

PROSPECTUS 2025/26

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CONTACTS

For information about studying at Hall Cross, please contact:

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WELCOME TO HALL CROSS ACADEMY

Dear Future Sixth Former,

It is a huge privilege to be able to write this introduction. Hall Cross is a unique place to study with its history, teaching excellence and inclusive environment. As a former student it is an honour to be able to serve as Head of Sixth Form. Our students are motivated, aspirational and committed and it is a genuine pleasure to come to work each day to ensure that they achieve their goals.

Our aim is that students leave the Sixth Form academically successful and as well-rounded young people. As a result of our ethos of "Enjoying Excellence", our students achieve excellent results and go on to study at a wide range of higher education institutions. Our extra-curricular offer is designed to provide our students with the skills and opportunities to thrive when they leave Hall Cross. Our diverse student body is a continual source of pride.

I hope that you get a sense of what excites us about the Sixth Form as you read this prospectus and we are looking forward to welcoming you to our Sixth Form Open Evening.

If you have any questions about any aspect of the Sixth Form at Hall Cross, please do not hesitate to get in touch with a member of the Sixth Form team.

Thank you for your interest in studying with us.

Warm regards,



Mr Stewart Associate Assistant Principal Head of Sixth Form



Mrs Massarella-Burton Associate Vice Principal Student Experience

A message from our Principal

Hall Cross is an historic institution which is proud of its traditions but what motivates us every day is securing the best future for every one of the young people we serve.

A large and vibrant comprehensive academy with over 2000 students on roll including over 500 students in our thriving sixth form, Hall Cross is located over two campuses close to Doncaster city centre. We are, therefore, very much at the heart of our community.

Having worked at Hall Cross Academy for over 30 years, it was an honour to have been appointed to the role of Principal in 2019. I believe Hall Cross is a 'school with a soul' and I am determined that we retain our uniquely inclusive culture and ethos, our broad and balanced curriculum, and our superb range of extracurricular opportunities.

Our teachers are an outstanding team of professionals who are absolutely dedicated to innovative and exciting teaching practice. We invest heavily in recruiting the best teaching talent which provides all learners the best opportunity to excel. Additionally, we have a dedicated pastoral team who work to support students with care and guidance should they require it.

Hall Cross is an academy that strives for excellence and balances that drive with a determination to ensure our students enjoy their school days. "Enjoying Excellence" is therefore at the centre of our mission.

I hope this brochure provides you with the insight and information you need and if you require further information do not hesitate to get in touch with us.

Yours faithfully,



Mr Swain Principal

ABOUT HALL CROSS

Hall Cross is the sixth form of choice in Doncaster for highly ambitious and academic students who want to benefit from small class sizes, sixth form specialist teaching and an unrivalled enrichment programme.

Our historic building is inspirational and we have a proud history that dates back to 1350, but what motivates us everyday is securing your future. We have an outstanding track record in supporting students in securing offers from the most competitive universities in the world including Oxbridge and the Russell Group. In addition we also specialise in supporting students applying for full scholarships to top American colleges.

Over half of our students join us from other schools and we are perfectly sized to offer you a wide range of A-Level and Applied courses whilst supporting you as an individual. Our pastoral team is highly experienced and always on hand to offer the care and guidance you may need during your time with us.

Sixth Form students tell us we get the balance right between supporting them with their personal development and providing them with the freedoms they need to prepare them for life beyond Sixth Form; be that at a top university or higher degree apprenticeship. The freedoms students enjoy include access to our common room facilities, social spaces and independent study areas which can be used during study periods.

Our central location means Hall Cross students benefit from the advantages of a town centre experience including great transport links and wider work experience opportunities. In addition, our partnership working means, whatever your chosen pathway, you will have genuinely unrivalled levels of support at Hall Cross.

We continue to invest in new facilities and our digital learning environment, and all of this support leads to excellent results and destinations data; the attainment of our students is very high in A-Levels and Applied subjects. We are the highest performing Sixth Form in the region when it comes to securing top university offers.



I came to Hall Cross for Sixth Form to study Fine Art, Maths and Business. Art specifically appeared quite daunting to me, especially after seeing all of the amazing artwork on the walls of the school. I remember telling myself that I wasn't capable of getting to that level since I wasn't given the same level of teaching beforehand. However through intense boot camps, and expert teaching (to say the least), I managed to begin to thrive and greatly enhance my own skills.

