

North Halifax Grammar School

Sixth Form Prospectus 2019

For intake in 2020

NHGS is the school that everyone wishes they went to: where enthusiasm is infectious and excellence is standard; where co-operation is at the heart of all we do; where everyone strives to achieve their goals and is mindful of the right ways to do so. We equip our students with the knowledge, skills and understanding to navigate life with confidence and set courses of their own choosing. Together, we develop the whole person by

Living to Learn | Learning to Live

100% A* - E pass rate

Over a third of students achieving all A*-B grades

“My time at NHGS Sixth Form has been greatly enriching; it has taught me how to be more independent, organised and time-effective with regard to my studies. My teachers, form tutor and school staff are unwaveringly supportive and helpful individuals. I always know that there is someone I can turn to if I need help or want to discuss my future plans and I couldn't have wished for a better, happier environment to have flourished in.” By Yasmin

“The time I have spent at NHGS has made me the person I am today. On top of helping me achieve top grades, it has helped me grow mentally to become stronger and overcome any problems I have had. The family that is the Sixth Form team has always been there when I've needed them, encouraged me to aim high and achieve my goals. Without the incredible efforts of the staff and friendly nature of the school, I wouldn't be who I am now.” By Sean

WELCOME MESSAGE

Dear Year 11 Student,

Choosing what to do next after Year 11 is an important decision. You need to consider all possibilities very carefully. One excellent option is to join the Sixth Form at North Halifax Grammar School (NHGS).

Why choose NHGS?

- In 2019, 100% of the 524 A Level entries achieved A*-E grades, with almost 30% of entries being awarded the highest grades of A*-A.
- Our average pass rates over the past five years have been 99.54% (A*-E) and 62% achieving A*-B grades. Our average point score in 2018 was the highest in Calderdale, along with a student completion rate of 98.7%.
- Our motto is Living to Learn, Learning to Live. We develop the whole person, both academically and through personal enrichment. We provide a wide range of courses, opportunities, activities and experiences to promote confidence, independence and build fantastic personal statements and CVs.
- The NHGS Sixth Form is at the heart of the school, both in terms of the purpose-built learning centre and the leadership opportunities afforded by working with students in lower year groups.

- Our subject staff are all fully qualified teachers with a proven track record of delivering excellent results at GCSE and A Level. 45% of our teaching staff have been part of the school for over 10 years.
- The well-being of every student is at the heart of our pastoral care, and we have our own fully trained counsellor to provide support.
- We provide excellent careers advice to help students plan for the next stage.
- Since 2015 we have spent £7.5 million on refurbishments across the school including a new £3 million sports hall and fitness suite, which was opened in 2017.

If you are intending to take A Levels to progress to university, an apprenticeship or enter employment, then NHGS could be the best place for you.

Yours sincerely, Gill Quigley, Director of Sixth Form and Andrew Fisher, Principal

ETHOS STATEMENT

Our Ethos Statement explains that we create excellence by being:

Our 3 Es

- Enquiring
- Enthusiastic
- Engaged

Our 3 Cs

- Confident
- Co-operative
- Creative

Our 3 Ms

- Mannerly
- Motivated
- Mindful

By adhering to these guiding principles, NHGS students reap many rewards - great exam results, significant personal development and valuable enrichment.

SIXTH FORM STUDENTS LEADING THE WAY



Form Prefects: Giving encouragement to Year 7 students during their residential



First Bow: Year 12 production team with the cast of Year 7 and Year 8 students



Sports Coaching: numerous opportunities to coach younger students



Trip helpers: Year 9 Camp where Year 12 students help with meals and activities



“Being Senior Prefects we have gained leadership skills which we believe are an excellent asset to have. Through managing our duties and organising prefects, we have become more confident and knowledgeable concerning how best to communicate and work with a variety of people. Additionally, I know that the team share my feelings that through our duties, we have been able to give back to the school that we are all proud to be a part of. This is very rewarding for us.” By Scarlett

LIVING TO LEARN

- Many teachers have experience of teaching both GCSE and A Level, therefore understanding the link between the certificates and how best to manage students' transition between the two; this is one benefit of being part of a school rather than a college.
- 45% of our teaching staff have been part of the school for over 10 years.

A Level courses currently available:

- Art
- Biology
- Business Studies
- Chemistry
- Computing
- D & T Product Design
- Economics
- Electronics
- English Language
- English Literature
- French
- Geography
- History
- Mathematics
- Further Mathematics

- Media Studies
- Music
- PE
- Photography
- Physics
- Psychology
- Politics
- Religious Studies
- Sociology
- Spanish

Courses:

- Extended Project Qualification: Offered from the summer term of Year 12.
- PSCHEE: Covers many life skills, such as finance, health and careers.

