



The Cardinal Wiseman  
Catholic School

**Sixth Form  
Prospectus  
2019**





## We believe

that the role of the Cardinal Wiseman Sixth Form is to ensure that our students develop and learn within a Catholic environment. We welcome applications from all backgrounds and faiths and believe that it is important to develop our students both as learners and citizens, allowing them to make informed choices about their future. It is our aim to ensure that we maximise the potential of all our students through inspirational teaching, support and guidance.

This school is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.

## You can achieve

great things through hard work and dedication. Wiseman students have constantly excelled and experienced great success; be it from attending Oxford or Cambridge to studying medicine at UCL or engineering at a Russell Group University. If you are ambitious and have a lust to achieve, then you too can be one of those people.



# Welcome to the Cardinal Wiseman Sixth Form

**My promise to you is that The Cardinal Wiseman Sixth Form will provide an outstanding platform for your future university and employment choices, through the highest quality teaching, guidance and support.**

In July 2018 the Cardinal Wiseman Sixth Form was judged by Ofsted as outstanding, following a rigorous inspection from a team that included four serving secondary Headteacher's. A Level results validated Ofsted's judgement, with one in three grades at A\* or A. Seventy per cent of grades were A\* - B and ninety per cent A\* - C.

The Sixth Form Team, led by Mr Hickman, aim to position each

student so that they have a range of opportunities at the end of Year 13. These will range from attending elite Russell Group Universities to high quality apprenticeships. There is no achievement ceiling for our Sixth Form students; in each of the last ten years' students have achieved Oxbridge places. Unlike most Sixth Forms we employ an experienced full time UCAS advisor, Mrs Sowa, to ensure that every student is given personalised guidance in relation to their pathways following A levels.

Our community is inclusive and welcoming. Students from other schools, faiths or non-faiths will be warmly welcomed, as

acknowledged in the recent Ofsted report.

Should you choose to join our Sixth Form I am confident that in the years ahead you will look back to one of the most rewarding and enjoyable experiences of your life – a time when you clarified your study and occupational choices, achieved well and established friendships that will last a lifetime.

**Mr M Kiely,  
Headteacher**



## What does Ofsted say about the Cardinal Wiseman Sixth Form?

*"The sixth-form provision is outstanding. Students are supported effectively to achieve their best."*

*"The leadership of the sixth form is exceptionally strong and shows continuing improvement in the quality of learning and support for students."*

*"The sixth form has a strong sense of community...Students feel very safe."*

**Ofsted July 2018**

## A vibrant and distinct learning community

The CW6F is an Outstanding sixth form. Students make exceptional progress here, with students far exceeding previous school records to set a benchmark that almost no other schools or colleges locally can match; 33% of all exams taken in 2018 achieved an A\* - A and a staggering 70% an A\* - B, opening up a vast array of future opportunities. Students here attain places at top universities across the country including Oxford and Cambridge as well as on courses to study medicine. I believe that all students should be supported in achieving their best, whether that is with fulfilling their

academic potential or developing more holistically through taking opportunities in some of the many enrichment activities that are available to them. I am very proud of the way our students act as role models to youngsters across the school and it is clear that students thrive here. We have a unique community with specialist, experienced teachers and a dedicated 6F team who provide the highest standard of pastoral care. I am in a privileged position to be able to work with and support our amazing young people at this important stage in their lives and I look forward to welcoming you into Year 12.



**Mr A Hickman, Senior Assistant Headteacher (Director of Sixth Form)**

# Sixth Form provision

## Learning Pathways

There have been many changes to A Levels in recent years, but all A level courses are now the full linear A level. The most significant difference is that there are no examinations mid-way through the course which add to the final grade (as was found with AS examinations). All students will be provided with clear advice and guidance on the appropriate subjects and pathways for them. We offer an inclusive provision to cater for students of different abilities. We have three distinct learning pathways:

### The Accelerated Pathway

...is for those students who wish to follow a more traditional A Level route and choose to study facilitating subjects as identified by the Russell Group universities. These students will have achieved 5 x Level 9 to 7 GCSE passes and will find themselves in a subject that is set according to ability.

