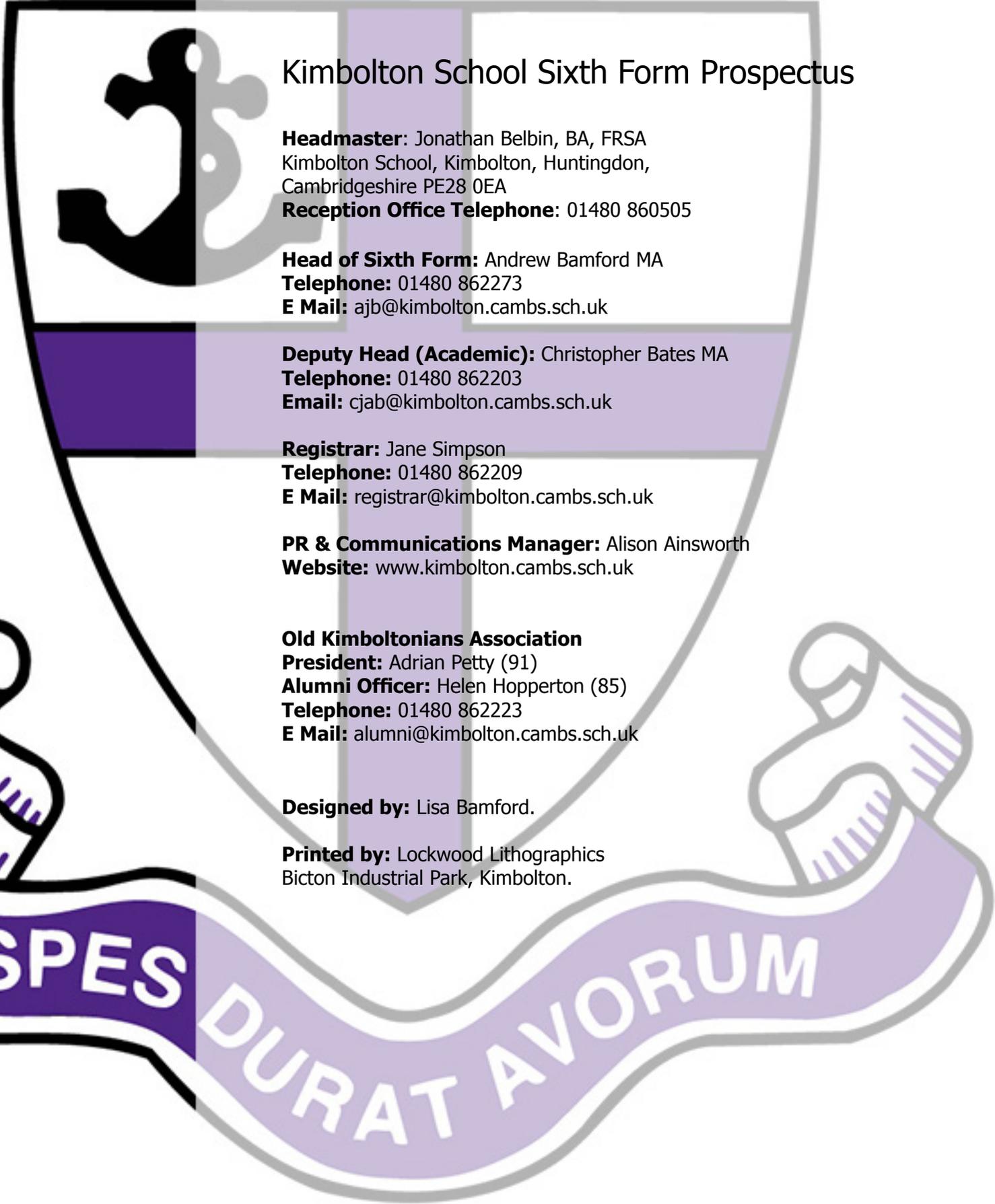




# Kimbolton School

## SIXTH FORM 2014 ~ 2016





## Kimbolton School Sixth Form Prospectus

**Headmaster:** Jonathan Belbin, BA, FRSA  
Kimbolton School, Kimbolton, Huntingdon,  
Cambridgeshire PE28 0EA  
**Reception Office Telephone:** 01480 860505

**Head of Sixth Form:** Andrew Bamford MA  
**Telephone:** 01480 862273  
**E Mail:** [ajb@kimbolton.cambs.sch.uk](mailto:ajb@kimbolton.cambs.sch.uk)

**Deputy Head (Academic):** Christopher Bates MA  
**Telephone:** 01480 862203  
**Email:** [cjab@kimbolton.cambs.sch.uk](mailto:cjab@kimbolton.cambs.sch.uk)

**Registrar:** Jane Simpson  
**Telephone:** 01480 862209  
**E Mail:** [registrar@kimbolton.cambs.sch.uk](mailto:registrar@kimbolton.cambs.sch.uk)

**PR & Communications Manager:** Alison Ainsworth  
**Website:** [www.kimbolton.cambs.sch.uk](http://www.kimbolton.cambs.sch.uk)

**Old Kimboltonians Association**  
**President:** Adrian Petty (91)  
**Alumni Officer:** Helen Hopperton (85)  
**Telephone:** 01480 862223  
**E Mail:** [alumni@kimbolton.cambs.sch.uk](mailto:alumni@kimbolton.cambs.sch.uk)

**Designed by:** Lisa Bamford.

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Bicton Industrial Park, Kimbolton.

