



Joining the Sixth Form at Herschel Grammar School: Reflections from our Head Girl and Head Boy

Dear Prospective Applicant

We'd like to welcome you to Herschel Grammar School's Sixth Form, an environment where you'll be encouraged to achieve academic excellence alongside personal growth. We hope you enjoyed the virtual open evening and are excited to join our supportive community. We'd like to tell you more about the school that has instilled in us the drive to succeed and which we are so proud to represent.

Herschel's Sixth Form is the perfect environment to pursue the next stage in your education with an excellent support system devoted to helping you deal with stress and any concerns. The strong sense of community is very comforting as teachers and students alike are highly motivated and willing to help. Within the Sixth Form Centre, there are various routes to access support. Mrs Gumbs, our study room supervisor, is always available to have a conversation with, regardless of the topic. As well as this, the Heads of Years 12 and 13 are based in the building too, with their doors always open for questions.

Lessons are engaging and productive; teachers, who are highly experienced, use a range of interactive activities to convey content and establish foundations for you to further develop your knowledge independently, gearing you up for learning beyond your A-levels. Dedicated study areas are available, where you can collaborate with other students in addition to completing your individual tasks. Allocated time to work in these provided rooms really help you to manage your time efficiently and organise revision.

One of the most incredible aspects of being a Herschel student is the ability to participate in a plethora of exciting extra-curricular activities. Embedded in the timetable is a weekly slot focused on allowing students to take a break from the pressure of A Levels. In this 'Wellbeing' session, you are given access to sports facilities, the chance to display your cooking skills in the food technology department, unleash your creativity in art classes, and become one with nature! Being able to run your own societies is another way that Herschel promotes you to explore your interests. For example, this year, a Bhangra Society was set up by students who wanted to introduce the school community to their culture. The Duke of Edinburgh Gold Award is also offered to students, taking those involved out of their comfort zone. Lastly, there are also subject trips available to places like Berlin and chances to visit the concentration camps used in World War II.

As a student in the Sixth Form, there are countless opportunities for enrichment. Young Enterprise is a brilliant way to enhance your entrepreneurial skills and business acumen, allowing you to launch your own fully functional company. Last year's award-winning company, 'Tribe', designed and marketed sustainable clothing that promoted the conservation of endangered species. Taking part in the Extended Project Qualification is a great way to research independently and enables you to explore critically any topic of your interest. Bar Mock Trial provides another unique experience in which students can present a case in a courtroom with esteemed lawyers and judges. One of the most popular annual events is the UKMT Maths Challenge, an opportunity to showcase your mathematical reasoning and problem-solving skills. Herschel is widely renowned for the number of students that go on to compete nationally in the Maths Olympiad.

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Responsibility is at the heart of Herschel's ethos. From the point of entry into Sixth Form, you are given the chance to undertake community involvement. Through this, you are able to have a positive impact on both your wider school society and the local community. Some of the fulfilling roles include becoming a Peer Mentor, who guides lower year students, an Eco-Warrior, promoting sustainability within the school environment, and the opportunity to volunteer in local nurseries. Charity representatives contribute towards fundraising events throughout the year; 'Race for Life', 'Christmas Jumper Day' and 'Sports Relief' are some of the most enjoyable days of the year when the entire school community groups as one to support a fantastic cause. Becoming a Junior Prefect gives you a chance to become a leader within the Sixth Form, communicating directly with the Senior Prefects, and the Head Girl and Boy to voice your ideas on shaping the future of the school.

We hope our insight into Herschel has shown you that this school is not just dedicated towards academic success but is also determined to equip you with the skills needed to thrive in your future careers. We wish you all the best in your GCSE examinations, particularly in a year that has been so full of uncertainty and anxiety. We sincerely look forward to seeing you in our Sixth Form.

Preet Bhamra
Head Girl 2020/2021



Lakshay Talwar
Head Boy 2020/2021



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