### The Academic Pathway

...is for those students who would like to study 3 A Levels from a wide range of subjects, both academic and practical. These students will have achieved 6 x Level 9 to 4 GCSE passes including a grade 4 in English Language.

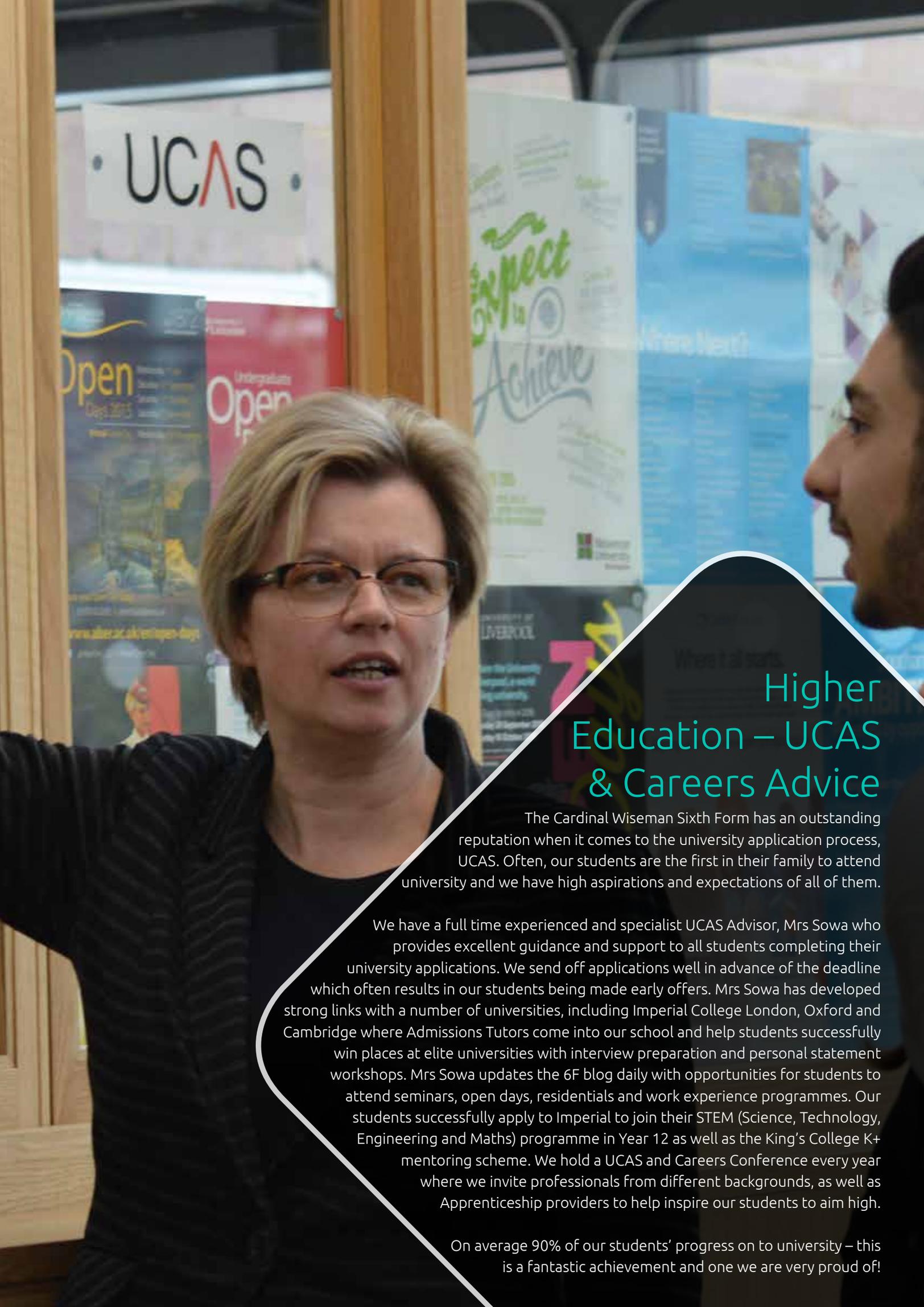
### The Technical Pathway

... is for students who would like to study a BTEC Level 3 course. We offer pathways in Media and Business, with opportunities to pick up additional Level 3 courses to supplement some of these BTEC's. These courses have a more applied and practical approach. Students will have the opportunity to progress to suitable courses at university or embark on an apprenticeship. These students will have achieved 4 or more Level 9 to 4 passes including a grade 4 in English Language. For those students who do not achieve a grade 4 pass in Maths, re-sit exams will be available.



*"Students' work in folders confirms that they make strong progress. The outstanding features of learning and teaching...have been imported seamlessly into the sixth-form programme."*

**Ofsted July 2018**



## Higher Education – UCAS & Careers Advice

The Cardinal Wiseman Sixth Form has an outstanding reputation when it comes to the university application process, UCAS. Often, our students are the first in their family to attend university and we have high aspirations and expectations of all of them.

We have a full time experienced and specialist UCAS Advisor, Mrs Sowa who provides excellent guidance and support to all students completing their university applications. We send off applications well in advance of the deadline which often results in our students being made early offers. Mrs Sowa has developed strong links with a number of universities, including Imperial College London, Oxford and Cambridge where Admissions Tutors come into our school and help students successfully win places at elite universities with interview preparation and personal statement workshops. Mrs Sowa updates the 6F blog daily with opportunities for students to attend seminars, open days, residentials and work experience programmes. Our students successfully apply to Imperial to join their STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths) programme in Year 12 as well as the King's College K+ mentoring scheme. We hold a UCAS and Careers Conference every year where we invite professionals from different backgrounds, as well as Apprenticeship providers to help inspire our students to aim high.