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# Kimbolton School

## Welcome to the Sixth Form at Kimbolton



I am delighted to introduce our Kimbolton School Sixth Form Prospectus. As you will read over the coming pages, the Sixth Form experience at Kimbolton School is rich and rewarding. As long as you are prepared to work, I can guarantee that the results you will achieve in 2016 will be the best to which you can personally aspire.

Just as importantly you will enjoy the vibrant life and atmosphere of the Sixth Form, both in class and in the extra-curricular field. At Kimbolton we are not interested in the 'conveyor belt' syndrome of ticking off notches as the courses proceed. Instead, we want your two Sixth Form years to be full of excitement, challenges and, of course, hard work, leaving indelibly positive and happy memories.

Should you wish to discuss any Sixth Form matter in greater detail, please do not hesitate to come and see me.

In the meantime, I wish you well with forthcoming examinations.

**Jonathan Belbin**  
Headmaster



## From the Head of Sixth Form

Life in the Sixth Form at Kimbolton School is full of opportunities and challenges. Unlike other schools, there are no restrictions as to what combination of subjects to select. You can choose what is right for you in order to take full control of your academic destiny.

At Kimbolton we are proud of the good rapport between Sixth Formers and teachers, sustained through a seminar approach in many lessons and through a vast array of new opportunities available both in extra-curricular activities and in preparation for university life.

There are around 95 students in each year of the Sixth Form, enough to offer a good choice of new subjects: Economics, Business Studies, Physical Education,

Politics, and Critical and Contextual Studies in Art. You will also have a wide range of activities and a variety of friends but we are not so large that individuals become just "another" student. Class sizes are small, usually 8 to 12, and we are fortunate in the very high calibre of teaching staff and excellent facilities centred on the Castle as the Sixth Form core.

New activities range from opportunities to see the literary heritage of Edinburgh, visiting Russia at a very exciting point in its history, to the annual exchange with Bridgewater Raritan High School in New Jersey and the chance to form your own company in the Young Enterprise Scheme. Kimbolton Sixth Formers have won national recognition in events as diverse as canoeing and debating.

A lively set of social events centres around the Sixth Form Club, culminating in the Summer Ball. There is a real sense of camaraderie at Kimbolton as seen by the lifetime friendships established here that continue through the thriving OKs Association.

At Kimbolton we have an excellent record of A level success and our guidance team of tutors and university advisors is on hand to ease the pathway beyond 18 by a detailed programme of support, including arranged visits, personal statement advice and mock interviews.

Our students are our ambassadors. We believe that the Kimbolton experience provides enrichment in terms of academic qualifications and in the wider field of fostering cultural and social awareness and in developing leadership skills.

**Andrew Bamford, Head of Sixth Form**

01480 862264

ajb@kimbolton.  
cambs.sch.uk

www.kimbolton.cambs.  
sch.uk



## Studying in the Sixth Form

In the Sixth Form you have the opportunity to specialise with your academic work by taking four AS subjects in the Lower Sixth. The choice of subjects is wider than at GCSE with new subjects but crucially, you will be studying all subjects at a higher level and in a different way from GCSE. AS and A2 teaching is in small groups with an emphasis on stretching and challenging pupils in ways not possible at GCSE. You will be expected to have a genuine interest and commitment to your studies and a willingness to read books, magazines and articles about your subjects. This is the key to success and enjoying the courses. Teachers and examiners look for the students who are prepared and motivated to extend themselves intellectually, whatever their GCSE results.

Having completed your AS courses, you will have to choose three A2 subjects to continue in the Upper Sixth to complete your A Level (combining the AS and A2 marks). Some students will continue with four subjects after discussion with teachers, tutor and the Deputy Head (Academic). At A2 you specialise again, studying your chosen subjects in greater depth, detail and analytical rigour. This is the academic 'bridge' between school and university level study where you have to take on more responsibility for your own work, using private study periods, reading and developing your research and study skills. The Sixth Form is an exciting opportunity to specialise and extend your academic work beyond GCSE. It is challenging for sure, but also very rewarding as you develop your thinking and understanding to a higher level. It is very warming to see the personal and intellectual maturing of students take place during the two years.

