

SUPPORT, ADVICE & GUIDANCE

In addition to the academic timetable, we are pleased to offer:

UNIFROG

Unifrog is a one-stop-shop where students can easily explore their interests, then find and successfully apply for their next best step after Sixth Form. Unifrog brings into one place every apprenticeship, university course and college course in the UK, as well as career opportunities. Unifrog also has dedicated MOOC suggestions and super curricular activities. All students will be set up with an online Unifrog account. The platform makes it easy for students to write their CVs and Personal Statements and record their key skills. Teachers can give their students feedback and write references.

UCAS SUPPORT

You will be given tailored support to allow you to complete an application to the universities that match your aspirational goals. During our 'Your Future' conference week in July you will be able to gain an insight into studying at a wide range of universities when representatives are invited in to present to students and offer advice and guidance. In addition, we take all of our Year 12 students to the UCAS exhibition throughout the year to gain a first hand in-sight into life at University.

EARLY ENTRY SUPPORT

Some specific courses and universities require applications to be completed by an earlier deadline than most others. Courses such as Medicine, Dentistry, Veterinary Science or to study at University of Oxford or University of Cambridge require applications to have been submitted by 16th October (in the students Year 13). These students will be identified early in Year 12 and will be provided with application support, one-to-one interview preparation and the opportunity to attend workshops and lectures that will aim to expand your super curricular understanding of related topic areas.

APPRENTICESHIP AND EMPLOYMENT SUPPORT

We have links with apprenticeship providers who will offer directed support to create a CV and search for vacancies. Guidance will be provided to allow you to apply for careers and courses that match your skills and ambitions.

WORK EXPERIENCE

At the end of Year 12 we would like you to complete a placement relevant to your career ambition and you will be provided with support to allow you to access this. Students who are studying a BTEC qualification with the requirement to fulfil the extended placement, will be supported in finding these placements. We also encourage students to gain work experience and voluntary placements throughout the year.

SPECIFIC CAREERS SUPPORT

We have access to independent careers advisers who can support you in your plans for life beyond Sixth Form and who can help you find the right pathway even if you are uncertain about it at this time. All students have the opportunity for an appointment in Year 12 and an additional one in Year 13 if they require one.

FIELD TRIPS

Throughout your time there may be some off-site learning experiences and residential stays designed to help you to put learning into context and to support fieldwork tasks in subject areas eg. in Geography or Biology.

STUDENT LEADERSHIP TEAM

The student leadership team are a body of students who lead on fundraising, event planning and marketing. They are the voice of the student community. Gaining experience of working alongside your peers on key projects and initiatives is another way to develop your leadership potential.

TRIPS AND RESIDENTIALS

We have been able to run a variety of different trips, some are once-in-a-lifetime opportunities. In the past we have taken our students to Vienna, Krakow, Cambridge, ski trip to Italy, Gibraltar and Miami. Some of our trips are more local such as theatre trips to Manchester, a water sports day at the Anderton Centre, a trip to Chester Zoo or Blackpool Pleasure Beach or a visit to Parliament, Manchester Crown Courts and Shrewsbury Prison.

INDUCTION ACTIVITIES

At the beginning of Year 12 there will be introductory sessions guided by your group tutor to help you get used to the Sixth Form learning environment and introduce study skills such as independent learning. During your regular week, you will have a number of non-contact lessons. We will model effective independent study strategies during large group sessions, and also during tutor time.

ENRICHMENT

Our enrichment programme presents opportunities for students to go beyond their academic studies and the normal curriculum requirements of their chosen subjects. It aims to develop the whole student to give them the best chance of succeeding in education, work and society beyond their time at Sixth Form. It helps secure competitive university places, apprenticeships and employment opportunities. It provides opportunities to develop leadership skills and to contribute to the school and wider community. Our Enrichment pathways are staged and the expectation is for all students to complete the Bronze Award. Alongside this, students can work towards a silver, gold, platinum or Special Recognition Award. Example activities include completing MOOCs, sign language course, Bloom's Wellbeing Programme, uniform sustainability project, chess club, student magazine, Duke of Edinburgh or exercise and fitness.

COMMUNITY

At Thornleigh Sixth Form you are part of a large Salesian family throughout the world. We want you to feel part of a community both in and out of school. Our Sixth Form team will be present throughout the day. We do not hide in offices - we aim to support your welfare as an aspiring academic; whether that be through academic support or pastoral care. Along with a dedicated group tutor, we will help you to reach your outstanding potential by working in partnership with you.

SUPER CURRICULAR

We have access to an online platform called My Super Curricular. This resource contains a wealth of quality academic resources and recommendations that will allow students to extend their knowledge and nurture their intellectual curiosity. Universities now see super curricular as a compulsory element of the admissions process. Those actively extending their knowledge stand out amongst other applicants. On the platform, thousands of book recommendations are offered, online courses, publications, links to useful websites, podcasts, videos, work experience, competitions, university events and more - all in one place.

COACHING

You will have a dedicated one-to-one meeting every two weeks with your group tutor. The themes of the sessions will be tailored to your individual needs but your tutor will discuss transition to A levels, assessment preparation, independent study, organisation, UCAS destinations and enrichment,