On average 90% of our students' progress on to university – this is a fantastic achievement and one we are very proud of!

# Sixth Form life

“The Cardinal Wiseman Sixth Form team are in one word, phenomenal, as they have pushed and helped me to fulfil my potential. Achieving A\*AB at A-Level is no easy feat and I could not have done it without them and so I thank them dearly for that. I had a truly wonderful sixth form experience filled with laughs, motivational assemblies and putting in hard work to get to where I needed to be in the end.

As I begin a new chapter in my life I will always be thankful and appreciative of the Sixth Form team and staff and would like to thank them once again for getting me into one of the best universities in the country (Loughborough) as well as helping me grow as a person.”

*Leon Dzapasi*

“Joining a sixth form was  
the warm and welcoming  
have made the process  
given me the opportunity  
learner but the staff are  
forever proud of their  
sixth formers.”



here I knew no one was a daunting thing to do, but  
forming community at Cardinal Wiseman could not  
process easier. Attending this sixth form has  
the opportunity to develop not only as a  
but also grow as a person. For this I will  
never be grateful and I will always be  
to be able to say that I attended  
the sixth form at Cardinal Wiseman."

*Morgan Hill*



"I could not have received better support from the Sixth Form Team, who gave it their all in helping me with the lengthy Cambridge application process."

Continual motivation, both in lessons and assemblies, from the Sixth Form team and my subject teachers helped me to achieve my grades. It's truly amazing how they managed to cater to my individual needs while juggling the needs of hundreds of other pupils."

*Suneet Dias*



A young woman with dark, curly hair and glasses is smiling and looking down at a book. A man in a grey suit and blue tie is looking at the same book. They are in a library or study area with bookshelves in the background.