## Choosing your AS Options

When entering the Sixth Form your aim is to build up a portfolio of qualifications and achievements for your CV that you will take through your life beyond school into university or work. The menu of A Level subjects is as follows:

Art, Art (Photography), Art Critical and Contextual, Biology, Business Studies, Chemistry, Design & Technology, Drama & Theatre Studies, Economics, English Language & Literature, English Literature, Food, Nutrition and Health, French, Geography, History, Maths, Further Maths, Music, Physical Education, Physics, Politics, Spanish

You will need to choose four subjects from the list. In making your choices you should think about what interests you as you need to be committed and enthusiastic in your studies. This will help you get the best possible grades. You should also consider any requirements for career or university course plans such as medicine. You should ask teaching staff and fellow pupils about what the various courses involve. You need to make an informed choice, bearing in mind your interests, ambitions and abilities. It may be a tricky decision but discussing your ideas with teaching staff, tutors and parents will help you get it right. This Sixth Form Guide summarises all of the courses and individual departments will provide more detail in their own literature. University and Careers advice is also available from Mrs Bates, Head of Careers.

For Sixth Formers looking at applications to Oxford or Cambridge universities there are classes to prepare you for Oxbridge entry. This is an opportunity to stretch yourself academically and range far beyond the A level specification.

Both the Lower Sixth and Upper Sixth also have the opportunity on a Thursday afternoon to continue their involvement in the CCF or CSU or take up one of our numerous Extension Studies courses. In the Upper Sixth there is a 'Preparing for Citizenship' programme of lectures and talks covering a broad range of issues that aim to broaden horizons, challenge thinking and help you prepare for university and life beyond school.

For both Sixth Form years the Games afternoon, Tutorial period and Private Study periods make up the rest of your timetable. In addition to these main subjects, some Sixth Formers are able to take an Extended Project Qualification. This involves a significant piece of independent research outside the main curriculum spread between June and October between Lower and Upper Sixth years. Some Sixth Formers opt to take A Level General Studies in their U6th year as a self-led course. Students are welcome to do so if their university choices accept General Studies as part of their offer. Guidance will be given to students.

## Private Study

Being in the Sixth Form means having Private Study time to do some of the work and research for your AS and A2 subjects. You will have a longer period of time to complete your work assignments, typically a week with AS and a week to ten days for A2. To help with this and prepare for university most pupils will have 4 periods of Private Study in the Lower Sixth and 7 periods in the Upper Sixth. There are two work rooms with computers in the Castle for Sixth Form use only as well as the Library with excellent resources, or you can work in departmental areas. 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. Teachers and tutors will be there to help if needed. As you work your way through the Lower and Upper Sixth you take more responsibility for the work you do for yourself.



## Homework

Sixth Form work is more focussed, in depth and demanding than GCSE but you are given longer to get it done. Usually, assignments are set by each teacher on a weekly basis and are marked to examination standards from the start. Researching, reading books, magazines and articles are all part of working independently. Working alongside your teachers, who will help you through any problems with your work, is part and parcel of A Level studying.

## The Sixth Form Common Room

Kimbolton Castle is the site of the Common Room area. This includes a computer suite for private study, a reading area with sofas, central seating area with TVs plus a bright kitchen area. This is supplemented by the Sixth Form Club area with pool table and bar which is used for the popular social events held throughout the school year. A second work room is also available in the upper rooms of the Castle.



## The Sixth Form Committee

Getting involved in running your Sixth Form is part of the Kimbolton ethos. We want to know what Sixth Formers think, to encourage suggestions, debate ideas and discuss your proposals for change. An elected committee meets regularly with the Head of Sixth Form to discuss Sixth Form issues with an open agenda. There are also Sixth Form Forums with the Head of Sixth Form to discuss and air suggestions from both Sixth Form years as a whole.



## Houses & Tutors

The Houses continue to be the focus for your tutorial groups and the House competition events but as a Sixth Former you will have the opportunity to take the lead in house events and take responsibility regarding junior pupils. Tutor groups are smaller in the Sixth Form and your tutor will help with all aspects of your Sixth Form career. One part of Sixth Form tutoring is individual meeting and discussion of target setting in your academic work and extra curricular activities. The Head of Sixth Form, Mr Bamford, is also there to lead and help you to get the best and broadest experience and involvement from your Sixth Form years.

## Vanbrugh Library

The Vanbrugh Library offers all Sixth Form students 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, DVDs, etc. 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 include NewsStand, Oxford Art and Music Online, History Today, and Which?, along with a range of other up-to-date resources that help students consolidate their learning outside of lessons. Advice and guidance in your research is available at all times from the librarians with additional support offered via Moodle.

The library is open for one week during the Easter holidays for revision. Dates are published in the school calendar.



## Social Events

The Sixth Form Club is the centre of social life and events during the year. Regular events put on include the annual barbecue, the 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 many memorable moments recorded in the Upper Sixth Leavers' Year Book produced in the summer term. Getting involved through the social side of Sixth Form life helps make the Kimbolton Sixth Form tick.



