



Kimbolton School

Sixth Form Prospectus 2024-26



Key Dates for September 2024 Entry

Entering the Sixth Form Evening

Thursday 16 November 2023, 6.30pm

Register at www.kimbolton.cambs.sch.uk/visit

Deadline to register for entry – Thursday 30 November 2023

Bursary application deadline – Thursday 30 November 2023

Offers of places – sent out by February half term 2024

A Level options deadline

Friday 16 February 2024 (Kimbolton students)

Deadline for acceptance of a place –

Friday 1 March 2024

Registrar: Mrs Rosie White

registrar@kimbolton.cambs.sch.uk

01480 862209



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Cover photo: Mr R Knell



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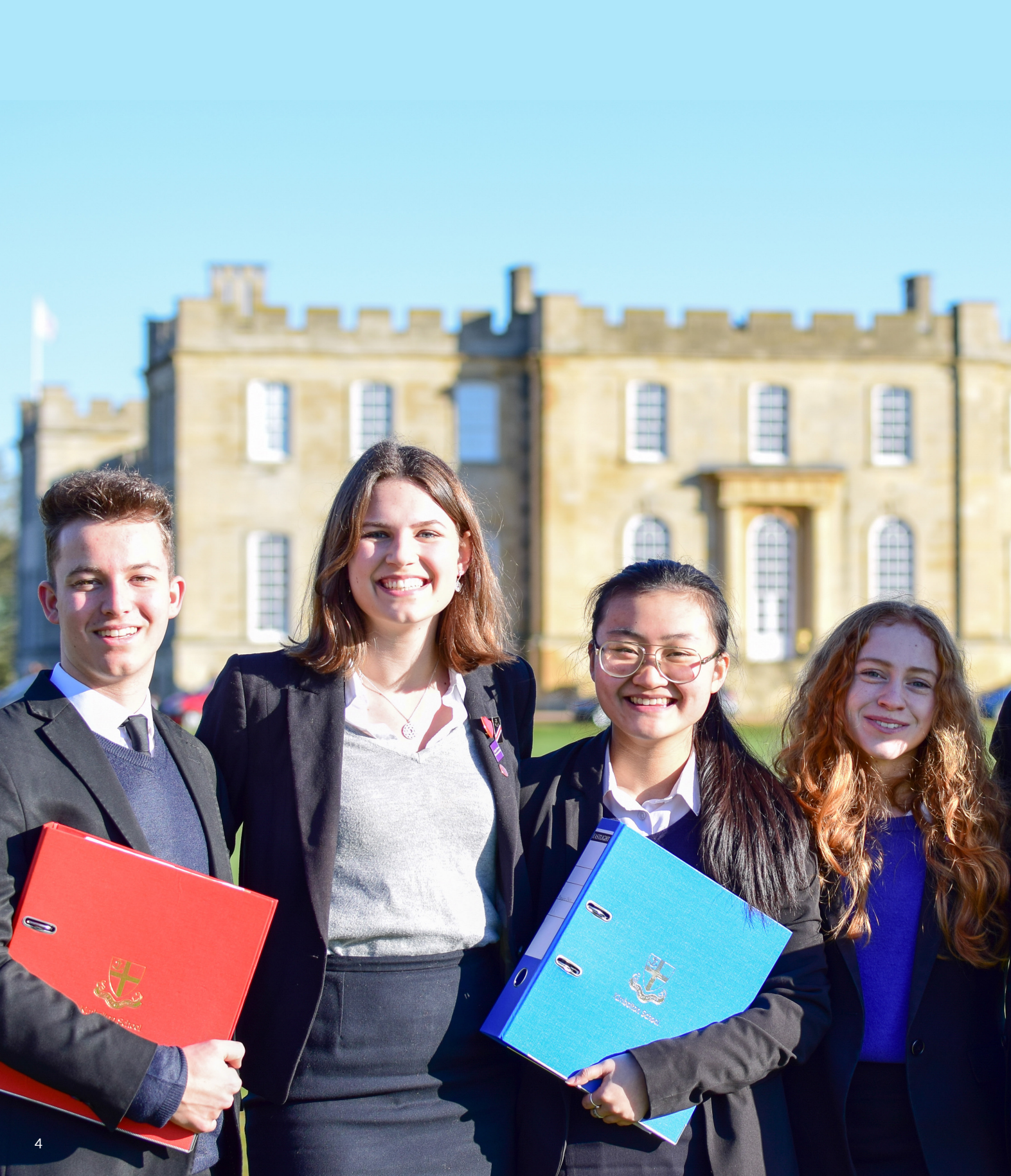
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From the Headmaster

I am delighted to welcome you to Kimbolton School. The Sixth Form experience here is rich and rewarding. If you're prepared to give your best, I can guarantee that you will do your best here – both in your A levels and in the many other areas of school life that we hope you will throw yourself into.

You will find that our Sixth Form is not a conveyor belt or pressure-cooker where academic results come at the expense of happiness. Instead, we want your next two years to be full of excitement, challenge and new experiences that prepare you for adult life in today's world. Of course, hard work is an essential part of that. We want you to leave having achieved what you want, with great friends and memories for life.

Should you wish to discuss any Sixth Form matter in greater detail, please do not hesitate to contact me. In the meantime, I wish you well with your forthcoming examinations.

Mr Will Chuter
Headmaster

“

Pupils grow into mature, multi-faceted and empathic young adults with a strong awareness of their social responsibilities.

**INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS
INSPECTORATE**

”

From the Head of Sixth Form

If you are seeking academic fulfilment, the opportunity to establish life-long friendships and contribute to the wider community, then our Sixth Form is an excellent choice for you. We aim to deliver an outstanding, personalised education within which you will develop into a well-rounded adult whose individual successes are celebrated. I hope this prospectus gives you a full flavour of how this is achieved and how 'Community, Challenge and Career' – see overleaf – are at the forefront of this important and transitional two-year period.

A dedicated Sixth Form team will help steer you in the right direction, negotiate a way through our highly successful UCAS/careers process, and facilitate a lively set of social events culminating in our Summer Leavers' Ball – ensuring you are well prepared for life beyond Kimbolton. Our aim is to help you build up a portfolio of qualifications and achievements for your CV that you will take through your life beyond school into university or work.

I look forward to you joining us at our forthcoming Open Evening so you can experience a snapshot of this yourself.

Mr Matthew Gilbert
Head of Sixth Form



“

The great rapport I have with my teachers, the opportunities to do so many different, challenging and enjoyable activities and just knowing I can be myself while I am working hard towards getting my best A-Level grades, is what I really love about being in Kimbolton's Sixth Form.

GEORGE

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1 sheet of paper	1	0.10	0.10

Your 6 steps to success

Just as success in adulthood is about achieving a work-life balance, so success in Sixth Form is about both academic and personal development. This is a fresh start and a new experience for you, whether you join from our Fifth Form or from another school. Kimbolton is a friendly, sociable and exciting place to study for A Levels, combining strong academics with plenty of opportunities to build up your CV, enjoy social events and gain entry to your chosen university or career. Whatever your aspirations, we aim to help you achieve your academic and career potential.

COMMUNITY

A community where you belong

1

Join a vibrant Sixth Form of around 200 students – 20 new to Kimbolton each year, from over 15 different schools – and be part of the wider school and village community, too. With Kimbolton's positive and inclusive atmosphere you'll find it easy to settle in and make new friends.

2

A personal tutor and a dedicated student wellbeing team ensure you'll have all the support you need to flourish. This is complemented by a programme of inspiring trips, visits and social events.

CHALLENGE

Take up the challenge

3

Leadership and mentoring opportunities abound: team sports, drama, debating, F1 in Schools, Community Service Unit, Duke of Edinburgh's Award... or earn your stripes in our Combined Cadet Force.



CAREER

Explore your career options

6

Our programme of Citizenship lectures with visiting speakers will broaden your horizons, while membership of the Old Kimboltonians' Association means you'll always stay in touch with your roots.

5

There are no restrictions to the combination of A Level subjects you can choose, allowing you to take control of your academic destiny. Every student is allocated a careers adviser, ahead of our annual Higher Education, Gap and Careers Fair.

4

Take your pick from over 80 extra-curricular clubs and activities including Medical Society, Law Society, Charities Committee and Tycoon business trading, plus extension courses from astronomy to film-making. Go beyond the A Level syllabus with an Extended Project Qualification.



COMMUNITY

Boost your Wellbeing

We all thrive when we feel happy, safe and secure, and at Kimbolton we pride ourselves on providing excellent safeguarding and pastoral care. We are committed to equal treatment for all, regardless of an individual's race, ethnicity, religion, sexual orientation, gender, disability, learning needs or social background.

House System and Tutor

Every student belongs to one of our Houses (Balyes, Dawsons, Gibbards and Owens) and is allocated to a tutor group of about 15 Sixth Formers. Your tutor is at the centre of our support system and will look after you for both years, overseeing your academic progress and welfare. Organising your time and working independently is a key part of Sixth Form life and a vital preparation for the university courses most of you will go on to study. As you work your way through the Lower and Upper Sixth you take more responsibility for your own academic studies but teachers and tutors will always be there to help if needed.



“ Kimbolton Sixth Form has given me some incredible opportunities to further my academic passions, but also to pursue many extra-curricular interests. I've been able to start my own Book Club, take part in Model United Nations debating, and expand my musical horizons with choir, chamber choir and the whole school musical production of *Sweeney Todd*. I've enjoyed mixing with students of all ages that I may not meet through lessons, creating a fantastic feeling of community. ”

EMILY JOINED KIMBOLTON IN YEAR 3 FROM A NORTHAMPTONSHIRE PRIMARY SCHOOL. SHE IS NOW READING ENGLISH AT CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY.

Health Centre and Counselling Service

Confidential medical care and emotional support is provided by trained nurses and counsellors at our on-site Health Centre. They are able to offer advice on a wide range of health issues to everyone on the school campus and have support from the health professionals at our local surgery, Kimbolton Medical Centre.

“ Kimbolton has helped me develop not only my strengths inside the classroom but also my personal qualities through being an Ingrams Prefect and taking an active role in CCF RAF activities. My dream of working in the veterinary world has been made possible by fantastic teachers and support during my Sixth Form years. ”

JAMES JOINED KIMBOLTON IN THE THIRD FORM (YEAR 9) FROM AN OVERSEAS INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL. HE IS NOW READING BIOVETERINARY SCIENCE AT LIVERPOOL UNIVERSITY.



Academic Support

The Academic Support department works in partnership with staff, students and parents to provide one-to-one or group support in all aspects of learning – ensuring students are able to reach their full potential. This includes building up students' confidence in their own life skills (organisation, self help, as well as key literacy skills), using effective study skills and revision techniques, plus work on decoding exam questions and planning essays.

Chaplaincy

We welcome students from all faiths and traditions and those from none. Kimbolton's ethos is based on Christian principles and ideals, and our Chaplain is fully involved in the pastoral care of our community. The Castle's chapel, once the spiritual retreat of Katharine of Aragon and magnificently decorated by Pellegrini, acts as a calm oasis in a busy school day.



COMMUNITY

Boarding

Boarding at Kimbolton is a rich and rewarding experience. Our two characterful boarding houses – Kimbolton House (boys) and White House (girls) – are located on the historic High Street and back onto the school grounds. Both offer a relaxed family environment and a full programme of activities, providing a true home-from-home at an affordable price. Choose from a range of different boarding options: full, weekly, flexi and occasional.



Boys: *Kimbolton House*

Houseparents:

Mr Tony and Mrs Emma Lawless
asl@kimbolton.cambs.sch.uk

Girls: *White House*

Houseparents:

Mrs Laura and Mr Philip Hadden
lah@kimbolton.cambs.sch.uk



Holly, Lower Sixth Form boarder

When did you start boarding, and why?

I started weekly boarding in the summer term of Fourth Form. I had always wanted to try it out and liked the structure of the house – the daily routine helped me focus on my studies.

What is your favourite thing about boarding?

The closeness of all the girls in the boarding house, plus the breakfasts! Also, I love our board game nights.

What do you do after-school and in the evenings?

I normally either go to a club or a subject helpdesk. In the evenings and after prep I join the girls in the common room to watch a film or the latest reality show. There will always be toast being made!

How do your parents feel about you boarding?

They like that fact that boarding house life is structured as it helps me to work and not be distracted, but it's also enjoyable. During the week I wouldn't really see them much due to their work commitments, so we make the most of our weekends together. I'm in touch with them all the time though, by text or phone.

What responsibilities do Sixth Form boarders have?

The Head of House is an Upper Sixth student. They take an active role in meetings and help the Housemistress ensure everyone is keeping in good spirits. They're always happy to chat to pupils in younger years, too. All Sixth Formers take a prep duty; this means that on a particular evening they do their work in the prep room along with the First to Third Formers.

What would be your top tip for a new Sixth Form boarder?

Get involved in everything you can – the motto stands that you only get out what you put in. Also don't run in the upstairs corridor!

Trips and Social Life

The Sixth Form Common Room and Club, located in the Castle, is the centre of student social life. Regular events include the annual barbecue, Christmas themed party, quiz night, film nights, music nights and the spectacular end-of-year Summer Ball. The Club helps to bring both year groups together and provides plenty of memorable moments, many of which are recorded in the Upper Sixth Leavers' Yearbook.



Trips

As well as these regular term time activities, there are numerous trips to enjoy during the holidays. The Combined Cadet Force offers camps and exercises, and individual courses aplenty to senior cadets. Many students also enjoy training and assessment expeditions for their Gold Duke of Edinburgh award, exploring the North York Moors and Northumberland. Further afield, we have recently run an Art trip to Rome, a Spanish trip to Barcelona and a French trip to Montpellier. The Geography Department Field Trip to Iceland gives a close-up experience of glaciers and geysers. Sports tours, both short and long haul, to locations including Holland, Italy, South Africa and Australia are immensely popular.