## Care and support

One of the key strengths of our Sixth Form is the pastoral support that the students receive as they are nurtured through what can be a very stressful period in their lives. The Sixth Form team views the link between pastoral care and curriculum support as vital to the success of our students. We work closely with subject teachers to ensure students are making progress and receive additional help to reach their target grades. Gifted and Talented students are identified early and have a specific programme focusing on Oxbridge entry. Experienced Heads of Year, tutors and Academic Support Assistants all help to ensure appropriate interventions are put in place so that all students achieve to the best of their ability.

We are fortunate enough to have a Connexions advisor working in school, who regularly meets with students to provide careers advice. Confidential counselling is available to our students should it be required, as well as a Chaplain who offers guidance and help to all students.



## Enrichment opportunities

Whilst we regard academic success as paramount at the Cardinal Wiseman School, we also recognise that it is vital that we help to produce well rounded students. With this in mind, the school has a co-ordinated enrichment programme designed to help develop our students holistically and also prepare them for life in the wider world. It is also undeniable that universities seek out students who have more to offer than 'just' academic grades; they want students who actively seek to enrich their own lives.

The Sixth Form team holds the Catholic ethos at its core and stresses the importance of the Gospel values to all of our students. Sixth Form students study a Religious Moral Development course and are given opportunities to work with local charities as well

as accompany disabled children in a pilgrimage to Lourdes.

We offer the Extended Project Qualification (EPQ) to all students who are interested in working independently on a research topic of their choice. We also have leaders in Art, Community and Sports as well as a strong prefect team who are fully engaged in all aspects of school life. We have strong links with a local special school and many of our students participate in a weekly volunteering programme working with young children with a diverse range of physical and learning disabilities.

Many students also partake in the Gold Duke of Edinburgh award or become 'buddies' to Y7 and Y8 students. Y12 and Y13 are particularly successful in debating and regularly run clubs for lower school students thereby developing their communication and leadership skills.

*"[Leaders] are tireless in their efforts to forge new relationships with business and industry and develop new progression pathways for students. This year, leaders have successfully secured funding for five degree-level apprenticeships from an international investment bank."* **Ofsted July 2018**

A photograph of two young women in school uniforms (black sweaters over white collared shirts) standing in a library. The woman on the left has long blonde hair and is smiling. The woman on the right has long dark hair and is looking towards the left. In the background, there are bookshelves and another student. A blue triangular graphic is overlaid on the top right of the image.

*“Students who join the school at the start of Year 12 are effusive about the welcome they receive from students and the induction and support they get from staff. Parents also support this view.”*

*Ofsted July 2018*

## Learning facilities

The Sixth Form is housed in the new Jerusalem building and provides excellent learning facilities.

The study area is based on a ‘university library’ where students can complete work during their study periods. There is access to computers, printers, laptops and iPads as well as WiFi throughout this area.

There are separate social facilities and collaborative learning spaces where students can work together in small groups. The dining area is open all day for Sixth Form students to use.

The school has a new library. It is equipped with journals, newspapers and academic books for the students to use to help them progress with their studies.

# Great expectations

## You can expect:

- High quality classroom teaching, using a variety of teaching methods and strategies.
- Support for independent learning outside the classroom.
- Guidance and support from your tutor, Head of Year and the rest of the teaching staff.
- Regular feedback on your progress and discussions about your targets and how to reach them.
- A wide selection of extra-curricular activities and travel opportunities.

## In return, we expect:

- You will give your best effort in all areas of study.
- Excellent attendance and punctuality so that you can succeed in the Sixth Form.
- You to get involved in the wider life of the school.
- You to show respect to all students and staff.
- You will act as a role model and ambassador for the younger students.

## How to apply

Simply complete the application form that is enclosed with this prospectus and return it to the school by **Friday 14th December 2018**.

Cardinal Wiseman students should hand this form to their tutor. External applicants will need to provide a reference and send this to the Sixth Form Administrator at the school.

Formal offers are made in the Spring term and are conditional offers based on GCSE performance.





## The Cardinal Wiseman Catholic School

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