## So what could Boarding give me in the Sixth Form?

Being a Sixth Form boarder at Kimbolton School is different from just being a student. Having spent most of your day studying in school, whether it be Sciences or Arts, the boarding houses offer a fun and caring atmosphere once the school day has come to an end.

The fact that these houses are not within the school campus, but are only a short, pleasant walk down the high street, means that you can relax in a non-curricular environment and have great times with your friends – who will soon begin to feel like your “brothers or sisters”. Lots of boarders feel that because White House and Kimbolton House are comparatively small, it adds to the cosy atmosphere, for example ‘Made in Chelsea’ seems to be a compulsive watch for all boarders!

It’s fair to say, it is not just the boarders that create this great atmosphere but also those who are constantly there for you. Whether it is Mrs. Stokes in White House and the House tutor Ms Kennedy or Mr Garland in Kim House with Mr Bradshaw his House tutor, you always feel comfortable talking and socialising with them. White House or Kim House will soon start to feel like a “second family” especially with the help of Dee and Mandy, the House Matrons. There are loads of house events to get involved in throughout the year: including House Rounders, Sixth Form meals, BBQ’s, Halloween Parties and Secret Santa.

So to sum up, boarding can offer the fun aspects of school life including trips at weekends such as shopping in London, West End shows, indoor skiing and ‘in house’ activities such as “movie night” and “pizza night”, and give you a cohesive structure to thrive academically away from home. With homework 7-9pm for the senior years, there is time for work to be done and staff are on hand to discuss time management issues and take an interest in the progress of their boarding house students.



Left: Boarders Sixth Form Meal  
Below: Kim House vs White House Rounders Match

### Boarding at Kimbolton is very flexible.

We have:

- The Full Boarder
- The Weekly Boarder (5 nights a week)
- The Flexi Boarder (who perhaps does one or two nights a week, when matches or play rehearsals return late).
- or
- The Occasional Boarder (who stays every now and again).

For further information please contact the relevant House.

Kimbolton House (Boys): Mr Garland  
jrkg@kimbolton.cambs.sch.uk 01480 862253

White House (Girls): Mrs Stokes  
cas@kimbolton.cambs.sch.uk 01480 862259



## Views from recent students who joined the school in the Lower Sixth

- ~ Without Kimbolton I wouldn't be where I am today, the help and support I received gave me the confidence and determination to succeed and reach my full potential.
- ~ I have seen places that I never dreamt I would see...The American Exchange was an incredible experience: visiting New York, making some amazing friends, unforgettable experiences, learning about a new culture - I would recommend the American Exchange to any new-comer, at first it seems daunting but it brings you closer to all your school friends and it is something you will remember for the rest of your life.
- ~ Another amazing experience was the trip to Russia, as a historian, the sights I saw and the things I learnt helped with my A level, and as a whole the trip was another unforgettable opportunity; an interesting and exciting insight into Russian culture (and freezing weather conditions) and amazing memories with some of my best friends that will stay with me forever.
- ~ Kimbolton has helped me achieve A level results that I am proud of, I never dreamt I was capable of such grades before coming to Kimbolton...but for me it's not all about the results, Kimbolton has encouraged, supported and guided me to become the person I am today.

When I look back at my time in Kimbolton I know there was nowhere else I would have rather been, every aspect of my school career...education, social, sports, extra-curricular activities etc has developed me into who I am. I would recommend Kimbolton to anyone, it has been an amazing experience, I have learnt so much and I have some of the happiest memories that will always stay with me. It's been the best two years of my life, and now as I move on to new chapter of my life I will always say that I am proud to be from Kimbolton.

Jodie Hughes

My time at Kimbolton has been about much more than giving me the necessary qualifications to ensure I am prepared for the next chapter in my life. It has been about extending my education beyond a classroom by making the most of the opportunities that Kimbolton had to offer.



In the two years that I have attended Kimbolton I have broadened my historical knowledge of Russia with a visit in my Lower Sixth year and I was also lucky enough to take part in the American Exchange programme. The American Exchange not only enabled me to develop strong relationships with those across the globe, but it also assisted me with my study of American politics in the Upper Sixth.

Being new to the Sixth Form was quite a daunting prospect, however, my worries were soon put aside due to the welcoming nature of the school and the phone call I received in the weeks running up to arrival from my form tutor to check I had everything I needed and answer any queries.

I have loved every second I have spent at Kimbolton: the opportunities it has offered me and the family-orientated atmosphere makes the school what it is. When joining in 2011, I would have never have believed that I would be moving to Leeds University next week to study Politics, but Kimbolton has enabled me to do this with confidence and has set me up perfectly for the next chapter in my life.

Ellie Rose Fletcher

Kimbolton has offered me opportunities that I would never have experienced otherwise; a positive approach to learning and a brilliant set of staff who are so supportive of all their students. It's a really good community with an almost family-like atmosphere. Kimbolton stretches all their students to achieve their best.