A lot of personal effort was required to improve in all of my subjects which wasn't easy, especially in the beginning, but I never felt deprived of support or motivation from teachers at any point in time. University wasn't on the cards for me for a long time at Hall Cross, as I didn't feel confident enough in myself and my own ability to achieve at that level. However, teachers were there to guide me and expose me to different experiences and choices that I didn't feel I could make; looking back this completely changed my own trajectory for the better as it turns out I chose the right course and the University for me.



STUDENT LEADERSHIP

Joseph Shonhiwa (Head Boy)

As Head Boy, it's a privilege to represent Hall Cross. I quickly recognised the unique support, encouragement, and community here. The Sixth Form treats you as a young adult, offering freedom to shape your future with tailored pathways and mentoring, whether for university, apprenticeships, or other options. I've also had opportunities like playing for the football team and participating in national programs like Future Leaders, thanks to staff encouragement. Beyond academics, there's a strong community where students and teachers uplift each other, fostering growth and selfdiscovery. Sixth Form here is about finding yourself, not just moving to the next stage.

Pratik Rai (Deputy Head Boy)

Since Year 7 at Hall Cross, I've embraced diverse opportunities, especially in Sixth Form. Year 12 saw me join the student council, boosting my public speaking through lower school assemblies and broadening my educational perspective. I also assisted at open evenings, advising prospective students on A-level choices.

Beyond extracurriculars, I've pursued academic development through schemes like HE+, Linacre, Zero Gravity, and Apply: Cambridge, which guide my university applications. Hall Cross staff are consistently supportive, fostering independent learning for university. I'm grateful for my six years here and anticipate my final year.

Sophie Naylor (Head Girl)

Since 2019, I've proudly been a student at Hall Cross Academy, and choosing their Sixth Form was a great decision. From the start, I've felt supported to grow academically and personally. The Sixth Form offers diverse opportunities, unlocking my potential and providing an excellent student experience. I've participated in activities like with programs like the Linacre Institute and Social Mobility Foundation boosted my confidence for higher education. Here, students are valued as individuals, not just numbers. Staff genuinely care about our achievement and personal growth. Hall Cross's supportive environment, educational approach, and focus on individual students make it special. I assure anyone considering continuing their education here an incredible academic and social experience.

Amelia Firth (Deputy Head Girl)

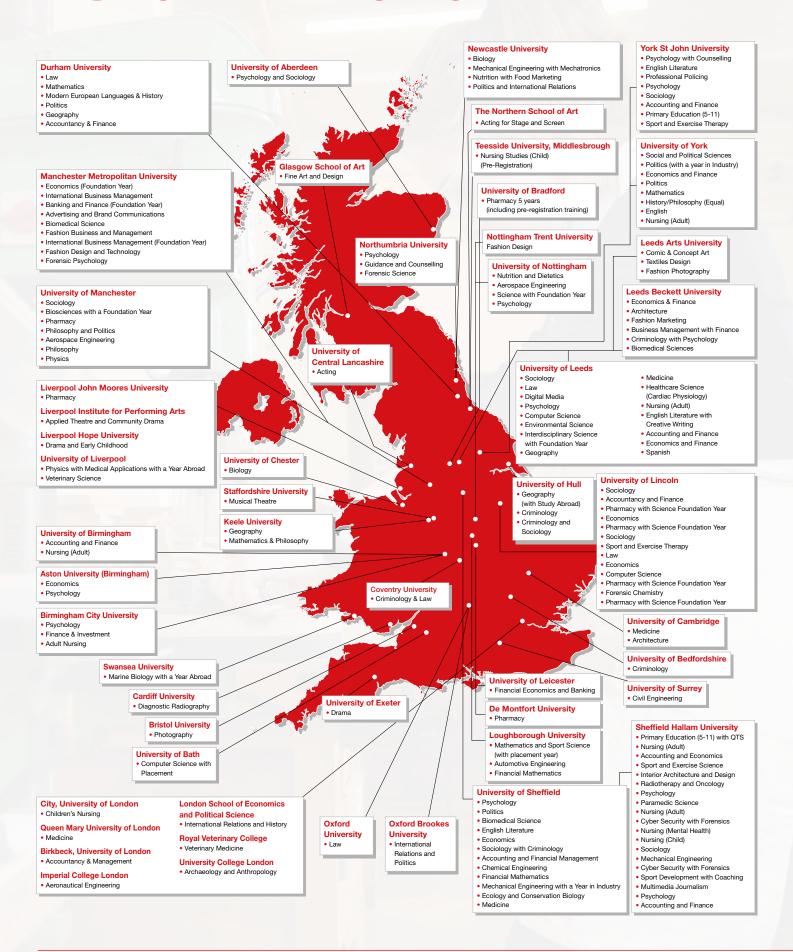
My experience at Hall Cross Academy Sixth Form is a source of pride. Despite initial uncertainties about courses, the application and interview process was comfortable. My goals were excellent grades, university admission, and a fulfilling career. Hall Cross supported my course exploration, allowing me to try seven before finalizing two.

