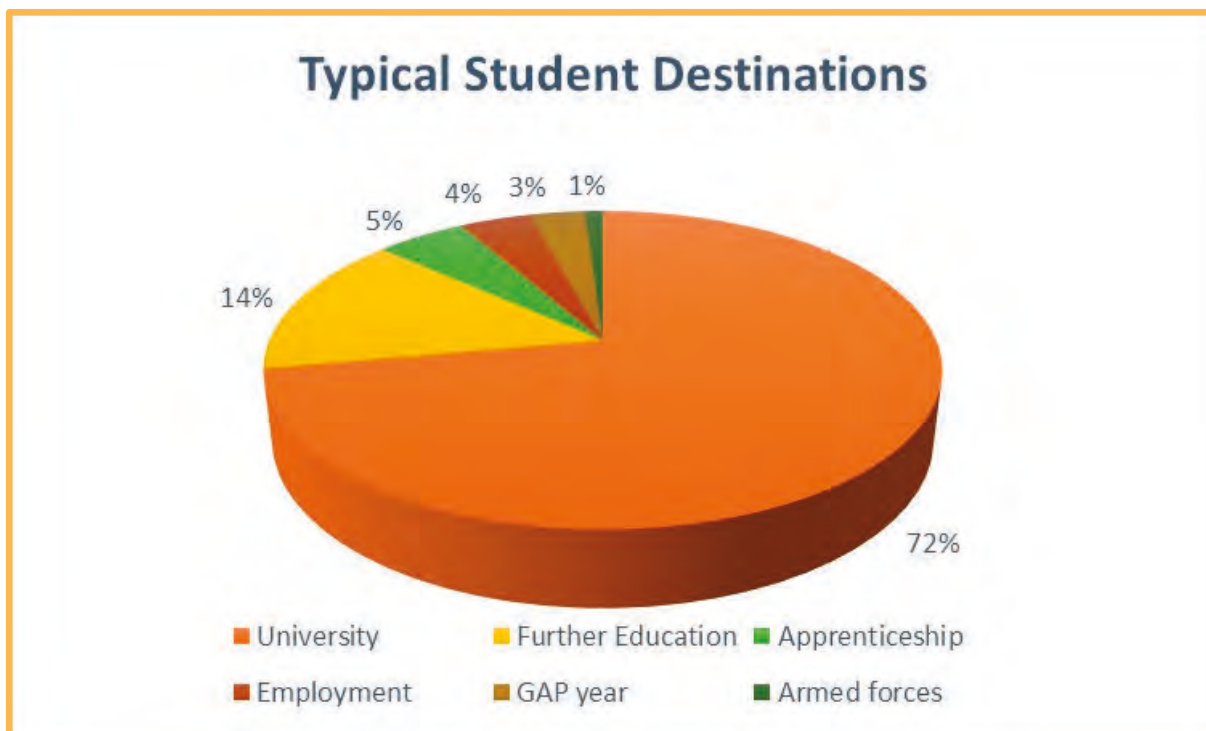
In the past, FUS Sixth Form students have moved on to study at the following universities:

- Oxford University
- University of Warwick
- Imperial College London
- University of Bath
- Cardiff University
- Southampton University
- Bournemouth University
- Arts University Bournemouth
- Brunel University
- European School of Osteopathy
- University of Leeds
- University of Kent
- University of Winchester



Other students have successfully taken up apprenticeships in IT, engineering, dental nursing and with South Western Railway.





Foundation Art at Ferndown Upper School Sixth Form

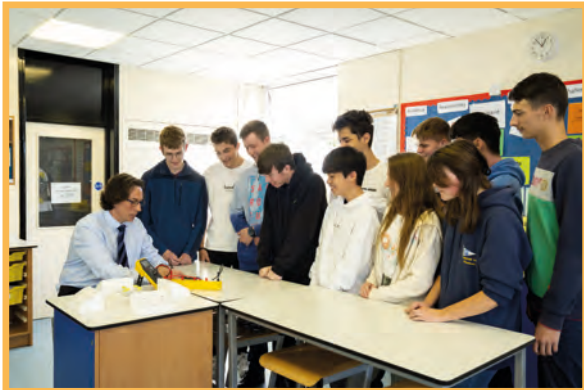
The Foundation Art and Design course is a stepping stone between A levels and university study. We were the first school based provider of the course in the country and have been running it with great success since 1999. Ferndown Upper School Sixth Form is proud to be rated as one of the leading providers of this course nationally for progression leading to degree courses.



'I was conscious of choosing an environment where I felt comfortable to explore and push my creativity. Ferndown immediately felt supportive yet ambitious in their students achieving to their highest ability.' Foundation Art Student, Year 14

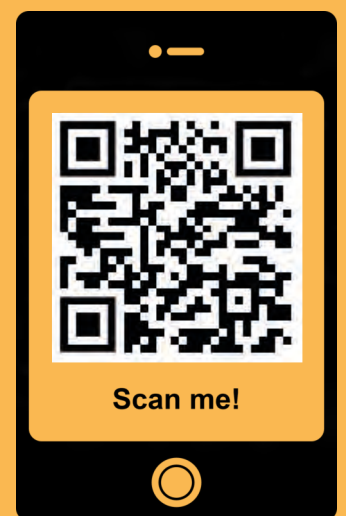
HOW TO APPLY

Please visit the Ferndown Upper School Sixth Form webpage where you will find the link and instructions on our application procedure. We look forward to hearing from you soon!



"I look forward to coming to Sixth Form everyday because the teachers make the lessons fun and enjoyable." Year 13 Student

<https://sixthform.fernup.dorset.sch.uk/>



Photography by former pupil

LEWIS BROWN
PHOTOGRAPHY

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