



RIDGEWOOD SIXTH FORM

PROSPECTUS

2026/27

“Students are exceptionally positive about their experiences in the Sixth Form”,
Ofsted 2023



Leger
Education Trust

WELCOME

We are extremely proud of our Sixth Form and the high quality education we provide. We insist on high standards of conduct from all our students and we expect them to behave impeccably: treating each other, our staff and visitors with kindness and respect.

We strive for all our students to meet and exceed their potential academically, however, we also place a great deal of importance on them really enjoying school and developing skills that will enable them to be responsible members of society. Our aspirations for our students drive every action, shape every interaction and inform every decision each day. We work hard to instil a love of learning, develop resilience and build confidence so that our students continue to flourish now, and in the future.

Our curriculum is ambitious for all students, regardless of their starting point. We offer a wide range of courses at A Level and BTEC courses to meet the needs of all. Our curriculum beyond the classroom is also vast and varied, providing our students with countless opportunities to broaden their horizons and share new experiences.

We want Ridgewood Sixth Form to continue to thrive and be at the heart of the local community. Parents/carers have a huge role to play in this and we welcome feedback from them on what we are getting right and what we can do to improve. Keeping communication channels open is vital in our pursuit of excellence.

We hope that, as you look through this prospectus, it gives you a flavour of the strengths of our Sixth Form and the warm, welcoming nature of the staff and students. However, the best way to understand what our Sixth Form is really like is to visit and we look forward to seeing you at one of our open evenings or by appointment.



Mr Andy Bridge,
Deputy Headteacher,
SLT link for Post 16

Ridgewood School



Mrs N Wilson,
Post 16 Lead

Ridgewood School

WHY CHOOSE RIDGEWOOD SIXTH FORM?



If you choose to study in the Sixth Form, you will receive the best that we have to offer. The range of opportunities available to our students – including leadership and mentoring programmes, internships, travel experiences, personalised support, careers guidance and the Duke of Edinburgh Award to name a few – are second to none. These experiences can only be found in our unique environment which combines high academic standards and enrichment to enable the development of our students into truly rounded individuals.

At Ridgewood Sixth Form, you will be given every type of support required to ensure you reach your full potential both in the classroom and beyond. You will be prepared for the rigours of university education or employment and both your academic studies and extracurricular activities will make you extremely desirable to prestigious universities and employers.

If you want to give yourself the best possible chance to prepare for your road ahead, whatever that may entail, start your journey with us at Ridgewood Sixth Form and be confident about developing your unique skillset and producing excellent academic outcomes.



‘Students are exceptionally positive about their experiences in the Sixth Form.’

– Ofsted, 2023



OUR FACILITIES

We have excellent facilities, many of which are exclusively available to our Sixth Form students in our Faraday Sixth Form Centre.

These include:

- STEM laboratories
- IT suites
- A 200-seat, multi-use auditorium
- A mix of study and social spaces
- A café
- A Careers Hub
- An iMac suite



As well as the facilities in the Sixth Form Centre, students also have access to the following main school facilities:

- Sports facilities including sports hall, fitness suite, dance studio, two 11-a-side football pitches, one full-sized rugby pitch, a floodlit 3G pitch and two netball/tennis courts
 - Six music practice rooms
 - Engineering facilities including laser cutters, 3D printers, and CNC milling machines
 - A kiln
 - A wellbeing centre
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ENRICHMENT OPPORTUNITIES

All students have access to a range of enrichment activities. Examples of our extensive enrichment opportunities include:

- | MENTORING PROGRAMME
- | DUKE OF EDINBURGH GOLD AWARD
- | DEBATE SOCIETY
- | SUPPORTING TEACHING AND LEARNING
- | PHYSICAL WELLBEING AND SPORT
- | MENTAL WELLBEING
- | LANGUAGES FOR INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS
- | TEACHING ENGLISH AS A FOREIGN LANGUAGE
- | MEDIA AND JOURNALISM
- | LGBTQ+ SOCIETY
- | CHARITY AND COMMUNITY WORK
- | ROBOTICS
- | STUDENT LEADERSHIP



‘The Sixth Form is popular and is well led.’