The Sixth Form Committee

We want to know what Sixth Formers think, to encourage suggestions, debate ideas and discuss proposals for change. An elected committee meets regularly with the Head of Sixth Form to discuss any issues with an open agenda.

There are also Sixth Form Forums to discuss and air suggestions from both year groups.

Explore Your Campus

Our Sixth Form is based in historic Kimbolton Castle, which is set in 120 acres of Cambridgeshire parkland and famous as the final home of King Henry VIII's first wife, Queen Katharine of Aragon.

Classrooms

Some teaching takes place inside the Castle, with additional classrooms in the Donaldson and Queen Katharine Building (QKB). The state of the art QKB includes the William Brown Lecture Theatre (WBLT), as well as 12 science laboratories. It offers outstanding facilities in which to study STEM subjects (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics).



Sixth Form Common Room and Club

The recently refurbished common room provides a comfortable social area for the exclusive use of Sixth Form students, with a kitchen and tea and coffee making facilities. This is supplemented by the Sixth Form Club, an atmospheric space for popular evening social events.



Theatre, Sports Centre and Pool

Major concerts and drama productions are held throughout the year in the Lewis Hall, with seating for up to 400 people. Students also have access to a modern multipurpose sports centre with a gym, fitness room and two squash courts, as well as an impressive 25-metre indoor swimming pool.

Work Rooms and Vanbrugh Library

There are two work rooms in the Castle with computers that are available for private study, or alternatively students can use the library or work in departmental areas. The Vanbrugh Library offers an ideal space for study as well as access to a wide range of resources including over 11,000 books and ebooks, 50 periodicals, resource folders and DVDs. All 14,000 items are fully indexed within Access-It, the library catalogue, which can be searched remotely via the school intranet. Subscription-based websites *History Today*, *New Scientist*, *Oxford Art Online* and the *Philip Allen/Hodder Magazine* archives, along with a range of other up-to-date resources, help students consolidate their learning outside of lessons. Advice and guidance in your research is available at all times from the librarians. The library is open for one week during the Easter holidays for revision. Dates are published in the school calendar.



School Shop

The School Shop, located in the Gatehouse, sells hot and cold drinks and snacks, stationery, minor uniform items, padlocks for lockers, nearly new uniform and School memorabilia. It is open to students at morning break, lunchtime and after-school. Parents are welcome to use the café area after-school to meet up with friends and to wait for students involved in extra-curricular activities.



CHALLENGE

Choose your A Levels

In the Sixth Form you have the opportunity to focus your academic interests by taking three A Level subjects over two years. The choice of subjects is wider than at GCSE but, crucially, you will be studying all subjects in greater depth and in smaller groups of approximately 8-12 students. This is the academic 'bridge' between school and university-level study and you have to take more responsibility for your own work, using private study periods, reading and developing your research and study skills. Academic curiosity is the key to success; it is challenging but also very rewarding to develop your thinking to a higher level.

Entry requirements

At least 5 GCSE grades at 6 or above and Maths and English at a minimum of Grade 5. Entry is competitive and spaces limited so most students have significantly higher grades. Some students who only just make the entry requirement are asked to enter a probationary or review period.

A Level options 2024-26

Art (Fine Art); Art (Critical and Contextual); Art (Photography); Biology; Business; Chemistry; Design, Technology and Engineering; Drama and Theatre; Economics; English Language; English Literature; French; Geography; History; Maths; Further Maths; Music; Physical Education; Philosophy, Religion and Ethics; Physics; Politics; Spanish

You will need to choose three subjects from the list and indicate a reserve subject. Bear in mind your interests, ambitions and abilities; you should also consider any requirements for career or university courses, such as medicine. It may be a tricky decision but discussing your ideas with teaching staff, tutors, current students and parents will help you get it right.

All subjects are linear with all exams taken at the end of the two-year course to make up the final A Level result and grade. In your Lower Sixth year you will sit summer exams to determine the predicted grades used for university applications.



Super Curriculum

One important aspect of the Sixth Form experience is preparing pupils for their life after school. For most of our pupils this includes pursuing an academic pathway such as university or a degree apprenticeship. Our timetabled super curriculum lessons are looking to develop those key skills required for pupils to be successful and include instruction in research, critical thinking and presentation skills. Pupils will also tackle questions at the heart of learning such as: what is knowledge, what are sources of knowledge and how do we know they are reliable, to help them develop their ability to think for themselves in a clear and critical fashion. Pupils will have the opportunity to undertake an Extended Project Qualification (EPQ) should they wish to or develop these key skills through bespoke in-house projects or engagement in massive open online courses (MOOCs) suited to their aspirations after school. These opportunities will give all pupils the chance to engage in their subjects above and beyond the standard curriculum.

iPads and digital learning

Digital learning is a core feature of Sixth Form life and complements more traditional teaching methods. We have Wi-Fi across campus, iMacs in some classrooms, online courses and resources, and iPads are a required item for all students. Our A Level courses are online and digital learning is an integral feature of individual study and organisation.

During the recent Covid-19 lockdown, our switch to remote learning was therefore straightforward. Students followed their normal timetables, with online lessons and breaks for exercise. Tutors contacted their tutees at least weekly to check on progress and wellbeing.



“ Kimbolton Sixth Form is a superb mix of freedom and responsibility. I've studied English Language, Art History and DT, while outside the classroom I've captained our canoe team and thoroughly enjoyed training for and taking part in the 125-mile Devizes to Westminster canoe race. ”

ELLIE JOINED KIMBOLTON IN YEAR 4 AND HAS HER SIGHTS SET ON A CAREER IN ARCHITECTURE AND DESIGN

CHALLENGE

Extended Project Qualification

In addition to their main subject studies, some Sixth Formers opt to take an Extended Project Qualification (EPQ). This involves a significant piece of independent research outside the main curriculum, spread between January and October of the Lower and Upper Sixth years. This is a demanding but highly regarded qualification where students can develop key skills valued by universities and employers. They are also an opportunity to stretch yourself academically far beyond A Level and to pursue any topic area that you have a passion for.

What is it?

The EPQ allows students to embark on largely self-directed independent projects, accompanied with some teacher supervision and direction. Students research a topic area, decide on a suitable title, produce their project and then present their work plus conclusions and answer questions in front of an audience. What is produced can vary greatly. Whilst a 5000-word essay on an issue is one method, students can also submit an 'artefact' alongside some analysis and explanation of their research. Examples of projects based on this 'artefact' method have included:

- Exploration of the extent of western influence on Japan during the Meiji and Taisho periods.
- How game theory can influence military strategic thinking.
- Whether stereotypical gender bias reflected in children's literature is comparable with today's social ideology..

The eventual mark is judged just as much on the 'journey' as the outcome – students have to log their research, analysis, reflection and evaluation and their logbook is a rich source of evidence to support their overall grade.

Why is the EPQ such a good thing?

- An opportunity for students to develop an area of interest.
- It can produce something of a very high standard which goes beyond the constraints of the curriculum.
- There is a great deal of freedom in what candidates can actually produce – it doesn't just have to be a written report/long essay (although it can be).
- Is the equivalent of half an A Level and graded to an A*.
- Allows students to develop skills of research, independent learning and presentation.
- The Presentation Evening is similar to future experiences at university and beyond.
- It is something tangible for students to demonstrate an interest and research in a proposed university course that they are not studying at A Level.
- The EPQ is viewed positively by universities and employers.



Build your Own Timetable

With three A Levels, time to explore your academic interests beyond the curriculum, a weekly games afternoon plus a vast range of clubs, activities and trips, we can promise you a full and busy week at Kimbolton!

But what goes into that week is yours to choose.* Combine subjects as you wish – there are no ‘blocks’ to constrain your options – and then decide on an extension course and a games option. You’ll also have personal study periods and a weekly Citizenship lesson plus the opportunities to join and lead extra-curricular activities.

It all adds up to a challenging but highly rewarding Sixth Form experience and fantastic preparation for adult life.

* Typical timetable for illustrative purposes only

Choose your 3 A Levels

(see pages 30 to 55)

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Registration					
1	A Level 1	A Level 2	A Level 1	Personal Study	A Level 2
2	A Level 2	Citizenship Tutorial	A Level 3	A Level 2	Citizenship Speakers
Assembly, House Assembly or Tutor Time					
3	A Level 3	Personal Study	A Level 3	A Level 1	Personal Study
4	A Level 1	A Level 1	A Level 2	A Level 3	A Level 3
Lunch					
5	A Level 2	A Level 3	Games Option	Extension Course or Combined Cadet Force or Community Service Unit	A Level 1
6	Super Curriculum	Personal Study			Personal Study
After School Club or Activity (optional)					
Broaden your mind with Super Curriculum activities LOWER SIXTH ONLY (see Department pages)		Compete or get fit! WEDNESDAY PM (see pages 20 and 21)		Extend your skills – choose one option THURSDAY PM (see pages 22 to 25)	

Citizenship
FRIDAY AM
(see page 56)

Organise your study periods

CHALLENGE

Sport and Physical Activity

Sixth Form sport and physical activity (games) takes place on a Wednesday afternoon. The main sports for girls are hockey, netball, tennis and cricket, and for boys are football, hockey, cricket and tennis. Our team of professional coaches includes former England cricketer Mr Alex Tudor and ex-professional footballer Mr Chris Hope.

We also offer an array of other sports and physical activities including: athletics, badminton, canoeing, circuit training, climbing, girls' football, fitness, ice skating, rowing, sailing, shooting, squash, table tennis, swimming, horse-riding and yoga. These activities are available either during games sessions or within our extra-curricular programme.

We encourage keen participants in all sports to excel in competitive matches while also catering for those with a purely recreational interest. We hold fixtures against other schools and take part in tournaments and sports festivals. Our foreign sports trips such as our South Africa Tour in 2022 and 2024 have proved highly popular.

It is our aim to help every student to leave Kimbolton with the motivation, competence and confidence to engage in physical activity for the rest of their lives.



Outdoor Pursuits

Kimbolton School is an RYA (Royal Yachting Association) Recognised Training Centre and is also affiliated to British Canoeing. With highly qualified, dedicated staff, we strive to uphold the highest standards, and are proud to have such an extensive programme and a wealth of equipment to cater for all interests and ability levels.

Canoeing/Kayaking

Canoeing primarily focuses on the canoe team, however recreational canoeing is available to all as an option during games afternoons in the summer term. Our canoe team competes regularly in marathon races, notably the Devizes to Westminster International Canoe Race (DW) – ‘the canoeist’s Everest’. Starting in Devizes, Wiltshire, and finishing downstream of Westminster Bridge in London, the race is 125 miles long and passes 77 locks around which competitors must carry their boats. Training takes place on local rivers and canals from September to February; this is followed by the Waterside Series of races and finally DW, which takes place over Easter weekend. We have a strong record of success in the race.

Sailing

We have a large, modern fleet of sailing dinghies based at nearby Grafham Water Sailing Club. These include Picos, Lasers, Fireflies and 2000s, as well as exhilarating Dart 16 catamarans and the ultimate test of ability – the 29er! Students can opt to sail during their games lesson; no experience is necessary as the staff and more experienced sailors will show beginners (quite literally!) the ropes. Team sailors train at weekends and take part in a wide variety of races, from club racing at Grafham Water and matches against other schools, to regional and national competitions organised by the British Schools Dinghy Racing Association and National School Sailing Association. To join the sailing team, students should be able to competently sail around a triangle course (e.g. RYA Stage 3 / Level 2 ability). Our holiday sailing trips are popular, most recently to Portland, Dorset.





CHALLENGE

The Combined Cadet Force (Navy, Army and RAF)

Membership of the CCF in the Sixth Form is open to all those students who have been in the CCF in the Fourth and Fifth Form and also to Lower Sixth Formers new to the school and keen to be a part of a cadet force. Students who have been members of a cadet force before coming to Kimbolton would be at a natural advantage.

The Lower Sixth year is devoted to attaining the advanced awards relevant to the three sections but the cadet experience is also very much slanted towards developing teamwork skills and leadership qualities. These key skills will count towards promotion and will be employed when training younger cadets in the Contingent. Cadets of all sections will have the opportunity to attend internal or externally run instructor courses, which enable them to become effective teaching NCOs in the Upper Sixth Form.

There are many opportunities for cadets to attend extra training and camps throughout the year, be it a nationally organised activity, competitions, or our own range days, senior exercises, and adventurous training. A 'Field Weekend' is held in October every year with exercises and activities unique to each section that are challenging, exciting and exhausting. All cadets are proud to parade with the Contingent on Remembrance Sunday in support of the local branch of the Royal British Legion, and at our Annual General Inspection in May.

The cadet force at Kimbolton is recognised as one of the strongest in the country offering discipline, challenges, fun, personal advancement and self-development. Some cadets pursue careers in the Armed Forces, but all cadets benefit from the ethos, integrity and high expectations that we hold no matter which path they choose.

ALUMNI PROFILE

Eb Mukhtar

Director of Operations EMEA, Google

A Levels studied at Kimbolton:

Maths, Physics, Chemistry and General Studies

Tell us a bit about your life and career since Kimbolton:

I went to University College London, where I studied Physics and gained an MSci, played a lot of hockey (for UCL and University of London), and was commissioned as an Army officer in the University Officer Training Corps.

I was involved in a dotcom startup, and then spent eight years at Tesco. In 2014 I moved to Luxembourg (where my wife and I still live) to join Amazon, finally leading the transportation team for Europe (delivering 12.5m parcels on peak day). In 2019, I moved to Google, based in Zürich.

