Information on our Sixth Form offer

September 2027 start

What can we offer?

- A continuity of support for students where they can continue their studies supported by existing relationships with trusted adults, specialist teaching, nurturing ethos and a curriculum designed to scaffold between key stage 4 provision and further education.
- A calm and nurturing setting with a consistent, predictable learning environment.
- A structured routine over 5 days.
- A high adult to student ratio.
- Small class sizes
- A cohort of peers with similar learning differences
- Specialist teaching to support literacy and executive functioning needs.
- Integrated therapeutic provision with bespoke direct therapy as needed
- A range of courses that are designed around developing life skills, work skills and preparation for adulthood.
- English and Maths at level 1 or 2

Overall, an innovative and flexible curriculum that meets a diverse range of needs.

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Subject information

Students will have the opportunity to work towards several different qualifications, including an option to retake GSCE Maths or English if necessary. Alternatively, students may study Functional Skills English & Maths at Level 1 or Level 2 if this is more appropriate.

Qualifications available are Pearson BTEC in Vocational Studies (L1 or 2), ASDAN Personal Effectiveness Qualification (L1, 2 or 3) and a College accredited qualification (see further information below). Students will also have PE, PSHCE, study sessions, work experience and a life skills / independence programme (see further information below).

These qualifications have been developed to meet the needs of all learners regardless of age, stage or ability and meet the requirements of the Relationships and Sexual Education (RSE) curriculum in England and Wales from September 2020.

The BTEC in Vocational Studies offers skills-based qualifications designed to help learners develop the personal and social skills needed to help them to progress to independent living, future employment or further vocational study. All units are internally assessed via a portfolio of students' work.

The ASDAN Personal Effectiveness Qualification equips learners with the skills and knowledge needed to navigate our fast-paced, ever-changing world confidently and comfortably. The units studied have a holistic positive impact on emotional, mental, and physical wellbeing. All units are assessed internally via a portfolio of work and the learners can achieve different sizes and levels of qualification that are right for them.

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College link course

Every Friday our Sixth Form will attend Activate Learning college, City of Oxford campus. There are two pathways depending on the student's level of independence:

Pathway 1 - Introduction to Industry

For those students who are not yet confident to attend college on their own, or those who do not know which college course they would like to commit to:

What: Pupils would attend one full day a week at Oxford City college, accompanied by a Unicorn School Teaching Assistant. They would have 5-6 week blocks of taster sessions in up to 6 different courses, choosing from the following areas:

- Retail
- Business
- Travel and Tourism
- Health and Social Care / Early Years

If students had a particular interest that is not covered in this list, eg Hair and Beauty or Bricklaying/Multi-trade, with notice, college are happy to facilitate this.

When: Fridays 10am-2.45pm, term time only.

> *"Students in Year 12 benefit from a curriculum that builds on their previous learning and supports their aspirations for adulthood."*
>
> ISI Inspectors' report

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Pathway 2 – Vocational Course

For pupils who could attend one day a week of college independently without Unicorn school staff in attendance.

What: Students would attend one full day a week for an academic year on a specific course. Course options for this are:

- Hair and Beauty
- Catering
- Public service/sport
- Health and Social Care
- Construction (at the Blackbird Leys site)

When: Fridays, 9:30am-2.30pm following mainstream term dates

Assessment: Depending on which level the pupil is assessed at, pupils would achieve an Entry 3 or Level 1 qualification in their course. If they have attended well and worked hard, they would automatically be accepted onto the next level course for the following year.

Integrated therapeutic input – Preparing for life beyond school (Life skills / independence).

Our Sixth Form students will have half a day a week with the Speech and Language Therapy Assistant and one of our Occupational Therapists. The focus of these sessions will be independent living skills and supporting independence in adulthood. The aims of the course are to:

- Build confidence, self-reliance and self-advocacy
- Strengthen social and emotional wellbeing to support successful transitions from school into adulthood
- Develop skills for personal, social and professional settings
- Build on school foundations to prepare for real-world demands.

The therapists will support the students in a variety of settings, both on and off site, accompanied by the class TA.

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Work Experience

Our Sixth Form students will have weekly half-day work experience placements which will be supported to start with. This will be introduced through a range of local community links to support students with preparation for adulthood and entering the workplace. We have joined with Earth Trust in Little Wittenham for a half day of volunteering, community projects and work experience.