GUNNERSBURY CATHOLIC SCHOOL



SIXTH FORM PROSPECTUS

Ofsted Outstanding Provider



"Gunnersbury School has proved itself to be one of the best schools in the country and there is plenty that other schools could learn from Gunnersbury's successes"

Sue Williamson, Chief Executive of the Specialist Schools and Academies Trust

Welcome to Gunnersbury Catholic School Sixth Form



Dear Students and Parents

It is my pleasure to introduce the Gunnersbury Catholic School Sixth Form prospectus.

The aim of this publication is to capture what is special about our school. Our Sixth Form provides a truly outstanding education for young men and women in West London and beyond. Gunnersbury has an excellent record of success in public examinations and academic standards are exceptionally high; our A level results regularly place us amongst the top state schools in the country with the majority of our students continuing their studies at top universities. Our senior students are high achieving and successful and, for the last 14 years, our 'A' Level pass rate has been 100%, with students securing grades A* and A well above the national average. Gunnersbury Sixth Formers go on to study at Oxford, Cambridge, Imperial College, UCL, York, Durham, King's College and St Andrews, to name a few.

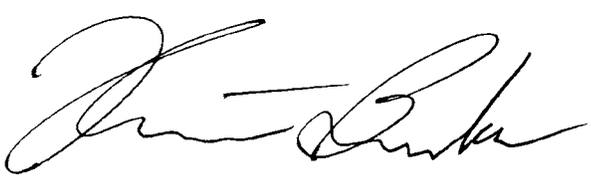
The traditions and values of our school permeate across all aspects of our provision, from Year 7 to Year 13. Gunnersbury is a thriving, vibrant and caring learning community. Ours is a Sixth Form within which students take pride in succeeding at the very top levels, academically, spiritually, socially, on the sports field and in the creative arts.

Students who continue their studies in the Sixth Form or join us from other schools settle in very quickly. We believe that this is because of the excellent pastoral care provided by the Sixth Form team, as well as the friendly and welcoming nature of our students.

The two principal components that drive our school's ethos are our commitment to academic success and to developing the 'whole person.' Armed with a positive attitude and commitment to bettering themselves and their life chances, we advocate our senior students to view the Sixth Form as a place to develop interests, to grow as a person, a place to feel a part of and proud of, a place to leave with a brighter future secured. We believe that in our Sixth Form you will receive an education second to none. Students say teachers at Gunnersbury are knowledgeable, approachable and helpful. Certainly, their goodwill in giving advice and support adds greatly to the quality of our provision and to your future success. As always, we encourage students and parents to find about as much as they can about new subjects before making final decisions about courses for next year.

Here at Gunnersbury we have an established reputation for the high number of our students staying on into the Sixth Form. We are also particularly keen to welcome applications from young men and women not currently studying at Gunnersbury and who wish to join us in our Sixth Form.

We are immensely proud of our Sixth Form. I am sure as you explore us further you will receive a clear insight into the culture and ethos of our school and will feel confident that, by joining us, you will work hard, enjoy yourself and achieve great success.



Kevin S. Burke
Headteacher

ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

Excellence in teaching and learning is at the heart of the Gunnersbury Sixth Form curriculum. We have developed an environment in which each young man and woman can reach the highest levels of achievement in their chosen subjects.

With an extensive selection of high-quality courses to choose from, a host of extra-curricular activities and a purpose-built Sixth Form teaching and study centre, we believe that Gunnersbury offers a personalised and enriching experience.

We provide learning opportunities that will enable each young man and woman access to the top universities and best employment.

COURSES AVAILABLE

We currently offer the following A Level subjects and Vocational Qualification programmes:

SCIENCE & MATHS	SOCIAL SCIENCES	HUMANITIES	ENGLISH & LANGUAGES	CREATIVE DISCIPLINES	VOCATIONAL QUALIFICATIONS
Biology	Psychology	Business Studies	English Literature	Art & Design	Business & Finance
Chemistry	Sociology*	Classical Civilisation*	French	Design Technology	Sport & Exercise Science
Physics	Economics	History	Spanish*	Music	
Maths	Geography	Philosophy & Ethics	Italian*	PE*	
Further Maths		Politics		Drama*	
Computing Science					

* Offered in conjunction with our partner schools – Gumley House Convent School and St Mark's Catholic School

All of the above courses enable university study at leading institutions.

Our courses are designed to motivate and challenge, and lessons are tailored to suit all learning styles. Teachers are experts in their subjects and have many years experience of enabling senior students to succeed at the very highest level.