I remain a major in the Army Reserve, recently supporting the NHS during Covid-19.

Best things about Kimbolton Sixth Form?

Firmly the incredible breadth of academic, sporting and cultural opportunities.

I represented the school in all three major sports, as well as badminton, athletics and chess. I got to play trumpet in various ensembles, acted (badly) in the summer productions and, despite being firmly focussed on the sciences academically, was welcomed to join the politics and debating classes after school. Finally, four years in the CCF has influenced my entire life.

What was your most memorable Kimbolton Sixth Form experience?

Three-way tie: Completing the Nijmegen Marches with the CCF twice, playing Benny Southstreet in *Guys and Dolls*, and winning/collecting the House Championship as Head of Dawsons.

If you could give one piece of advice to new Sixth Formers what would it be?

Say yes to every opportunity you're offered. Worry about how to fit it into your busy schedule afterwards!

“

Four years in the CCF has influenced my entire life.

EB MUKHTAR

”



CHALLENGE

Community Service Unit

The main aim of the Community Service Unit is to develop a sense of social responsibility and give something back to the local community; the contribution from our students is always greatly appreciated.

That said, placements can also provide excellent work experience, particularly for those considering a career in education, medicine, physiotherapy, healthcare, social services, veterinary science or perhaps working with animals. Students develop organisational, leadership, teamwork, problem-solving and communication skills. These are all qualities that universities and employers are looking for.

We are keen to extend the variety of placements we offer and will always try to accommodate requests. Students can, of course, organise their own placements too.

Recent CSU placements include:

- Assisting in local nursery schools and kindergartens
- Assisting in local primary schools
- Working with disabled children
- Working with disabled adults
- Sailing for the disabled
- Helping at local kennels, stables and vets
- Assisting at the local Pharmacy
- Assisting with Games lessons at the Prep School
- Working at a local charity shop
- Visiting the elderly
- Gardening
- Office work.



Extension Courses

These are an opportunity to add breadth and experiences to your studies and build your academic and personal profile when it comes to university and job applications. Here are some typical courses that we offer.



Architecture Enjoy learning about the great structures styles and architects of history. Build a Gothic building model. Ideal for architecture, design, history, art history.

Astronomy Stars, planets and cosmology. A chance to open your eyes to the wonders of the universe. No need for science expertise to do this.

Clay and Sculpture Creative fun with clay, pottery, sculpture designing and making objects and developing an artistic skill. Hands on relaxation and enjoyment.

Classics A chance to learn about the culture and history of the Ancient world with a bit of classical language thrown in.

Cooking for Life Involves a practical and tasty course in culinary skills and healthy eating and cooking. Masterchef for all! (U6th only)



Debating and Model United Nations (MUN)

Involves presentation, debate and public speaking where you think critically and on your feet. Involvement in Youth Speaks, European Youth Parliament, MUN and other competitions. (L6th only)

English Language Skills English lessons for all English for Academic Purposes (EAP) students. Help with preparation for IELTS and getting to grips with English language for A Level. (Compulsory for L6th and U6th EAP students)

Film Appreciation Enjoy the themes, development and variety of film through the ages and genres.

Music Appreciation A chance to explore a whole host of different music genres and periods, developing not only a broader experience of music, but a deeper understanding of the historical and political contexts that surround the composition of different pieces.

Film Making Looks at what goes into making a film, from scripts, storyboard, location scouting, music choices and editing. Students then go on to making their own animations, short films, trailers and music videos. The sessions are very much student led, if there is an idea you'd like to see come to life then we will make it happen.

Performance Extension Is an opportunity to develop leadership skills and understanding of the Performing Arts industry as well as planning and performing/directing or stage managing an abridged script.

CHALLENGE

Extra Curricular Activities

Our students' involvement in extra-curricular activities is a key part of their development into interesting, confident and rounded adults, as well as providing balance in a busy day. Here is a snapshot of what's on offer; a complete list of activities can be found on our website: www.kimbolton.cambs.sch.uk/seniorexcurr



Academic

Astrophysics Society

Observe the heavens when it's dark and learn about the planets and stars of the cosmos. Students have the option to work towards a GCSE in Astronomy.

History Society

For any student with an interest in the subject. Previous topics have included the history of London and the Wars of the Roses – with visits to the places discussed.

Literary Society

What begins as a discussion of a text or writer may become a debate on psychological or philosophical issues – can true love exist or is it selfish (*Wuthering Heights*); did early feminists do women any favours at all (Jane Austen)?

The Manchester Group

An academic, cultural and discussion-based group to widen intellectual curiosity. Members aim high, work hard and are genuinely interested in ideas and new areas of study. Students give talks and lead discussion.

MedSoc

Focus on NHS hot topics and ethical scenarios. Hear about former students' experiences of studying medicine, and the university application process.

Perspectives Group

Seminars in the Autumn term offer advice on the Oxbridge admission process and provide aspiring students with stimulus beyond their A Level studies.

Philosophy Society

Recent topics have included Fukuyama and the End of Ideology; Individual Rights; Wittgenstein, Existentialism; Dictatorship; Libertarianism.



Politics Society

Speakers have included former Prime Minister Sir John Major, Mary Coughlan (former Deputy Premier of ROI), and broadcaster Jeremy Paxman. We also organise annual Mock Law Cases.



Sports and Outdoor Pursuits

Sports Clubs

Pre-season, lunchtime and after-school training is available in athletics, cricket, football, hockey, netball, rounders and tennis (see also page 20).

Duke of Edinburgh's Award

Gain new skills, push yourself physically and help others by completing a personal programme of activities: volunteering, physical, skills, expedition and for the Gold Award, a residential.



Clay Pigeon Shooting

Instruction is provided at nearby Sporting Targets – one of the best clubs in the country. In addition to the Nationals, students compete in friendlies against other schools.

Equestrian Club

For those with their own horses we compete in NSEA and other schools' competitions.

Swimming

Develop your stroke technique and fitness. Competitive dives, starts, turns and finishes are taught by our ASA coach in preparation for inter-school galas.



Creative

Art

Students spend recreational time in the Art department on a project of their own choice: work ranges from birthday cards to A Level coursework. All welcome!

Drama and Technical Theatre Club

Our main school production is staged in the Spring Term and pupils from all year groups in the Senior School are welcome to audition. Each production differs, but if it is a musical, we examine all disciplines (singing, dancing and acting). Recent productions have included *Les Misérables* and *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. There is a tradition of pupils running the whole show: from student directors to front of house and backstage crew. Our Technical Theatre Club offers sessions with our theatre technician to allow students to develop skills in sound, lighting, hair, makeup, costume and stage management. Those involved inevitably find themselves part of a close-knit social group and leave with many lasting memories and friendships.

KiMedia

Film making and editing for all ages, using iMovie and the Apple Mac computers in the Art Department.

Kimboltonian Magazine

The editorial team help to plan, write and design our bi-annual *Kimboltonian* magazine, which is distributed to all families at our Prep and Senior Schools.

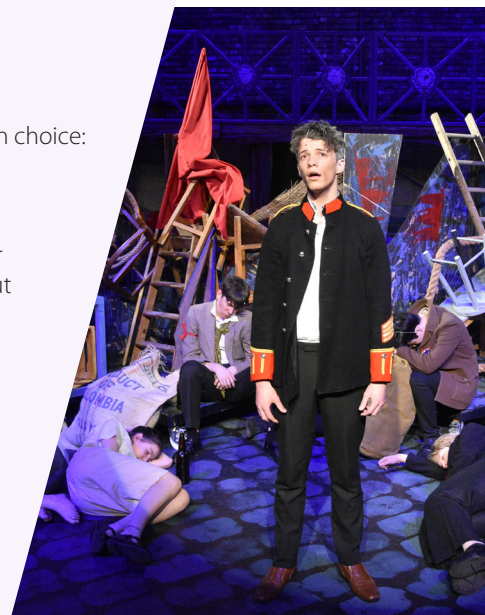
Music

The Music School is a bustling corner of the campus and those new to the school are encouraged to pay us a visit. As well as individual tuition, our many groups and ensembles cover a wide range of orchestral and band instruments, plus choirs. Pupils taking outside music lessons are also encouraged to get involved.

The year starts with our Senior House Music Competition, an event that sees every Sixth Former on stage. It includes an inter-house singing evening, as well as solo and ensemble performances. We also offer a busy programme of concerts, from orchestral and choral evenings to informal lunchtime concerts held in the Castle Saloon. All are welcome to perform or watch. Over a third of Kimbolton students learn an instrument or take singing lessons – it is never too late to become one of them.

Music School Enquiries

music@kimbolton.cambs.sch.uk



General Interest



Charities Committee

Organise fundraising events within the school, including discos, balls, competitions and talent shows in aid of local, national and international charities.

Chess Club

A friendly club for all abilities offering chess tutoring, House matches and the chance to compete in the inter-schools UK Chess challenge.

Christian Union

We have thriving Senior and Junior CUs and hold a joint annual Christian Union Summer Camp, which is enjoyed by all.

Debating Society

For all levels of experience, including complete beginners. We debate topical issues, for example 'This house believes that hosting the Winter Olympics is a good investment'. Opportunity to take part in national debating competitions, including Model United Nations (MUN) and the European Youth Parliament.

Pupil Forum

Under the leadership of our Head Boy and Head Girl, two elected pupils from each form meet regularly to raise and discuss current school issues from a student perspective.

Robot Wars

Learn how code can create programs and games. Extend your digital skills designing, building and coding personal rovers.

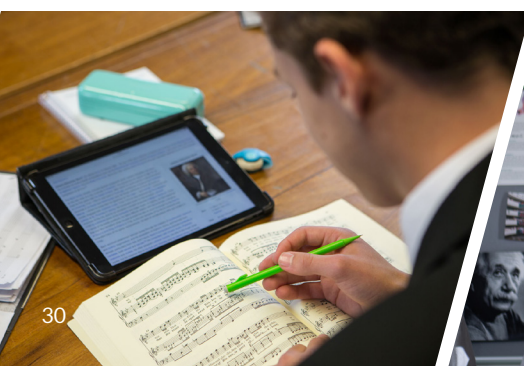
Wellbeing Club

Share experiences and explore ways to find balance in your life, through communication, volunteering, exercise, sleep, healthy eating and activities.

Tycoon Business Trading

A unique competition developed by Peter Jones CBE – a familiar face from BBC *Dragons' Den*. Teams compete to create the most profitable start-up.







A Level Subject Options

2024-26



2023 results

A*/A 50%
A*/B 100%

“ I have the freedom to strengthen my artistic skills. There is flow to the physical space, the rooms are connected and we work in one building. I can create large pieces of work easily, with materials I have not used before, as well as widening my knowledge of artists. ”

ROSIE



Head of Art **Mrs L D Bamford**
ldb@kimbolton.cambs.sch.uk

Course code:

AQA Art and Design: Fine Art (7202)

Preferred Art entry requirements

An independent approach to thinking and a willingness to generate own ideas is essential. It is preferable to have GCSE Art at Grade 6 or above. Ideally Grade 5 in English Language or English Literature.

Often combined with:

Art is a great addition to any other combination of subjects with many science-based degrees liking our 'soft skills' of communication and empathy.

Future options:

The course will enhance your ability to problem solve, work independently and to deadlines – skills useful in any career. We are happy to guide and advise you about an art course at university and support design-based applications.

Art & Design: Fine Art

“Creativity takes courage.” HENRI MATISSE

You will be introduced to at least three artistic disciplines, such as Ceramics, Printmaking and Painting. Students in the Lower Sixth year, will develop skills and create one sustained portfolio project (internally assessed). It is essential that you become personally involved in the subject and further your interests by reading art reviews, watching art documentaries and independently visiting art galleries.

We try to encourage this by organising visits to London exhibitions and trips to important cultural centres in Europe. In the Upper Sixth you will create a unit of personal investigation for your coursework unit and produce a 3000-word essay charting the development of your work and the artistic influences upon it. The A Level exam is 15 hours long and sat in May of the Upper Sixth year, followed by an open exhibition in the summer term.

We are unusual in allowing artistic/creative students to study all three of our art-based subjects together.

Beyond the Classroom

Students will be encouraged to develop their own passions in this subject, with the emphasis of finding their own voice. Activities to facilitate this range from keeping up to date with the articles on art, entering competitions and going to exhibitions. Creating something personal, keeping a photographic diary, or personal sketchbook. Learning to work digitally – use Procreate on your iPad. Getting involved in the School Play, set, costume or make up design.



MORE INFO:
www.kimbolton.cambs.sch.uk/art
@KimSchArt

Art & Design: Critical and Contextual

“A picture is a poem without words.” HORACE, ROMAN POET

If you have ever stood in front of a painting in a gallery and wondered what the story is behind the picture, this could be the A Level for you. We do not expect any prior knowledge from you; it's helpful if you have studied GCSE Art, but by no means essential. We will begin with looking at the idea of storytelling in a painting and explore art history across the ages to develop an understanding of the use of symbolism and composition. You will discover the backgrounds to artists' lives and put paintings into their historical context. You will then extend your ideas to gallery curation and explore styles of exhibition materials, as well as getting to grips with desktop publishing packages like Adobe InDesign. No two lessons are the same; if you are interested in Art, History, Politics or Design you should find this course fascinating.

You will develop units of coursework throughout the two years, sitting a taught exam in the Upper Sixth. It is essential that you become personally involved in the subject and further your interests by reading art reviews, watching art documentaries and independently visiting art galleries. We try to encourage this by organising visits to London exhibitions and trips to important cultural centres in Europe.

We are unusual in allowing artistic/creative students to study all three of our art-based subjects together.

