



#bethebestyoucanbe



DROITWICH SPA  
HIGH SCHOOL  
AND SIXTH FORM CENTRE



DSHS6F  
Prospectus

2026

Whilst we will endeavour to run the full range of courses, we are awaiting confirmation from the DFE as all Sixth Form provision is currently under review. We will provide any necessary updates to applicants and parents in the Spring Term.

## COURSES AVAILABLE

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ART, CRAFT AND DESIGN

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BIOLOGY

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BUSINESS

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CHEMISTRY

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CRIMINOLOGY (Level 3 Applied Diploma)

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DANCE

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DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY: PRODUCT DESIGN

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DRAMA AND THEATRE STUDIES

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ECONOMICS

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ENGLISH LITERATURE

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FILM STUDIES

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FOOD SCIENCE AND NUTRITION

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FRENCH

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GEOGRAPHY

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GERMAN

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HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE

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HISTORY

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IT

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MATHEMATICS (Core)

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MATHEMATICS

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MATHEMATICS (Further)

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PHILOSOPHY AND ETHICS

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PHYSICS

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PSYCHOLOGY

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SOCIOLOGY

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SPORT AND PHYSICAL ACTIVITY (Cambridge Technical — Foundation Diploma)

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SPORT AND PHYSICAL ACTIVITY (Cambridge Technical — Extended Diploma)

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MRS JOANNA EVANS

Assistant  
Headteacher—Head of  
Sixth Form and Post-16  
Preparation

## HEAD OF SIXTH FORM WELCOME

I believe that a successful Sixth Form is one where:

- All students feel safe, valued and respected.
- Expert and engaging teachers lead small, well-motivated classes.
- There is the right mix of academic rigour and vocational opportunity so that students can build a curriculum that suits them and allows them to demonstrate their talent.
- Teachers and tutors offer high quality guidance and support, particularly in careers and university applications, at every opportunity.
- Participation in a diverse range of extra curricular and leadership opportunities, particularly those that support charitable objectives, is high.
- Students are afforded the opportunity to develop soft-skills vital to their future and a balance between achieving academic excellence and character building is at the heart of the Sixth Form ethos.
- Sixth Formers have their own dedicated, high quality facilities where they can study and socialise.

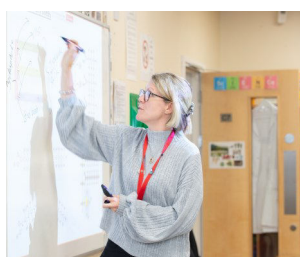
Every day, my team and I, together with all of the teaching staff, strive to ensure that the seven characteristics above are the day to day reality in our Sixth Form.

We are succeeding.

I know this because:

- our student numbers are healthy and our completion rate is very high.
- our student and parent surveys are very positive. 100% of parents say their child is safe and well cared for in the Sixth Form and 98% say that their child is well taught.
- we have over thirty courses available and our average class size in the 25/26 academic year is < 14.
- our students' UCAS references and CVs are packed with extra curricular activity and volunteering and employment experience.
- our destination data is impressive. Nearly 70% of last year's Year 13 have secured university places with 94% of them accepting offers from their "Firm" choice. There are also some very impressive apprenticeship and employment destinations.

I



am delighted that you are thinking about joining our Sixth Form. If you would



## WHAT DO SIXTH FORMERS GET?

#1

### SMALL CLASS SIZES

The average class size in the Sixth Form is currently < 14. Students receive close attention so

#2

### A HIGH AMOUNT OF CONTACT TIME IN LESSONS

Each course has 4.5 hours of lesson time per week, whilst many other institutions have only 4.

#3

### EXPERT UCAS AND CAREER PREPARATION

First class support for students in preparation for university, apprenticeships and employment. Well over three hours of work goes into each student application through one-to-one meetings and reference writing. There is mock interview preparation for those who face this challenge during their application.

#4

### DIVERSE EXTRA CURRICULAR OPPORTUNITIES

There are visits to New York, Europe and India as well as theatre trips and fieldwork in many subjects.

Many Sixth Formers undertake community volunteering and/or high quality work experience.

There is also a wide range of sporting opportunity as well as Duke of Edinburgh Gold and the Pre-GCE

#5

### HIGH QUALITY STUDY AREAS AND FACILITIES

We have large, modern, quiet spaces where Sixth Formers can study. Sixth Form also have their own computer room, which is always available, and access to the school Wi-Fi if they bring their own device.

