



**SALESIAN**  
**COLLEGE**  
FARNBOROUGH



*Sixth Form*

# WELCOME FROM THE HEADMASTER



**Thank you for your interest in the Salesian College Sixth Form.**

**The decision you are about to take – how and where to continue your education after GCSE – is probably the most important you will have made in your life so far. Parents, teachers and friends will help you make it, but you already know enough about yourself to know that the next stage has got to be right for you.**

You will have lots of questions: Can I do the subjects I want? What opportunities are there for sport, for music, for drama, for foreign travel and other cultural activities? What will Sixth Form student life be like?

Will I be treated differently, respected as a young adult? Will it lead to the opportunities I want after A Level? In recent years at Salesian, much time, energy and resources have been invested to provide impressive and purpose-built facilities. The Salesian College Sixth Form was praised by the ISI Inspection team for delivering a co-educational Sixth Form experience which offers a wide range of subject choice, a modern dedicated Sixth Form centre and an unrivalled opportunity to take responsibility for yourself and for others. It is an environment where every young adult is valued as an individual and where you can grow in self-confidence within the atmosphere of a close and supportive community.

If you decide to join the Salesian Sixth Form, I know that, after two years, you will leave the College as a confident but not arrogant person, comfortable with yourself and with others, equipped with Christian values and ready to take your place in, and make a significant contribution to, society. You will have reached your full potential and be both ready and prepared for university life.

In this prospectus we try to answer many of your questions. Sixth Form life at Salesian is a very special experience – I invite you to experience it yourself!

With best wishes for your future education.

*Patrick Wilson*  
HEADMASTER



# WHY CHOOSE SALESIAN?

- Supportive staff who understand the strengths and needs of individual students
- High academic standards
- Excellent university entrance record
- Small teaching groups – typically 7-10
- An easier transition from GCSE to A level
- Wide choice of academic subjects
- Individual tutor and teacher time
- Fully co-educational
- The opportunity to develop leadership skills
- Modern purpose-built Sixth Form Centre
- Varied and exciting sporting and extra-curricular opportunities
- Specialist guidance and individual advice on university entrance and future careers
- Strong tradition of charitable fundraising and community service



*"Students feel that teachers know them well and are always ready to listen and give time to them; they recognise the college as a special place. The sixth-form girls are assuming an increasingly important role within the college. Their addition to the excellent team of pastoral and academic mentors and prefects is welcomed by the younger students and the staff."*

ISI INSPECTION REPORT

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# ADMISSIONS POLICY

*We welcome applications from young men and women as they approach their GCSE exams. Each year, we welcome students from a variety of other schools, both independent and maintained, to join those transferring from our own Upper School.*