Beyond the Classroom

Keep up to date with the articles on art, and current exhibitions in the *Tate Magazine* and *Creative Review*, as well as weekend newspaper supplements in the *Guardian*, *Observer* and *Sunday Times*. Visiting galleries and museums on a regular, monthly, basis is key to this course. Visit the Heritage room, learn about the school's archives. Volunteer at our Castle Open Event, 1st Sunday in November and March each year. This will help you develop an understanding of working within a heritage environment with the general public.

2022 results

A*/A 33.3%

A*/B 100%

* No candidates in 2023

“

I have a broad knowledge of artists and an understanding of techniques that have been used for hundreds of years. It's inspired me. I'm now planning a trip to Italy to see all the beautiful art I've studied!

PRIYA

”



Head of Art **Mrs L D Bamford**
ldb@kimbolton.cambs.sch.uk

Course code: OCR Art & Design – Critical & Contextual Studies (H606)

Preferred Art entry requirements

GCSE Art is not essential so long as you have a keen interest in Art, galleries and museums.

An independent approach to thinking and a willingness to generate your own ideas is essential. Ideally Grade 5 in English Language or Literature.

Often combined with:

Art and/or Photography. Any MFL, History, Politics, PRE, English Literature to name just a few.

Future options:

Some students go on to take an Art History degree, others combine Art History with English or a MFL. The course can be a springboard to journalism, Liberal Arts or, of course, an Art degree at university.

MORE INFO:
www.kimbolton.cambs.sch.uk/art

 @KimSchArt



Art & Design: Photography

2023 results

A*/A 16.7%

A*/B 50%

“You can find pictures anywhere. It’s simply a matter of noticing things and organizing them. You just have to care about what’s around you.”

ELLIOTT ERWITT, AMERICAN DOCUMENTARY PHOTOGRAPHER

“Photography is varied, there is a creative side, a technical side and an analytical side. I love the independence we are given on this course. However, the teachers are never far away if we need anything.”

LIBBY



Head of Art **Mrs L D Bamford**
lhb@kimbolton.cambs.sch.uk

Course code:

AQA Art & Design – Photography (7206)

Preferred Photography entry requirements

GCSE Art is not essential so long as you have a keen interest in Photography, perhaps as a hobby. A willingness to learn about photography, its history and its science. Ideally Grade 5 in English Language or English Literature.

Often combined with:

Photography is a great addition to any other combination of subjects.

Future options:

The course will enhance your ability to problem solve, work independently and to deadlines – skills useful in any career. We are happy to guide and advise you about an art course at university and support students making design-based applications.

The course is based around the development of an individual's photographic skills. We aim to develop camera craft, a student's ability to compose a good photo in the camera. You will develop practical skills, learning the fundamentals of photography through workshop style lessons. In addition, you will learn about the history of Photography and research key 20th century photographers. As the course develops, we will explore Adobe Lightroom and Photoshop software packages, as well as the more traditional darkroom techniques.

You must become personally involved in the subject and further your interests by reading art reviews, watching art documentaries and independently visiting art galleries. We try to encourage this by organising visits to London exhibitions and trips to important cultural centres in Europe. In the Upper Sixth, you will develop a personal coursework portfolio and finally an independent exam unit, and your work will be on open exhibition in the summer term.

We are unusual in allowing artistic/creative students to study all three of our art-based subjects together.

Beyond the Classroom

Students will be encouraged to develop their own passions in this subject, with the emphasis of finding their own voice. Activities to facilitate this range from keeping up to date with the tutorials in digital photography, entering Photography competitions and going to exhibitions. Become a 'School/House' photographer – document school life, publish on our school website and/or School Magazine. Take a photo each day – create your own monthly photo book. Consider how you will make this book, printed, handmade, digital?



MORE INFO:
www.kimbolton.cambs.sch.uk/art

 @KimSchArt

STUDENT VOICES

Lauren

A Level choices: Maths, Geography, Philosophy, Religion and Ethics.

Intended university degree: Geography.

Joined Kimbolton: In Sixth Form.

Sixth Form responsibilities:
Head of White House (girls' boarding house).

Extra-curricular interests:
Drama – I took part in the whole school play *Midsummer Night's Dream* – singing lessons and choir. I'm also a member of the school teams for Hockey and Netball.

Why is Kimbolton Sixth Form special to you?:

As well as a welcoming transition into Sixth Form, being in the boarding house enabled me to meet pupils from all year groups, which helped me settle in quickly. The Sixth Form has small class sizes, which enables you to have a good relationship with your teachers. The Sixth Form common room is a privilege which we all appreciate and use as an opportunity to have a "time out" from work and to socialise.



Toby

A Level choices: Biology, Chemistry, Maths and Further Maths.

Intended university degree: Medicine.

Joined Kimbolton: In First Form (Year 7).

Sixth Form responsibilities:
Head Boy, 1st XI Boys' Cricket captain.

Extra-curricular interests:
MedSoc (Medical Society) - an after-school group that focuses on NHS hot topics, ethical scenarios and problem-based learning activities. It was interesting to hear from Old Kimboltonians about their experiences of studying medicine, and the university application process.

Why is Kimbolton Sixth Form special to you?:

Life in Sixth Form can be whatever you want it to be: full of sport, music, drama, academics, socialising or, more likely, a mixture of all of these. The thing I value most is the support from teachers. My extra-curricular commitments sit comfortably alongside my A Levels and this creates a really good work-life balance.



Biology

2023 results

A*/A 37.9%

A*/B 69%

“

The small class sizes have allowed us to participate in many practicals which accompany the course material well and make the lessons very interesting.

ALEX

”



Head of Biology **Mr P J Whatling**

pjw@kimbolton.cambs.sch.uk

Course code: AQA Biology (7402)

Preferred Biology entry requirements

At least a Grade 7 in GCSE Biology and Chemistry (or 7,7 or better in Combined Science). A similar grade in GCSE Mathematics.

Often combined with:

Chemistry, Mathematics, Physics, Geography and Physical Education.

Future options:

Biology A level is required for many medical and life sciences courses at university. But it can also demonstrate your data handling and mathematical skills when applying for other degree courses. Addressing the climate crisis and any future pandemics will require people with good biological knowledge and understanding.

Biology has many links to contemporary social, environmental and ethical issues. If you want to learn more about the complexities and intricacies of life, how nearly 4 billion years of history has resulted in the wonderful biodiversity we see around us and the systems we have to control our human physiology, this is the subject for you!

You'll investigate the fundamental concepts of cell and molecular biology, including how DNA works as a coding molecule and how protein synthesis in cells is regulated. There is also work on evolution, human physiology, homeostasis and genetics. Later in the course, you'll expand your knowledge and understanding by studying a wide range of topics such as neurobiology, hormones, and the biochemistry of the key energy transfers essential for life.

In the Upper Sixth you'll spend three days on a field trip to the south coast undertaking a range of ecological investigations. In the classroom, 'Brain Day' (led by a professor of Neuroscience) provides fascinating insight into contemporary research about the human brain.

Beyond the Classroom

Learning at Biology A Level can be supplemented and extended in a variety of ways. Reading publications such as the *New Scientist* and *Biological Sciences Review*, or relevant books in areas of interest, for example *The Selfish Gene*.

Entering competitions such as the Peterhouse Kelvin Science Essay Competition or following podcasts and completing MOOCs.



MORE INFO:

www.kimbolton.cambs.sch.uk/biology

Business

It's a fact: in your lifetime you are extremely likely to work in a company. Studying Business equips you to manage others, understand strategy and develop your career.

Business will be very useful to you, regardless of your career path. It will prepare you to hold management positions in organisations by considering how our world is changing and what business strategies may work.

We use examples of real businesses and discuss current business-related topics from Hydrogen cars to labour shortages.

Business contexts range from fashion to football, chocolate to cars, guitars to groceries so you will examine current lifestyles and trends through the course. An exciting programme of visits to real businesses will allow you to see in operation the principles you have been learning.

You will learn how people:

- Generate business ideas
- Launch products and services
- Motivate and manage others
- Finance their business from start up businesses to multinational corporations
- Devise strategies on growth

There is also the opportunity to set up your own business and participate in Peter Jones' Tycoon competition to develop the above skills, have fun working in a team and even earn a little income.

Academically you will consider issues such as:

- Do world forces such as Chinese competitiveness threaten UK jobs?
- Does the Internet threaten the survival of the high street?
- How has Covid-19 impacted different businesses?
- Can UK firms be a force for good, ethically and environmentally?

You will gain an insight to a myriad of careers while examining the world.

Beyond the Classroom

Extend your learning in Business by taking part in the Tycoon competition and attending after-school sessions with talks from business managers.



2023 results

A*/A 45%

A*/B 70%



Head of Business **Mrs J A Powell**
jap@kimbolton.cambs.sch.uk

Course code: AQA Business (7132)

Preferred Business entry requirements

Preferably at least a Grade 5 in both GCSE English and GCSE Mathematics. Competitive nature and willingness to try new things. Interest in current trends and commercial environment.

Often combined with:

Art, DT, French, Geography, Mathematics, Spanish.

Future options:

Students often join commercial courses such as Business Management, Marketing, International Business and Law, Psychology, Events Management, Finance and Accountancy.

MORE INFO:
www.kimbolton.cambs.sch.uk/business



2023 results

A*/A 24%

A*/B 44%

“

I'm interested in becoming a doctor, so the Science Showcase was an ideal opportunity to research a topic related to that career. I think it will be a good addition to my CV and also give me something extra to talk about in interviews.

OLIVIA

”



Head of Chemistry **Mr E C Drysdale**
ecd@kimbolton.cambs.sch.uk

Course code: OCR Chemistry A (H432)

Preferred Chemistry entry requirements

Grade 7 or above in GCSE Chemistry or Dual Science. Preferably, a similar grade in GCSE Mathematics.

Ability to write concisely and precisely.

Often combined with:

Biology, Physics, Mathematics, Further Mathematics.

Future options:

Chemistry A Level is essential for the Chemical Sciences, Medicine, Dentistry, Veterinary Science and related sciences such as Biochemistry, Pharmacology et al.

Chemistry

From baking a cake to recharging a mobile phone, chemistry is involved in everything we do. Our lives are inextricably influenced by all aspects of the subject. Chemistry continues to be at the forefront of responding to the needs of society. Chemical research is central to advances in areas as diverse as novel materials, efficient energy use, drug development, and nanotechnology.

A Level Chemistry is a challenging but immensely enjoyable subject. Lessons comprise experimental work, physical and computer models, question and answer sessions, as well as note taking. You will develop, and extend, the basic chemical theories that you learnt at GCSE and then use those theories to explain other observed phenomena.

You will look at the fascinating and hugely important area of organic chemistry in more detail so that you can develop synthetic pathways typical of today's pharmaceutical industry. Frequent experimental work will enhance your learning by helping you explore new ideas in a safe and practical way. It will also reinforce your knowledge and skills giving you the confidence to conduct precise and accurate analyses.

You will need dedication, logical thought processing and a visual imagination to succeed. You will gain a deeper knowledge and understanding of theory as well as skills such as planning, observing, analysing and drawing conclusions.

Beyond the Classroom

Lower Sixth pupils compete in the Cambridge Chemistry Challenge, while Upper Sixth students regularly take part in the Royal Society of Chemistry's annual Chemistry Olympiad. This is a challenging test of chemical knowledge which also acts as the selection process for the UK's team at the International Chemistry Olympiad.



MORE INFO:
www.kimbolton.cambs.sch.uk/chemistry

Design Technology: Product Design

“Design is not just what it looks like and feels like. Design is how it works.”

STEVE JOBS, CO-FOUNDER OF APPLE, INC.

Are you interested in developing practical solutions to everyday problems and in building up your creativity, problem solving, planning, and evaluation skills? Would you like to understand how technological advances can influence the design of products and gain an insight into the world of commercial design, engineering and manufacture?

You'll look at the options and opportunities that are open to designers and engineers; and of the difficult choices that they are faced with. Using Computer Aided Design (CAD) and Computer Aided Manufacture (CAM), you'll be able to try out ideas quickly and realistically on screen and produce work to a high standard of repeatable accuracy.

Skills such as creativity, freehand drawing and practical techniques remain a core feature of the course. We follow a programme of stimulating design and make assignments before you concentrate on a single assessed product of your choice with the potential for commercial development. A group project will sharpen your planning, management and teamwork skills.

Beyond the Classroom

We encourage all A Level Product Design pupils to make the most of our manufacturing facilities during our open workshops. During these sessions you can pursue and develop your creative and practical skills and work on personal or EPQ projects. You will also have the opportunity to form a team and enter the prestigious Formula One in schools competition. Your team will not only design, manufacture and race your model F1 car, but also be responsible for marketing and fundraising for your team. We have fantastic success with this competition reaching the national finals for this competition on numerous occasions.



2023 results

A*/A 40%

A*/B 73.3%



“ I've gained skills for a design and engineering career, from using a broad range of equipment to unlocking my creativity in designing products. There's an amazing team of teachers willing to help you every step of the way.

TRINITY

”

Head of DTE **Ms Melissa Flack**
mcf@kimbolton.cambs.sch.uk

Course code: Pearson Edexcel Design and Technology (Product Design) (9DT0)

Preferred DTE entry requirements

At least a Grade 6 in a DTE-related subject.
Desire to be creative and innovative;
plenty of self-motivation.

Often combined with:

Art, Mathematics, Physics.

Future options:

Typical degree courses that we would expect students to read would be Engineering (all aspects), Industrial Design, Product Design, Automotive Design, Graphic Design, Architecture, Manufacturing and Construction.