– Ofsted, 2023

STUDENT SUPPORT

We pride ourselves on creating a learning culture and supportive environment where all students are encouraged to maximise their potential.

INSPIRE PROGRAMME

Throughout their two years in the Sixth Form, students will take part in dedicated Inspire Programme sessions hosted by a range of visitors from across the spectrum of employment and academia. This includes representatives from Russell Group universities, the emergency services, the NHS, Members of Parliament, and representatives from industry and business.

LEARNING MENTORS

Our Learning Mentors provide additional academic support for students to ensure that they make good progress and achieve the grades they need for their post 18 destination. This can include work on organisation, essay writing and study skills and support.

INTERVIEW SKILLS

All our Sixth Form students deliver presentations on political and social issues, as part of their preparation for university and employment interviews. In preparing their own presentations, each Sixth Form student will develop the skills of planning, public oracy and rhetoric.

CAREERS GUIDANCE

We are proud of our careers provision, having won recognition from the Careers and Enterprise company for our meaningful encounters with Employers. Our Careers Advisers offer one-to-one career interviews, email advice and drop-ins to ensure you get the information you need to progress to higher education, vocational study or employment.

VALIDUS WELLBEING CENTRE

We are extremely proud to be able to offer our students Validus – a dedicated wellbeing centre equipped to meet a wide range of needs.

Validus provides a programme of holistic support, including qualified counselling support, professional and targeted support for young people experiencing issues, and specialist support for those students experiencing stress, anxiety, depression and low mood. It also raises the profile of wellbeing for all young people and staff and effectively supports our wider school teams.

OTHER SUPPORT

- Personalised application support
 - Russell Group and Oxbridge specific masterclasses
 - A week-long residential in Cambridge
 - Access to an Extended Project Qualification (EPQ)
 - Support with internships or work experience
 - Personal statement and application workshops
 - Interview guidance and pre-entry test support
 - Transport is provided between Campsmount and Ridgewood sites through Leger Connect
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INTERNSHIP PROGRAMME

Students in Year 12 complete a week-long internship within a professional working environment. We are fortunate to have access to a wide range of internship providers from the finance and motor industries to healthcare and education. We work closely with our students at all stages of the process to ensure that they are matched to the appropriate internship placement.

The internship scheme truly enables students to expand their horizons, experience a taste of the careers they wish to pursue and, in some cases, provide opportunities for a taste of independent living. Students are not confined to the local area for their placements, and some have taken this chance to complete placements in France and Spain.

As well as providing students with a unique window into a potential future career, the scheme has also allowed them to establish key contacts and points of reference that they can use throughout their careers.

STUDENT TESTIMONIES

'Working outside the local area gave me a valuable insight into how the Fire and Rescue service operates within different areas. I visited a number of stations across the District of York and got to see some of the training facilities first-hand. I believe completing the internship put me in a stronger position when making my application to the Fire and Rescue Service.'

Curtis - Internship at York Fire and Rescue Service)

'The internship scheme at Ridgewood caters for everyone. With the support of Ridgewood staff, I completed a fantastic placement in the field of Astrophysics. Due to my internship, my application to university stands apart from others, and I was able to network with scientists in the field.'

Alysha - Internship at University of York

'Working in a banking environment provided me with a useful opportunity to gain experience in the world of finance. The internship was well organised throughout and it really helped to confirm my future career path within the banking industry.'


Hannah - Internship at Santander

'Having the opportunity to work in a French primary school was fantastic for the development of my language skills and I gained valuable experience working in a professional environment. I believe I now stand out from the crowd as I can write about my internship in my personal statement for university applications. C'était fantastique!'

Elodie - Internship at Sorbies Primary School (St-Etienne, France)

'My internship placement gave me the privilege of meeting a range of healthcare specialists and allowed me to experience a week in the lives of doctors and nurses in a busy hospital. My experiences strengthened my decision to apply for medicine – and I'm pleased to say, I was successful.'

