

Urmston Grammar



sixth form of us

A Message from our Headteacher

Urmston Grammar Sixth Formers are proud to be part of the wider school community; we expect you to work hard, contribute to the life of the school and be effective role models for younger pupils. In return, we provide high quality teaching, a place where you can learn with like-minded students who want to succeed, excellent facilities and a wide range of opportunities to enhance your personal portfolio.

At Urmston Grammar, your lessons are specially designed for students of a similar ability, to ensure that you are intellectually challenged so that you can achieve the highest grades and reach your full potential. You can also be reassured that when you need additional academic or pastoral support, to reach your individual goals, this will be provided.

The success of Urmston Grammar Sixth Form is not only based on your aptitude, but also on the expertise of our staff in nurturing each individual. You will be challenged and supported to maximise your achievement and expected to actively participate in school life to make a valuable and sustained contribution to our wider community.

Our key messages for everyone in the Urmston Grammar community are:

- Take PRIDE in yourself and in all that you do.
- PARTICIPATE and make the best of the opportunities at Urmston Grammar.
- EMPATHISE with others so that you can understand how they feel, increasing tolerance and mutual respect.


Educating young people is a great responsibility and privilege and I am delighted that you are considering Urmston Grammar's Sixth Form.

There are many opportunities to come and see the school at work. I know you will be impressed with all that we are able to offer.

Our sixth formers have energy, enthusiasm and a love of learning. If you share these qualities, I know that our sixth form is a place where you can thrive, and I look forward to welcoming you to Urmston Grammar Sixth Form.

R S Wall

Headteacher



"Students work hard and are highly motivated..." OFSTED

"I chose to join UGS and couldn't have had a smoother transition into a new sixth form. The teachers are always on hand to support me in any way possible; helping me reach my full potential whilst gaining skills for the real world" Raees, Year 13

Life in the Sixth Form

If you have already experienced life at Urmston Grammar you will know that our Sixth Form is the right place for you to continue your studies; our excellent reputation, both regionally and nationally, means that students from many different schools also apply to be considered for a place.

In Year 12, everyone is new; whether you are joining us from Urmston Grammar's Year 11 or from another school in the region, the challenges are the same. You will be involved in a programme of induction activities, some of which begin before September, which encourage a sense of identity and cohesion for the whole year group – it is important that you quickly feel part of the school, as we know that this will help you to make a flying start with your studies and with life in the sixth form.

Within the sixth form, you have a choice of places in which to study and socialise, reserved exclusively for Years 12 and 13. The LRC, Newton Hall and Sixth Form Hub are dedicated spaces for sixth form. Whether you are looking to study independent, work collaboratively with your peers or meet up with new friends you will find a space that suits your needs. You can also use the Reading Room, Conference Rooms, Auditorium and Theatre for various enrichment activities.

Providing Support

The Sixth Form Pastoral Team is here to support you in making the most of your time at Urmston Grammar. We have an experienced team of sixth form tutors who work with Miss Lingwood, our Head of Sixth Form, the Assistant Heads of Sixth Form, Mrs Mohamed and Mr Neale, and the Sixth Form Secretary, Mrs Plano.

You will start each day with your tutor group and sixth form tutor and this will allow students to get to know each other quickly and to develop strong, positive relationships. In addition, you will also be given a teacher mentor who will support you during the two years in the sixth form. Tutors and mentors provide pastoral and academic help, guiding and supporting you as you make decisions about your future.

Our dedicated CEIAG Co-ordinator works with the Sixth Form Team to provide a comprehensive programme of **careers education, information, advice and guidance** (CEIAG) for every student. We ensure that you are able to make informed choices about the right next steps.

The Sixth Form Leadership Team



Miss Lingwood



Mrs Mohamed



Mr Neale



Mrs Plano



Shaping the Future

We are proud of the great success that we have in helping students to make the right choices. We support students to secure a place at elite universities, both in the United Kingdom and abroad, on high quality apprenticeships and to gain employment in local, national and international companies.

Each year students obtain places at Oxford, Cambridge and Russell Group universities to study a wide range of subjects. The programme of support starts right at the beginning of the Sixth Form experience when students are encouraged to set challenging goals, supported every step of the way to ensure that the goals are aspirational but achievable.