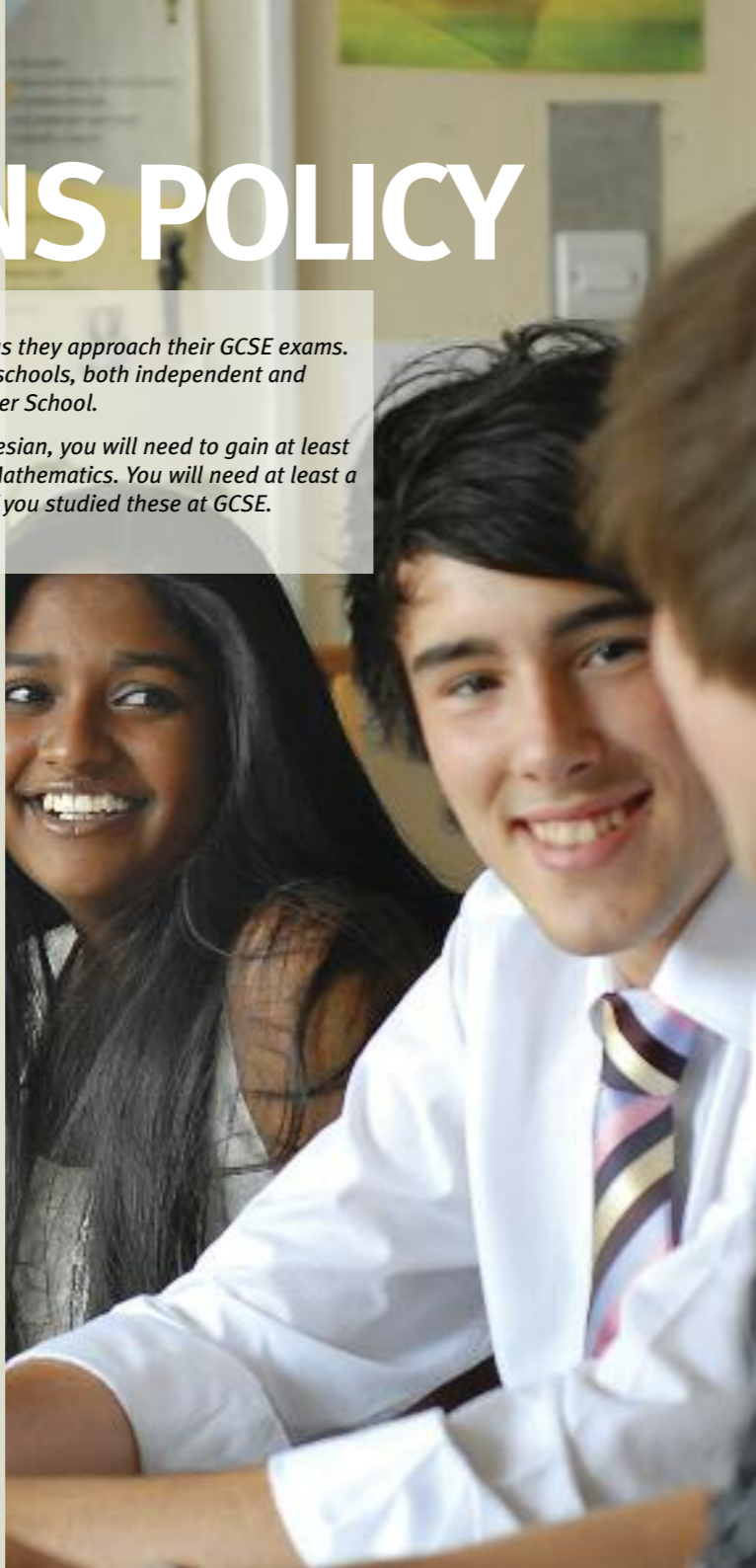
*In order to benefit from the academic programme at Salesian, you will need to gain at least six good (A\*-C) passes at GCSE, including English and Mathematics. You will need at least a B grade in the subjects you intend to study for A Level if you studied these at GCSE.*

## HOW DO I APPLY

Read this prospectus and visit our website on [www.salesiancollege.com](http://www.salesiancollege.com)  
Attend the Open Evening in November.

Complete and return the enclosed Salesian College Sixth Form Application Form.

You will be invited to attend for interview and discuss your application and subject choice. Places will be offered in line with the published College Admissions Code. All places offered are subject to meeting the academic requirements and demonstrating the contribution that you can make to Sixth Form college life.



# SUCCESS AT SALESIAN

The aim of the whole staff at Salesian has always been to not just provide the very best A level results that our students are capable of, but also to produce courteous and rounded young people of whom we are justifiably proud. We recognise the great importance that high A level grades have in today's world, but we never lose sight of the Salesian ideal that education is about more than learning academic disciplines. It is to nurture values and qualities which will equip our students to take their place as leaders in tomorrow's society, to be confident in their abilities and to know that their education has equipped them to reach the highest levels in their chosen careers. You will get the very best advice and information to help you choose the right higher education option to match your interests and abilities.



We have considerable success in getting students into the leading universities including Oxford and Cambridge each year. There is a special application procedure for Oxbridge and, if you think that you will be able to cope with their very exacting standards (which will mean at least three A grades at A Level) we will give you all the help and support you will need, as we do for all UCAS applications.

We know, from the information we receive from universities and former Salesian Sixth Form students themselves, that they go on to achieve excellent academic degrees and further qualifications. We take immense pride in this evidence of the skills they developed here and their continued success at both university and in their chosen career.

*"The quality teaching enables students of all abilities to make very good progress."*

ISI INSPECTION REPORT



# SIXTH FORM STUDIES

## AND OVERVIEW OF SUBJECTS OFFERED

Sixth form study will be unlike anything you have experienced at school so far. You will have to take much more personal responsibility for your own study activities, and become a self-starting independent learner.

One of the first things you will notice is the very different examination system. At GCSE you had, as well as a much broader curriculum, a two-year period of study with exams at the end.

By contrast, A Level is split into two distinct parts. In the Lower Sixth, you will study for AS Level exams, taken at the end of that year. Normally you will study four subjects at AS Level and have the option to drop the weakest one before continuing, in the Upper Sixth, with study for A2 Level exams. Some students decide to continue with four subjects at A2, and there is some opportunity to re-take AS Level units in order to improve your final A2 grade.

Class sizes are much smaller than you will have experienced before. Teaching and learning may seem more informal, but it is actually more intensive and demanding, with much closer interaction both with teachers and between you and your fellow students.