MORE INFO:

www.kimbolton.cambs.sch.uk/dte



2023 results

A*/A 100%
A*/B 100%

“

A Level Drama has not only taught me about drama practitioners, furthering my own performances and live theatre, but has changed the way I look at all of my subjects contextually and thematically and helped develop my critical thinking skills massively.

EMILY

”



Head of Drama **Mrs N L Akielan**
nla@kimbolton.cambs.sch.uk

Course code:

Pearson Edexcel Drama and Theatre (9DR0)

Preferred Drama and Theatre entry requirements

At least a Grade 6 in GCSE Drama or GCSE English Literature. Desire to be creative and imaginative; keen to work with others.

Often combined with:

Art, English, Geography, History, Music, PRE, Politics.

Future options:

Drama as a discrete or combination subject at university is an obvious choice but this also opens the door to many other vocational areas, complementing Arts and Humanity degrees, as well as providing important skills for those interested in Journalism, Education, Therapies, Media, and Psychology.

Drama and Theatre

“Great theatre is about challenging how we think and encouraging us to fantasize about a world we aspire to.” WILLEM DAFOE

If you are genuinely interested in theatre as an art form, keen to explore the working relationships between performers, directors and designers, and have a desire to create and perform, this is the course for you.

By exploring the ways that theatre reflects the world around us, you'll develop a theoretical understanding of different genres, styles, time periods and practitioners and then use this in the creation of your own practical work. We'll encourage you to create challenging, stimulating drama, which is often emotional, visceral and thought-provoking. We'll expand your horizons via an exciting programme of theatre trips and professional workshops that will influence your devised work and we'll encourage you to think creatively, analytically and evaluatively.

Our aim is that you become an imaginative, independent and critically aware young person. The strong focus on research, plus the rehearsals for exam pieces, will develop your skills in organisation, commitment and time management: all essential for university study. Through directing and mentoring our younger pupils' clubs and productions, you'll practise leadership and develop creative skills – and there are plenty of opportunities to 'tread the boards' yourself during the school year.

Beyond the Classroom

We stage a whole school production each year; recently we have performed *Sweeney Todd*, *The Tempest* and *Les Miserablés*. You will enjoy regular theatre trips to expand your understanding of the possibilities of live performance. To date we have been lucky enough to see *The Ocean at the End of the Lane*, *Harry Potter and the Cursed Child*, *The Woman in Black*, and *Ubu*. Visiting practitioners are brought in to run workshops with our students.



MORE INFO:
www.kimbolton.cambs.sch.uk/drama

Economics

Economics sheds a fascinating light on incentives that drive individual, business and government behaviour, which determines how well-off people and nations are.

If you are interested in how people and businesses make decisions and how government can influence these, then Economics is a good choice for you. Economics studies how people and firms use and abuse the limited resources available and is at the heart of the big choices that society makes.

The course includes topics such as:

- How prices are set e.g. oil, wages, and housing
- How people behave e.g. why they may not always act rationally
- Why some nations are richer than others
- How national shocks spread globally
- Why governments change taxes and how this affects unemployment, inflation etc.

We will examine why people behave as they do and how they can be persuaded to change, for example by high taxes on petrol or making recycling bins larger than non-recycled ones. Financial issues are also central to the course and we look at topics such as the conduct of banks and ways to generate high national income.

It is important that you keep up with the news as we will be relating economic theory very closely to unfolding world events such as global warming, obesity crisis, rising government debt following Covid and the outworking of Brexit. We will consider the merits of policy solutions to each of these problems and you will develop the ability to express an opinion and justify it with a logical argument.

2023 results

A*/A 41.7%

A*/B 66.7%

“

Economics has enabled me to see world events in a new light and to understand their repercussions on daily life.

TOM



”

Head of Economics **Mrs J A Powell**
jap@kimbolton.cambs.sch.uk

Course code: AQA Economics 7136

Beyond the Classroom

Extend your learning in economics by taking part in the trading competition, the BASE competition and by attending our after-school talks.

Preferred Economics entry requirements

At least a grade 6 in GCSE Maths. Logical thinker, happy to interpret graphical analysis. Interested in current affairs and the commercial and financial environment

Often combined with:

Maths, Politics, Geography, History.

Future options:

Students often move on to courses such as Social Sciences, Economics, PPE, Finance, Law, Real Estate, Accountancy, Business, and International Development.



MORE INFO:
www.kimbolton.cambs.sch.uk/economics



2023 results

A*/A 33.3%

A*/B 66.7%

Head of English **Mrs A E O'Donnell**
aeo@kimbolton.cambs.sch.uk

Course code: Pearson Edexcel (9EN0)

Preferred English entry requirements

A Grade 6 in both English Language and English Literature at GCSE is the ideal minimum requirement. A willingness to open your mind to new ideas and interpretations, an eagerness to participate in class debate, the motivation to read independently and widely.

Often combined with:

History, Politics and PRE all complement this subject. English Language with Maths or Biology is an excellent way into the science industry.

Future options:

An A Level in English Language closes no doors. Irrespective of your future plans, English at A Level is known to be academically rigorous and is viewed as a facilitating subject. Language/Linguistics study can lead to work on language processing for the computing industry, artificial intelligence, Foreign and Home Office work such as code breaking, teaching, publishing, interpreting, lexicography, forensic linguistics for law and the Police Force, advertising, acting.

English Language

Is it an Arts course or a Social Science? The answer is: a little bit of both. To study language – or linguistics to give it its proper name - is to gain a greater understanding of a fundamental part of what it means to be human.

The course has several theoretical strands for discussion. Does our gender, our age or our status in society influence our language choices? Does the Establishment and the Media use language to clarify issues or manipulate us? How has language changed over time? What does it reveal about our culture and values? How do children learn language and what does the learning process look like? Some of the answers are rooted in sociology, some in psychology, but all stem from a sound understanding of how language works.

As well as analysing texts, English Language also gives you the opportunity to hone your skills as a writer. You have almost a free choice of genre to explore and we will guide you to create two pieces of your own. The coursework element is a small, yet important part of the course.

As an English Language student, you will develop your subject expertise by engaging creatively and critically with a wide range of texts and discourses. You will learn to analyse and interpret language and develop your understanding of how people communicate, how they assign meaning to words and how language can be a powerful tool.

Beyond the Classroom

Students will have the opportunity to participate in workshops and view the permanent collection at The British Library in London, which houses some of the world's most exciting, beautiful and significant books and documents including Leonardo da Vinci's notebooks and handwritten manuscripts from the Brontë sisters, Virginia Woolf and Sylvia Plath. Our Enlightenment Society offers lively debate on many Language-related topics, including the impact of history, culture and philosophy on linguistics.



MORE INFO:

www.kimbolton.cambs.sch.uk/english

@EngatKimbolton @MrsKerridge

English Literature

“That is part of the beauty of all literature. You discover that your longings are universal longings, that you’re not lonely and isolated from anyone. You belong.”

F. SCOTT FITZGERALD

English Literature enables you to study poetry, drama and prose spanning 600 years, including some very modern writers – for example, Alan Bennett and Michael Frayn – alongside the ‘father of literature’, Geoffrey Chaucer. Whilst you will delve deeply into language and structure, the texts will also spark debates about big issues such as race, gender and politics.

Our seminar style lessons encourage you to become an independent reader and thinker. One of the joys of the subject is that there is no definitive ‘right’ interpretation of a book. Each reader brings something new to it and we encourage you to embrace this and to enjoy sharing your ideas in discussion.

We also offer a range of exciting literary trips. In the past we have journeyed to Dorset (Thomas Hardy country) and Haworth in Yorkshire, once home to the Brontë family. We also organise many theatre visits, most recently to London to watch an immersive production of *The Great Gatsby*, and we use our lecture theatre to stream showings of National Theatre productions such as *The Tempest*.

Beyond the Classroom

Extend your learning by attending the Enlightenment Society where we discuss all manner of cultural, philosophical and historical matters, and their impact on Literature. English for University is a weekly session for those considering a degree course in English and allows pupils to discuss Literature beyond the syllabus.



2023 results

A*/A 23.1%

A*/B 76.9%



“ A Level Lit is fascinating because you can explore a myriad of worlds and opinions that you never knew existed.

MATTHEW ”

Head of English
Mrs A E O'Donnell
aeo@kimbolton.cambs.sch.uk

Course code:
OCR English Literature (H472)

Preferred English entry requirements

At least a Grade 6 in both GCSE English Language and English Literature is ideal, but often pupils with lesser grades thrive with the freedom of thought encouraged at A Level. A willingness to open your mind to new ideas, an eagerness to participate in class debate, to read independently and widely are the most important requirements.

Often combined with:

History, Politics, PRE, Drama – but combining English Literature with Maths or a science provides an impressive combination for university applications.

Future options:

A degree in English Literature would be a natural choice, as would Classics, History, Law, Philosophy, Psychology or Sociology. Interestingly, many UK medical schools also value a high grade in English Literature as a third A Level for potential doctors (source: BMJ). Vocational courses such as journalism, broadcasting and anything linked to the media world.

MORE INFO:
www.kimbolton.cambs.sch.uk/english

 @EngatKimbolton



French

2023 results

A*/A 66.7%

A*/B 100%

“

French has opened an immeasurable number of doors for me. I have been able to explore a multitude of areas and skills, whilst also finding it has provided, previously unbeknown to me, a connection to so many people.

LILY

”



French Coordinator **Mrs E Griggs**
evg@kimbolton.cambs.sch.uk

Head of MFL **Mrs M Viruete Navarro**
mvn@kimbolton.cambs.sch.uk

Course code: Pearson Edexcel (9FR0)

Preferred French entry requirements

Minimum Grade 6 at French GCSE.
Interest in current affairs, reading, culture.

Often combined with:

Politics, History, Spanish, Economics, Business.

Future options:

Employers and universities are keen to attract good linguists, as such people possess transferable and strong analytical skills. French may be studied as a stand-alone subject or as an adjunct, and it is perfectly suited to those individuals considering Law or a business-related degree. Employment as a translator, interpreter, diplomat, journalist.

“The limits of my language are the limits of my world” LUDWIG WITTGENSTEIN

By selecting French, you will be enthused, challenged, and offered myriad opportunities to excel. Bilingualism benefits the ageing brain and instils better cognitive skills in intelligence and reading tests.

Speaking a second language gives you a clear advantage in life and our French Department is proud of the linguistic competency of its students. We place a strong emphasis on sound grammatical principles, weekly one-to-one speaking classes with a French assistant, and regular exposure to French current affairs.

We will help you hone your speaking and writing skills to ensure authenticity and accuracy; you will also be expected to listen to and read the language outside of the classroom. Lessons are conducted in French and you will be encouraged to work in groups or autonomously, in order to develop sound research skills. Course topics include changes in French society, political and artistic culture, immigration and multiculturalism, The Occupation and the Resistance. You will deliver presentations in preparation for the speaking examination special topic, and you will complete a study on the France Algeria crisis of the 1950s and 1960s.

You will have the opportunity to stay in France as part of an immersion trip. You will leave the course fluent, stimulated, and zealous to continue your language studies or employ French in a work environment.

Beyond the Classroom

Extend your learning in French with extracurricular opportunities such as our weekly French Club with our French Assistant, get involved with our Prep School pupils during European Day of Languages, take part in our Declamation Competition in French and in national competitions such as the ISMLA Writing Competition, UK Linguistics Olympiad or the Stephen Spender Prize. Do get involved in the organisation of Kimbolton Cultural Club as part of the committee and promote all things French. We are also looking forward to organising cultural visits to the Institut Francais.



MORE INFO:
www.kimbolton.cambs.sch.uk/french

 @KimboltonFrench

Geography

“Where we come from, what we do, what we eat, how we move about and how we shape our future are all directly the province of the Geographer.”

MICHAEL PALIN (PRESIDENT OF ROYAL GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY)

Is it an Art, a Science or a Social Science? Geography is a flexible subject and complements many other A Levels.

Over the two-year course you'll look at a wide variety of physical and human environments and the complex interaction of processes that shape our world. These include water and carbon cycles, globalisation and urban environments. Later on, you'll explore hazards, cold environments, population and environments, along with an in-depth study of two contrasting places, one local and one overseas.

There are fieldwork days spent looking at rivers (Lower Sixth) and the development of Milton Keynes (Upper Sixth) while all geographers may study glaciers, volcanoes, coasts, energy sustainability and plate tectonics during our optional residential trip to Iceland.

You'll develop skills such as note taking, essay writing, argument development and fieldwork techniques. Fieldwork, extended research, numeracy and higher order thinking are important skills for a geographer, so you'll undertake an individual investigation into a topic of your choice worth 20% of the A Level award.

Beyond the Classroom

The emphasis will be on developing autonomous and transferable research skills and there will be the opportunity to be involved in individual and group work debating and presenting current, topical geographical issues from around the world. Students are encouraged to explore beyond the curriculum by reading geographical books and journals, listening to podcasts and TED talks, and watching films and documentaries.

2023 results

A*/A 22.7%

A*/B 50%

“

It was so interesting learning about both Human and Physical Geography and the interactions between them. Field trips were fun too!

HANNA



”

Head of Geography **Mr S Wilson**
sw@kimbolton.cambs.sch.uk

Course code: OCR Geography (H481)

Preferred Geography entry requirements

At least a Grade 6 in GCSE Geography.

Often combined with:

Art, Chemistry, Mathematics, Physics.

Future options:

Geography provides a broad academic base for many university courses and careers and is said to be 'the key to the future that opens many doors and closes none.'

Geography graduates enter a variety of professions as diverse as environmental management, weather reporting, overseas aid work, journalism, tourism, surveying, planning, publishing, law, teaching and banking.