Learning is not restricted to the classroom and students will gain valuable experience from the many subject specific visits that are a key element of the Sixth Form experience at Gunnersbury.



THE AQUINAS PROGRAMME

St. Thomas Aquinas, one of the greatest and most influential theologians of all time, is patron of all universities and of students. Inspired by Aquinas' work, we offer a bespoke programme of support that is open to all Sixth Formers who aspire to leading universities such as Oxford or Cambridge University, or to a career in medicine, dentistry or veterinary medicine.

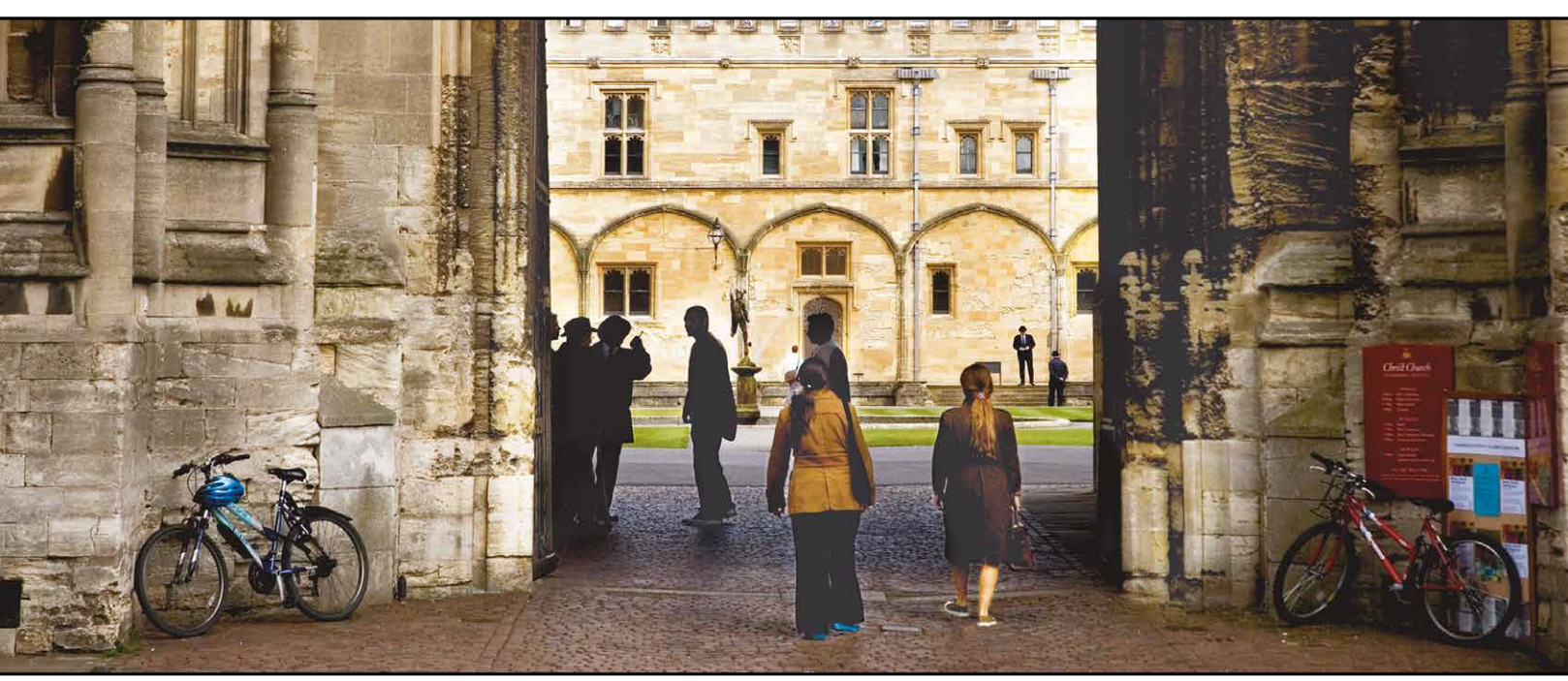
Oxford and Cambridge look for candidates with a background in academically rigorous subjects; students who have had educational opportunities that have stretched them beyond the exam board specifications. The Aquinas Programme has been designed to do just that, to nurture our most able young men and women and to enable them to reach their potential in their chosen field.

The Aquinas Programme complements the academic rigour of our 'A' Level courses; it seeks to empower participants to be confident, articulate, questioning and passionate about their studies. Those who participate will be guided and encouraged throughout the year by school staff and will receive expert tuition and support from colleagues working in some of the best universities.