You will find you have some time when you are not being formally taught. You will be expected to spend these periods in private study, consolidating what you have learnt in lessons, preparing assignments and acquiring the self-disciplined individual research

skills which will be essential when you go on to university. To assist you in this you will have the use of purpose built Sixth Form study rooms with internet and wi-fi access.

### SUBJECTS

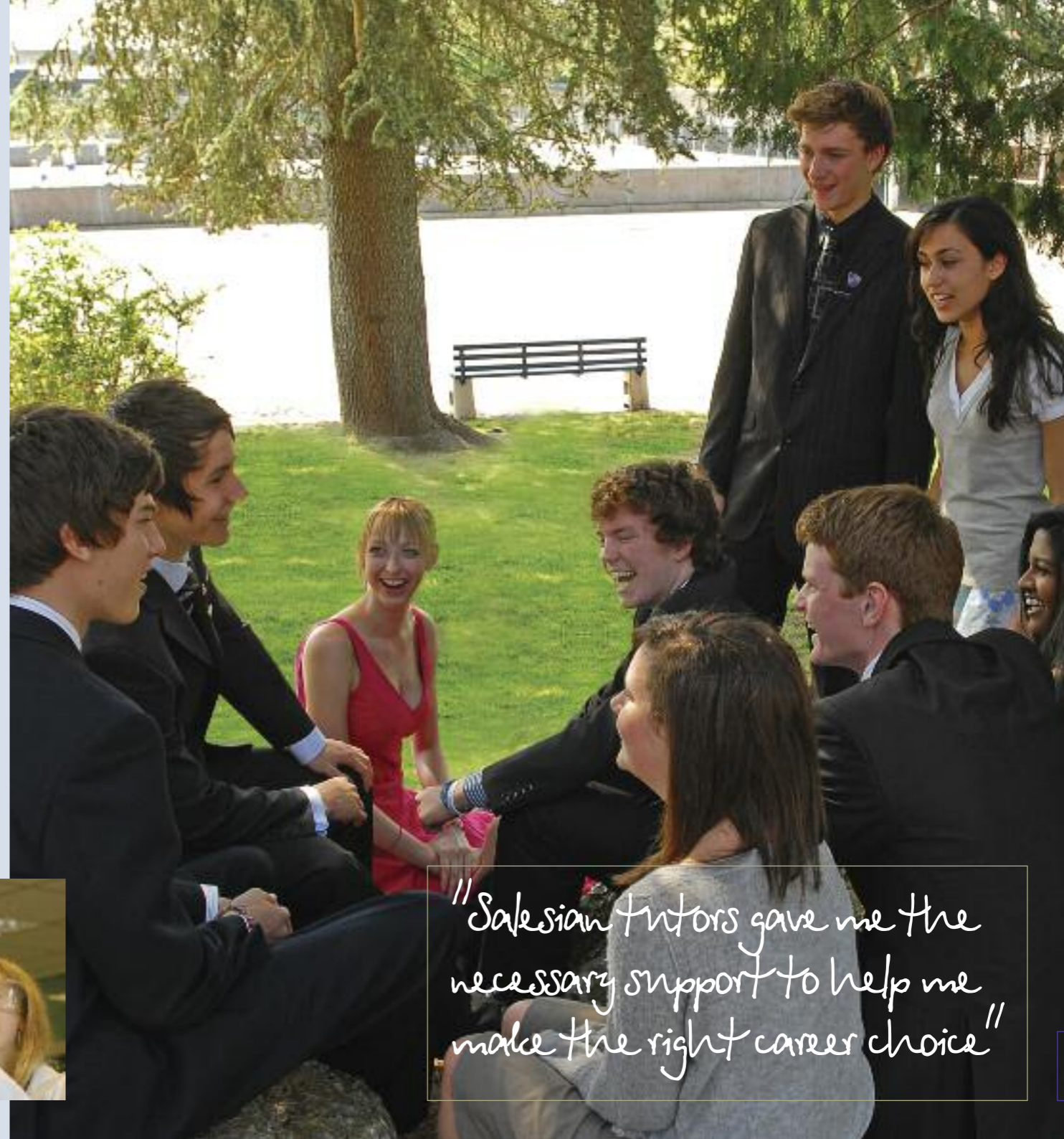
The subjects offered at A Level change a little from time to time, depending on demand. Currently on offer are:

Art
Biology
Chemistry
Economics
English
French
Geography
History
ICT
Latin
Mathematics
Further Mathematics
Media Studies
Music
Physical Education
Physics
Psychology
Spanish
Theatre Studies
Philosophy and Ethics

### ENRICHMENT

These are usually non-examined courses. You will be able to choose from a wide range including music, sport, art, drama, languages, debating, cookery, dance, self-defence, Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme, Sports Leaders and Young Enterprise.