“My time at NHGS Sixth Form has been greatly enriching; it has provided me with the environment, resources and skills needed to further my learning. The unwavering support of my teachers has allowed me to realise my own academic potential and the quality of the Sixth Form team’s pastoral support has helped me to achieve it. I will always be thankful to NHGS for such a positive Sixth Form experience and the opportunities it has given me.” By Ruth

LEARNING TO LIVE

“Learning to Live” – it’s not simply part of our motto, it’s central to the NHGS experience.

At NHGS Sixth Form we offer a varied programme of enrichment opportunities.

Core Enrichment

Wednesday afternoons are devoted to the Core Enrichment Programme. All Year 12 students choose from a range of activities including mentoring in local primary schools, sports, cooking, a touch typing course, other online courses, volunteering and relevant work experience.

Optional Enrichment

Whilst all students are expected to participate in the core enrichment, most of our students will be involved in many more enrichment opportunities. Some of the current optional enrichment activities on offer include:

Clubs & Societies

- Bar Mock Trial Competition
- Debating Society
- Dungeons & Dragons
- Charity Committee
- MedSoc
- Psychology Club
- Rocket Society
- Young Enterprise Group

Courses & Qualifications

- Duke of Edinburgh - up to Gold D of E
- First Aid
- Sign Language
- Teaching English as a Foreign Language

Trips

- Iceland Trip (biennial, next October 2020)
- Ski Trip (biennial, next February 2021)

Sports

- Various including basketball, fitness suite, football, hockey and netball
- Coaching – various opportunities with younger year groups

Music & Performing Arts

- First Bow - Write and produce plays with a cast of Year 7 & 8 students.
- Main School Theatre Production – Opportunities to sing, dance, act or work in the production team.
- Music – Various opportunities including rock choir, swing band, orchestra, concert band, choral group and a variety of chamber ensembles. Or play in your own rock band in the end of term concert.



Biennial Ski Trip, next running in February 2021



Gold Duke of Edinburgh 2019



Rocketry Youth Challenge World Champions 2019 at Paris Air Show



U19 Football - West Yorkshire and Calderdale Champions 2019



Art & Photography Tate Gallery Trip 2019



Coast2Coast cycle ride 2019, the next event will take place in 2020

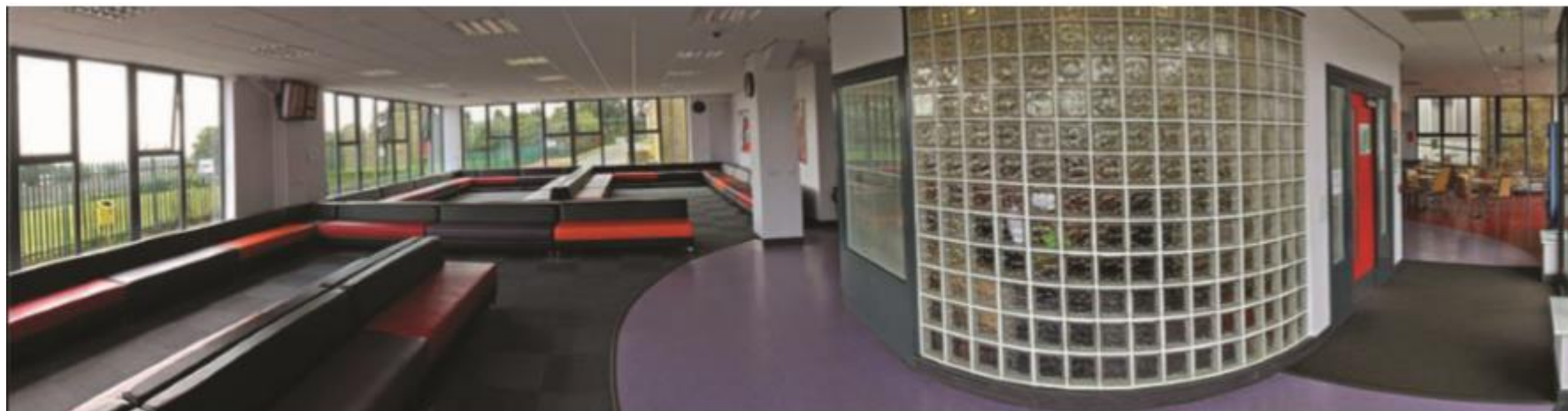


Various music & performing arts opportunities, including the End of Year Concert



Biennial Geography Trip to Iceland, next running in October 2020

SIXTH FORM LEARNING CENTRE



The Sixth Form Learning Centre is in the centre of the school's grounds and is home to the Sixth Form Office, classrooms for specialist A Level subjects, plus the Sixth Form Diner and Sixth Form Common Room which make up the social hub of the centre. Adjacent to the Sixth Form Learning Centre is an independent study area, solely for Year 12 and Year 13 students, which has workstations, study booths and ICT access. Students also have access to the school's Learning Resource Centre and the Careers Library. Sixth Form students also have access to the fitness suite in the Sports Hall.