Students will join the programme in their first week of Year 12. Aspects of this special programme will involve:

THROUGHOUT THE YEAR	• Gunnersbury Senior Debating Society, STEM, Engineering, Law, Business and Medical Societies • Shadowing university undergraduate ambassadors • Lectures and master-classes at university
AUTUMN TERM OF YEAR 12	• Start of a 2 year enrichment programme with Imperial College, UCL and King's College • Introduction to an Oxbridge education (Somerville College and Homerton College Cambridge) • TFL innovate competition
SPRING TERM OF YEAR 12	• Lectures and master-classes • Sutton Trust School Programme • Workshops for university entry tests (ESAT, CNAT, MAT, STEP, TMUA, CICAT)
SUMMER TERM OF YEAR 12	• Medify course • Imperial College visit • Eton Summer School(July)
AUTUMN TERM OF YEAR 13	• Support with UCAS application entrance exam • Seminars in school to support applications to Oxbridge, medicine and dentistry

In addition, all Gunnersbury Sixth Formers will receive extensive careers and university advice throughout Years 12 and 13. This includes guest speakers and individual support to assist with the university planning process and writing an effective application.



ALUMNI

At Gunnersbury we are very proud of our long tradition of academic success. When they fly the nest at the end of Year 13, our students continue to soar! Contrary to the national picture painted by the media, all of our students who wish to progress to higher education gain places at their chosen universities, including the most prestigious universities and the most challenging courses. Others progress successfully into apprenticeships or work with training. The profiles below of a mere handful of former Sixth Formers provide an insight of the destinations realised through a Gunnersbury Sixth Form education..

KACPER
A-Levels: Chemistry, Mathematics, Further Mathematics, Physics, Polish
University College London
Mechanical Engineering

ADAM
A-Levels: History, Politics, Psychology
University of Loughborough
Politics and International Relations

FORTUNE
A-Levels: Mathematics, Further Mathematics, Physics
Imperial College London
Aeronautical Engineering

WILLIAM
A-Levels: Mathematics, Further Mathematics, Physics, Polish
University of Bristol
Design Engineering

PRECIOUS
A-Levels: Mathematics, Further Mathematics, Chemistry
Duke University (USA)
Mathematics and Computer Science

RUTHA
A-Levels: Mathematics, Business Studies, Economics
University of Manchester
Economics and Finance

JULIA
A-Levels: Biology, Chemistry, Mathematics, Polish, Psychology
University of Cardiff
Medicine

ANDREW
A-Levels: Economics, History, Politics
University of Oxford
Politics



Kacper



Adam



Fortune



William



Precious



Rutha

MELISSA
A-Levels: Chemistry, Biology, Mathematics
University College London
Medicine

JACOB
A-Levels: Chemistry, Mathematics, Further Mathematics
Imperial College London
Mathematics

DAMIAN
A-Levels: Chemistry, Mathematics, Further Mathematics, Physics
University of Cambridge
Engineering

OTTO
A-Levels: Physics, Mathematics, Further Mathematics
University of Warwick
Mathematics, Operational Research, Statistics, Economics

At the end of their time at Gunnersbury, students leave as happy, well-rounded individuals; young men and women who will take their values beyond the school and promote a better, more just society. These highly educated young adults leave us with the academic qualifications, skills and interests and with the confidence and self-reliance that will allow them to succeed in their chosen career and in their adult lives.

"Gunnersbury superbly supported me in my journey to study medicine"
(Gunnersbury student: Veronica)

"Ciaran benefitted from superb teaching at Gunnersbury – thank you"
(Mother of Ciaran)

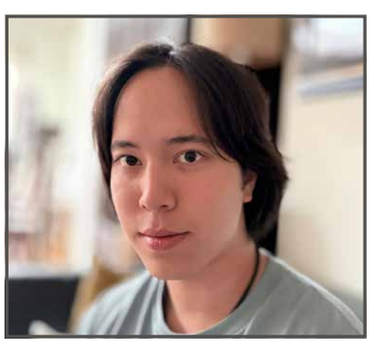

Julia


Andrew


Melissa


Jacob


Damian


Otto





DEVELOPING THE WHOLE PERSON

Gunnersbury Sixth Form is much more than a place where students come to study and move on to university or employment. We attach the highest importance to pastoral care as experience has taught us that young men and women thrive when they feel that they are understood and valued as individuals.