#6

### 16-19 BURSARY SUPPORT

6F bursaries are available to lower income families. These are awarded based on financial income and students are then provided with a specified amount per half term, money towards trips, educational resources and even towards laptops and electronic devices to support their learning. Bursaries that cover part of the cost of transport are also available.

#7

### PASTORAL SUPPORT

Each Sixth Former has a personal tutor who guides them through an age specific tutor programme. For example, there are sessions on new driver safety, student finance and voting and democracy. We also have an Assistant Head of Sixth Form Year and a Full-time Pastoral Manager to closely monitor attendance and achievement.

#8

### SIXTH FORM SNACK SHACK

The Sixth Form have their own personal café and vending machine.

#9

### FLEXIBLE STUDY

Students who are achieving and attending well will 'earn' flexible study, where they can study at home during non-contact periods. The more confident teachers are that students are 'on track' the more flexible study they are entitled to.

#10

### TUTOR PROGRAMME

Tutors deliver an engaging and diverse tutor programme designed to support and prepare students as



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## ABOUT SIXTH FORM

### ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

The minimum\* requirement for entry to our Sixth Form is:

- grade 4 in English Language; and
- grade 4 in Maths; and
- at least 32 points from your six best other level 2 qualifications (GCSEs or equivalent)

However, a student that *only* has the above does not have total freedom to select from all of the courses in the prospectus. More academically challenging subjects have higher criteria, which are displayed on each page.

\*Exceptions may be made for students who have narrowly missed these



### THE CURRICULUM

Even the highest quality universities make their offers based on three subjects. Furthermore, many universities including Cambridge, Manchester, Bristol and Durham have publicly stated that students that take four subjects will not be at an advantage to contemporaries with three. In fact, many entry requirements for 2025/6 admission stated that the Extended Qualification Project (EPQ) is preferred to a fourth AS Level and that an A\* grade amongst the three grades is a much better discriminator between candidates than an extra AS or A Level.

The only exception to this is that for some courses the study of Further Maths alongside three A Levels (including Maths) is highly regarded.

For this reason, we expect that all of our students will begin Year 12 with a minimum of three subjects and continue these subjects into Year 13.

We do not enter students for AS Levels at the end of Year 12. This means that we can organise our teaching to ensure deep learning, rather than being distracted with external assessments during Year 12 that ultimately doesn't count at the end of Year 13. We have 'Year 13 Entrance' exams and students must pass these in order to progress to Year 13.

We discuss course selection with all applicants at interview. This allows us to advise individuals and, where applicable, suggest changes should they have ambitions to

### THE SCHOLARS' PROGRAMME AND HE+

Our very brightest students will be given the extra stretch and challenge they require. Students with exceptional GCSE results will be added to the 'Scholars' group to support them to progress to prestigious destinations. This group will be eligible for (and encouraged to undertake as many as possible of) the following:

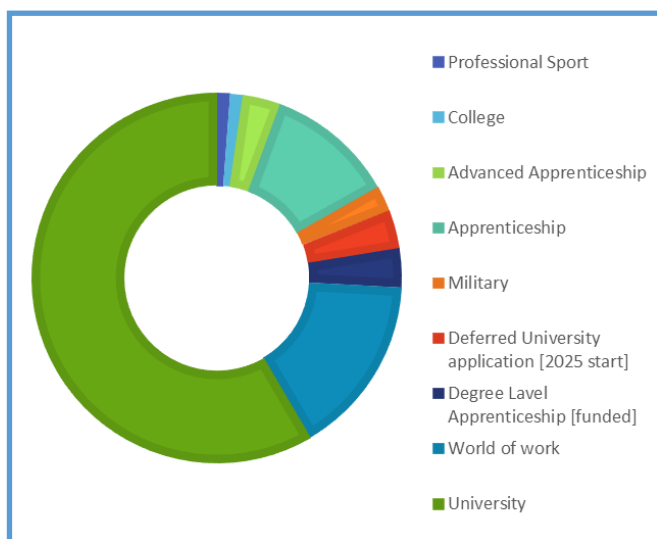
- study of the Extended Project Qualification. The teaching of research and report writing skills in this qualification are essential at university and prestigious ones place high value upon it.
- study of Core Maths (alongside appropriate non-Scholars) for those not doing Maths. This course will be very useful for admission to university courses that have some quantitative elements (e.g. Psychology, Economics but where Maths A Level is not required).
- study of four subjects in Year 12, particularly if one is Further Maths.
- visits to high quality universities, including meeting ex Droitwich Spa High School Sixth Form students on campus.
- mock interview practice to support with university admissions.