Citizenship is developed through Lower Sixth leadership training at an Outdoor Pursuits Centre, Student Council, positions of college responsibility such as prefecture and mentorship, voluntary service, charity fundraising, the annual HCPT pilgrimage to Lourdes and foreign exchange visits and field trips, and membership of societies such as Amnesty International and Justice and Peace. The College's global citizenship opportunities are supported through our membership of the world wide Salesian family. Through these strong and established links many students have embarked on Gap Year projects in South America, Africa, India and in Europe. Opportunities can be tailor made for individual students with financial support a possibility.



"Salesian tutors gave me the necessary support to help me make the right career choice"



# SUPPORT AND GUIDANCE

## PROGRESS REVIEW/TUTORIAL SYSTEM

*"The well-managed Sixth Form tutor team is working with energy and enthusiasm to create a cohesive co-educational experience for their students."* ISI Report

As a Sixth Form student at Salesian you will receive support and guidance in all sorts of ways, not least through the contacts and conversations which take place throughout every day between staff and students, in and out of the classroom. You will enjoy a unique and mature relationship with staff, a relationship built on mutual trust and respect. But you will also benefit from a well-developed university style tutorial system to ensure that your learning is supported and your decisions taken on the basis of experienced and expert advice.

### TUTORIAL SYSTEM

*"Students feel that teachers know them well and are always ready to listen and give time to them; they recognise the college as 'a special place'."* ISI Report

You will be assigned to a tutor who will take a close personal interest in your progress. As well as your academic work, your tutor will also be there to ensure that all is well with your general well-being in the college and to help sort out any problems or difficulties which might arise.

Tutor groups meet every day and are small, so your tutor can give you genuinely individual support. He or she will also help you organise your time efficiently, making sure you adjust to the different demands and pace of advanced study. The small size of the groups along with prior knowledge of your strengths and weaknesses enables much greater continuity in the progression from GCSE to AS level. When the time comes to prepare your personal statement for university entrance, your tutor will help you to compose and phrase it.

*"I was able to study the right subjects to gain a place at my first choice university"*



### STRUCTURED STUDY

To help you acquire the self-discipline of private study, without the constant supervision younger students need, a study programme will be devised to help you plan your time effectively. This will help you not just to complete assignments on time but to manage the regular periods of private study you will have within your timetable. You will agree with the Head of the Sixth Form to devote some of your non-teaching periods to work on your own in one of the study rooms or the library.

You will also have regular structured discussions with class teachers and your personal tutor to discuss your progress, agree any action that needs to be taken and to share your experiences.

## LEADERSHIP

At Salesian, we believe that learning about leadership is a vital part of the Sixth Form experience. You will be a senior member of the school community and will be able to use what you have learned to help younger students. This takes a number of forms.

Each year, a number of Lower Sixth students are invited to be prefects, following the precepts of the Salesians' founder Don Bosco, who knew that valuable personal qualities can be developed by conferring the responsibility of care for younger pupils.

Sixth formers also act as mentors for new pupils in Year 7, helping them to adapt to life at the College and to overcome any difficulties they may encounter. You will receive training for this role during your time in the Lower Sixth.

## UCAS/CAREERS ADVICE

Almost from the moment you enter the Sixth Form, you will be asking the question: What am I going to do after A Level? We will help you explore the best options for you through a structured programme of higher education and careers advice.

This will:

- Help you to assess your own skills and personal qualities
- Provide easy access to up-to-date information via the UCAS and Careers Library in the Sixth Form Centre
- Allow you to attend an annual Careers Day or Fair
- Provide opportunities to attend university open days
- Support opportunities for work experience
- Offer guidance through personal interviews and group discussions.

## PROGRESS REVIEW

As you become more responsible for your own learning it is important that you develop the skill to look openly and honestly at your progress. We will help you to develop a mature understanding of your strengths and weaknesses and, importantly, the ability to celebrate confidently your own talents and those of others.

Each half-term you will undertake a progress review with the Head of Sixth Form or your tutor. Your teachers will comment on your academic progress and you will also be asked to record and discuss your wider achievements and involvement in opportunities outside of the classroom.

## THE SPIRITUAL LIFE

Every aspect of life at the College, including the Sixth Form, is informed by its ethos, based on Christian Salesian traditions, which values the personal, emotional and spiritual development of every young person every bit as much as their academic, cultural and physical achievements.