Taylor Sutton

Awarding Body: AQA  
Course Title and Code  
Fine Art 2201B

AS/A2 Codes  
AS 1202B / A2 2202B

AS  
Unit 1 ARTB1  
Coursework Portfolio

Unit 2 ARTB2  
Externally Set  
Assignment

A2  
Unit 3 ARTB3  
Personal Investigation  
supported by 3000 word  
written element

Unit 4 ARTB4  
Externally Set  
Assignment



The AS Fine Art course is based around breadth of study and the development of skills. We aim to develop a student's intellectual, imaginative, creative and intuitive powers, practical skills, aesthetic understanding and critical judgement. The A2 Fine Art course aims to develop an understanding and appreciation of the individual's creative thoughts and skills, as well as an interaction with art and artists, through visits, tutorials and workshops.

Art students will usually be taught by 1 member of staff who will introduce them to at least two artistic disciplines, such as painting, printmaking or sculpture. Painting and drawing are taught with the emphasis on observational skills, with reference to markmaking through print making and life drawing sessions.

There is one coursework project to be completed during each year and these are based around central themes such as: 'Place and Space' or 'Image and Identity' - and students are encouraged to develop them in their own way.

It is essential that students become personally involved in the subject and further their interests by reading art reviews and independently visiting art galleries. We try to encourage this by organising visits to London exhibitions, trips to important cultural centres in Europe and an annual residential trip to Burwell House. It is a long weekend of practical art sessions and as it takes place in late September, it helps to kick start all of the A level projects.

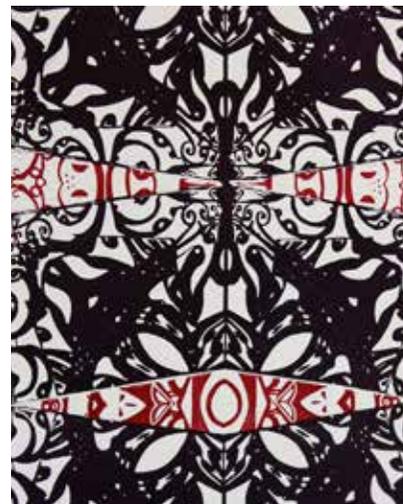
For many years there has been a steady stream of Kimbolton students pursuing careers in the visual arts, usually fine art, graphics or architecture. Places are regularly won at prestigious institutions. Moreover the results at A level are very strong, with 60% A\* over the last two years.

Further information

01480 862273

ldb@kimbolton.  
cambs.sch.uk

www.kimbolton.cambs.  
sch.uk





Awarding Body: OCR  
 Course Title and Code  
 Art & Design: Critical &  
 Contextual Studies  
 H566  
 AS/A2 Codes  
 AS F416/26 A2 F436/46

AS  
 Unit 1  
 Coursework Portfolio

Unit 2  
 Controlled Assignment

A2  
 Unit 3  
 Personal Investigation

Unit 4  
 Controlled Assignment

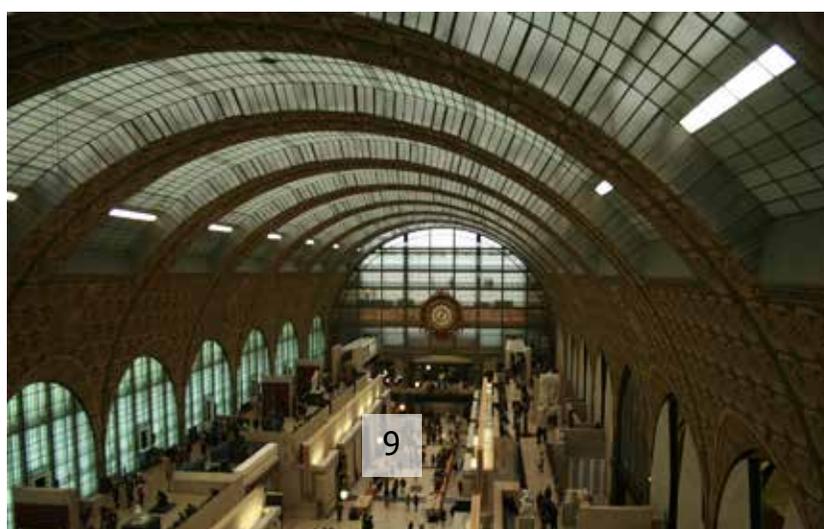
Most students' experience of critical art analysis up to the Sixth Form will have been through their practical experience of studying Art and being required to refer to the work of other artists to support their own ideas. Indeed, the subject matter for Critical and Contextual studies, as we study it in the Sixth Form, can be almost anything that has been produced, designed or created by the human hand and can be experienced by the eye. This can include subjects as diverse as: painting, sculpture, architecture, the design of cars, the history of fashion and furniture design, to name but a few.

The course is 50% coursework in the form of written and illustrated or practical projects. There is also an exam, prepared for over a period of 10 weeks and executed in a 5 hour exam. Questions are set by the board and range from 'How did Primitive Art affect the work of Henry Moore?' to 'Design a centre piece for the foyer of an art gallery'.