"NHGS is a great place to learn and meet new people - everyone, students and staff alike, are very friendly and welcoming. We are treated as young adults rather than children, which is a nice step up from secondary school, in developing independence and confidence." By Kayan

INDUCTION

We take the pastoral care of our students very seriously, and we feel that it is important that all our Year 12 students make a smooth transition into life as members of the NHGS Sixth Form. That is why we have a carefully planned induction programme to help students with this settling in process.

Before the summer, students who are new to NHGS are invited to an informal afternoon to meet their form tutor and other students.

During the first few weeks of the academic year, all Sixth Form students take part in our Induction Day which combines team building activities and a social lunch. Weather permitting, activities take place outside, making full use of our outdoor space and stunning surroundings.

The programme of activity is designed to encourage students to get to know their tutor group and form tutor. We aim to ensure that all students have a network of friends and teachers to support them during their time at NHGS.

The first few PSCHEE lessons are focused on developing good independent study skills to enable students to make a smooth transition into A Level study.

“Everyone was so welcoming and made me feel so included. Within a week I felt like I fitted in better than I did at my old school, and I have loved every second so far. The introductory event with the RAF was amazing and gave me opportunity to get to know more people in my form and around the Sixth Form as a whole, and I can’t wait for the next few years with the NHGS family.” By Mia



PASTORAL CARE

We understand that young people face numerous challenges in today's society and we work with all students to support them through Sixth Form life. Students are allocated to a pathways tutor group on entering the Sixth Form. These groups are based on supporting students' future ambitions, such as Oxbridge, medical and higher apprenticeship applications. We have an experienced team of tutors who work closely with the Year Group Leaders and the Director of Sixth Form to ensure students' time at NHGS is both happy and successful.



The Sixth Form Team

- Mrs Quigley - Director of Sixth Form
- Mr Downing - Year 12 Group Leader 2020
- Mrs Pegg - Year 13 Group Leader 2020
- Miss Rigby - Sixth Form Enrichment Co-ordinator
- Mrs Charles - Sixth Form Administrator

“The support I have received throughout my time at NHGS has been excellent. I am really appreciative of all the efforts put in by my teachers, especially over the past 2 years in the Sixth Form. If I ever needed any extra support, I always knew that my teachers and the pastoral team were available and more than happy to help. NHGS has allowed me to achieve amazing things and reach my full potential.” By Neesha

STUDENT WELL-BEING

At NHGS we place great emphasis on the well-being of all staff and students, and we have built a dedicated Pastoral Team which provides outstanding well-being provision.

Mrs Booth, Well-being and Engagement Officer explains: “Well-being support is central to the care offered to Sixth Form students at NHGS because we believe that happy young people make successful learners and also become resilient adults.”

Mr Wood, Vice Principal (Behaviour, Safeguarding and Inclusion) says, “Developing in students a capacity to learn is obviously a very important aspect of what we do at NHGS, but we also want to prepare students for life, to build their resilience and to develop the means to look after their own well-being. This is why our motto is Living to Learn, Learning to Live.”

Benefits of NHGS Well-being provision

- Full-time professional counselling
- Instant access
- Self-referral via email
- Sessions in study time so no academic impact

Main areas of focus for Sixth Formers

- Getting organised and dealing with pressure
- The changing nature of relationships
- Transition into life after school
- Best practices for healthy sleep
- Revision/ study skills and the UCAS process



NHGS has worked with Carnegie Centre of Excellence for Mental Health in Schools (at Leeds Beckett University) and we were delighted to have been awarded the Bronze status in recognition of our outstanding well-being provision within the school. This is the highest possible award for in-school well-being provisions, as the silver and gold awards are awarded when a school shares good practice with other schools, across trusts, or on a national scale. We are 1 of only 4 schools to have been awarded this.

CAREERS & ENTERPRISE

In Year 12, students take part in numerous careers and enterprise activities and are presented with information on the full range of options available once they have completed their Sixth Form study. Students can attend the UCAS conference at Manchester University and the National Apprenticeship Event in Birmingham. Further information is provided in school during apprenticeship and UCAS information evenings. Many students take advantage of enrichment time on Wednesday afternoon to gain work experience and all students complete a week of work experience at the end of the year.

Employers also engage with students in Year 12 by running mock interviews, alongside our annual 2-day enterprise event. Students further develop careers skills through PSCHEE, looking at how to complete covering letters, apply for part-time work and complete a CV. A careers adviser from C&K Careers is available throughout the year. Presentations take place on student finance, interview skills, gap year opportunities and apprenticeship selection processes delivered by ex-students on placements.