Each student is placed with an experienced Form Tutor. The relationship is very effective in monitoring student wellbeing, offering support, help and advice as well as overseeing academic performance.

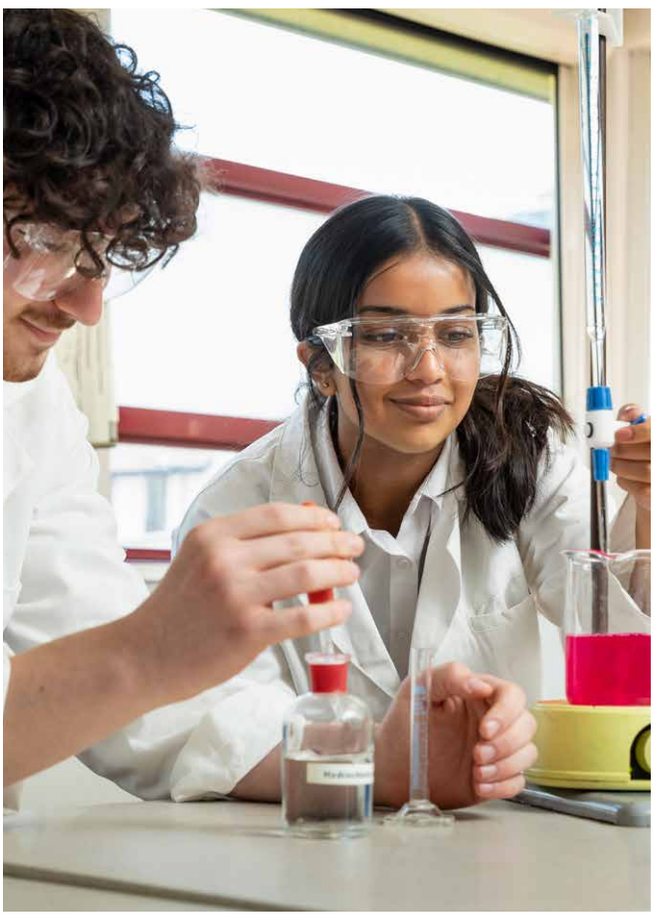
Partnerships have been developed locally, nationally and internationally which extend opportunities for all who join us. Opportunities to nurture and develop each young person's talents — be they leadership, creative or sporting — are plentiful.

The excellent relationships that we have cultivated with universities continue to enable increasing numbers of our senior students to further their love of learning and discovery outside of the classroom. At Gunnersbury we believe in nurturing the leaders of the future. We give our senior students leadership opportunities and responsibility, as well as encouraging them to pursue new activities and skills.

All Year 12 students contribute to our well established Community Volunteering programme which supports the school and local communities. Opportunities on offer to include Eco Guardians, Mental Health Ambassadors to working with the local care homes. Some of Gunnersbury Sixth Formers have secured internships at the White House in Washington DC and with the Bank of China in Hong Kong.

"Gunnersbury staff have genuine dedication to the students; they inspired and supported me"

(Chloe, Cambridge)





Gunnersbury has a long and proud tradition in sport and our teams enjoy a great record at inter-school and county level. Our senior rugby squads regularly tour. Many of our students compete at county and national levels across a wide range of disciplines, including netball, football, track and field, judo and rowing. We are proud to number amongst our alumni Commonwealth champions and professional athletes. All of our BTEC Extended Diploma Sport and Exercise students work each year to gain the Young Sports Leader Award.

Experienced and budding orators can enjoy our Senior Debating Society, supported by the Catenians,the Jack Petchey Foundation and the Rotary Club of Great Britain.

A strong and effective Prefect Team are led by our Lead Sixth Formers who support school leaders in managing the Sixth Form Centre and working as mentors with students in lower years on the School Council and in Form Groups. Prefects also plan a range of team building events throughout the year, including sports competitions, fund raising activities and Black History Month celebrations, to name a few.

Our Sixth Form students thrive at university and achieve great success due to their experiences at Gunnersbury beyond the classroom. The range of programmes and activities provided develop the whole person and instil a confidence, which is invaluable to a successful university career and beyond.

