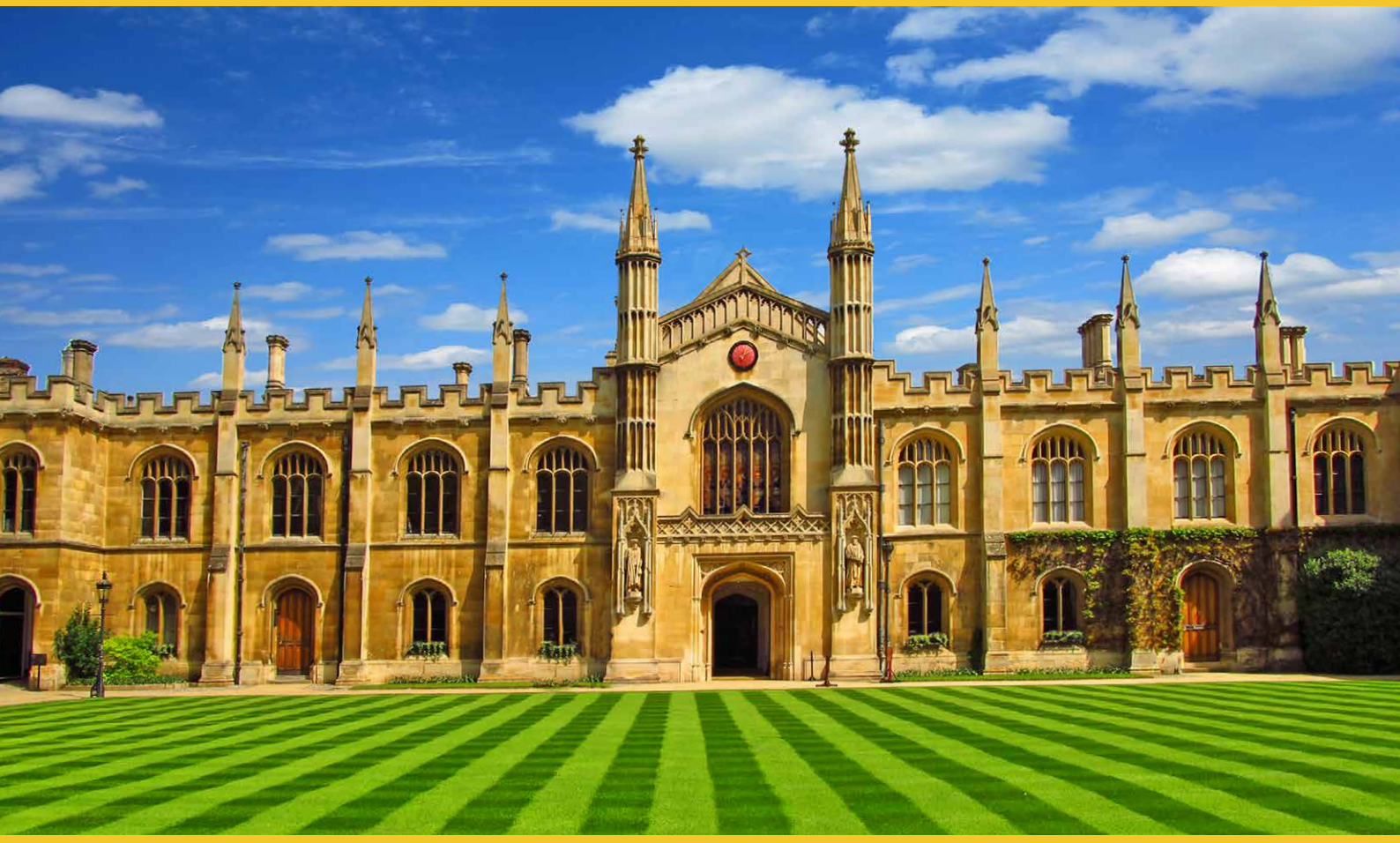
GUNNERSBURY CATHOLIC SCHOOL



SIXTH FORM AQUINAS PROGRAMME

Ofsted Outstanding Provider

THE AQUINAS PROGRAMME

Gunnersbury's Sixth Form welcomes all new Year 12 students and provides both structure and space to develop their academic interests. The school has an excellent academic reputation, with strong A Level results and a history of students progressing to top universities such as Oxford, Cambridge, and Russell Group institutions. Success is driven by excellent teaching and support that goes beyond only exam requirements.



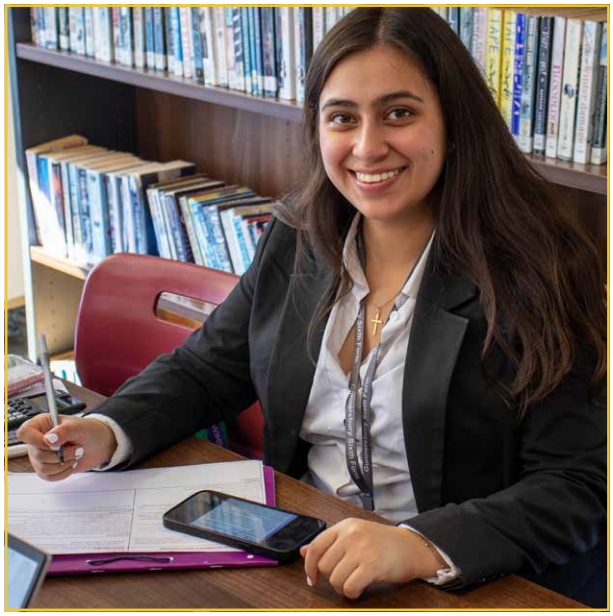


A key feature is our Aquinas Programme, designed for students aiming for highly competitive university courses, including those at Oxbridge, Ivy League schools, and medical fields. The programme offers enrichment activities, volunteering, societies, and lectures to develop confidence, curiosity, and academic passion. Students receive guidance from experienced staff and alumni currently studying at leading universities.