Students can choose to study from a variety of subjects for their coursework project. The most essential skill that is developed is the ability to analyse artwork. This entails asking questions, such as: Who produced it? How was it made? Why does it look the way it does? Students will be using Art History knowledge to put artists and their work in to context, as well as analysing the concepts behind the art pieces. It is a fascinating, broad and complex subject.

Critical and Contextual Studies is an academic subject and it does not require any practical art skills - although they can be a useful addition to approaches of analysis; increasingly students are studying the subject with no artistic background. The diversity of the course content can be relevant to students studying virtually any other subject, but is particularly appropriate to English, History and foreign languages.

Students are expected to read widely around the subject and independently visit art galleries. We hope to encourage this by organising visits to current exhibitions and trips to important artistic centres in Europe.



Further information

01480 862273

ldb@kimbolton.  
 cambs.sch.uk

www.kimbolton.cambs.  
 sch.uk

Awarding Body: AQA  
Course Title and Code:  
Biology 1411

### AS

Unit 1: Biology and Disease.

33.3% of total AS marks

Unit 2: The variety of living organisms.

46.7% of total AS marks

Unit 3: EMPA –  
Externally Assessed  
Practical Assessment  
20% of AS marks

### A2

Unit 4: Populations and Environment.

16.7% of total A level marks

Unit 5: Control in cells and organisms.  
23.3% of total A level marks

Unit 6: EMPA – externally assessed practical assessment.  
10% of total A level marks

The study of life is exciting and ever expanding; the AQA specification which we follow covers the whole gamut from molecular biology, with practical work involving DNA and green fluorescent bacteria, through biochemistry and physiology, to the environment level of study, where we make use of the school grounds and visit the coast. The AS specification places the study of Biology in the context of disease to begin with, examining lifestyle related disease and that caused by micro-organisms, notably Cholera. There is an emphasis on practical work, with a short field trip in the summer term to investigate the ecology of sand dune ecosystems.



Class sizes are small (rarely more than 10) and lessons often follow a 'seminar' approach and we include ICT in student-centred research tasks and presentations. Kimbolton biologists have an enviable record of success at A level with the majority in recent years having achieved A grades. Our students have also been successful in the Biology Olympiad, organised by the Society of Biology, and have achieved success in competitions organised by Showcase Science and the University of Cambridge among others.

As a Sixth Form course, Biology obviously fits in well with Chemistry, Maths, Physics, Physical Education and Geography. It also complements History for any would-be archaeologists and is an excellent and accessible AS course for those whose interests are more Arts based. We do recommend that prospective A level students should, however, have a least a B grade in their Science GCSEs and Mathematics. Kimbolton biologists regularly go on to medical schools and Oxford and Cambridge universities to study Biology-related courses.

A level Biology is interesting, exciting, constantly changing and always challenging!

Further information

01480 862239

ajab@kimbolton.  
cambs.sch.uk

www.kimbolton.cambs.  
sch.uk



If you are ever going to work in a company, invest or manage others then Business Studies will prove extremely useful. It involves forming and justifying opinions on strategies and future trends, so prepares you for management positions in organisations.

At Kimbolton the subject is taught using real examples of current businesses, role play and discussion of topical issues appearing in the news. A weekly news sheet looks at current issues and stories from the sublimely powerful like Apple, to the ridiculous, like sheep-poo-paper. Businesses range from fashion to football, chocolate to cars, guitars to groceries so current lifestyles and trends are examined through the course. There are visits to real businesses to see principles in operation first hand.

Successes and failures are analysed so that you can avoid mistakes and get a step ahead of others.

Practically in Business Studies you will learn how to:

- Generate business ideas, set up and run your own business.
- Understand the psychology behind motivating and managing others.
- Construct a convincing business plan.
- Manage your career, devise and defend strategies to run your business.

There is also the opportunity to participate in Young Enterprise to practise these skills, earn a little income and reinforce the key business concepts.

Academically Business Studies considers issues such as:

- Do world forces such as Chinese competitiveness threaten UK jobs?
- Does the Internet threaten the survival of the high street?
- Have some firms become too powerful? E.g. NewsCorp
- Can UK firms be a force for good, ethically and environmentally?

Business Studies gives insight to a myriad of careers while examining the world.