Our highly experienced Sixth Form Team will guide students as they research universities, plan visits and prepare personal statements. In addition there is guidance on preparation for university admissions tests and the team will coach students as they prepare for interviews.

We have strong links with local universities who regularly come in to support students in areas such as choosing courses, selecting a university, managing budgets, and student life.

During the autumn term of Year 12, the Sixth Form Team organise a visit to a high ranking university to crystallise thoughts about the future and to ensure that all have high aspirations. All students are involved in the UCAS Convention, which is held in March each year and this again provides you with relevant information about courses that match your personal interests and career goals.

We offer full support in completing applications for university access programmes, for students who would not otherwise perhaps seek a place at a redbrick university, due to family circumstances. We regularly secure places for students on programmes offered by Sutton Trust (UK and USA), and a range of other support programmes such as 'Manchester University Access Programme' (MAP), 'Access to Leeds', and Newcastle University 'Partners' Programme.

For those who wish to pursue higher level apprenticeships and/or employment, the Sixth Form Team and the CEIAG advisor will provide a wide range of support and advice so that students can make successful applications to local, national and international businesses, including Aviva, AON, Astra Zeneca, Virgin Media and Jaguar Land Rover. Students regularly gain employment or apprenticeships in Financial Advising and Accountancy, Legal Administration, Business Administration, Digital Marketing, IT, Software & Web Development and Engineering.

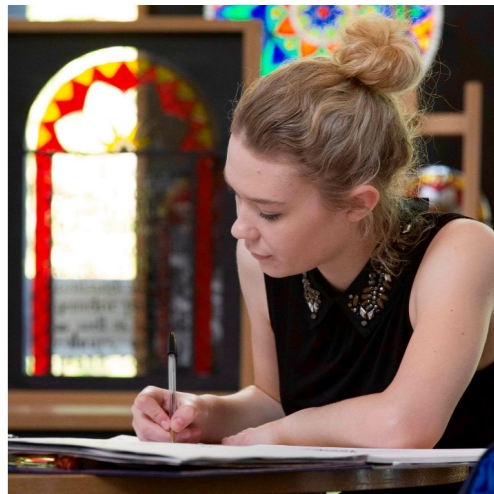
"I chose to remain at Urmston Grammar as I knew the support from the teachers through my A Levels would be outstanding"

Amber, Year 13



"Students in the sixth form are happy and proud to be part of this welcoming school community. They relish the academic rigour that teachers expect of them"

OFSTED



High Aspirations

Aspiring Oxford and Cambridge candidates benefit from a tailor-made support programme which ensures that they have a greater chance of success than their peers in local schools and colleges. We have well established strong relationships with Corpus Christi College, Oxford and in recent years Urmston Grammar students have secured offers at Oxbridge colleges on courses such as History, Engineering, Medicine, Modern Foreign Languages and English. Admissions Tutors from these prestigious colleges work with our students during Year 12 to explain and give advice on how to make a successful application, on the content of personal statements and the interview process.

Students attend the Oxbridge Convention at Haydock Park in Liverpool to develop a better understanding of how to make a successful application to these world renowned universities.

If you wish to apply for Medicine, Dentistry or Veterinary Medicine, you will benefit from our bespoke MDV Programme which has been designed to ensure successful applications to these highly competitive courses. You will be supported by our experienced mentors, local university admissions tutors and alumni of Urmston Grammar, who are pursuing careers in these demanding professions. You will be supported to secure relevant high quality work experience in our local community. We also facilitate one-to-one mentoring with doctors, dentists and vets; run 'Writing successful personal statement' workshops; and provide interview experience including MMI (Multiple Mini Interview). You will be guided towards opportunities that will support your applications including key taster days, relevant enrichment activities and prestigious medical lectures.



“ The transition from Year 11 to Year 12 was made so much easier with the support of teachers, mentors and other students alike. There’s definitely a welcoming environment”

Matthew, Year 13.

Broadening Horizons

You will be given the opportunity to take part in a broad range of extra-curricular activities. Our well established Electives Programme will allow you to gain valuable weekly work experience, contribute to the wider community, develop independent learning and improve employability.