There are lots of extra-curricular activities that allow students to develop their careers and enterprise knowledge and skills throughout the Sixth Form. These include Young Enterprise, debating, the Bar Mock Trial Competition and MedSoc.

UCAS “I was helped every step of the way. My tutor was efficient and gave us deadlines to follow so our forms were completed effectively and sent off on time, and I received all my offers by the end of October.”

Apprenticeship “Apprenticeship and employment opportunities were clearly advertised to provide an alternative to university. There was always someone to talk to if I had any questions about my application and my tutor generously helped with mock interviews.”

SUBJECTS

All results are from 2019, unless an alternative window is stated.

Art

“Art teachers at NHGS really support what you want to do. There is so much encouragement to push yourself and try new things. I appreciate how the teachers highlight your originality and help you develop skills you never knew you had!”

- A Level Art offers a supportive environment in which students are encouraged to follow their own creative path, guided by expert and well-qualified staff.
- There is an excellent range of opportunities including gallery visits, workshops with visiting artists as well as supporting the younger students in Art Club.

Key Stats:

- A*- A 25%
- A*- B 100%

Link: https://www.nhgs.co.uk/storage/app/media/Sixth-Form/Course_Flyers/NHGS_Sixth-Form_Subject_2020_Art.pdf

Biology

“Biology was my favourite subject, I really enjoyed the range of activities in lessons and it gave me a foundation for my choice of Degree. I found it challenging but rewarding and the teacher was always willing to help and made sure I understood the things I found difficult.”

- Biology at NHGS is taught by experienced and enthusiastic teachers from a background of different biological fields. We share resources and collaborate to ensure that students get the best possible experience.
- The popularity of Biology within NHGS Sixth Form is illustrated by the fact that over one third of the Sixth Form students study the subject.
- Practical work forms the cornerstone of our course and we use university facilities for practicals that we cannot do in-house.

Key Stats:

- A*- B 49%
- A*- E 100%

Link: https://www.nhgs.co.uk/storage/app/media/Sixth-Form/Course_Flyers/NHGS_Sixth-Form_Subject_2020_Art.pdf

Business

“I really look forward to my Business lessons. It’s so interesting and different to anything I’ve learnt before. My favourite part of Business is learning about products and the markets they operate in.”

- Students have the opportunity to learn from experienced and enthusiastic staff about business theory which they will apply to a variety of familiar and unfamiliar case studies.
- Visits to businesses reinforce the theory studied in the classroom and, along with attendance at a revision conference, enhance the students’ ability to answer examination questions effectively.

Key Stats:

- A* - C 82%
- A* - E 100

Link: https://www.nhgs.co.uk/storage/app/media/Sixth-Form/Course_Flyers/NHGS_Sixth-Form_Subject_2020_Business.pdf

Computing

“The theory learnt in Computer Science lessons helps engage in practical applications of real-life analytical systems, and the fun programming projects give you an experience of what software development is really like. The resources provided in Computing are great and enable me to further my studies in my own time.”

- Computing, delivered by an experienced and enthusiastic specialist, is a course that synergises well with other subjects and will help to prepare students for flexible careers in the 21st Century.
- Computing at NHGS will prepare students for a university degree or apprenticeship by using industry-proven software and resources respected in the educational community.

Key Stats:

- A* - A 50%
- A* - B 100%

Link: https://www.nhgs.co.uk/storage/app/media/Sixth-Form/Course_Flyers/NHGS_Sixth-Form_Subject_2020_Chemistry.pdf

D&T Product Design

“I really enjoy Product Design, we have the freedom to research and make our own products that are influenced by our own interests. It makes you think outside the box in all subjects you study, not just technology. It has helped me widen my appreciation of the world of design and has made me want to get involved in making and developing products to change the world.”

- Our well qualified staff are based in multiple material areas and have a wealth of experience. Teaching is enhanced by trips to factories, exhibitions and manufacturing centres such as Jaguar/ Land Rover.
- All students are supported to make individual, creative and unique outcomes in their interest areas, supported by our dedicated technician who offers one-to-one support, with CAD-CAM facilities such as an Apple iMac suite, 3D printer and laser cutter.

Key Stats:

- A* - B 25%
- A* - C 100%

Link: https://www.nhgs.co.uk/storage/app/media/Sixth-Form/Course_Flyers/NHGS_Sixth-Form_Subject_2020_Design-Technology.pdf

Economics

“Economics really makes me think. I love learning about different countries and how their economy is different to ours. My favourite part of Economics has been looking at the black market and how it affects society.”

- Our enthusiastic staff provide a real insight into economies, both national, international and in a local context. Students are taught to think analytically and reach logical conclusions based on data.
- Real life examples and case studies enhance the student experience in this fascinating subject.

