



Maghull High School Sixth Form Academy

A Specialist School For The Performing Arts



*Aspire,
Achieve,
Enjoy*

Prospectus
2012-2013



Dear Prospective Sixth Form Student

I am delighted that you are interested in the possibility of joining us in the Sixth Form Academy at Maghull High School. Our Sixth Form offers opportunity, responsibility and in so many ways excellence, and is designed to meet your individual needs and aspirations.

The foundations of our Sixth Form Academy are based firmly upon high quality teaching, high quality courses all of which lead to higher education or employment and the highest possible standards of pastoral care, guidance and support.

Success in the Sixth Form demands hard work and determination but is also one of the most rewarding and enriching of times; there are quite simply endless possibilities! As one of our senior students you will be an ambassador for the school and a role model for our younger students. You may take the lead in one of our outstanding productions, you may lift a trophy as captain of one of our brilliant sports teams but I am quite certain that you will have a memorable and enjoyable time with us.

I look forward to welcoming you into the Sixth Form in 2012.

Mark Anderson
Head teacher



Welcome to Maghull High Sixth Form Academy

The Sixth Form at Maghull High School offers a challenging and varied curriculum as well as exciting activities out of the class room. If you choose to be part of our Sixth Form we will do our best to enable you to achieve your potential, in whatever field that might be. We firmly believe that the Sixth Form is a stepping stone to higher education or employment and as such we encourage students to develop the skills needed to be successful in a more independent environment.

We offer a very wide range of advanced level courses and our innovative collaboration with Maricourt and Deyes High Schools allows most students to choose their subject combinations freely, whilst controlling our group size at an average of 15 at AS and 12 at A2. We are justifiably proud of the academic progress our students make, with most of them achieving better results than would be predicted from their GCSEs. Students are supported in this by teaching and learning that is stimulating and of a consistently high quality, and by the academic and pastoral support of a team of experienced personal tutors, giving one-to-one guidance.



Our Sixth Form is about more than academic success, we believe students do much better if they enjoy themselves as well. All students have the chance to undertake some form of voluntary work, some run mentoring teams for main school others organise our social and charity events. Many take part in some form of performance or sport often now training the younger pupils. As well as this we have many various visits, exchanges and challenges like the Duke of Edinburgh's award, with the Sixth Form Council giving our students the opportunity to be involved in the management of their Sixth Form.

As OFSTED commented about us.....
“...students really enjoy their Sixth Form Life and display outstanding attributes, attitudes and behaviour.”



The Sixth Form Team

Paul Hollinghurst,
Director post-16 education

**Karen Austin and
Chris Hurst,**
Sixth Form Progress Leaders

Gillian Reynolds,
Assistant Progress Leader

Christina Hadwin,
Sixth Form Administrator

Sixth Form Life

- Sixth Form is different; you will have more freedom but will also have much greater responsibility for yourself.
- You will study fewer subjects, some for the first time, but at a much higher level.
- You will have fewer timetabled lessons but you will have to work harder and use your free time to study on your own.
- You will need to develop many new study skills so you can become an independent learner, skills you will use for the rest of your life.

This year represents a major change in your life, we believe here at Maghull High School we have the staff, organisation and facilities which will allow you to be a successful student, a well-rounded young adult and make the necessary progress in your life and career.

In this booklet we have tried to provide all the basic information you will require about our Sixth Form, its courses, entry requirements and organisation.

However, we know that you will have many questions which are best answered personally. If you are at present a student at Maghull you can arrange to talk to us at any time by making an appointment with Mrs Hadwin in the Sixth Form Office, if you attend another school can I recommend you do arrange to visit us on a working school day to really get a feel for the place and have time to talk over your personal requirements.

We all are aware how important the next two years are in determining your future. The choices you make about where you will continue your education are your first challenge. Please think very carefully about your choices, collect all the information you can, ask questions and listen to all the advice you are offered.

Fresher's Week

Fresher's Week takes place in the summer term and gives you an exciting opportunity to sample the Sixth Form and to gain an insight into life of a sixth former. You will have the chance to attend taster lessons for the subjects you might wish to study and participate in a range of activities planned by your fellow students such as visits, concerts and competitions.

During the Fresher's Week you will be able to discuss your needs and career plans, socialise and get to know teachers and other sixth formers on an informal basis. We believe by attending Fresher's Week you will be well prepared for the challenges of the Sixth Form and be able to fully enjoy your time with us.

Application Timeline

Application is by the Application Form, found at the back of this prospectus, from the Sixth Form office or downloaded from our website.