Starting Year 12, I found a welcoming environment, meeting diverse students and teachers, and forming new social circles. The transition from GCSEs is challenging, but Hall Cross offers exceptional support. Teachers act as mentors, and opportunities with The Linacre Institute and the Social Mobility Foundation enhance post-sixth form prospects.

During mock exams, Hall Cross encouraged independent study with facilities, freedom, and flexibility, fostering strong academic relationships with teachers. Having attended many academic taster and open days across South Yorkshire, I confidently state Hall Cross is ideal for students seeking to discover and pursue their true paths.



DESTINATIONS MAP



STUDENT TESTIMONIALS

Nadina Solovjova

My time at Hall Cross Academy for sixth form was truly the best. Taking Fine Art, Geography and Maths A-Levels, I found that I was constantly pushed to expand my knowledge and skills, which are extremely useful for my degree in Architecture; learning Photoshop skills in Art and learning about urban design in Geography. Having teachers who are passionate and dedicated to their subjects, inspired me to work hard and made it easy to ask them any questions I had. For instance, staying behind after lessons to talk through difficult maths problems or staying extra hours in the art department to build up my portfolio for university submissions. The teachers' kindness and support helped me get to where I am today. Moreover, knowing that the teachers are so committed to help you succeed and achieve your goals is what is so great about the sixth form.

Anisa Yamani

The sixth form at Hall Cross largely exceeded my expectations, most of which stemmed from the reputations associated with state schools in northern areas. I entered year 12 with an assumption that my work towards university and much of my subjectbased endeavours would be independent and unsupported, but now having completed year 13 I can assuredly say that both the staff and the students within the sixth form are consistently supportive beyond what is expected of them, and at no point throughout my A level years did I feel that I was alone in my application process or subject work. Encouragement and support is provided at a specific and individual level, which is remarkable considering the diversity of student interests, destinations, and abilities within the sixth form. This diversity is another asset of the school which I came to greatly appreciate during my time here, as Hall Cross provides an inclusive environment which shapes well rounded individuals within its built sense of community.

Eimaan Fatima

Since having such a great experience in Hall Cross already from years 7-11, I knew the Sixth Form would be a place I would enjoy and thrive in. And it truly is - the Sixth Form is great in offering opportunities for students to be the best that they can be. In all of the four A-levels I did including English Literature, Politics, Psychology and Spanish, the teachers were so helpful in offering support in any queries I had about a certain topic and would gladly mark any extra essays I would do in order to perfect exam technique. The Sixth Form not only has teachers who are at hand to give guidance but are passionate about the subject they teach and will make the learning environment a place for enjoyment and intellectual discussion, whether that be in Politics and talking about current affairs, or in Spanish learning about Spanish and Mexican culture. Finally, the Sixth Form as a whole has been very supportive of my Oxford application by providing interview practices and checking my personal statement multiple times and hopefully, in October I will be studying for a degree in Law there, thanks to the assistance of the Sixth Form.

ENRICHING Your Future

Whether you enjoy sports, outdoor adventure, political debate or just want more work experience; our enrichment programme will mean you enjoy a healthy work-life balance which is so important to enjoying Sixth Form. Student well-being is at the heart of our academic mission and we understand the pressures that students are under. We work very hard to make sure you are happy, running relaxation seminars to help students employ techniques to reduce stress. Much of this work is driven by our student leaders who play an important part in representing the learning community.