As a Catholic school, we believe that prayer and the sacraments lie at the heart of this spiritual development. You don't have to be a Catholic to be a Sixth Former at Salesian, but we believe that your own development will draw strength from a community where spiritual needs are recognised and from the mutual respect and esteem which is expected within that community.



The Chaplaincy is an integral part of the pastoral and emotional support we provide to all students; you will find the Chaplain always ready to give support and a listening ear

should you need it. You will also have the opportunity each year to go on a Sixth Form retreat - an invaluable opportunity to reflect, discuss and pray in an environment away from the daily hurly-burly of school life. Each year, too, there is a pilgrimage to Lourdes, something which everyone who participates in finds a moving and transforming experience.

*"The College fulfils its aims to develop each student spiritually, academically, culturally, physically and emotionally. It produces well-educated, confident, courteous and kind young men and*

*women who are ready to take on responsibility and to serve. The students demonstrate outstanding spiritual, moral, social and cultural awareness."* ISI Report

## PARENTS

In spite of the greater emphasis in the Sixth Form on your own personal responsibility for your learning, your parents will be as keenly interested as before in how you are getting on. At Salesian, we regard education as a partnership which involves parents too, so they will be encouraged to get to know your tutor and to keep in contact with your subject teachers. There will be regular opportunities for them to come to the College to discuss your progress and they are, of course, welcome to contact us at any time should they have any concerns.



# BEYOND THE CURRICULUM

*"The curriculum is broad and complemented by a good range of extra-curricular activities."*

ISI REPORT



## PERFORMING ARTS

Drama has always been an integral part of College life, with at least one major production each year, and the Sixth Form is at the heart of all theatre work.

As a member of the Sixth Form, you will have opportunities, not only to perform, but to organise every aspect of production – stage management, lighting, sound, scenery and props. One Sixth Former is appointed each year as Chair of the Salesian Theatre Company with others accepting defined roles of responsibility.

## MUSIC

A highly regarded, essential and acclaimed part of College life. All

members of the Sixth Form are encouraged to be part of the prestigious choir, which performs publicly on important occasions, or to offer their instrumental skills to the orchestra or jazz band.

## YOUNG ENTERPRISE

In the Lower Sixth, you will have the opportunity to participate in Young Enterprise – forming companies with your friends and contemporaries to develop entrepreneurial and collaborative skills. This is a national competition in which tens of thousands of young people participate each year. Salesian College Young Enterprise companies frequently perform extremely well, winning awards both at local and county finals.

## DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S AWARD SCHEME

The Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme is internationally recognised and good to include on any UCAS application. It provides an opportunity to develop individual skills, overcome personal challenge and make a contribution to the wider community. In the Salesian Sixth Form you will have the opportunity to undertake the Silver or Gold Awards. Past students have completed these with notable success including undertaking the personal challenge in the wilds of Canada as well as closer to home.





## THE VISUAL ARTS

The Arts are an intrinsic and highly valued aspect of education throughout the College. The Music School, Drama Studio and Art Rooms, along with a well-equipped and fully functioning stage, provide an environment in which the Arts can thrive and flourish. Drama, fine art, choir and orchestra, public speaking and debating are all popular with students who enjoy outstanding success including to national level. The philosophy of the College is that the Arts not only enhance and broaden students' academic studies and develop their team skills, but also encourage their personal and cultural development.



## SPORT

Sport has always been an important part of the Salesian experience for all students in the Sixth Form. We believe that, in addition to the enormous sense of enjoyment and fulfilment active participation in sport offers, it helps to build teamwork and self-confidence.

Wednesday afternoon is designated as Sixth Form Games time. You will be encouraged to take part in one of the many sports on offer at Salesian – rugby, football, basketball, badminton, volleyball, cricket, tennis, swimming, athletics, netball and more. Every opportunity is provided for you to represent the college in

competitive sport. We field strong and successful teams especially in rugby and football in the winter seasons competing in both county and national competitions. Sometimes there may be as many as five senior football teams on a Wednesday. Sixth formers also continue to compete in college competitions such as the Badminton Tournament, Tennis Tournament, the Golf Day and Swimming Gala.

Many students have attained District and County representative honours but there are plenty of opportunities to play at College or House level.

Above all our aim is to ensure that you find a sporting activity in which you enjoy regular participation.

In the Lower Sixth, you will be invited to take up the British Sports Trust's Community Sports Leader Award. In line with the College's overall ethos, this encourages students to volunteer to become sports coaches and organisers and contribute in this way to their community. Achieving the award involves working with younger pupils inside and outside the College.