Jamie – Internship at James Cook Hospital (Middlesbrough)



‘Sixth Form students benefit from teachers who are subject experts.’

– Ofsted, 2023

SIXTH FORM COURSES

There are over 30 courses to choose from at Ridgewood Sixth Form, including a wide range of A Level and Level 3 Vocational courses which can be tailored to create a personalised study programme.

Most students will study three A Level subjects over the course of Years 12 and 13, but studying four is possible. All students are given personalised advice in their one-to-one course placement meeting to help them choose the best pathway for them.

All courses listed are subject to sufficient student numbers in order to run them. Courses may be withdrawn if numbers are too low to make them viable.

For more information on any of our Sixth Form courses, please visit ridgewoodschool.co.uk



ART, CRAFT & DESIGN

BIOLOGY

BUSINESS STUDIES

CHEMISTRY

CHILD DEVELOPMENT

COMPUTER SCIENCE

CRIMINOLOGY

DANCE

DIGITAL MEDIA

ECONOMICS

ENGLISH LANGUAGE

ENGLISH LITERATURE

FURTHER MATHS

GEOGRAPHY

HEALTH & SOCIAL CARE

HISTORY

LAW

MATHS

MEDICAL SCIENCE

PERFORMING ARTS

PHOTOGRAPHY

PHYSICS

POLITICS

PSYCHOLOGY

RELIGIOUS STUDIES

SOCIOLOGY

SPANISH

SPORT (SINGLE AND DOUBLE)

UNIFORM SERVICES

ART, CRAFT & DESIGN

The Pearson Edexcel A Level in Art, Craft & Design encourages students to explore a wide range of creative approaches while developing technical skills and confidence in their art.

Offering purpose-built modern facilities for developing artistic ideas, the course provides strong preparation for creative higher education courses and careers in art, design, and related industries.

Explore the full course information here:

[Art, Craft & Design](#)



BIOLOGY

The AQA Biology A Level enables students to look more closely at the biochemistry, genetics, and evolution of a range of organisms, with access to three specialist laboratories.

Students progress to study medicine, biomedical science, radiography, zoology, pharmacology, biochemistry, neuroscience, and dentistry.

Explore the full course information here:

[Biology](#)



BUSINESS STUDIES

The OCR Cambridge Technical Level 3 Extended Certificate in Business helps students understand how business decisions are made, developing practical knowledge of business operations and decision-making.

The course prepares students for higher education and specialist pathways such as marketing, human resources, accounting, and business planning.

Explore the full course information here:

[Business Studies](#)



CHEMISTRY

The AQA Chemistry A Level explores how substances can be transformed, from synthesising life-saving drugs to understanding chemical reactions. With access to three specialist laboratories, the course includes hands-on practicals to reinforce theoretical knowledge.

Graduates go on to pursue degrees in Medicine, Dentistry, Chemistry, Biomedical Science, Pharmacology, Biochemistry, Engineering, and more.

Explore the full course information here:

[Chemistry](#)



CHILD DEVELOPMENT

The Pearson Level 3 Alternative Qualification BTEC National in Early Childhood Development is ideal for students who are interested in learning about the working sectors in childhood development.

Students can access a wide range of higher education courses, and go on to pursue careers in childcare, education, social care, and more.

Explore the full course information here:

[Child Development](#)



COMPUTER SCIENCE

The AQA Computer Science A Level is one of the most sought-after qualifications in the world, providing students with the very best foundations for the beginning of their Computer Science journey.

The course is an essential qualification for future programmers, whether they wish to continue studying at university level or kickstart their career.

Explore the full course information here:

[Computer Science](#)



CRIMINOLOGY

The WJEC Level 3 Diploma in Criminology encompasses Criminal Psychology, Behaviour, Sociology, and Criminal Justice, providing strong job prospects in criminology.

The course allows students to exercise their critical thinking, research skills, and theory application by interpreting real-life scenarios through criminological theories.

Explore the full course information here:

[Criminology](#)



DANCE

The RSL Level 3 Certificate in Dance prepares students for careers as dancers in the performing arts industry or for progression to dance-related degree courses at university.