Preparation for Higher Education	Additional Enrichment Opportunities	Student Leadership Opportunities	Performing Arts & Music Opportunities	Subject Enhancement & Supra Curricular
Linacre Institute	Football	Student Council	Arts Award	World Challenge Expedition
Sutton Trust US Programme	Netball	Sixth Form Committee	School Production	Camps International
Sutton Trust Online	Hockey	Subject Ambassadors	Vocal Group	Linguastars Residential
Host School for the University of Oxford Application Conference	Basketball	Literacy Leaders	Jazz Band	Ted Talks
	Fitness & Swimming	Reading Mentors	Guitar Group	MOOC.org
Sutton Trust Pathways to the Professions	Duke of Edinburgh	Doncaster Youth Council	Dance Group	TedX Doncaster
UNIQ	Work Experience	Representative Seats		STEM SMART
Social Mobility Foundation	Volunteering			William Ackroyd Award
Discover Sheffield	Creative Writing			Speakers for Schools
Next Step York	Wellbeing			Springpod
Zero Gravity Mentoring	Journalism			StartProfile
Futures Leeds	NHS Health Ambassadors			Maths,Biology, Chemistry & Physics Olympiads
In2Med	Student Newsletter Editorial & Photographer			COMPOS
Linguastars	STEM Club			Anthea Bell Young
HYMS	Chess Club			Translators Award
Newcastle Partners	Book Club			Senior Mathematical
Levelling Up @ Imperial	Dungeons & Dragons			Challenge
LPN Summer School	Sign Language			Nuffield Research Placements
Access Sheffield	Cooking			NCS
SHU Transform	Music & Movies Languages Club			NHS Cadets
LUDUS	Music & Movies Languages Olub			University Summer Schools
UCAS Discovery				AMSP: Advanced
Supported Progression @ Durham University				Mathematics Support Programme
Bitesize Uni @ Newcastle University				Pathways to Property @ Henley Business School

Personal Development

Dedicated Non-Teaching Support Team

Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme

Academic Tutor Programme

Out of School Learning

Subject Trips Cultural Visits

Revision/Study Skills Workshops Summer Schools University Open Days Annual Ski Trip

ICA - PERFORM

ICA-Perform is a guarantee and offer to provide our creative students with the very best of opportunities, in partnership with arts organisations, universities and theatres, both locally and nationally.

All Hall Cross students are welcome and encouraged to take part in the enhanced extra-curricular offer that is not only acknowledged by the academy's commitment to the ICA-Perform brand, but also recognised by the school's Artsmark and Music Mark awards.

Along with the extra-curricular opportunities, this recognition is as a result of the work of our students and team with the likes of The Royal National Theatre, as a founding member of the Secondary School partnership with Cast, lead partner with Doncaster Cultural Education Partnership, Leeds University, Lincoln University and more.

The offer varies every year to take advantage of new opportunities that arise, and to support the changing needs and interests of our students, but typically the offer includes:

 Regular workshops and creative sessions at Cast theatre including Drama students working there on an enrichment programme in the first half term. Hall Cross students have priority knowledge and access to work experience.

- An annual, highly acclaimed whole school production - past productions have included Les Miserables, Miss Saigon and Jesus Christ Superstar.
- Several other in-house performance opportunities, including winter and summer showcases and a Christmas Music Soiree.
- Local performance opportunities at The Wool Market and Cast.
- National Theatre Connections festival with our in-house Delante Detras Theatre company who have had one of their productions professionally produced by The Royal National Theatre and Chocolate films.
- Access to the Arts Award Gold qualification as an enrichment opportunity, open to all Hall Cross Sixth Form students.
- The National's New Views Playwriting project whereby a number of our playwrights have been commended.
- Workshops delivered by universities and theatre companies both locally and nationally.
- Visits to local/national performances.
- Expert support with UCAS including Conservatoire applications.



FOOTBALL FUTURES PATHWAY

Hall Cross Academy presents an exciting opportunity for young male and female footballers to continue their development in an educational setting, which provides outstanding teaching and course delivery alongside UEFA A and B licence coaching and elite competition.

We provide an outstanding educational pathway for young people using the key characteristics of elite performers to develop confident, ambitious and motivated athletes with the ability to learn, adapt and grow. Our dynamic training model is designed to create curious and inquisitive players who can read the game and find live solutions. Our coaches and tutors have a wealth of experience as professional footballers, UEFA A and B licence coaches and qualified teachers. We guarantee you an elite experience.

Applicants may wish to blend this qualification with the study of other A level combinations.

Study

Through our unique partnership with Hall Cross Academy, we offer the BTEC Extended Certificate (1 and the BTEC National Diploma (2 A-Level equivalent) in Sport and Exercise Science. Students also have the choice of additional subject A-Levels to supplement their studies

Training

Students will train up to five days per week focusing on the Principles of play and game intelligence. We use a games based approach which is progressive and realistic and instils in players a sense of confidence and creativity. Coaching programmes are designed to mirror the ethos and schedule of players attending professional academies.