Awarding Body: AQA  
Course Title and Code  
Business Studies 2130

AS/A2 codes  
AS 1131 / A2 2131

AS

Unit 1 BUSS1  
Financing and Planning  
a Business

Unit 2 BUSS2  
Managing a Business

A2

Unit 3 BUSS3  
Strategies for Success

Unit 4 BUSS4  
The Business  
Environment and  
Managing Change

Further information

01480 862219

jrs@kimbolton.  
cambs.sch.uk

www.kimbolton.cambs.  
sch.uk

Awarding Body: AQA  
Course Title and Code  
Chemistry 2420

AS/A2 Codes  
AS 1421 / A2 2421

#### AS

Unit 1 – CHEM1  
Foundation Chemistry

Unit 2 – CHEM2  
Chemistry In Action

Unit 3 –  
Internal Assessment  
Investigative and practical  
skills in AS

Chemistry – CHM3X,  
Externally Marked Route X

#### A2

Unit 4 – CHEM4 Kinetics,  
Equilibria and Organic  
Chemistry

Unit 5 – CHEM5 Energetics,  
Redox and Inorganic  
Chemistry

Unit 6 – Internal  
Assessment Investigative  
and practical skills in A2

A2 Chemistry – CHM6X,  
Externally Marked Route X

A level Chemistry is a challenging but immensely enjoyable subject that develops the basic theories laid down in the GCSE course and explains them in more detail. It is essential for entry into several University courses including the Chemical Sciences, Medicine, Dentistry, Veterinary Science and related sciences such as Pharmacy. Even for those not considering a career path in these areas Chemistry, as a discipline in its own right, is respected by many employers because it requires dedication and logical thought processing - qualities attractive to any employer.



The lessons in both the Lower Sixth and Upper Sixth years will comprise experimental work, question and answer sessions and note taking, leading to the development and extension of basic chemical theories. These theories will then be used to explain other observed phenomena.

Experimental work is an integral part of the course. It will be used to develop specific practical skills such as planning, observing, analysing and drawing conclusions. Practical work will be used to introduce new ideas

or to enforce the key points being covered at that point in the course and to enhance the learning process.

The material covered in the Lower Sixth year is mainly qualitative in nature and linked to the material covered in the GCSE courses. Many of the topics will be familiar, but in each case the theories and knowledge are taken to a higher level, helping to explain some of the loose ends left from the GCSE courses. The fascinating and hugely important area of Organic Chemistry is investigated in more detail.

In the Upper Sixth year the course takes on a more quantitative approach. The mathematical nature of the subject is explored in more detail in topics such as Chemical Equilibria and Reaction Kinetics. The study of Organic Chemistry continues and leads to students being able to analyse synthetic problems typical of today's pharmaceutical industry. For those who wish to study Chemistry at university this is an introduction to the fascinating world of drug design and manufacture.

The course consists of three exams for AS and three for A2. Two papers are taken at the end of each year; the third, practical, unit is sat internally towards the beginning of the summer term but is marked externally.

Candidates wishing to take the course should gain a high grade in GCSE Chemistry or Science and ideally this should be supported by a comparable grade in Maths.

Further information

01480 862249

ecd@kimbolton.  
cambs.sch.uk

www.kimbolton.cambs.  
sch.uk



3D Product Design is about developing practical solutions to everyday problems. To study it will enhance your creative skills as well as sharpen your understanding of how technological advances influence the design of products. You will have the opportunity to gain a greater understanding of the commercial world of designing and making, of the options and opportunities that are open to designers and of the difficult choices they are faced with. Computer Aided Design (CAD) and Computer Aided Manufacture (CAM) will form an increasingly important part of your work in the Sixth Form. CAD will offer you the opportunity to try out ideas quickly and realistically on screen. CAM has the facility to produce work to a high standard of repeatable accuracy, enabling you to make high quality objects.

Skills such as creativity, freehand drawing and practical techniques remain a core feature of the subject alongside CAD and CAM. The Lower Sixth follow a programme of stimulating design and make assignments while the Upper Sixth design and make a single product of their choice, with the focus towards a prototype that could be developed into a commercially viable product; they are also responsible for the planning, management and manufacture of a group project. Students will have the opportunity to gain new skills, to improve existing ones gained from earlier study in Resistant Materials or Graphic Products and move towards designing and making in a real life context. If you enjoy the challenges of managing motivating coursework over a period of time, then Product Design will offer the freedom to work to your strengths and interests.

This subject has a natural progression into degree courses such as Industrial Design, Product Design, Automotive Design, Graphic Design, Engineering, Architecture, Manufacturing and Construction. The creative thinking, problem-solving skills and project management skills developed in D&T are widely valued in a variety of other degree courses.

To take this course it is expected and advisable that you will have studied a D&T GCSE subject and gained at least a grade B. The desire to be creative and innovative, and to think beyond the obvious, whilst displaying plenty of initiative and self-motivation are also key qualities for success in Product Design.