You can develop your leadership skills and work as part of a student team who take part in the 'Mock Trial'; you can support younger pupils at our school or lead lessons in local partner primary schools; you can develop specialist subject knowledge in areas such as Criminology or Engineering, learn Italian or sign language, gain skills in First Aid, learn 'Muay Thai' or hone your fine motor skills by completing a 'Surgical Stitches and Sutures' workshop.

You can get involved in debating at a local and a national level; the school teams have had much success in national competitions. Our Politics Society and Medical Ethics Group were set up by students who wanted to lead their peers and younger pupils, discussing important issues that affect all of us in this fast moving twenty-first century.

In the summer of Year 12, all students take part in work experience week to gain a taste of life in the real world. High value placements are organised though our Work Related Learning Co-ordinator – they are arranged either by the students themselves or by the school.

Students have the opportunity to develop independent learning skills through the Extended Project Qualification and the FutureLearn programme. Whilst students work with the support of subject mentors, we encourage a self-directed approach that allows you to prepare more effectively for lifelong and autonomous learning.

As part of the curriculum students benefit from a PSE and Careers programme and have weekly assemblies. These equip students with the knowledge and skills needed to take the next step in their post-18 education, manage their health and wellbeing, and leave our school as model citizens ready to tackle the challenges life in modern society will provide.

A group of students are sitting on a rocky pier or breakwater that extends into the sea. The students are dressed in casual clothing, and some are wearing colorful boots. They appear to be engaged in a group activity or discussion. The sea is visible in the background, and the sky is clear.

“Urmston Grammar Sixth Form offers so many different opportunities. There are loads of extra-curricular activities which help you to make the smooth transition to post-18 study” Theo, Year 13

Developing Leadership and Contributing to the Team


There are many opportunities to develop leadership skills and to work effectively as part of a team. All students are encouraged to take up the formal and informal leadership roles that are on offer.

You can take part in the school's ASDAN mentoring programme working with younger pupils and gaining external accreditation. We have a range of Prefect roles which allow students to make their mark on the school community. Year 7 Form Prefects help new pupils to settle into their new school; supporting in form time and on the Year 7 residential. House Prefects have the important role of leading our five houses in running charity events, competing in inter-house competitions and collecting valuable house points.

Sixth form students are nominated to represent their peers and play an active role in the School Council, which helps to shape the future direction of the school. Students can put themselves forward for the Senior Prefect Team and this important group is selected by peers and staff.

Our Subject Ambassadors work closely with subject staff to lead enrichment activities for the lower school and local primary schools; these have included Geography Clubs, Maths Pi Shop and STEM Fairs. Students also take part in events to promote their subject to internal and external Year 11s.

Our highly successful Café Sci committee arrange for external speakers to present topical scientific issues and the students then facilitate informal discussion amongst their peers. Each year the Young Enterprise teams experience setting up and running a real business for a year under the guidance of volunteers from business and they all emerge better equipped for the world of work. This well-established programme allows students to compete locally and nationally.



"All the teachers have created a safe and supportive learning environment for us whilst studying." Kitty, Year 12

Enjoying Life at Urmston

Life at Urmston Grammar is full and varied – successful students take advantage of all the opportunities on offer. Students who are involved in the life of the school will settle quickly into our Sixth Form and will perform to their full potential.

All students are encouraged to take part in recreational and competitive sports, social events and a wide range of extra-curricular clubs and societies, including sports, music, languages and others.