Key Stats:

- A* - A 32%
- A* - C 84%
- A* - E 100%

Link: https://www.nhgs.co.uk/storage/app/media/Sixth-Form/Course_Flyers/NHGS_Sixth-Form_Subject_2020_Economics.pdf

Electronics

“Electronics is my favourite subject. I had never done it before so was surprised when I loved it and I got my best grade in it. It is also a good break from purely theory based subjects.”

- North Halifax Grammar School is the only school in the area to offer an A Level in Electronics, with uniquely experienced and well-qualified staff.
- Electronic devices shape our lives, from TV, phones, games and virtual reality, to medical devices and space travel. Gain a real insight into jobs and skills for the 21st century.

Key Stats:

- A* - A 33%
- A* - C 100%

Link: https://www.nhgs.co.uk/storage/app/media/Sixth-Form/Course_Flyers/NHGS_Sixth-Form_Subject_2020_Electronics.pdf

English Language

“Thank you for a great English experience. Not only did it inspire me to go on to journalism at university, it really helped with writing in other subjects too!”

- Be challenged to excel, whilst being supported by experienced staff, including current examiners and moderators.
- Enjoy the lively and intelligent discussions with engaged and informed fellow students, alongside the extra-curricular activities such as university workshops and lecture days.

Key Stats:

- A* - B 56%
- A* - C 94%
- A* - D 100

Link: https://www.nhgs.co.uk/storage/app/media/Sixth-Form/Course_Flyers/NHGS_Sixth-Form_Subject_2020_English-Language.pdf

English Literature

“You truly care about us AND the grades. There is always support given and the lessons are always useful and enjoyable. It was awesome”

- Enter the symposium: enjoy high-level debate and discussion with intelligent, engaged fellow students supported by experienced staff, including current examiners and moderators.
- Theatre trips, lecture days and additional workshops enhance the study of an engaging range of texts from classics to contemporary writers, with some scope for individual choice.

Key Stats:

- A*- A 36%
- A*- B 72%
- A*- E 100%

Link: https://www.nhgs.co.uk/storage/app/media/Sixth-Form/Course_Flyers/NHGS_Sixth-Form_Subject_2020_English-Literature.pdf

French

“The support I’ve received from the French staff has been phenomenal and I couldn’t have asked for more helpful, proactive teachers.”

- A consistently high standard of teaching, with enthusiastic and well qualified staff, proven by our excellent A Level results.
- Opportunities to participate in events and competitions, with extra speaking sessions available every week to improve students’ confidence and fluency in spoken French.

Key Stats:

- A* - A 67%
- A* - B 100%

Link: https://www.nhgs.co.uk/storage/app/media/Sixth-Form/Course_Flyers/NHGS_Sixth-Form_Subject_2020_French.pdf

Geography

“I decided to study Geography because of the range of interesting topics involved”

“I was made to feel really welcome by the very keen staff and the field trips were great”

- Support and encouragement by experienced and well-qualified staff are the cornerstone of excellent results in the Geography department at NHGS.
- The course is well resourced and 4 days of fieldwork in Hebden Bridge and Snowdonia will ensure that students embed the skills and knowledge to secure the best possible grades.

Key Stats:

- A*- C 84%
- A*- E 100%

Link: https://www.nhgs.co.uk/storage/app/media/Sixth-Form/Course_Flyers/NHGS_Sixth-Form_Subject_2020_Geography.pdf

History

“A fascinating course spanning world events from the early crusades, the Norman invasion of 1066, right up to Thatcher in the 1980s and Blair in 2004. Political, social and cultural changes are studied that continue to shape our world today.”

- History at NHGS is taught by staff who are experts, not only in the delivery of the content, but also in ensuring the coursework element of the course is of an excellent standard.
- At NHGS, we offer the unusual opportunity to study history over a vast time scale, from events nearly a thousand years ago up to the present day.

Key Stats:

- A*- B 70%
- A*- D 100%

Link: https://www.nhgs.co.uk/storage/app/media/Sixth-Form/Course_Flyers/NHGS_Sixth-Form_Subject_2020_History.pdf

Mathematics

“It is probably the most enjoyable of all my A Level choices. Teaching was great and lessons went at a good pace.”

- Due to our well-qualified and enthusiastic staff, Mathematics is always a very popular A Level subject, with over 120 students studying it across Year 12 and Year 13.
- At NHGS there is always a Mathematics teacher available every lunchtime to help Sixth Form students, who can then pass on their expertise with opportunities to mentor KS3 and KS4 students.

Key Stats:

- A* - A 37%
- A* - E 100%

Link: https://www.nhgs.co.uk/storage/app/media/Sixth-Form/Course_Flyers/NHGS_Sixth-Form_Subject_2020_Mathematics-and-Further-Mathematics.pdf

Further Mathematics

“I love how challenging Mathematics is and if the challenge ever gets too big there is always a teacher on hand to help.”