The HE+ programme is run by Cambridge University and

### HOW TO APPLY

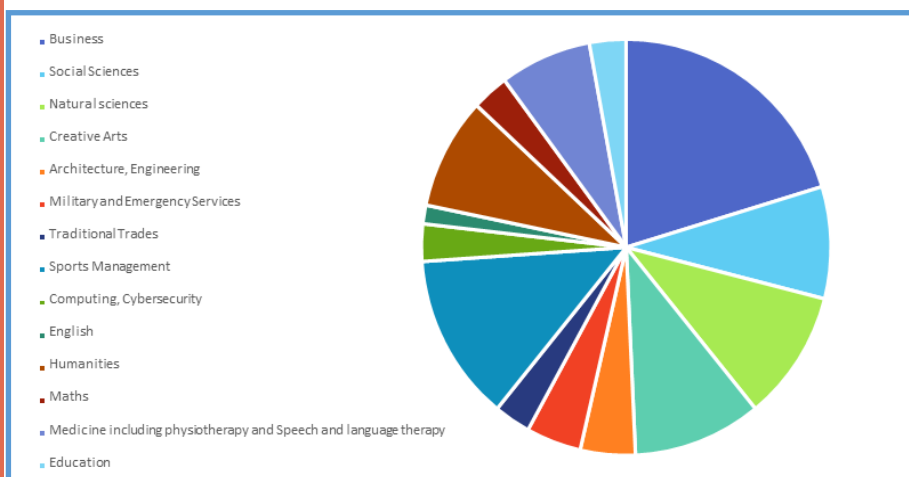
Students in Year 11 with us can apply using the 16-18 tracker portal and External candidates can access an online application form; both are on the Sixth Form page

# DESTINATIONS FOR 2024

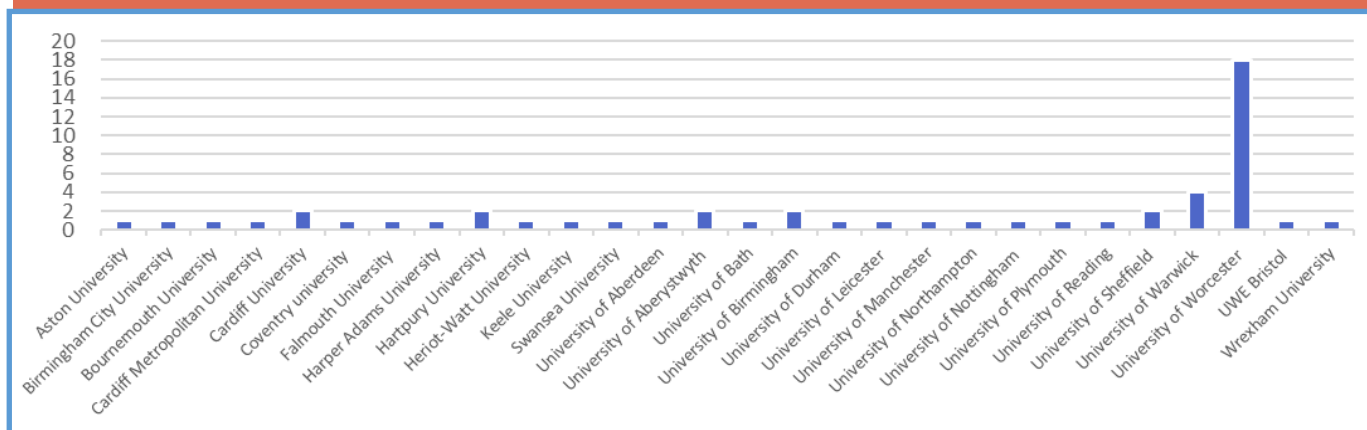


Our Sixth Form supports a diverse range of interests, with recent students pursuing specialized fields such as Agriculture, Ocean Science and Marine Conservation, Zoology, Digital Forensics and Speech and Language Therapy. No matter their chosen path, we ensure every student is equipped to take their next steps confidently, towards bright and promising

Beyond university routes, we are proud to celebrate several students who have secured fully funded Degree Level Apprenticeships, and others who have embarked on Advanced Apprenticeships, the world of work and plans for travelling abroad. Students undertake a huge range of subjects whether as an apprentice, at university or in a college environment



At DSHS 6F, we pride ourselves on guiding students toward fulfilling, high-quality destinations that suit their individual ambitions. This year, the majority of our students have progressed to Higher Education, with seven securing places at prestigious Russell Group universities, including Warwick, Manchester, Liverpool, and Birmingham. We recognise that for many, higher education is their chosen destination, but moving away to university doesn't appeal and we work hard to



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## WHO DO I SEE FOR MORE INFORMATION?

