

INSPIRING CURIOSITY
& CREATIVITY

BUILDING COURAGE
& COMMITMENT

ENCOURAGING
COMPASSION &
COLLABORATION



THE
PORTSMOUTH
GRAMMAR
SCHOOL

SIXTH FORM

WELCOME TO OUR SIXTH FORM

Welcome to The Portsmouth Grammar School Sixth Form, a transformational and exciting two years of education: time where you pursue your academic passions, develop your independence, make lifelong friends and start to look towards the future.

PGS offers a broad Sixth Form curriculum, which places a strong emphasis on academic challenge and personal development. We are driven by our Core Values: **Compassion, Curiosity, Collaboration, Commitment, Creativity and Courage**, which underpin all our provision, from the Ignite! enrichment program to our Community and Workplace projects. At PGS we encourage you to think beyond where you will be at 18 years old, to where you aspire to be at 25.

As a Sixth Form pupil within a large school, you will experience a huge range of leadership opportunities, from Peer Mentors and Prefects to Sport and Dance captains. At the same time, you will benefit from the individual support and care that comes with a personalised pastoral system where you are known and valued.

The Sixth Form should be the best two years of your school life; full of aspiration, challenge, fun and friends. At PGS, we are all here to make that happen.

I look forward to meeting you.

Mrs Rebecca Clay
Head of Sixth Form



SIXTH FORM CURRICULUM

Our Sixth Form curriculum is designed to help you develop as an individual, both academically and personally.

With a choice from 24 different subjects at A-Level, PGS offers you the opportunity to find your focus for your future and spend your Sixth Form studying subjects you are passionate about. The in-depth nature of A-Levels allows you to quench your intellectual curiosity and our small class sizes offer space for creativity and collaboration.

Our Sixth Form curriculum also offers you the opportunity to undertake an Extended Project Qualification (EPQ), which may be essay-based, creative or practical and is the chance to pursue your intellectual passion beyond the confines of a traditional curriculum.

You will have weekly access to a wide range of taught academic and personal enrichment courses, to extend your learning beyond your core subjects, through our Ignite! programme. You can also choose from a broad range of community partnership projects and work experience, receiving skills coaching and opportunities for leadership development.



 I JOINED PGS FROM A LOCAL ACADEMY FOR SIXTH FORM WHICH WAS QUITE A BIG CHANGE. EVERYONE HERE HAS BEEN REALLY SUPPORTIVE AND HELPFUL DURING MY TIME HERE WHICH HAS MADE MY EXPERIENCE GREAT.

PGS Sixth Form Pupil



“ PGS HAS BEEN INSTRUMENTAL IN HELPING ME DISCOVER MY PASSION FOR MEDICINE AND GUIDING ME THROUGH THE NEXT STEPS OF MY JOURNEY. I HAD TO GO THROUGH SEVERAL ENTRANCE EXAMS FOR IMPERIAL COLLEGE, AND I HAD UNLIMITED SUPPORT FROM PGS, EVERY STEP OF THE WAY.

PGS Sixth Form Pupil

ACADEMIC ENRICHMENT

Our academic enrichment programme at PGS is designed to allow you to excel in higher education and the workplace, becoming deep thinkers, critical enquirers, intellectual risk-takers.

This timetabled programme assists in securing places at the most competitive universities and apprenticeships in the UK and abroad. Through the EPQ, Ignite! and countless academic societies, we provide a dynamic and future-proof approach to academic enrichment that will give you the knowledge, skills, and experience necessary to become innovators and leaders of the next generation.

Designed to give you a taste of the subjects that lie outside the A-Level curriculum and acting as a stepping stone to university courses, our Ignite! Programme will offer you a diverse range of short courses, catering for the breadth of interests of every individual, taught by our passionate and highly qualified staff.

PGS Sixth Form provides an environment where Sixth Formers feel supported and empowered to reach their full potential. We pride ourselves on the exceedingly high level of individualised pastoral and academic support available in the Sixth Form from our inspiring and dedicated staff.