"We value the great advice and encouragement that Tigran received throughout the Sixth Form"

(Father of Tigran)

WHAT OUR STUDENTS SAY





"What stands out most in the Sixth Form is the commitment from the teachers who, without fail, make students their priority. Whilst recognising the importance of exams, staff also seek to get the most out of each individual, encouraging the pursuit of other projects." **Sam**

"Gunnersbury Sixth Form is truly an amazing place and it has completely changed the way I think about everything." **Natalie**

"Choosing Gunnersbury Sixth Form was one of the best choices I've ever made; it is a place where I can really be myself." **Jessica**

"What I enjoy the most about the Sixth Form at Gunnersbury is that I am treated like an adult. I am given more responsibility and freedom whilst still receiving the support and guidance I need from my teachers." **Zanita**

"I love the Sixth Form. My teachers are inspiring and my friends are supportive. I feel my courses were personalised just for me." **Diana**

"I love being part of the Aquinas Programme. It challenges me to think in ways I had not previously considered. It is invigorating to be around like-minded students and it gives me the confidence to want to push myself even more and explore new opportunities to develop myself academically and personally." **Zara**

"I have really enjoyed working with teachers who are knowledgeable and passionate about their subjects and this has encouraged me to want to continue my studies at undergraduate level and beyond." **Jason**

"I have been in the Sixth Form now for six weeks and I have already been to Imperial College to meet with academics across a number of different science and maths disciplines. This opportunity has really opened my eyes to the possibilities available to me over the next two years and beyond." **Conor**

"The two most important things in my life are my studies and rugby. At Gunnersbury I am supported to excel in both of these." **Tiarnan**





APPLYING TO GUNNERSBURY SIXTH FORM

Applications to join our Sixth Form are welcome from students who demonstrate commitment and dedication to their studies.

We understand the subject choices that you make on the application form may be provisional. Such indicators merely allow us to start provisionally planning the timetable and staffing.

INTERNAL APPLICANTS

Internal applicants must complete the online application form. Following the internal student open evening on Thursday 22nd October 2026 you will be emailed a link to your application account. Your application must be completed no later than **Wednesday 9th December 2026**.

Responses will be made to current Gunnersbury Year 11 students in **February 2027**.

EXTERNAL APPLICANTS

External applicants will need to create a profile on our admissions system in order to make an application. For external applicants a confidential school reference will be required to inform final offers.

The application system for external applicants will open on our website on **Wednesday 4th November**, following our external student open evening event. See our Sixth Form Admissions page on the website **www.gunnersbury.com**

Applications, including uploaded (or posted) evidence of predicted grades and references, must be completed by **Friday, 22nd January 2027**.

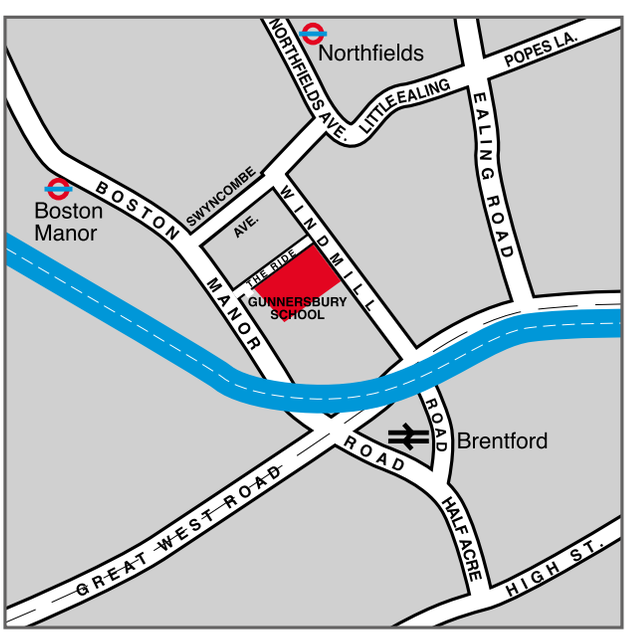
Applicant Meetings will be held in **February 2027**.

External applicants will be notified of their application outcome by **25th March 2027**.

Final offers will be confirmed with all students following publication of GCSE results in August 2027.

If you should have any queries or questions concerning our Sixth Form, including the application process, please do not hesitate to contact the sixth form team: **sixthform@gunnersbury.hounslow.sch.uk**

Mr Cherif Cisse
Director of Sixth Form
Deputy Headteacher



KEY DATES

Wednesday, 9 December 2026	Internal Applicant Deadline
Friday, 22 January 2027	External Applicant Deadline
February 2027	Applicant Meetings
Wednesday, 24 February 2027	Internal Student Responses
Thursday, 25 March 2027	External Student Responses



GUNNERSBURY CATHOLIC SCHOOL
The Ride, Boston Manor Road, Brentford, Middlesex, TW8 9LB
Telephone: 020 8568 7281
Website: www.gunnersbury.com