LEADERSHIP

The Aquinas Programme at Gunnersbury focuses on developing students' leadership and intellectual skills through a variety of prestigious opportunities and societies. Students can participate in programmes like the Duke of Edinburgh Gold Award, Sutton Trust initiatives, and summer schools at top universities. A range of academic societies—covering science, medicine, finance, politics, and the humanities—encourage debate and critical thinking.





Aquinas members also benefit from talks by distinguished guest speakers, specialist seminars, and memberships in professional bodies such as the Royal Chemistry Society and the Law Society. Recent seminar topics have explored issues from neuroscience and globalisation to history and literature, helping students broaden their perspectives and engage with advanced academic ideas.

UNIVERSITY



PREPARATION AND SKILLS DEVELOPMENT

Universities seek candidates who have developed strong study skills and academic independence during Year 12 (Lower Sixth). The Aquinas Programme at Gunnersbury gives students a pre-university experience, encouraging independent and creative thinking. Weekly after-school sessions divide students into small groups, promoting discussion and deeper learning. A reading list of key texts across all A-level subjects supports this development.

APPLICATION SUPPORT

A student's Personal Statement is a vital part of their application. It should demonstrate genuine interest in the subject, intellectual curiosity, initiative, and participation in cultural or academic activities. Gunnersbury provides mock interviews in Year 13, helping students prepare for university interviews and develop confidence.



UNIVERSITY LINKS AND OPPORTUNITIES

Gunnersbury maintains close partnerships with several leading universities, including Somerville College (Oxford), Homerton College (Cambridge), Imperial College, LSE, UCL, King's College, and others. Through these partnerships, students can attend subject-specific masterclasses, lectures, and mentoring programmes that support their university ambitions. Students also take part in university taster days and Oxbridge or Russell Group summer schools (typically at the end of Year 12), providing exposure to university life and teaching styles.

STEM AND PRACTICAL EXPERIENCE

High-achieving science and maths students can join the Imperial College STEM Potential Scheme, a two-year programme offering hands-on laboratory experience at Imperial's campus. Gunnersbury arranges work experience and community service placements, tailored to students' chosen university subjects. Such experience is especially important for professional degrees like Medicine, Law, or Engineering.



AN ENVIRONMENT OF OPPORTUNITY AND CHALLENGE

Membership of Gunnersbury's Sixth Form and of our Aquinas Programme opens a myriad of doors to invigorating intellectual and cultural opportunities; we encourage you to broaden your horizons and we provide the opportunities to do so. In each Aquinas activity, you can expect the work to be challenging and exciting; we actively encourage you to be intellectually ambitious and to debate and voice your opinions with confidence. There will be a genuine dialogue and discourse between you and your peers and, above all, lots of fun!

At Gunnersbury, our excellent track record in enabling former Aquinas scholars to secure a top Oxbridge or Russell group place has shown us that these top universities and international companies want young people who are empathetic, resilient and self-determining. By joining Gunnersbury's Aquinas Programme, we will help you to develop those qualities; our Sixth Form will offer you the opportunity to discover new things about yourself and your talents and our Aquinas Programme is a forum where you can direct your energy and enthusiasm to add to your already impressive CV.

At Gunnersbury we are very proud of our long tradition of academic success. When you finally fly our nest, you will continue to soar. In 2025, once again our Year 13 students gave us cause for celebration with exceptional A-Level results. Their fantastic achievements enabling Gunnersbury students to start their undergraduate studies at the most prestigious Russell Group and Oxbridge institutions, including Cambridge, York, Bristol, Manchester, King's College and London School of Economics. Their fantastic achievement has enabled these students to secure places at the very best universities including Oxford, Cambridge, Imperial, UCL Warwick, to name but a few. They will be reading a variety of subjects including Medicine, Law, Economics, Philosophy, Politics & Economics (PPE), Mechanical Engineering and Aerospace Engineering, Economics and Mathematics.

A SELECTION OF PAST AQUINAS SCHOLARS

Damian	University of Cambridge	Engineering	**Andrew**	University of Oxford	History and Politics
Antoni	University of Warwick	Mathematics	**Guiseppe**	University of Bristol	Economic and Politics
Annabel	University College London	Pharmacy	**Bjorn**	University of Birmingham	Chemical Engineering
Calan	London School of Economics and Political Science	Mathematics with Economics	**Rudy**	University of Southampton	Ancient History
Mei	University of Durham	Mathematics	**Ella**	University of Glasgow	Chemistry
Nicolo	University of Birmingham	Physics and Astro Physics	**Melissa**	University College London	Medicine
Samantha	University of Liverpool	Politics and Economics	**Davide**	University of Southampton	Economics
Kacper	University College London	Mechanical Engineering	**Arla**	University of Loughborough	Biomedical Engineering
Julia	University of Cardiff	Medicine	**Gabriel**	Kings College	Physics with Astrophysics and Cosmology
Fortune	Imperial College	Aeronautical Engineering	**Peter**	University College London	Economics
Glenn	Kings College	Computer Science	**Jacob**	Imperial College	Mathematics
Joshua	University of Exeter	History	**Luis**	University of Warwick	Economics
Oscar	Kings College	Geography	**Jack**	University of Brighton	Law
William	University of Bristol	Design Engineering	**Alisha**	Royal Holloway	Computer Science
Melissa	Queen Mary University	Economics, Statistics and Mathematics	**Otto**	University of Warwick	Mathematics
Danny	Imperial College London	Civil Engineering	**Noah**	University of Exeter	Theoretical Physics