Play

Students will represent Hall Cross Academy in the Association of Colleges leagues at Regional and National level. The programme does not conflict with your other playing commitments so grass roots and elite football can continue whilst gaining the benefits of training and playing on the programme. You will have access to an array of higher education provides including Leeds Beckett University and PlayerPath (American Scholarships) as well as benefiting from the excellent pastoral support offered by the sixth form

There will also be the opportunity to access an annual international football tour.



FOUNDATION SCHOOL IN HEALTH

Hall Cross Academy continues to be in partnership with Doncaster and Bassetlaw Hospital Trust, allowing access for students who may wish to explore career opportunities within the NHS.

This means that we are able to provide unequalled access to NHS careers guidance, work experience, enhanced subject delivery and student leadership opportunities for our Post 16 learners.

DBHT became a Teaching Hospital in 2017 and is committed to increasing opportunities for Doncaster students to embark on rewarding careers, in the many potential employment routes across the Hospital Trust. We are proud to continue our strong association with the DBHT and build upon the many exciting opportunities available to our students.



PURE A-LEVEL & VOCATIONAL PATHWAYS



SUBJECTS & ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Students need to meet the minimum entry requirement and beyond that any subject specific requirement. Minimum requirements are Level 5 in English Language or Literature and Mathematics, plus four other grades at Level 4.

Where the entry requirements detail a grade achieved in a humanities or social science subject these include; Geography, History, Sociology, Economics, Business Studies, Religious Studies and Psychology.



Subject	Level	Entry requirement	
Fine Art	Level 3 – A Level	Grade 6 in GCSE Art and a strong portfolio of GCSE work.	
Biology	Level 3 – A Level	Grade 5 English Language, Grade 6 in Maths and Grade 6 in Biology, or 7-7 in Combined Science with a 6 in Maths.	
Business	Level 3 – A Level	Grade 6 in English Language or Literature and Grade 6 in Maths.	
Chemistry	Level 3 – A Level	Grade 5 English Language, Grade 7 in Maths and Grade 7 in Chemistry, or 7-7 in Combined Science.	
Computer Science	Level 3 – A Level	Grade 5 English Language, Grade 6 Maths.	
Dance	Level 3 – A Level	Grade 5 in English Language or Literature and relevant experience.	
Theatre Studies	Level 3 – A Level	Grade 5 in English Language or Literature and relevant experience.	
Economics	Level 3 – A Level	Grade 6 in English Language and Literature and Grade 6 in Maths.	
English Language	Level 3 – A Level	Grade 6 in English Language and Grade 6 in English Literature.	
English Literature	Level 3 – A Level	Grade 6 in English Language and Grade 6 in English Literature.	
Film Studies	Level 3 – A Level	Grade 6 in English Language or Literature.	
French	Level 3 – A Level	Grade 6 in French and Grade 5 in English.	
Geography	Level 3 – A Level	Grade 6 in English Language or Literature.	
Government and Politics	Level 3 – A Level	Grade 6 in English Language and Literature.	
Graphic Design	Level 3 – A Level	Grade 6 in an Art subject at GCSE and a strong portfolio of GCSE Art/Graphic work.	



SUPPORTING ASPIRATION

Have you got high aspirations? Are you aiming for a top university?

We have a programme in place designed to support students who are intending to apply for highly competitive universities or 'early applicant' courses such as dentistry, medicine or veterinary science. In addition to a range of support within the Sixth Form, we work in partnership with The Linacre Institute and Sutton Trust to put in place a host of unique experiences designed to challenge you academically and support you in making a successful application.

We ensure that through a range of partner schemes and providers you have access to a range of opportunities - all of which are free of charge:

- Visits to Oxford, Cambridge and Imperial University.
- · A week long residential in Westminster.
- Support with work experience or internships.
- · A week long residential in Cambridge.
- The option to complete Extended Project Qualification.
- Support with applying to American Summer Schools.
- · Wider reading fund for additional subject materials.
- Ongoing one to one 'subject immersion' tuition with an Oxbridge student.
- Interview and Pre-entry test support.

The programme is available to students who achieve very high GCSE results across most subjects, typically Level 7 in English and Maths, and beyond that at least four or five grades at 8 or 9 in other GCSE subjects. Importantly, it is not just about grades, it is as much about certain characteristics and most importantly how passionate you are about your subject area.