- NHGS has a continuous record of offering Further Mathematics at AS and A Level. High-achieving GCSE students find it provides challenge and a chance to explore more sophisticated mathematical concepts.
- NHGS Further Mathematics students are encouraged to participate in residential courses, problem solving sessions, UKMT individual and team competitions. Expert preparation for entrance tests for prestigious courses and universities is also facilitated.

Key Stats:

- A* - A 83%
- A* - E 100%

Link: https://www.nhgs.co.uk/storage/app/media/Sixth-Form/Course_Flyers/NHGS_Sixth-Form_Subject_2020_Mathematics-and-Further-Mathematics.pdf

Media Studies

“I never knew how much the media shapes my everyday perception of the world until I started this course. Finding out how films, TV, Radio and advertising work is fascinating and I love getting to have a go at making my own.”

- Here at NHGS our specialist teachers help students explore a wide range of media products from TV and film to radio and social media, providing an excellent mixture of academic rigour and practical challenges.
- Our well-equipped department offers the opportunity for students to follow their own creative path, producing and analysing their own work.

Key Stats:

- A*- C 73%
- A*- D 100%

Link: https://www.nhgs.co.uk/storage/app/media/Sixth-Form/Course_Flyers/NHGS_Sixth-Form_Subject_2020_Media-Studies.pdf

Music

“I like the way the lessons involve discussion as we are encouraged to share our opinions and get the opportunity to learn from the experiences of others in the group. The curriculum means I have been exposed to music that I would never have normally listened to.”

- NHGS offers a unique opportunity to study music in a school environment under the expert guidance of well-qualified and enthusiastic staff.
- Classroom delivery is tailored to the needs and understanding of the individual. The extensive performing opportunities provided by the music department at NHGS are second to none, allowing students to immerse themselves in developing their skills and abilities.

Key Stats:

2016-2019

- A* - A 50%
- A* - C 100%

Link: https://www.nhgs.co.uk/storage/app/media/Sixth-Form/Course_Flyers/NHGS_Sixth-Form_Subject_2020_Music.pdf

Physical Education

“Lessons are interesting and personal to each student’s needs, and the new facilities are great.”

- Expert and well-qualified staff, including a senior examiner, ensures that the A Level PE experience is second to none.
- The combination of physical performance and academic challenge when studying A Level PE provides an exciting opportunity for students.
- Students perform in our state of the art facilities, and then, following the academic study, improve their performance or coaching through application of the theory.

Key Stats:

- A* - B 33%
- A* - C 78%
- A* - E 100%

Link: https://www.nhgs.co.uk/storage/app/media/Sixth-Form/Course_Flyers/NHGS_Sixth-Form_Subject_2020_Physical-Education.pdf

Photography

“There is more freedom in Photography than in any other subject, and you are always provided with individual feedback. I like having weekly deadlines and knowing exactly what to hand in.”

- The Photography staff are current, exhibiting photographers. Their experience has led to NHGS Photography students exceeding their target by a full grade, on average, over a 7-year period.
- Studies in school are complemented by visits to exhibitions and galleries. Our students regularly have success in national competitions and exhibit their own work.

Key Stats:

- A* - A 38%
- A* - B 100%

Link: https://www.nhgs.co.uk/storage/app/media/Sixth-Form/Course_Flyers/NHGS_Sixth-Form_Subject_2020_Photography.pdf

Physics

“I enjoyed learning the complex theories with simple, fun practical tasks. The teachers were very helpful when I was stuck.”

- The course is taught by an experienced and very well-qualified department with an excellent track record of success. We strongly believe in putting physics into perspective through practical experiments.
- Our extra-curricular offer is second to none. We are world champions in the Youth Rocketry Challenge and have an Electron Microscope Research Group. Students enjoy working with younger students in lessons and in science clubs.

Key Stats:

- A* - A 37%
- A* - C 84%
- A* - E 100%

Link: https://www.nhgs.co.uk/storage/app/media/Sixth-Form/Course_Flyers/NHGS_Sixth-Form_Subject_2020_Physics.pdf

Politics

“The issues we studied in Politics were much more interesting than I anticipated. The subject gave me a much better understanding of what was happening during the EU referendum.”

- An opportunity to learn alongside an engaged and interested group of students who respect and tolerate the views of each other, with expert staff who have worked in the House of Commons and U.S. Congress.
- Students get first-hand experience of politics, including visiting the Houses of Parliament and meeting the MP for Halifax as part of this lively and fascinating course.