## THE DISTINCT NATURE OF THE SIXTH FORM

The Sean Devereux Sixth Form Centre has been purpose-designed with student input to provide all the amenities of a modern Sixth Form. There are two large, well-equipped and comfortable common rooms, kitchen facilities and a series of quiet private-study rooms, all equipped with ICT and broadband access.

Just as you will be expected to take more responsibility for your academic studies, you will also find that the Sixth Form at Salesian has a great deal of control over its own social and cultural activities. There is a Sixth Form Council, with members from Lower and Upper Sixth, elected by the students, which acts as a liaison between the College authorities and the Sixth Form, organising events and a wide range of social activities including regular theatre trips to the West End.

## CHARITY AND COMMUNITY SERVICE

As you would expect in a college like Salesian, we take our responsibility to others, in Britain and overseas, very seriously. The Sixth Form specifically supports charities such as Crisis at Christmas and The Passage Centre by organising a sleep-out at Christmas. The Justice and Peace committee organise a range of activities including an annual conference and sponsored walk. Talks are given and assemblies are led in local schools. In the Sixth Form you will be encouraged to actively support our links with India, Liberia, Tanzania, South Africa and Zambia. All these activities contribute enormously to the vibrant social life of the Salesian Sixth Form.

## DEBATING AND PUBLIC SPEAKING

The Salesian Sixth Form will give you plenty of opportunity to develop the skills of debate, discussion and presentation which will be vital in higher education and your career beyond. You will have the opportunity to debate within the college, against local Sixth Forms and in regional competitions.

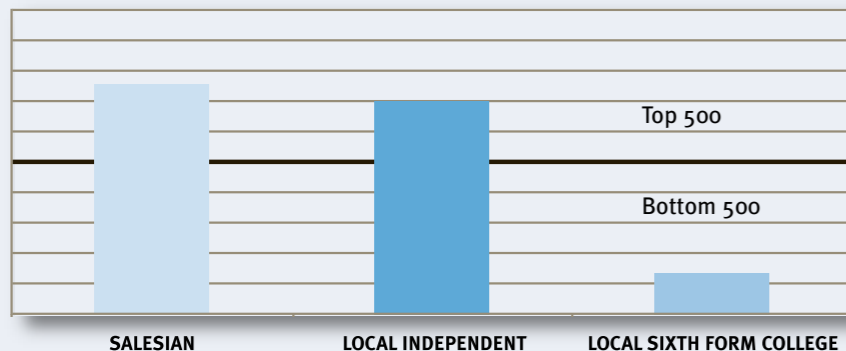
## COLLEGE MAGAZINE

The Lower Sixth is responsible for the production of the annual college magazine – forming an editorial team to oversee the commissioning, writing, editing and layout.

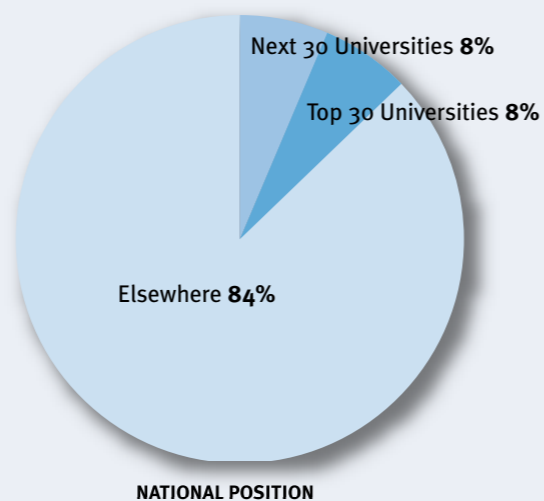
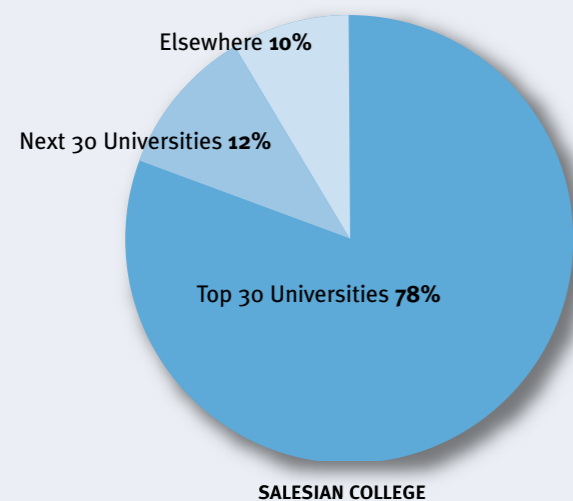
# ACHIEVEMENT

## FINANCIAL TIMES – TOP 1000

Comparative ranking of local colleges, 2007



## UNIVERSITY PLACEMENTS



*"In the outstanding lessons, teachers actively engaged their students, inspiring enthusiastic responses. A mock trial of David Hume's views in a Lower Sixth class successfully led students to sharpen their thinking and develop their analytical skills."*

ISI REPORT

As a Sixth Form student at Salesian College you can expect to achieve your full potential and to celebrate outstanding A Level results at the end of the Upper Sixth. Our young men and women consistently gain results well above the national and local average.