Timeline

- **17th January 2011** Extended Assembly for Year 11 Students
- **18th January 2011** Pre-Sixth Parents Evening 7.00-9.00 p.m.
- **February 2011** Sixth Form Interviews for all MHS students
- **February-March 2011** Sixth Form at work visits and interviews for external candidates
- **March 2011** Formal conditional offers of places in the Sixth Form made.
- **25th June 2011** Fresher's Week (*provisional date*)

Why Choose Maghull High School

- We have excellent academic standards (last year we were in the top 30% of Sixth Forms in England with a 98% pass rate and 45% A*-B grades)
- Our students do better than predicted from their previous results. We add value to our students performance
- Lively, friendly, community, with a focus on student enjoyment and achievement
- You will have a programme of study that has been carefully developed to allow you to carry on from your previous courses. These pathways are important for your continued success
- We are the Outstanding Sixth Form Performing Arts School in England (Best Drama results nationally last three years and National Teaching Award Winners)
- All your teachers will be highly qualified, well-motivated and experienced, who will know you and can respond to your particular needs
- We offer a huge range of courses to suit all levels of ability and interest (42 advanced level courses available)
- Your personal tutor will always be available to support your needs
- We have excellent facilities, with our own Sixth Form Building
- You will have many opportunities to take part in enrichment activities of all kinds
- We belong to an excellent partnership of local schools which allows us to meet the needs of the individual
- You will get lots of help for your next career step, whether university, college or job application



The Sixth Form Centre

We believe we have the best Sixth Form facilities in Sefton, recently enhanced by a new Bistro facility. The Sixth Form Centre is situated in its own separate building and grounds, it contains:-

- Ten lecture rooms, 4 with full computer facilities,
- A fully supervised and equipped Private Study Area , with a Higher Education library, subject resources and computer suite
- A large Common Room provides a place to relax and talk to friends
- Café selling Costa Coffee and snacks, vending and table football machines.



Sixth Form Courses

We believe we have a range of courses suitable for all interests and levels of ability. Full details of all the course contents are given at the back of this booklet.

Level 3 Advanced Level

We offer a very wide range of level 3 courses in traditional A levels and also Btec and OCR Nationals. This ensures that students of a wide range of ability can successfully achieve good grades and progress to Higher Education or Employment.

Collaboration

To ensure the maximum choice of subjects is available to all our students we work in collaboration with Deyes and Maricourt High Schools. A growing number of advanced subjects are offered jointly in Year 12 and as part of the Intermediate course. (In Year 13 it may be necessary to amalgamate groups if numbers become very small.)

The courses available to a student are dependent upon their GCSE results. We use their average points score from their results. The points allocated to each grade are listed below:-

Grade	Points	Grade	Points	Grade	Points
A*	58	C	40	F	22
A	52	D	34	G	16
B	46	E	28	U	0



Pathways

There are two level 3 pathways students follow, Green or Blue.

Green Pathway

- Entry requirements, at least 5 A*-C grades at GCSE from 5 separate subjects and an average GCSE points score of more than 37 points.
- A pass grade in the subject or a closely related one is also usually needed (see subject information sheet or consult teacher for details).
- Students choose 4 subjects from the Green Pathway Columns.

Blue Pathway

- Entry requirements, at least 5 A*-C grades at GCSE and an average GCSE points score of 43 or more and at least C grades in English and Mathematics.
- A grade B in the subject or a closely related one is also needed (see subject information sheet or consult teacher for details).
- Students choose 4 subjects from the Blue and or Green Columns.

T12 Level 2 Course

Orange Pathway

- Entry requirements for the T12 level 2 course are 5 grades at GCSE level. Students choose one 4 GCSE equivalent and one 2 GCSE equivalent course from the Orange pathway

Green Pathway Subjects		
Applied Biology Btec	Engineering Btec	Performing Arts Btec
Art	Forensic Science Btec	Public Services Btec
Business	Health & Social Care Btec	Sport Btec
Computing	ICT OCR Nat	Textiles
Dance	Media	Theatre Studies
Design 3D	Music Technology	Travel OCR Nat

Blue Pathway Subjects		
Biology	History	Physics
Chemistry	Law	Psychology
Economics	Mathematics	RE
English	Further Mathematics	Sociology
French	Music	Spanish
Geography	PE	

Orange Pathway Subjects	
Subjects worth 4 GCSE	Subjects worth 2 GCSE
Travel & Tourism OCR National	Employability Skills Btec National
Business Btec National	Public Services Btec National

The subjects listed above are the ones on offer this academic year and we would expect to offer a very similar range from September, providing there is sufficient student interest.

In the Sixth Form I experienced the professionalism and dedication of the Performing Arts staff which is something that is naturally passed onto the students; preparing us for the industry and college or university. I graduated from John Moore's University with a First Class Honours Degree in Dance, and realise I could not have achieved as much as I did without the support given to me by the Sixth Form.

Shauna Nolan
Student 2006-2008

I came from another school, because I wanted to follow Performing Arts subjects and they had a great reputation. It was the best decision I ever made. They gave me some amazing opportunities for extending my performance experience and do everything to the highest standard. I am now at Mountview Theatre School, London, studying Musical Theatre. I know that I wouldn't be here without Maghull High School.

James Loughlin
Student 2009-2011

I love the independence that you have in the Sixth Form. There is a great atmosphere here which you would struggle to find anywhere else. The fact that the Sixth Form has its own building, staff and Café makes you feel that you're not in a school but you still have the same push from your teachers to do well. I would highly recommend the Sixth Form as a fun yet productive place to be.