Key Stats:

- A*- B 63%
- A*- E 100%

Link: https://www.nhgs.co.uk/storage/app/media/Sixth-Form/Course_Flyers/NHGS_Sixth-Form_Subject_2020_Politics.pdf

Psychology

“Psychology is one of the most relevant subjects in the Sixth Form. It doesn’t just give you an A Level grade, it enhances your understanding of people and the world around you. It is my favourite subject! It has lots of interesting topics and the teachers are very passionate and enthusiastic in all lessons.”

- Students are introduced to the work of the most influential psychologists by passionate and well-qualified staff. They study the impact these renowned figures have had on the world we live in and are always encouraged to make links to real-life examples.
- Engaging and lively debate by enthusiastic and informed A level students really enhances the learning. A bespoke revision conference, held in school and led by an experienced senior examiner, allows students to gain further valuable insight into the demands of the examination.

Key Stats:

- A* - B 55%
- A* - C 84%
- A* - E 100%

Link: https://www.nhgs.co.uk/storage/app/media/Sixth-Form/Course_Flyers/NHGS_Sixth-Form_Subject_2020_Psychology.pdf

Religious Studies

“I thoroughly enjoy RS and am really glad I chose it at A Level. All the lessons are really interesting and vary greatly. The teachers are really passionate.”

- A consistently high standard of teaching and excellent results, with fun and engaging lessons.
- We stimulate discussion of philosophical and ethical topics with trips, for example to Manchester Buddhist Centre and Lancaster University.

Key Stats:

- A* - A 29%
- A* - B 59%
- A* - D 100%

Link: https://www.nhgs.co.uk/storage/app/media/Sixth-Form/Course_Flyers/NHGS_Sixth-Form_Subject_2020_Religious-Studies.pdf

Sociology

“I have really enjoyed studying Sociology, I like that every lesson has content which is relevant to daily life. I have enjoyed discussing and debating issues which interest me and also exploring the same issues from a variety of different perspectives.”

- Experienced and enthusiastic staff provide students with the opportunity to discuss and debate core topics, such as the impact of the media, so that every lesson is engaging and applicable to real world situations.
- We use a range of resources and teaching styles to deliver the content of this stimulating and thought-provoking course.

Key Stats:

- A* - A 41%
- A* - C 73%
- A* - E 100%

Link: https://www.nhgs.co.uk/storage/app/media/Sixth-Form/Course_Flyers/NHGS_Sixth-Form_Subject_2020_Sociology.pdf

Spanish

“The teachers are amazing at their jobs and develop good relationships with the students.”

- A consistently high standard of teaching, by enthusiastic and well qualified staff, with a proven track record of excellent A Level results.
- Opportunities to participate in events and competitions, with extra speaking sessions available every week to improve students' confidence and fluency in spoken Spanish.

Key Stats:

- A* - A 63%
- A* - B 75%
- A* - C 100%

Link: https://www.nhgs.co.uk/storage/app/media/Sixth-Form/Course_Flyers/NHGS_Sixth-Form_Subject_2020_Spanish.pdf

EPQ (Extended Project Qualification)

This additional qualification allows well-motivated students to carry out their own research project in an area of their choice. The EPQ was introduced nationally to give students an opportunity to pursue their own study interests beyond the constraints of their A-level subjects. Submitting a project for the EPQ will help to develop research and writing skills and will give participating students an advantage when it comes to undergraduate study at university. Such research is aimed at developing skills which can be transferred throughout many subjects. It also demonstrates to universities and employers, students' ability to think independently and their real passion for their chosen subjects.

What does an EPQ entail?

- Selecting a topic of interest and drafting a proposal for it.
- Planning, researching and carrying out the project.
- Providing evidence of all stages of the project.
- Delivering a presentation to a specified audience – this can be in any format such as a play, a film, a piece of art or another original idea. The EPQ really is an independent project which the student has control over, both in terms of their choice of research topic, and the form in which they present their findings.

“The Cambridge Colleges welcome the introduction of the Extended Project... primarily because of the benefit we recognise in the skills it will develop in learners and the consequent easing of the transition from study in secondary to higher education.”

STUDENT PROFILES

Student Profile: Sarah Pedley - University of Cambridge / Engineering

A Levels (2019)

- Biology: A*
- Mathematics: A* Further
- Mathematics: A Physics: A*

Activities

- Choir & Choral Group
- Coast to Coast
- Concert Band
- Physics Olympiad
- Flute – Grade 6
- Ballet
- Orienteering
- Tennis

“Joining North Halifax in the Sixth Form was the best decision I could have made. Not only was the teaching provision excellent and I felt fully supported throughout my studies, but I also made great friends and found the whole school environment and culture to be extremely friendly and welcoming. I felt involved in school life and encouraged by both friends and teachers. Ultimately, it made A-levels far more enjoyable than I could have ever imagined!”