What kind of qualities do we and the top universities look for? You need to be very interested and motivated in the subject area that appeals to you. If you are genuinely passionate about a subject, this will manifest itself in specific ways: high attainment in your subjects, wanting to do extra work to a high standard even if you haven't been asked and supercurricular pursuits outside of school. We are experts at picking up on whether you have this kind of 'beyond the ordinary' level of interest in your subjects and we are careful not to pigeonhole students simply based on their GCSE results. It might be that you pick a new subject that you had not studied before at GCSE and a deep interest might emerge that you have not previously encountered.

Many of the opportunities open to students on the programme are funded by the institutions themselves but some of our partnership opportunities are very generously funded by the Stockil Trust. Robert Stockil J.P. 1824-1900 made a bequest in his last will and testament.

He stated "The money should be used for promoting the interests and welfare of The Doncaster Grammar School". More recently H. Wilton Jones, a former teacher and Trustee, also bequeathed funds in his last will and testament. The Stockil Trust has supported and continues to support pupils and causes at The School.

BURSARY

Sixth Form students are able to apply for bursary payments to help them through their Sixth Form studies.

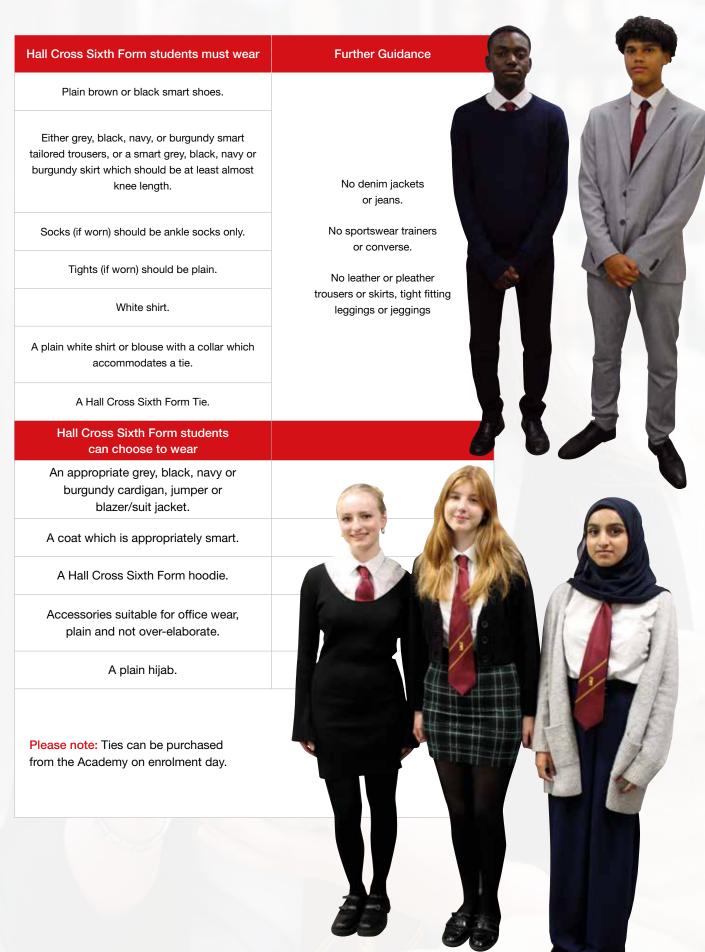
The bursary could help fund:

- Travel to and from school
- School meals
- Equipment/books
- Study materials/revision guides
- Trips
- Uniform
- · and University interview travel.

There are some restrictions to this. The items purchased and trips attended must be **COMPULSORY** to the subjects they are taking and does not extend to extracurricular activities.

Further information will be available after students have enrolled in the Sixth Form.

SIXTH FORM UNIFORM 2025/26



HOW TO APPLY

Please apply via our website:

www.hallcrossacademy.co.uk/sixth-form/apply/

Follow these simple steps to begin your journey with us.

Enrolment day is on GCSE results day.



When filling in the application form, do not worry if you are not sure about the courses you wish to take, just select the courses you think you might be interested in and we will be able to advise you at your application meeting.





Once you have applied we will acknowledge receipt of your application with an email, and we will then contact you via email to organise a meeting. So, please check your emails and junk folders regularly.





One of your parents or a guardian is more than welcome to attend the application meeting. Please bring some tracking/progress information from your current school as we will use that to help offer you guidance on course selection. Do not worry about the meeting! It is a chance for you to get some advice about course options and ask questions of us.





After your meeting, and assuming Hall Cross is going to be the right place for you, we will email you confirming an offer of a conditional place.





Enjoying excellence every day

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