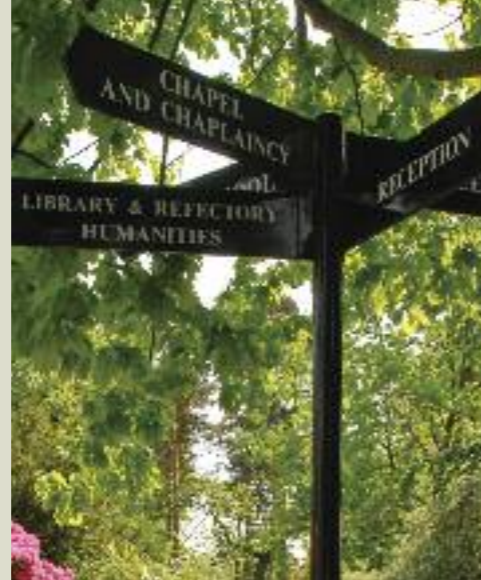
Salesian College is committed to inclusive education where every individual student is given the opportunity to make the most of their personal skills and abilities. Through careful monitoring of your progression, regular personal tutorials, daily support and advice, excellent teaching and the further development of learning skills, you will have every opportunity to gain a place at your first choice of university.

Examination results are only one factor which you may wish to consider before choosing where to study for A Level. At Salesian we believe that the quality of the learning experience, our enrichment programme, wide range of extra curricular activities and the development of students' personal qualities within a happy and caring community are just as important. Nevertheless, good examination results will often be essential if you are to fulfil your future ambitions. Past generations have established the teaching and learning experience in the Salesian College Sixth Form to be a rewarding experience for staff and students alike. It plays an important part in ensuring that students of all abilities achieve their full potential in external examinations.

*"Teachers have excellent relationships with their students, promoting an atmosphere of mutual respect. They know their students well and demonstrate a strong understanding of their aptitudes, interests and abilities. It enables students of all abilities to make rapid progress and to achieve well."*

ISI REPORT





*"I chose the Salesian co-educational Sixth Form because of the small class sizes and the personal relationship with teachers. The range of opportunities that are available at the college have prepared me very well for when I go to university."*

# LIFE AFTER SALESIAN

Whilst you can expect to be offered a place at your first choice of university on a course of study best suited to you, some students now decide to experience a gap year and broaden their horizons. As part of the worldwide Salesian family we can offer a range of placements in the developing world through our own overseas placement programme called BOVA – Bosco Overseas Volunteer Action. Many of our students are also able to access funding for their project through the help of the college. Whether you go straight to university, start a new career or take a gap year, you will be 'Educated for Life' and approach the future as a young adult who is confident without being arrogant. The college will always be behind you to offer support and advice if needed.