Student Profile: Sulaiman Hussain - University of New York / Psychology

A Levels (2019)

- Biology: A*
- English Literature: A*
- Psychology: A*

Activities

- Senior Prefect
- Debating Society
- Football
- Poetry Masterclass
- Mixed Martial Arts
- Tutor at Catalyst Tutors
- Basketball Mental Health Campaigner
- Research writer for Sharing Voices

“Being new to NHGS, I was welcomed, encouraged and nurtured in a very co-operative environment.

NHGS Sixth Form supported me in applying and getting into a US university (NYU).”

Student Profile: Rosie Baylis - University of Leeds / Geography

A Levels (2019)

- Biology: A
- Geography: A
- Mathematics: A

EPQ: Impacts and causes of plastic pollution

Activities

- Choral Group
- Rock Choir
- Year 9 Camp Helper
- Hockey
- Football
- Citizenship Day Helper

“I never doubted that I wanted to stay at NHGS Sixth Form and that feeling has not changed. All my teachers have been so supportive and have helped me get through my exams. Choir has been a highlight of my time here, the teacher put so much time and effort into our rehearsals and performances and it showed. NHGS is like a family and has made a lasting impact on me and given me so many fond memories.”

Student Profile: Alex Roper Durham - University / Law

A Levels (2019)

- Economics: A*
- English Literature: A*
- History: A*

EPQ: UK Home Invasion Law Essay

Activities

- Prefect
- Bar Mock Trial
- Tutor GCSE English Literature & Language
- Guitar – Grade 4
- Gym Part-time job

“My time at NHGS Sixth Form not only helped me achieve the grades I needed to move on to the university I wanted to go to, but also made me a more rounded and dedicated student, setting me up well for university and my future career. All of my teachers worked hard to help me reach a goal that at times seemed impossible, and were always prepared to offer extra advice or mark an extra essay. Aside from all of the hard work and studying, I also enjoyed my time at Sixth Form very much and always felt like part of a community. ”

Student Profile: Zara Ashruff - University of Liverpool / Medicine

A Levels (2019)

- Biology: A*
- Chemistry: A
- Mathematics: A

Activities

- Prefect & Form Prefect
- GCSE Maths Mentor
- Charity Committee
- MedSoc
- Debating Society
- Care Home Volunteer
- Medicine Summer School

“Having joined NHGS as a newcomer from a different school, I was made to feel very welcome. The support networks here are really good. I have thoroughly enjoyed my time at NHGS Sixth Form and have made some brilliant friends.”

Student Profile: Alex Kingsley - PwC / Higher Level Apprenticeship

A Levels (2019)

- Biology: A
- Mathematics: A*
- Physics: A

Activities

- Prefect
- Charity Committee
- School Football Team
- Gym Part-time Work

“The time I spent at NHGS Sixth Form was the most enjoyable two years of my life. I received a very high quality of teaching which allowed me to attain high grades in my A Levels, but I also felt as though my teachers were almost really my friends, which definitely made my sixth form experience a lot more enjoyable. Sixth Form also gave me the platform to explore my career options, and as a result of the school putting on sessions where companies came in to give talks about what they had to offer career wise, I have started a job at PwC that, without NHGS, I would never have known about. My 2 years in Sixth Form helped me to develop a fantastic social life and build a great circle of friends.”

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

NHGS Sixth Form Entry Requirements

- A minimum of 6 GCSE subjects at Grade 5 or above including English and Mathematics.
- A Grade 5 or above in any subject to be studied at A-level (where the student has previously studied the subject).
- Equivalent vocational qualifications may be accepted.
- All full course, Level 2 qualifications, including Applied GCSEs, of whatever size will count as one GCSE.
- To study Biology, Physics or Chemistry, students need to have achieved a Grade 6 or above in the respective GCSEs or a minimum of two Grade 6s in Science and Additional Science at GCSE.
- To study Mathematics, Physics or Chemistry, students must have Grade 6 or above in Mathematics at GCSE.
- To study French or Spanish, students must have a Grade 6 or above in their chosen language.
- Students wanting to study 4 A level courses should achieve at least an average GCSE Grade of 7.

Register your interest online at www.nhgs.co.uk/sixth-form

5 KEY REASONS TO JOIN THE NHGS SIXTH FORM

- We are Calderdale's largest and most consistently successful school Sixth Form.
- We get to know all of our students personally and provide exceptional pastoral care. Our well-being provision is second to none.
- We offer a fantastic range of A level courses.
- Our enrichment provision is superb and provides our students with tremendous opportunities to develop and demonstrate a wide range of skills and attributes that top universities and employers prize highly.
- We equip our students with the knowledge, skills and understanding to navigate life with confidence and set courses of their own choosing.

North Halifax Grammar School

Moorbottom Road, Illingworth, Halifax, West Yorkshire HX2 9SU

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