Connor Boileau
Year 12 student



Assessment and Reporting

The Sixth Form is a very busy time and what is expected of you is very different from before. You will be taking a lot of exams in only 9 months; therefore it is very important that both you and your parents are aware how well you are progressing. All students will be given minimum target grades in each subject as a base line against which to judge performance.

We will monitor your progress regularly, with assessment cycles in October, December, February and at Easter. At these times you will have a short interview about your progress with a teacher in each subject and a longer summary discussion with your tutor. These are important times that give you a chance to explain your own needs to staff and ask for their advice and extra help. As well as this all staff are encouraged to use the 'eTutor' referral system to let us know if you are falling behind or failing at any time. All students who are having problems with their work will be supported by the Sixth Form Team in any way we can to help them recover and be successful.

Student Support

We are a very supportive Sixth Form, we will give you every opportunity to do well and to ensure this we have a very strong student assistance network. Your Tutor will help you settle into the Sixth Form, choose your pathways and help you meet your targets. They will carefully monitor your progress and help you with careers guidance, choosing university courses, study skills, health issues and developing your career action plan, finally joining with you in celebrating your success.

However during your time at Maghull, you may find that particular difficulties arise which prevent you from performing at your very best and you may need support from someone other than your Personal Tutor. Our Sixth Form Pastoral Team and Learning Mentors are trained and equipped to provide the guidance and support that will get you back on track.

They will liaise with your subject teachers and have extensive links with outside agencies if required. Students with any specific learning needs will be fully supported by our Special Educational Needs department.

I really enjoy being at Maghull Sixth Form because it is completely different from main school. The teachers treat you with respect and are always willing to give their free time to help with any problems. There is a good atmosphere here because everyone has chosen to be here to learn.

Natalie Osborne

Year 12 student





Parent – Academy Relationship

We believe that parents play a vital role in student's success and we are committed to developing a productive relationship with them. We regularly communicate with parents and hope that parents will always contact us if they have any concerns.

Parental Contacts

- A student parent handbook will be issued at the start of term with full details of the years events
- Two parents evenings a year in November and May
- Prompt contact in the event of poor attendance or progress
- A higher education guidance evening towards the end of the first year
- Progress reports four times a year
- Regular email updates about events

I have had a great experience in the Sixth Form; the help and support from the teaching staff is I feel outstanding and they do genuinely care about you and want you to succeed.

I also received a massive amount of support for my application to university. I am hoping to attend Cambridge University to study History at Clare College.

Matthew Hughes

Final year student

Enrichment Activities

We strongly believe that students need to widen their experiences while in the Sixth Form and to provide opportunities for this we organise a range of enrichment activities. These have included; sports leadership qualifications, first aid courses, computer maintenance, web design, DIY, financial awareness, driving awareness, and cultural visits to galleries and museums. Many subjects also organise trips and visits throughout the year.

As a Specialist Performing Arts College, there are many opportunities to get involved in performing arts events. As well as our musical, dance and drama productions, which require performers, backstage and technical help, there are choirs, bands and other opportunities for music making and several dance groups. Many students also take part in sporting activities and Duke of Edinburgh's award. Our 1st Eleven Football team is the most successful on Merseyside for the past five years and also runners up in the National Under 18 Cup competition.

Throughout the year there is a programme of social events Fresher's week, BBQ's, Halloween Party etc. The final event each year The Leavers Sixth Form Ball, usually held at the end of May, prior to examinations is a farewell to our students.



Community Involvement and Voluntary Work

As part of their enrichment programme all students are expected to take part in some sort of voluntary work. Students choose from one out of five areas or responsibilities.

- **Academic:** - Student voice, subject clubs, mentoring younger students, enterprise activities etc.
- **Environment:** - Building improvements, recycling, energy efficiency etc.
- **Hospitality:** - Welcoming duties, guiding visitors, assisting at open evenings
- **Marketing:** - School magazine, web page, Facebook, publicity videos etc.
- **Events:** - Social events, Band Nights, Charities Week, Fresher's Week, trips.

We strongly believe that participation in these events greatly improves the performance of our students in other areas of the curriculum.



Higher Education and Career Progression

All our students are encouraged to consider Higher and Further Education and to reach their full potential. The majority of our students progress to University.

A full programme of activities are arranged to ensure all students have the necessary experience and information they need to make the right decisions, these include university visits, visiting speakers, training days etc. Students who decide to move into employment are very well supported by our Connexions advisor who arranges seminars throughout the year.

We strongly encourage our students to undertake relevant Work Experience to gain valuable experience and insights into their intended careers and improve university applications. The last week in June is allocated as a time for these activities.

I think the Maghull High Sixth Form environment is one where you can grow, mature and become more independent whilst also being supported and steered in the right direction. My sixth form experience is one I will remember for a long time as I have had fun, learnt a lot and made lifelong friends. I am taking a Gap Year next year to do some work shadowing before going to university to follow a degree in Production in the Creative Industries.

Beth Derbyshire

Final year student and Head Girl





**Maghull High School
Sixth Form Academy**

Ormonde Drive, Maghull, Liverpool L31 7AW

Telephone: 0151 527 3975

Email: sixthform@maghullhigh.com

www.maghullhigh.com