PERSONAL ENRICHMENT

Our Personal Enrichment Curriculum is focused on personal development through exciting, rewarding and hugely enjoyable opportunities, providing an inspiring platform for the future.

At PGS we look beyond university destinations and encourage you to think about life at 25, preparing you to have an enriched and productive career, leading to a fulfilled, happy, and purposeful life. We dedicate specific timetable space within the week to support this, through our Ignitel programme, our Community, Action and Workplace projects and our Pastoral Curriculum.

We want you to go beyond your subjects, choose your curriculum and to extend your thinking to develop personal qualities, perspectives, and ideas; building the ability to take control of your life, and above all, your understanding of what you enjoy as an individual and your role in the wider world.

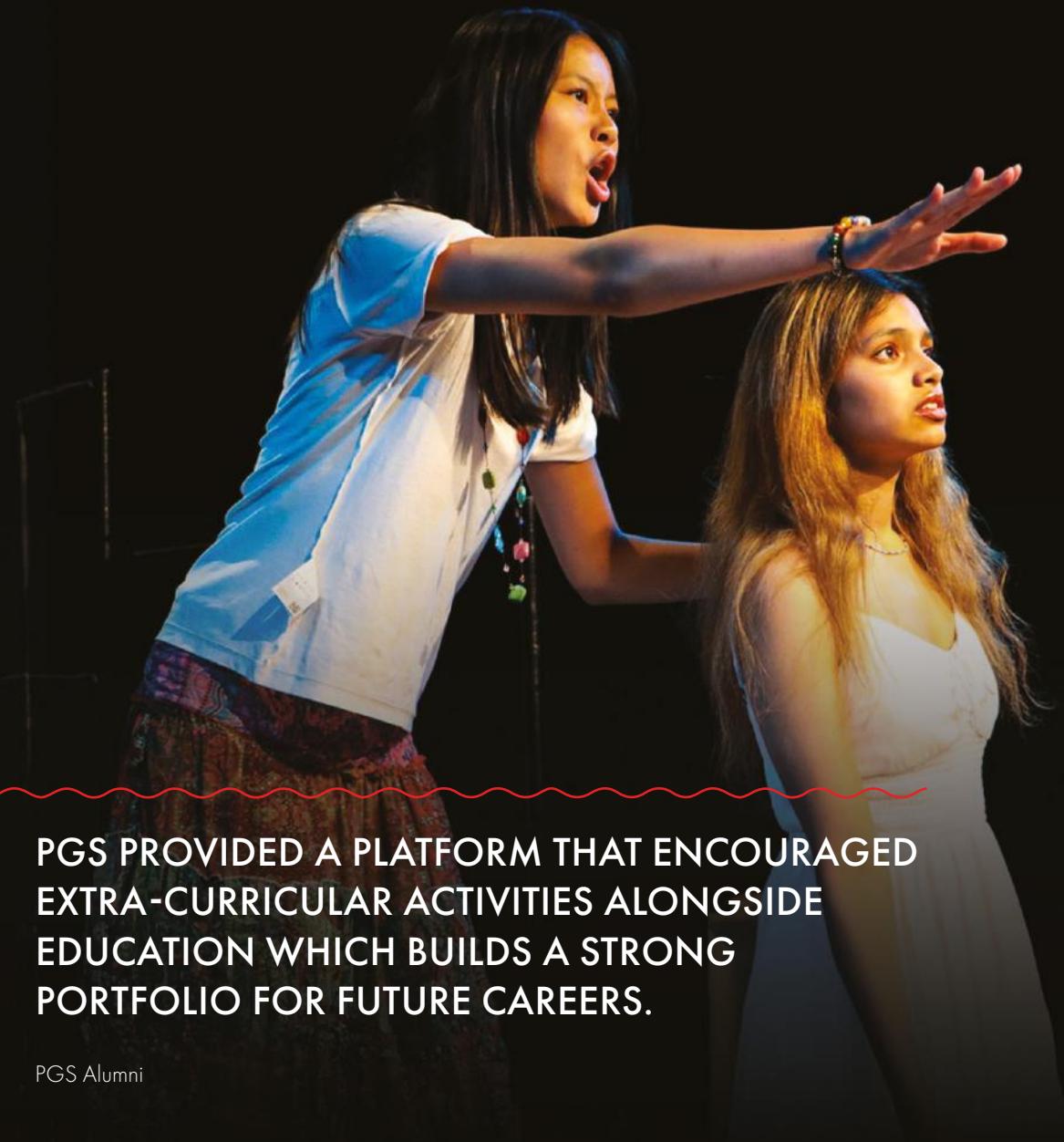
Our Personal Enrichment Curriculum offers you the resources, opportunities and coaching to develop and build:

- Our PGS Core values: **Compassion, Curiosity, Collaboration, Commitment, Creativity and Courage**
- An understanding of your purpose in the world
- A sense of your responsibilities to the local and global communities
- Humility in success and resilience when challenged.

A group of students in a music room, playing string instruments. In the foreground, a girl with glasses and a boy are playing cellos. In the background, another student is playing a brass instrument. The room has warm lighting and a piano is visible on the right.

PGS HAS ALWAYS FELT LIKE ONE BIG FAMILY TO ME. WHETHER THAT'S THROUGH CCF, PEER MENTORING OR BEING ON THE SCHOOL COUNCIL. THE COMPASSION WE ALL HAVE FOR ONE ANOTHER IS SO IMPORTANT AND SPECIAL.

PGS Sixth Form Pupil



PGS PROVIDED A PLATFORM THAT ENCOURAGED EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES ALONGSIDE EDUCATION WHICH BUILDS A STRONG PORTFOLIO FOR FUTURE CAREERS.

BEYOND THE CLASSROOM

Sixth Form at PGS is a time where we encourage you to find and explore your passions and take ownership of your individual path for the steps ahead.

In the Sixth Form, we place strong focus on the importance of life beyond the classroom and making the most of the co-curricular opportunities here at PGS, whether that is through making your stage debut or leading a sports team to victory. We believe co-curricular opportunities help build relationships, nourish our pupils' academic success and are vital to a happy and successful Sixth Form experience.

Community, Action, Workplace is a core part of the Year 12 curriculum, timetabled into each week. You can decide where you volunteer and do so at least once a week; currently around 18 organisations benefit from our pupils' commitment from community outreach projects to local school groups. We aim to instil a drive to become responsible individuals, prepared for the world beyond PGS, and ready to make a difference.





YEAR 13 LEAVERS 2024



PASTORAL CURRICULUM

The Pastoral Curriculum in the Sixth Form supports you as you move towards the world beyond PGS, providing you with support and guidance in:

- Living independently
- Maintaining healthy relationships
- Political literacy
- Personal safety.

The Portsmouth Grammar School is committed to the development of the individual and to nurturing the core skills and qualities that will enable you all to flourish.

A young woman with long dark hair, wearing a dark blazer, a white shirt, and a red, yellow, and black striped tie, is speaking at a wooden podium. She is looking down at some papers on the podium. A microphone is positioned in front of her. In the background, there are some drums and cymbals, suggesting a music room or rehearsal space. The quote is overlaid on the right side of the image.

CAW AND IGNITE! ARE MEANINGFUL. THE PASTORAL CURRICULUM TAUGHT ME HOW TO KEEP SAFE AND WHAT TO DO IN AN EMERGENCY, IT ALSO GAVE ME AN OVERVIEW OF THE UNI LIFE AND FINANCE, WHICH WERE VERY USEFUL. CAW ALLOWED US TO DO COMMUNITY SERVICES AND HELP PEOPLE; IGNITE! OFFERED US THE CHANCE TO DIVE DEEPER INTO OUR FIELDS OF INTEREST.