MORE INFO:

www.kimbolton.cambs.sch.uk/geography



2023 results

A*/A 34.8%

A*/B 78.3%

History

History is the pursuit of enlightenment following a rigorous and enjoyable enquiry. By studying History, you will be entering a world where you are encouraged to challenge opinion, to assess the validity of arguments, and to utilise evidence, logic and rhetoric to champion a perspective. Perhaps most importantly, History is an opportunity for you to consider who we all are, and how we came to be as such. If you enjoy asking the big questions, engaging in debate, reading, and discovering things for yourself, then History is for you!

A key aim of History teaching in the Sixth Form is to enable students to develop independent study skills and to foster genuine curiosity and passion for the subject. Considered a 'cornerstone' subject by top universities, History is the ideal study for those pursuing Humanities-related degree courses, with lessons designed to prepare students for academically rigorous pursuits at university level.

The A Level course allows you to delve into both a depth study and a breadth study concurrently. Owing to the expertise within the Department, we are able to offer a variety of topics. These include ideologically-driven depth studies on either the French Revolutionary era (1774-1815) or Russian Revolutionary period (1917-53). The British breadth studies investigate the various crises of Stuart England (1603-1702) or the challenge and transformation in Britain during the 19th and 20th centuries (1851-1964).

Both the depth and breadth studies are examined assessments, each constituting 40% of the A Level. Both papers require structured essays and, at times, the assessment and evaluation of historical perspectives or contemporary source material. The Historical Investigation (coursework) makes up the remaining 20% of the A Level and requires you to undertake an extended piece of writing on a topic spanning one hundred years. This will be partially taught, however, there will be an onus on you to conduct rigorous independent research ahead of its completion.

Head of History **Mr O J Chipperton**
ojc@kimbolton.cambs.sch.uk

Course code: AQA History (7042)

Preferred History entry requirements

An inquisitive mind-set, passion for all-things History, and ideally a grade 6 or above in GCSE History.

Often combined with:

Government and Politics, PRE, Geography, Economics, English, Languages.

Future options:

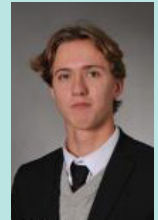
History, International Relations, Law, Business at undergraduate level. History can be useful in many careers including those linked with law, journalism and publishing, marketing, sales and advertising, arts, broadcast media as well as education and training.



MORE INFO:
www.kimbolton.cambs.sch.uk/history



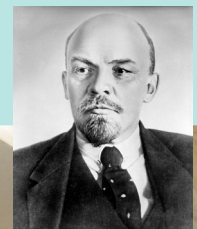
“ Taking History A Level at Kimbolton has provided me with a new lens through which to see the world and my interactions with it. When I come across any new informative or entertaining source, I find myself critically debating its nuances, in purpose, agenda and accuracy, as we are encouraged to do in lessons. I cannot imagine how I would seek to understand the world as it is today without striving to understand the historical context behind it all. ”



ROSS

Beyond the Classroom

History is superbly complemented by experiences beyond the classroom. All Kimbolton historians are encouraged to become members of the Enlightenment Society – a student-led, cross-disciplinary enterprise which offers opportunities to explore broader themes and topics in History, PRE and English. It seeks to attract scholars of national renown to deliver lectures on current topics of study and wider areas of general interest. Furthermore, the cut and thrust of the classroom is complemented by field trips, for example, Dublin and Manchester, alongside Sixth Form study conferences.



“ History is unique in being able to cover virtually every aspect of the academic spectrum, from the economics in Stalin’s Russia, to the politics explored in Gladstone’s Liberal Party, to the English skills developed through source evaluation. What I like most about History, however, is that it goes beyond the dates, facts and figures that you might expect; you get a real sense of the lives of people hundreds of years ago. All of this comes alongside your development in essay writing skills, learning how to write articulately, fluently, and crucially justify your own opinions. ”



BECKY

2023 results

A*/A 48.7%

A*/B 71.8%

“

Mathematics has developed my analytical thinking and empirical reasoning; two indispensable skills which have supplemented my academic journey into various STEM fields.

MUSA

”



Head of Maths **Mr A S Jessup**
asj@kimbolton.cambs.sch.uk

Course code:

Pearson Edexcel Mathematics (9MA0)

Preferred Maths entry requirements

It is highly desirable to have at least a Grade 8 at GCSE. Pupils with a high Grade 7, and excellent algebraic skills, could cope with hard work and determination.

Often combined with:

Many pupils study Maths alongside other sciences; Maths and History have long been regarded as a flexible combination for degree choices, but Maths can also provide relief from two other essay-based subjects. Some people just love the purity of mathematical problem solving.

Future options:

Mathematics A Level opens many paths such as Actuarial Studies, Economics and Finance.



MORE INFO:

www.kimbolton.cambs.sch.uk/maths

<http://mathsmodels.co.uk/>

Mathematics

Mathematics is an ever-popular option at Kimbolton, and each year about $\frac{1}{3}$ of our Sixth Form take it for A Level. This course builds on GCSE and will help you to develop your algebraic and problem solving skills.

The content of Maths A Level has remained broadly similar for years, however the way in which the questions are asked has become more challenging; you will have to show a deep understanding of all the content to do well.

Many of the Pure topics are familiar to GCSE students and A Level extends them considerably. New topics are proof, the binomial expansion, trigonometric identities, integration, radians and logarithms. New Applied topics are correlation and regression, probability distributions and hypothesis testing on the Statistics side, and kinematics and Newton's Laws of Motion on the Mechanics side.

Homework is an essential part of the course and you are encouraged to take responsibility for your learning at an early stage.

Beyond the Classroom

The UK Mathematics Trust Senior Maths Challenge is an option for all our Sixth Form Mathematicians. In addition, we often enter team competitions such as The Further Maths Network Senior Team Challenge (a team of four, two each from the Lower and Upper Sixth Forms) and the fast-paced, problem solving Náboj international mathematics competition.



Further Mathematics

Our best mathematicians have the chance to study four A Levels (Maths, Further Maths, plus two additional subjects). Further Mathematics is probably the most demanding of the A Levels and you should only consider it if you have exceptional ability and passion for the subject and are thinking of a degree with a large mathematical content.

The course is extremely challenging but can be immensely rewarding and satisfying. Unlike Mathematics A Level, where the content is entirely set, only half of this course is compulsory and you can have a say in the other half of what you study. You need to take Core Pure 1 and 2 and then two other modules, typically Further Mechanics 1 and Further Statistics 1.

The topics in the two Core Pure modules include proof by induction, complex numbers, matrices, roots of polynomials, further calculus and advanced vectors. Our Further Mathematicians will have ten taught lessons each week. In the Lower Sixth, five lessons will be focused on the Pure content of the A Level, three on the Applied content and two will be used to start the Further Mathematics A Level, the rest of which will be studied in the Upper Sixth.

2023 results

A*/A 50%
A*/B 60%



“ Further Maths A Level is perfect for students who like to stretch their knowledge to the limit, and helps develop great tools when it comes to problem solving and mathematical thinking. ”

ALISTAIR

Head of Maths **Mr A S Jessup**
asj@kimbolton.cambs.sch.uk

Course code:
Pearson Edexcel Mathematics (9MA0)

Minimum Further Maths entry requirements

It is highly desirable to have at least a Grade 8 at GCSE. Many students have studied a Further Mathematics qualification at GCSE such as the AQA Level 2 Certificate in Further Mathematics or the OCR Free standing Mathematics Qualification.

Often combined with:

Chemistry, Physics, Economics.

Future options:

Taking Further Mathematics is very beneficial to degree courses with strong mathematical content such as Finance, Economics, Physics and of course Mathematics.



MORE INFO:

www.kimbolton.cambs.sch.uk/maths



Music

2023 results

A*/A 0%
A*/B 100%

“Music gives soul to the universe, wings to the mind, flight to the imagination, and charm and joyfulness to life and to everything.” PLATO

A Level Music offers a rewarding insight into how music works and the story of its evolution. The course breaks down into the three components akin to GCSE Music: performance, composition and listening/analysis. Much of the classwork is discussion based and investigative. You will learn how composers go about their craft, understanding their techniques and how their work has been influenced by society. In doing so, you will learn how to write analytically and meaningfully about music as well as develop your own skills as a composer in a response to the studies.

The curriculum also provides a wide survey of different types of music, ranging from Baroque concertos, Mozart's opera *The Marriage of Figaro* and Romantic piano music, through to Music for Theatre by composers such as Rodgers & Hammerstein, Schönberg, Sondheim and Jason Robert Brown, as well as 'Art Music' of the 20th century.

“ Music lets me study so many composers and styles, and this feeds into my enjoyment and understanding as a performer and a composer. The Music department has a friendly atmosphere that is great to be a part of.

HOLLY-HERMIONE



Head of Music **Mr D C Gibbs**
dcg@kimbolton.cambs.sch.uk

Course code: AQA Music (7272)

Preferred Music entry requirements

At least Grade 6 in GCSE Music. Minimum Grade 6, or equivalent, on any musical instrument or voice. Willingness to get involved and take a lead in extracurricular musical activities.

Often combined with:

The academic rigour, social confidence and skills required by an A Level musician means the subject will complement maths, sciences, languages, humanities and the arts.

Future options:

A Level Music is not only for those wishing to pursue a career in Music. In such a competitive market for university places, being a musician can often help to make you a distinctive and interesting candidate among an increasingly crowded field of fellow applicants.

Beyond the Classroom

One of the greatest joys of studying Music is the sheer breadth of the subject. In addition to the obvious wealth of music composed, from Antiquity to Ed Sheeran, there are countless different ways of extending one's knowledge and understanding of Music, depending on your own particular interests. From studying the socio-political contexts within which individual composers work, right through to looking at the more scientific acoustic properties of Music, or an exploration of the various cultures of World Music or the cutting-edge field of Music Technology: there is certainly something for anyone and everyone to investigate as they delve deeper into the subject. The resources available to support your research are almost as endless as the range of music that exists to study and enjoy, and the chance to relate this to performance can lift your study to an even higher plane.



MORE INFO:
www.kimbolton.cambs.sch.uk/music

Physical Education

Sport and physical activity are integrated into all areas of life: entertainment, maintaining good health, developing fitness, and even tackling social issues and ethics. Are you intrigued by how sport has changed over the years? Do you want to learn how to train effectively, and help someone achieve their peak performance? Are you a keen athlete? If so, you will find A Level PE an extremely interesting and enjoyable course.

Our PE Department is experienced in, and enthusiastic about the subject. Two hours per week are allocated to each of the three main theory aspects of the course: anatomy & physiology, psychology and sport & society. Time is also allocated to a written coursework element in the Upper Sixth. Practical performance is a key part of the course and all candidates are required to demonstrate competitive play or coaching.

There are opportunities to compete in the major games, plus cross country, badminton, table tennis, canoeing, swimming, and athletics. You will make good use of our outstanding facilities, which include a sports hall, gymnasium, AstroTurf pitches, extensive playing fields, fitness suite and swimming pool. We also host an annual Sports Day and a Whole School Gym and Dance Display.

Beyond the Classroom

We will examine significant global sporting events such as the Olympic Games and discuss topical sporting issues, such as blood doping. Independent and group-based research, analysis, collation and informing others will be the focus of our studies.

2023 results

A*/A 33.3%

A*/B 77.8%



“ PE offers such great variety and can be applied to life. When playing sport I now understand why I feel a certain way or what is happening when I do physical activity. The content, especially the psychological aspects, create class discussions that I really enjoy taking part in. ”

DAN

Head of Physical Education **Miss T M Lloyd**
tml@kimbolton.cambs.sch.uk

Course code: AQA Physical Education (7582)

Preferred PE entry requirements

Minimum Grade 6 in Science at GCSE.
An interest/ability in science (particularly Human Biology). Competitive involvement in sport.

Often combined with:

Physical Education offers a balance to the more traditional academic subjects on offer. It combines well with Biology, Business and Physics.

Future options:

Particularly when combined with sciences, an A Level in Physical Education can lead to further studies in Sports Science and Sports Management, Biology, Physics, Psychology and Sociology, and related careers.



MORE INFO:
www.kimbolton.cambs.sch.uk/pe



2023 results

A*/A 50%
A*/B 71.4%

“

I enjoy the breadth of the course; each lesson is incredibly diverse. PRE has equipped me with the skills to think analytically and write well-structured essays, but it has also encouraged me to keep my mind open to other people's ideas and opinions.

EMILIA

”



Head of PRE **Mrs C E Thomas**
cet@kimbolton.cambs.sch.uk

Course code: OCR Religious Studies (H573)

Preferred PRE entry requirements

At least a Grade 6 in GCSE PRE.
Ideally a similar grade in English Literature (Grade 6 required if no previous study of PRE).
A willingness to grapple with challenging texts and ideas, read widely, and debate confidently.

Often combined with:

Politics, History, English, Business.

Future options:

The skills you learn are readily transferable to other subjects making PRE ideal preparation for a wide range of degrees and careers such as law, medicine, politics, international relations, business and journalism.

Philosophy, Religion and Ethics (PRE)

Religion is, and always will be, a significant factor in the way the world develops. It influences our politics, our societies, our laws, and has left an indelible mark on history. As such, if one fails to understand the world's religious beliefs and practices, then one fails to understand the world.

Over the two-year OCR Religious Studies course, you will study a wide range of religious, ethical, and philosophical ideas from throughout history and up to the modern day: 'Is survival after death a possibility?' 'When is it right to kill one person in order to save others?' 'Can you be a feminist and a Christian?' 'Who actually was Jesus?' 'Is euthanasia morally justifiable?' 'Does the concept of God make coherent sense?' There will be big ideas to grapple with, current issues to debate, and the ideas of great thinkers from the ancient Greeks right up to the feminist philosophers of today to evaluate and understand.