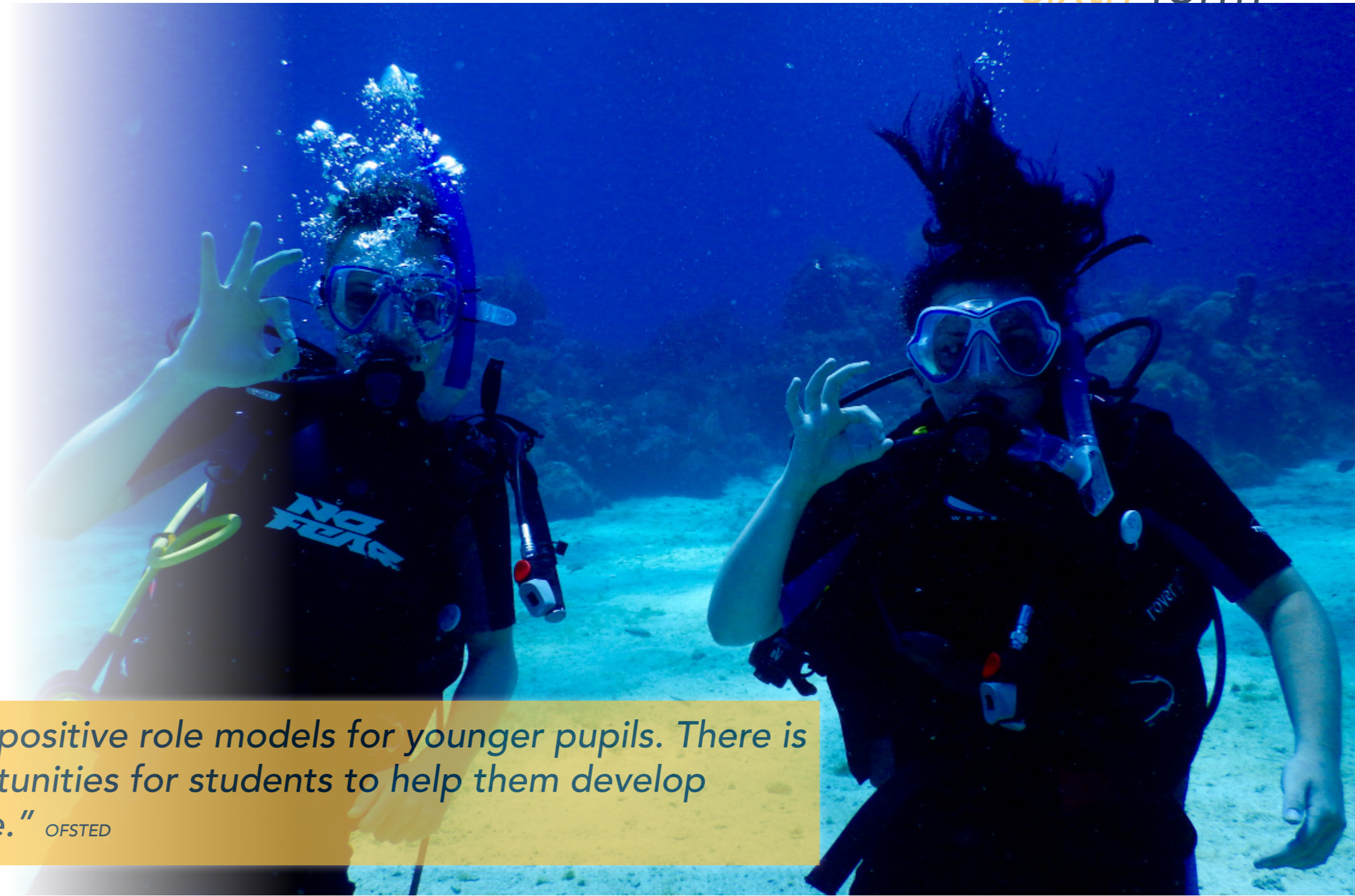
Students have access to a large Sports Hall and all-weather pitch for practices as well as a free membership of our well-equipped fitness suite.

The Sixth Form Prefect Team work with the students to organise their own leaving 'Prom' to celebrate the end of their Sixth Form studies. This event is attended by Sixth Form tutors and teaching staff and is a highlight of our annual calendar.

Opportunities exist for Sixth Formers to go on a range of field trips including Yorkshire (Biologists), CERN (Physicists) and Iceland (Geographers). Students are able to explore art galleries and watch performances at local theatres. French and German students have the chance to participate in cultural visits and exchanges abroad. There are opportunities further afield with expeditions to areas such as Tanzania and Equador as well as skiing in Europe.

We want life at Urmston Grammar to encourage our Sixth Form students to become confident, articulate, independent learners. We strive to build well-rounded young adults who are active participants and are ready to maximise on any opportunities that present themselves.

“Sixth form students act as positive role models for younger pupils. There is a range of leadership opportunities for students to help them develop independence and resilience.” OFSTED



For further information about our outstanding school and Sixth Form,
please visit our website at www.urmstongrammar.org.uk