The course is taught through workshops and sessions with visiting practitioners, helping develop a well-rounded understanding of dance.

Explore the full course information here:

[Dance](#)



DIGITAL MEDIA

The OCR Level 3 Cambridge Technical Extended Certificate in Digital Media encourages creativity in designing and producing media products, and it has already become one of the most popular courses at Ridgewood Sixth Form.

Students will learn how media institutions operate, how to create media products, and how to advertise their ideas for a future career in media production.

Explore the full course information here:

[Digital Media](#)



ECONOMICS

The Edexcel Economics A Level lends itself to topical real-world applications, including politics, business, and marketing.

Students have gone on to study at a variety of prestigious universities such as Cambridge, Durham, and St. Andrews, embarking on careers in business, journalism, politics, finance, accounting, or marketing.

Explore the full course information here:

[Economics](#)



ENGLISH LANGUAGE

The AQA English Language A Level provides a challenging and diverse course that allows students to explore how English is learned, how it is applied, and how it has and will evolve.

Future career pathways are vast, including primary and secondary teaching, journalism, speech and language therapy, and educational and child psychology.

Explore the full course information here:

[English Language](#)



ENGLISH LITERATURE

The AQA English Literature A Level encourages analytical skills and independent thinking by developing the ability to approach texts from various genres, eras, and cultures with confidence.

The course opens up a vast range of careers in fields such as teaching, journalism, publishing, or media.

Explore the full course information here:

[English Literature](#)



FURTHER MATHS

The AQA Further Mathematics A Level is essential for many higher education courses and careers, providing foundational knowledge of mechanics, statistics, pure mathematics, and more.

This course is suitable for students with a passion for maths combined with the dedication to work hard in the subject, ready to take their first steps into a maths-powered career.

Explore the full course information here:

[Further Maths](#)



GEOGRAPHY

The AQA Geography A Level offers exciting and diverse lessons that are heavily skills-based and often linked to fieldwork, including a city trip, a coastal trip, and a two-day UK residential trip. Students will be equipped with knowledge of both physical and human geography.

Many students go on to study geography-related degrees at universities such as York and Newcastle.

Explore the full course information here:

[Geography](#)



HEALTH & SOCIAL CARE

The Pearson Level 3 National Extended Certificate in Health and Social Care equips students with foundational knowledge of the Health and Social Care sector, with opportunities to collaborate with health and care colleagues and university partners.

The course provides future career pathways in health and social care, as well as a range of higher education opportunities.

Explore the full course information here:

[Health and Social Care](#)



HISTORY

The AQA History A Level equips students with the knowledge, critical thinking and reading skills needed to pursue History at degree level, opening up future career pathways in politics, law, journalism, business, and teaching.

This is an ideal course for students who enjoy reading primary sources, uncovering historians' interpretations, and defending arguments in depth in writing.

Explore the full course information here:

[History](#)



LAW

The AQA Law A Level gives students an in-depth understanding of the English legal system, covering criminal law, tort law, and contract law.

The course provides a solid foundation for careers in law, business, or public service, as well as further study at university level.

Explore the full course information here:

[Law](#)



MATHS

The AQA Mathematics A Level is essential for many higher education courses and careers, providing foundational knowledge of mechanics, statistics, pure mathematics, and more.

Lessons consist of teacher-led examples followed by questions set for students to complete, allowing for problem-solving and using maths within unfamiliar contexts.

Explore the full course information here:

[Maths](#)



MEDICAL SCIENCE

The Pearson BTEC National Diploma in Medical Science equips students with scientific knowledge, practical skills, and confidence for careers in health care, medicine, and related fields.

The course supports progression to higher apprenticeships or further study at university, with career pathways including laboratory research, nursing, paramedicine, midwifery, care work, and physiology.

Explore the full course information here:

[Medical Science](#)



PERFORMING ARTS

The BTEC National Extended Certificate in Performing Arts (Level 3) offers outstanding studio and theatre performance spaces, and the opportunity to attend live theatre performances to analyse a wide range of performance styles.