In doing so, you will develop vital skills of critical analysis and independent thought, whilst learning to construct informed, balanced, and persuasive arguments. We will attend lectures and workshops that will enrich and extend your understanding, such as a study day with renowned ethicist Dr Peter Vardy.

This course offers an academic approach to the study of religion and is therefore equally accessible to candidates of any religious persuasion or none.

Beyond the Classroom

Extend your learning in PRE by joining Enlightenment Society to explore and debate philosophical and ethical concepts, attend study days at top universities with world-renowned theologians, enter nationwide essay competitions, and immerse yourself in philosophical podcasts.



MORE INFO:
www.kimbolton.cambs.sch.uk/pre

Physics

“There are only two ways to live your life.

One is, as though nothing is a miracle.

The other is as though everything is a miracle.” ALBERT EINSTEIN, THE WORLD AS I SEE IT

As a Physicist you will be excited by innovations in technology and engineering, fascinated with how the world ‘works’ and how it can be quantified. This course will help you acquire three main skills: the ability to explain, predict and experiment. Successful students develop an independent analytical mind and learn to communicate complex ideas with clarity and simplicity.

Topics covered include electricity, mechanics and fields, materials and waves, nuclear physics, thermal physics and Astrophysics. You will also explore particle physics and quantum phenomena – an area of study on the frontier of our knowledge of the Universe. There is also the weekly Astrophysics Society and an opportunity to develop your skills and pursue Astronomy GCSE as a L6th extension course.

All students are encouraged to delve deeper into the world of Physics through our extensive extra-curricular programme of lectures, competitions, trips and visits.

Beyond the Classroom

Many students join our Physics trip to Geneva, Switzerland, to visit CERN and the Large Hadron Collider, as well as attending regular lectures at the Cavendish Physics Lab at Cambridge University. Our Astrophysics club is popular and students have the option to take Astronomy as an additional GCSE. There’s also the opportunity to compete in the British Physics Olympiad and the British Astronomical Society competitions, which are recognised internationally.

2023 results

A*/A 56.3%

A*/B 81.3%

“ I thoroughly enjoyed all the Cambridge Cavendish Lab Lecture trips and in particular the Geneva trip. They definitely helped me get into my uni of choice!

CHARLIE



Head of Physics **Mr C M Holmes**
cmh@kimbolton.cambs.sch.uk

Course code: AQA A-level Physics (7408)

Preferred Physics entry requirements

At least Grade 7 in Physics at GCSE or a Grade 8-8 in Double Award Science at GCSE.
At least Grade 7 in Mathematics at GCSE.
It is also strongly recommended that students study Mathematics A Level.

Often combined with:

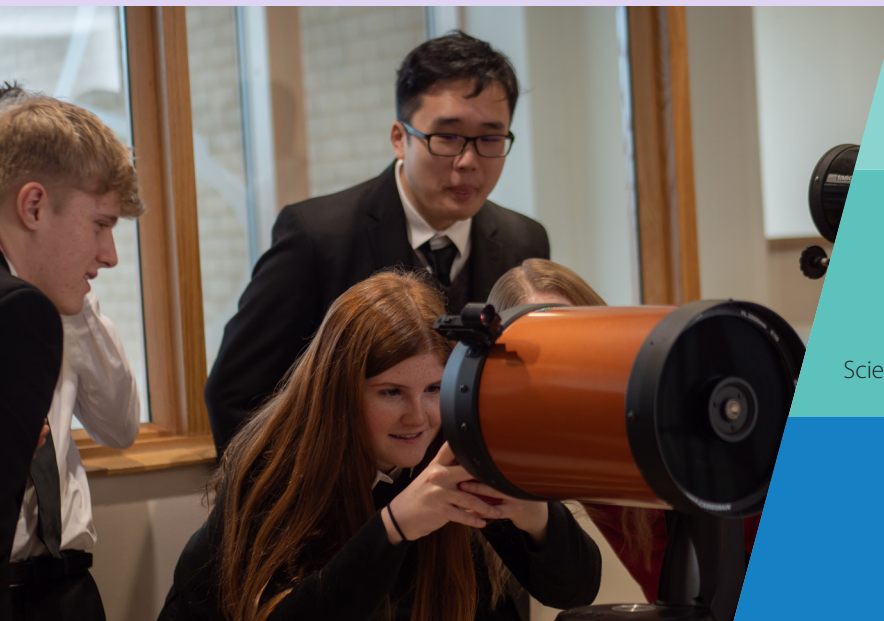
Maths and Chemistry but also Art, Design, DTE, Engineering, Biology, Geography.

Future options:

Physics can lead to a university degree in Physics, Engineering, Technology, Environmental Science, Computer Science, Astrophysics, Electrical Engineering. Careers include Research, Space, Astronomy, Actuarial Science, Investment Analysts and Asset Fund Management.

MORE INFO:
www.kimbolton.cambs.sch.uk/physics

 **Kimboltonphys**



2023 results

A*/A 50%
A*/B 87.5%

Politics

Politics is about power, influence and how groups of people order their priorities and make decisions. It is a dynamic, exciting and highly relevant subject with content that can, quite literally, change with the news of the day.

We'll help you develop a critical awareness of the nature of government and politics and to gain a sense of the rights and responsibilities of the individual within society. You'll quickly develop a hunger and political awareness which will take you to the context behind political decisions and challenges, and an ability to weigh up competing national and international interests and different political systems. You'll gain skills in analysis and problem-solving, critical thinking, presentational skills and group-working.

The course covers the political systems of the United Kingdom and United States of America plus political ideas and the differing politics within countries. Our annual study trip to Parliament allows you to explore and understand the components of the British political system.



Head of Politics **Mr T Leadbetter**
tl@kimbolton.cambs.sch.uk

Course code: Pearson Edexcel Politics (2017)

Preferred Politics entry requirements

At least a Grade 6 in GCSE English, and/or Grade 6 or more in History or PRE. An appetite for current affairs, including engaging with serious news media.

Often combined with:

Business Studies but combines well with most subjects, for example History, Geography, Economics, French and Spanish.

Future options:

Many of our students go to study Politics or combined degrees with History, International Relations, Law, Security Studies, American Studies, Languages or Middle East Studies.

Beyond the Classroom

As a member of our Politics Society, you'll bring the theory to life by setting up activities that are open to the wider school. Recently, we've held mock general elections and an EU referendum and hosted lectures and dinners with significant political figures and commentators including the former Prime Minister, Sir John Major, former Lord Chancellor Charlie Falconer, broadcaster Jeremy Paxman, political journalist and former MP, Matthew Parris, former MP and lawyer Anna Soubry and Mary Coughlan (former Deputy Premier of ROI).

If you'd like to gain a deeper understanding of Law, sign up for our Mock Law cases in which you'll play roles within a courtroom, overseen by a real judge.



MORE INFO:
www.kimbolton.cambs.sch.uk/politics

Spanish

**“One language sets you in a corridor for life.
Two languages open every door along the way.”** FRANK SMITH

Knowledge of a foreign language is a concrete and demonstrable life skill. Learning how to interact with speakers of other languages teaches you communication skills, adaptability and cultural awareness. It is no surprise that languages give you the edge in the job market, and you do not need to be completely fluent in a foreign language to be an asset to potential employers.

We aim to combine the intellectual with the practical. You will develop the language skills needed to communicate confidently in Spanish while exploring the history, culture, evolution, current social trends and traditions of Hispanic societies. We will combine the study of film and literature alongside an interest in current affairs and global issues.

Our small class sizes will be a real advantage, as will being taught by native speakers who will share their first-hand experiences with you. You will find that the individual attention, along with our relaxed, supportive environment, give you the confidence to speak out and test your skills in class. Spending some time during the course in a Spanish-speaking country will definitely be advantageous, as will developing interests online within any area connected with the Spanish speaking world.

Beyond the Classroom

You will have the opportunity to stay in Barcelona as part of a study trip. Other extracurricular opportunities include Spanish Club, Cultural Club, European Day of Languages, Spanish Declamation Competition and the ISMLA Writing Competition, UK Linguistics Olympiad and Stephen Spender Prize. In addition, there's the opportunity to focus on Spanish for business (CV, job interview, profession) with our Spanish Assistant.



2023 results

A*/A 75%
A*/B 100%

“ Spanish is a colourful A level filled with teachings of linguistics, the arts, food, Spanish society and more. I enjoy the confidence learning a language gives me and since taking it as an A Level, I have decided to take it further to university.

ROSIE



Spanish Coordinator **Mrs Sofia Jarrat**
smj@kimbolton.cambs.sch.uk

Head of MFL **Mrs M Viruete Navarro**
mvn@kimbolton.cambs.sch.uk

Course code: Pearson Edexcel (9SP0)

Preferred Spanish entry requirements

At least a Grade 6 but preferably 7 or higher in GCSE Spanish. Ideally a similar grade in English (not essential). A willingness to communicate with others and to be open to different points of view.

Often combined with:

Business, Politics, History, Art, English.

Future options:

Spanish combines well with virtually any subject, and can lead directly to careers in the business world, marketing, translation and interpreting, law, the media, or working for an international company. Studying a foreign language will keep your options open.

MORE INFO:
www.kimbolton.cambs.sch.uk/spanish



Plan your Future

We encourage all students to look ahead so they can make good, informed choices about their futures. Students are always welcome in the Careers Room in the Castle, to research and discuss careers options.

The 'Preparing for Citizenship Course'

This Friday morning lecture series, delivered by visiting speakers and staff specialists, covers a wide range of topics and issues. It will challenge your thinking and help to prepare you for life beyond Sixth Form. The speaker programme is followed up by Citizenship tutorials where pupils can discuss and debate ideas they have been presented with. Time is set aside during the summer term of the Lower Sixth for an 'Introduction to University' programme.

Applying for University

The majority of our Upper Sixth Form students go on to university, some after a gap year, while a handful each year go straight into employment. In March, an evening explaining the application process is held for Lower Sixth students and their parents. A similar evening is arranged for those wishing to apply to Oxford or Cambridge, with presentations by admissions tutors from both universities.

All students are allocated a University Adviser, who supervises their UCAS application. Mock interviews for those that need them, and preparation courses in specialised areas such as medicine and law are also provided.



Higher Education, Gap and Careers Fair

To bring employers, professional bodies and students together, we host an annual HE, Gap and Careers Fair. A wide range of professions are represented including medicine, architecture, law, finance, the media, engineering and the armed forces. We also invite representatives from some of the most popular universities and Gap Year providers.

We do not operate a formal Work Experience programme but do encourage and support all students to arrange work experience, where possible, in the school holidays.

Head of Careers Ms Gill Jackson
gaj@kimbolton.cambs.sch.uk

Freyja McLoughlin (OK 18)

Final year Law student, University of Leeds

A Levels studied at Kimbolton:

English Literature, Government and Politics, and History.

Tell us a bit about your life since Kimbolton:

I'm currently in my final year studying Law at Leeds. I was recently awarded both the Black Stone Exhibition Scholarship and the Queen Mother's Scholarship from Middle Temple to fund my Barrister training course. (Middle Temple is one of the four Inns of Court which have the exclusive right to Call students to the Bar.) In the future I hope to become a commercial barrister practicing in London.

Best things about Kimbolton Sixth Form?

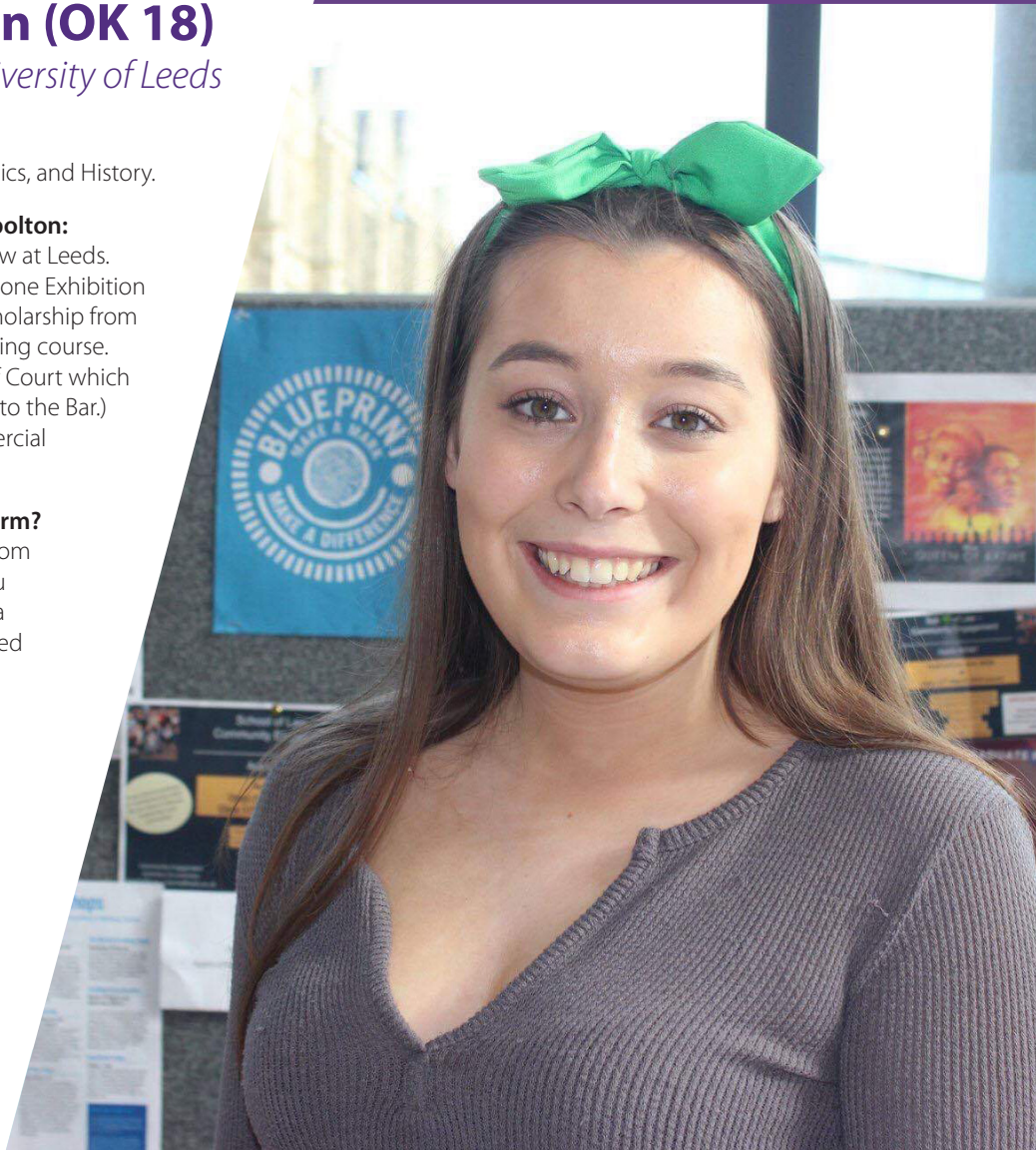
The community, the constant support from the teachers and that you always felt you could ask for advice! Debating was also a particular highlight and has greatly helped me in achieving my scholarship as well as my university place. If it wasn't for all the advice and encouragement I was given in Sixth Form, I wouldn't be in this position – I feel very lucky.