For general enquiries:

- Mrs Evans, Head of Sixth Form
- Miss S. Habberton, Assistant Head of Sixth Form

Active-U

- Mr E. Rollit, Sixth Form Pastoral Manager

School/Community Volunteering

- Mrs Evans, Head of Sixth Form

The Duke of Edinburgh Gold Award

- Mr M. Tibbits, Teacher of Chemistry and DoF Coordinator

Young Enterprise

- Mr C Barth, Head of Business and Economics

Industrial Cadets Gold award

- Mr A. Millicheap, Head of Design and Technology



## ENRICHMENT ACTIVITIES

### WHAT WILL I STUDY AND LEARN?

It is compulsory to take part in an enrichment activity in Y12. We offer a broad range of different activities which allow you to compliment your studies, learn something new or help maintain your physical or mental well-being.

### WHAT ENRICHMENT ACTIVITIES ARE AVAILABLE?

#### Active-U

Active-U gives students the opportunity to take part in an hour of sport or physical activity each week. The activities offered very much depend on the availability but will usually include the following\*: Football, Badminton, Squash, Table tennis and use of the Gym at the leisure centre. (\*Activities subject to change pending availability at the leisure centre – not all activities will be available during every Active-U slot)

#### Lesson Support

Students can volunteer to support a Y8-10 class with subject knowledge they have gained during their own GCSE and A Level programmes. This may include an A Level Maths student supporting a Y8 Maths group or a student following an area of interest rather than study, for example supporting in a Food class even if they don't opt for Food A Level.

#### School/Community Volunteering

Community volunteering enables students to engage with voluntary placements both within the school and local community. This could include mentoring lower school students from either an academic or pastoral perspective, working with Mr Broughton as part of the anti-bullying alliance, supporting with whole-school literacy projects or helping with a local community project.

#### The Duke of Edinburgh Gold Award

The Duke of Edinburgh Gold Award is for young people 16+ who wish to gain essential skills and attributes for work and life such as resilience, problem-solving, team-working, communication and drive, enhancing CVs for university and job applications. The award is very highly regarded and helps individuals develop a range of skills. You don't need to have completed the Silver or Bronze award to take part in the Gold award programme.

#### Level 3 Oracy qualification in Speech

Public speaking is a significantly important skill to possess but it doesn't always come naturally to everyone. This enrichment opportunity will help you develop your confidence and teach you the different techniques associated with speaking in public, developing presentation skills and the ability and confidence in questioning and debating.

#### Young Enterprise

Young enterprise gives those interested in business and commerce the opportunity to develop core entrepreneurial skills such as Teamworking, communication, problem solving and project management.

#### Industrial Cadets Gold Award

The Industrial Cadets Gold award is an excellent opportunity to immerse yourself in a genuine industrial project from conception to finalisation. Your project will tackle actual engineering challenges and will boost your teamworking, problem solving and engineering. You will have support mentors from a specialist engineering company. The project includes a residential visit to a leading University in the field of Engineering, as well as the opportunity

## EXTENDED PROJECT QUALIFICATION (EPQ)

### WHAT WILL I STUDY AND LEARN?

The extended project is a single piece of work of a student's choosing that requires evidence of planning, preparation, research and autonomous working. It will be available as a stand-alone qualification for A Level.

The aim of the extended project is to strengthen programmes of study for 16 to 19 year olds, testing a wider range of skills.

An extended project could be, for example:

- A design.
- A report with findings from an investigation or study.
- A dissertation presenting an argument.
- An artefact.
- A performance.

Students might use their project at interview stage for higher education and / or in their personal statement on the UCAS form.

### HOW WILL EXTENDED PROJECT HELP ME?

The extended project offers opportunities for learners to:

- Obtain additional UCAS points.
- Have significant input into the choice and design of an extended piece of work.
- Develop and apply decision-making and problem-solving skills, initiative and enterprise.
- Extend their planning, research, critical thinking, analytical, synthesis, evaluation and presentation skills.
- Use their learning experiences to support their personal aspirations for higher education and / or career development.



Ideally, learners will acquire a 'tool kit' of skills, knowledge and understanding which they will be able to use when tackling similar projects in the future.



### WHO DO I SEE FOR MORE INFORMATION?

- Mr J. da Costa, Extended Project Centre Co-ordinator.





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