The course is focused heavily on preparation for employment in the Arts.

Explore the full course information here:

[Performing Arts](#)



PHOTOGRAPHY

The Pearson Edexcel Photography A Level allows students to access purpose-built facilities with space to realise their creative potential.

With lessons covering both technical and creative aspects of photography, the course is ideal for refining photography skills and realising students' creative vision.

Explore the full course information here:

[Photography](#)



PHYSICS

The AQA Physics A Level offers an opportunity to explore the fundamental nature of almost everything we know. Teaching is conducted in specialist laboratories with high-quality practical equipment, enabling regular hands-on work.

Physics opens pathways into engineering, medicine, astrophysics, radiography, mathematics, computer science, and more.

Explore the full course information here:

[Physics](#)





POLITICS

The Edexcel Politics A Level covers a wide range of compelling topics, including UK Politics, Ideologies and US Politics, with the opportunity to join an award-winning Debate Team.

The course prepares for potential future careers in politics, law, journalism, business, and teaching.

Explore the full course information here:

[Politics](#)



PSYCHOLOGY

The AQA Psychology A Level offers an insight into the human mind, providing foundational knowledge into human behaviour, research methods, and data analysis.

Students go on to pursue higher education in psychology, educational studies, teaching, business studies, sport, English, politics, social work, and nursing.

Explore the full course information here:

[Psychology](#)



RELIGIOUS STUDIES

The OCR Religious Studies A Level prepares students for both university study and key skills for the world of work, such as evaluation, critical thinking, communication, and debating skills.

Students will discuss religion and topical world issues, with compelling debates and research rooted in philosophy and ethics.

Explore the full course information here:

[Religious Studies](#)



SOCIOLOGY

The AQA Sociology A Level offers an effective insight into Sociology, covering a variety of fascinating topics including Education, Families and Households, Beliefs in Society, and Crime and Deviance.

Future career paths will involve working to improve a wide range of social issues, with the goal of making a difference in people's lives.

Explore the full course information here:

[Sociology](#)



SPANISH

The AQA Spanish A Level provides students with an in-depth look into the Spanish language and Hispanic culture, using films, books, and history to complement learning.

The knowledge of a foreign language is needed in many fields of work, from the police force and education to hospitality and tourism.

Explore the full course information here:

[Spanish](#)



SPORT (SINGLE)

The OCR Cambridge Technical Level 3 in Sport provides students with varied knowledge in body systems, injuries, sports coaching, sports organisation and development, and more.

Graduates go on to pursue a wide range of university courses and employment opportunities in different areas of sport.

Explore the full course information here:

[Sport \(Single\)](#)



SPORT (DOUBLE)

The OCR Cambridge Technical Level 3 in Sport (Double) addresses many different aspects of sport, with limited practical.

Topics include Biomechanics, Body Systems, Injuries, Sports Coaching, Sports Psychology, and more, preparing students for dedicated careers in many sporting fields.

Explore the full course information here:

[Sport \(Double\)](#)



UNIFORM SERVICES

The NCFE Level 3 qualification in Uniform Services offers comprehensive preparation for careers in uniformed services, covering essential topics such as mental and physical wellbeing, values and standards, and equality, diversity, and inclusion.

The course develops students' critical thinking, leadership, and communication skills while exploring career opportunities across various services.

Explore the full course information here:

[Uniform Services](#)





'An ever-diverse range of subjects is on offer for students.'

– Ofsted, 2023

Rated 'Good'
by Ofsted.



APPLY NOW

There will be opportunities for a tour of the Faraday P16 facilities, to meet our staff from across Ridgewood and discuss your personal requirements for P16 study. We can't wait to meet you!

Our Sixth Form team are happy to discuss the admissions process and your application with you. They can also tell you about the support available while you are studying with us at Ridgewood Sixth Form.

Applications will open on Friday 10th October at 9am through our website.

Once you are ready to apply, simply head to ridgewoodschool.co.uk - **Post 16 - Applications** and fill in the online form.

We encourage early applications to secure your place!





 www.ridgewoodschool.co.uk/sixthform

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