What was your most memorable Kimbolton Sixth Form experience?

The Sixth Form ball – a great evening's entertainment.

If you could give one piece of advice to new Sixth Formers what would it be?

Try every opportunity and always ask for help – teachers will never say no!



Leavers' Destinations 2023

84% of Kimbolton students secured a place at university, 12% took a Gap Year, 3% went into employment, and 1% started Degree or Higher Apprenticeships.

Subject Area and Destination

Accounting, Business Finance and Management York, UEA	Languages Bath, LSE
Anthropology Durham University	Law Leicester
Biological Sciences Durham	Liberal Arts Manchester
Biomedical Science Oxford Brookes, Lancaster, Lincoln, Plymouth, Reading, Sheffield, UWE Bristol	Marine Biology Exeter
Computer Science York	Marketing Loughborough
English Newcastle, Warwick, UEA	Mathematics St Andrews, Leeds, Nottingham, Warwick
Criminology and Sociology Plymouth	Medicine Birmingham, Birmingham City, Exeter, Queen Mary University of London
Economics Lincoln, Newcastle, Sheffield	Languages Manchester, Sheffield
Engineering Bath, Birmingham, Imperial College London, Lancaster, Nottingham, Swansea	Natural Sciences Cambridge
Fashion Nottingham Trent	Philosophy Durham, Nottingham
Filmmaking BIMM University	Politics Loughborough, Nottingham
Geography Hull, Lincoln, UEA	Psychology Sussex
Global Health and Social Science King's College London	Real Estate UWE Bristol
Design Loughborough	Sport Hartpury, Birmingham
History Anglia Ruskin, Oxford, Oxford Brookes	Urban Planning Newcastle
Human Nutrition Newcastle	Zoology Plymouth
International Relations Bath, Lincoln, Leeds, Leicester	

90%
secured their
university
of choice

67
different courses
being studied

73%
of our students
into Top 40
universities*

37
destinations

* The Times and Sunday Times
Good University Guide 2023




Old Kimboltonians' Association

Leaving school may be a pleasure for some and a sad occasion for others but it is always significant. Having spent two years in the Sixth Form you will be part of a close-knit year group that will stay with you for the rest of your life: the Class of 2024. This is a result of the vibrant nature of our Sixth Form with its huge range of activities, trips and social events that bring you together.

The Old Kimboltonians' Association (OKA) hold three main social events each year: the London Dinner, the Summer Reunion and OKA Ball, plus the Annual Dinner. These are supplemented by ad hoc smaller regional reunions, dedicated year group reunions, and informal drinks in London. Kimbolton School has a remarkable spirit amongst its leavers that is highly valued by those walking through the Gatehouse for the last time and returning in later years.

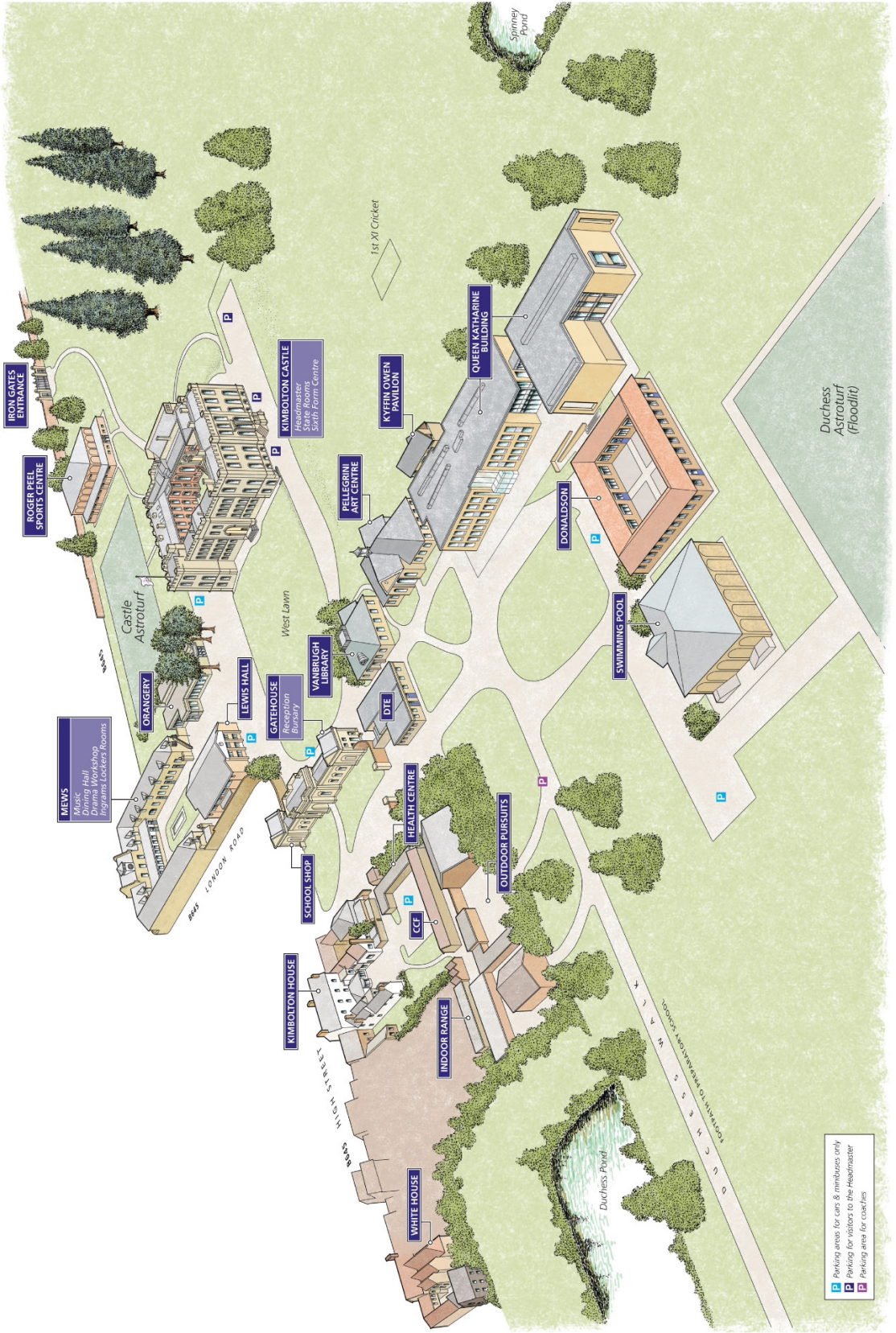
OKA Alumni Officer

Vicky Wakefield
alumni@kimbolton.cambs.sch.uk

-  OKAssociation
-  old-kimboltonians
-  @OldKimboltons

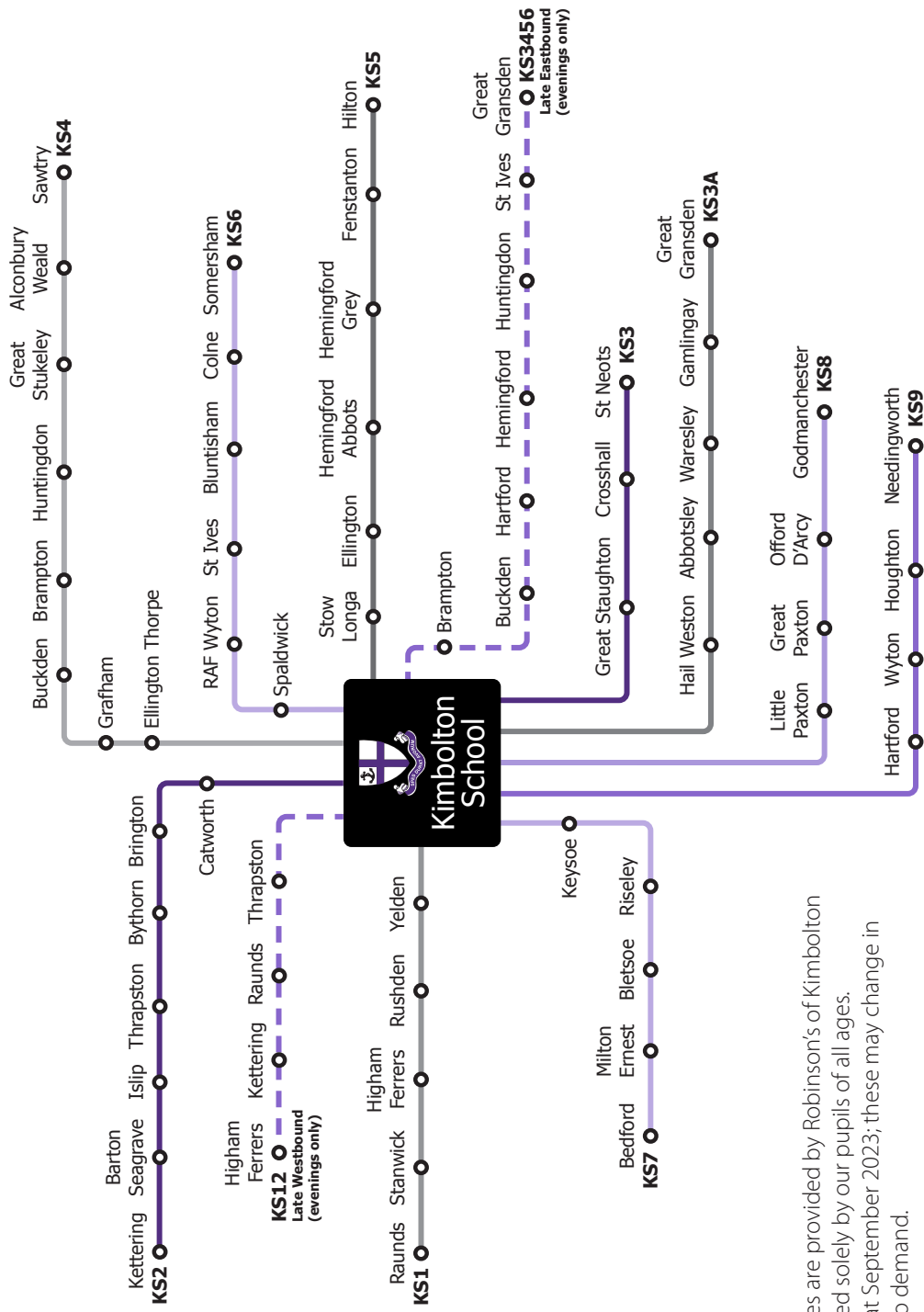


Senior School Map



Bus Routes

www.kimbolton.cambs.sch.uk/busservice



Our coaches are provided by Robinson's of Kimbolton and are used solely by our pupils of all ages. Routes as at September 2023; these may change in response to demand.

The Right Choice

Top **3**

for A Level results in Cambridgeshire

(DfE, 2019)

Top **5%**

*of schools nationally for
'value added' between
GCSE and A Level*

(DfE, 2019)

Top **10**

*Best Value Boarding Schools
in the UK 2022*

(The Daily Telegraph)

*"A happy environment
and excellent pastoral care"*

(Goods Schools Guide)

Top **15**

*Independent
Secondary Schools
in East Anglia 2022*

(The Sunday Times)

90%

*of our Sixth Formers depart
for their university of choice*

*Extensive school bus network;
easily accessible by road and rail*

73%
A/B 3-year
A Level
average*

Over **20** *music ensembles
on offer*

Over **80** *extra-curricular
clubs and activities*

STUDENT VOICES

Daniel

A Level Choices: Geography, History, PE.

Intended University Degree: Sport and Exercise Sciences at Durham.

Joined Kimbolton: In Sixth Form.

Sixth Form responsibilities: Head of Dawsons House.

Why is Kimbolton Sixth Form special to you?:

As a new member of Kimbolton, the Sixth Form community has been incredibly welcoming. Everyone is very friendly, and I have easily been able to find people that share similar interests to me. Sixth Form life has been challenging but rewarding. It has helped me to broaden my horizons and to find out what I am capable of. The excellent teaching staff have been central to this experience, providing brilliant support throughout my time here.





Kimbolton School
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#kimsixth #thisiskimbolton

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