PGS International Sixth Form Pupil



“ GOING TO PGS HELPED FOCUS ME ON WHAT I WANTED TO DO IN MY LIFE. WITH THE GUIDANCE OF MY TUTOR AND TEACHERS, I WAS ABLE TO EXCEL IN MY ACADEMIC STUDIES AND GO TO THE UNIVERSITY THAT I HAD BEEN AIMING FOR.

PGS Alumni

UNIVERSITY AND CAREERS

Throughout your time at PGS, we will give you outstanding support and advice to help you achieve your aspirations.

9 out of 10 pupils win a place at their choice of university and we have frequent success in helping our pupils secure offers for prestigious degree apprenticeship schemes with organisations such as Dyson, Rolls Royce, and Unilever. Each pupil is assigned a Specialist Subject Advisor who will advise and guide pupils through the application process. Our dedicated Careers and Universities Department coordinate the process and organise hugely valuable events such as our annual universities fair where over forty institutions and training providers are represented.

A detailed, supportive programme, comprising extensive individual support, is dedicated to ensuring that our pupils' university applications are as strong as they can be.

OXBRIDGE APPLICATIONS

At PGS we are experienced in supporting pupils with applications to highly competitive universities. The guidance and support that you will receive is comprehensive and includes subject specific discussion groups, academic extension activities, bespoke admissions test lessons, talks from Oxford and Cambridge graduates, and extensive interview preparation and practice.

MEDICAL, VETERINARY AND DENTISTRY APPLICATIONS

For pupils wishing to apply to study medicine, veterinary science, or dentistry we have a comprehensive and bespoke programme of preparation in place. In Year 12 pupils can join the Medics Club which meets weekly to discuss current medical issues. In addition, pupils are enrolled onto our Medicinal Chemistry academic enrichment programme, receive specialist UCAT preparation sessions and additional support with choosing institutions and writing personal statements.

In Year 13, we offer our aspirant medics a full programme of interview training, as well as engagement and feedback from a range of medical professionals.



FIND OUT MORE ABOUT OXBRIDGE AND MEDICAL, VETERINARY AND DENTISTRY APPLICATIONS

WE ARE LISTED IN THE
TOP 100
SPORTS SCHOOLS

24

A-LEVEL
SUBJECTS
AVAILABLE

32

IGNITE! TIMETABLED
SHORT COURSES FOR
ACADEMIC ENRICHMENT

18

**LOCAL PARTNERSHIP
ORGANISATIONS**
WORKED WITH ACROSS
THE ACADEMIC YEAR

YEAR 12 PUPILS COMPLETE
2,650

HOURS OF **COMMUNITY SERVICE**
AND WORK PLACEMENTS EACH YEAR

9 OUT OF 10
PUPILS GO TO THEIR
CHOSEN UNIVERSITY

71%
OF PUPILS GO ON
TO A **RUSSELL
GROUP UNIVERSITY**



PGS HAS OFFERED ME AN INVALUABLE EDUCATION, GIVING ME A DRIVE TO LEARN WHILST MAKING LEARNING FUN. THE LEVEL OF SUPPORT AND ADVICE I HAVE RECEIVED FROM ALL IN THE PGS COMMUNITY HAS HELPED PREPARE ME FOR UNIVERSITY AND MY FUTURE BEYOND.

PGS Sixth Form Pupil

COURSE GUIDE

At PGS, we have 24 A-Levels on offer to our pupils. We hope this guide will give you a flavour of what is on offer.

Please scan below for a more in-depth look at our individual A-Level subjects.



**READ MORE ABOUT
OUR A-LEVELS**





GET IN TOUCH

There is no substitute for coming to see us in person. Scan our QR code to take a closer look at our website Sixth Form pages, get in touch or visit us at one of our upcoming open events.

**We look forward to welcoming you to the
PGS Sixth Form community.**



**GET IN TOUCH
OR COME VISIT US**

THE PORTSMOUTH GRAMMAR SCHOOL

High Street, Portsmouth, Hampshire PO1 2LN

023 9236 0036

admissions@pgs.org.uk

PGS.ORG.UK