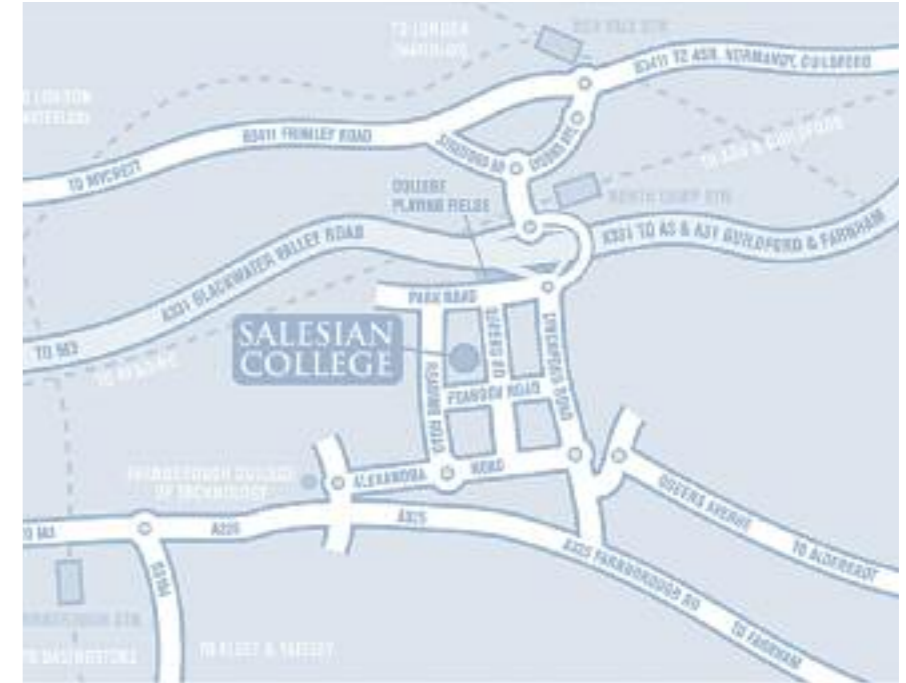


*"The Salesian Sixth Form has prepared me for the next stage of my life"*



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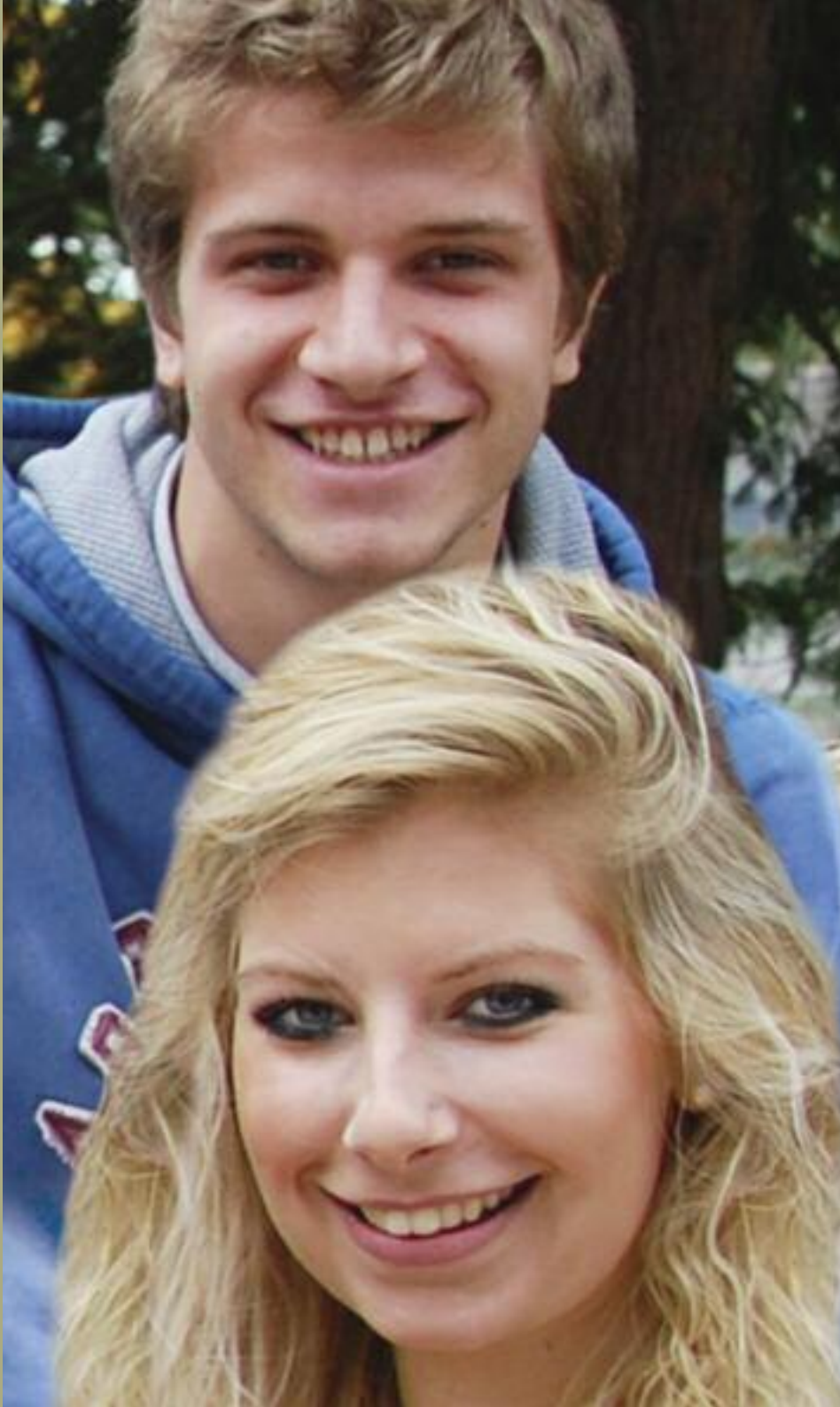
## WHERE TO FIND US



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*Where to find us*



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