Awarding Body: AQA  
 Course Title and Code  
 Design Technology,  
 Product Design 3D

AS/A2 Codes  
 AS 1551 / A2 2551

Product Design  
 AS  
 Unit 1 PROD1  
 Materials, Components  
 and Application

Unit 2 PROD2  
 Learning through  
 Designing and Making

A2  
 Unit3 PROD3  
 Design and Manufacture

Unit 4 PROD4  
 Design and Making  
 Practice



Further information

01480 862235

ks@kimbolton.  
 cambs.sch.uk

www.kimbolton.cambs.  
 sch.uk

Awarding Body: Edexcel  
 Course Title and Code  
 Drama & Theatre Studies

AS/A2 Codes  
 8DR01 / 9DR01

AS

Unit 1 6DR01  
 Exploration of Drama &  
 Theatre

Unit 2 6DR02  
 Theatre Text in  
 Performance

A2

Unit 3 6DR03  
 Exploration of Dramatic  
 Performance

Unit 4 6DR04  
 Theatre Text in Context



Drama and Theatre Studies is an A Level which enables us to explore human nature, society and the world that exists around us. It is a subject designed for students with a genuine interest in Theatre as an art form. Students will need to be reliable, and hardworking and prepared to commit themselves to rehearsals, which can take place outside lesson time. To have had some acting experience is helpful, alongside a good grade in GCSE English Literature and/or GCSE Drama. Theatre Studies is very much a team effort and each group of students becomes a company of actors who rely on each other, so you'll need to be energetic and creative, co-operative and flexible.

In the first term we explore two plays, practically and academically, trying out new genres, techniques and skills and investigating different practitioners. Our aim is to delve into the ways in which you can present texts. Throughout this process you will complete written coursework based on your practical work. In addition to this you will go to see live theatre and your second piece of coursework evaluates one of these performances.

The central focus of activity after Christmas is the main Performance module, in which you will perform a play and a monologue or duologue. You and your teacher become a theatre company, looking at different interpretations and finding new ways of presenting ideas and the texts that are thought-provoking and engaging. The end result is assessed by a visiting examiner.

In the second year of the course, you take further responsibility for your own progress. In small groups you will devise your own piece of theatre for a specific audience. It is an exciting development as the theatre becomes whatever you want it to be. You are assessed on your contributions to the process of creation and on your performance in the devised play. Part of the assessment for this unit will be based on your written analysis of the devising process and the performance.

Finally, there's the written exam. For this, you'll study one play script from the perspective of a director and you'll write about one play you've seen, evaluating the ways in which director, designers and performers have interpreted it, and relating this experience to the play's original, historical performance conditions.

The qualities you'll develop – presentational skills, team-work, leadership, personal confidence, artistic judgement – will be invaluable in many walks of life, and although it will appeal to those who have a theatre or media career in mind, it is not necessarily a preparation for professional drama training.

Further information

01480 862208

sech@kimbolton.  
 cambs.sch.uk

www.kimbolton.cambs.  
 sch.uk



Economists examine why people behave as they do and how to influence individual's actions to make the world a better place. This can justify e.g. high petrol taxes and age limits on alcohol consumption. Economists also examine financial issues affecting the nation such as the cost of living and ways to generate growth of national income. World issues are also considered such as global warming and the obesity epidemic and proposed solutions. Maximising the standard of living involves consideration of both income and non-material aspects such as leisure time, health, crime and the environment. Economics will help explain key world events such as the Greek debt crisis, famines and reasons for spikes in oil prices.

Economics involves the study of:

- How prices are set (e.g. wages, housing).
- Why some markets fail (e.g. you can't get pregnancy insurance).
- How some nations have become richer than others.
- How global shocks spread to different economies.
- How Government policies such as interest rates are set and how they affect unemployment, inflation etc.
- The current economic climate (e.g. How long will austerity measures be needed?)

Economics at Kimbolton includes:

- Discussion of current affairs (e.g. Will the Euro break up?)
- Use of puzzles to engage and develop logical thinking (e.g. Why is a child as likely to pick a good share as an expert?)
- Trips to key institutions (e.g. Bank of England & Lloyds of London)

The study of Economics will require students to be aware of current issues our nation faces, to be able to express an opinion and justify it with a logical argument. For A level Economics it is not necessary to be strong at Mathematics although the ability to spot patterns is helpful. Economics is a highly respected academic A level and sheds a fascinating beacon of light on the way society is organised and individuals behave.

Awarding body: AQA  
Course Title and Code  
Economics 2140

AS/A2 codes  
AS 1141 / A2 2141

AS

Unit 1 ECON1  
Markets and market failure

Unit 2 ECON2  
The national economy

A2

Unit 3 ECON3  
Business Economics and the Distribution of income

Unit 4 ECON4  
The National and International Economy



Further information

01480 862219

jrs@kimbolton.  
camb.sch.uk

www.kimbolton.camb.sch.uk

Awarding Body: AQA  
 Course Title and codes  
 English Literature A2740  
 AS/A2 Codes: 1741/2741

AS  
 Unit 1 LITA1  
 Texts in Context  
 Victorian Literature

Unit 2 LITA2  
 Creative Study  
 prose and drama texts.  
 2000-2500 words in total

A2  
 Unit 3 LITA3  
 Reading for Meaning,  
 Love Through the Ages

Unit 4 LITA4  
 Extended Essay and  
 Shakespeare Study

Awarding Body: AQA  
 Course Title and codes  
 English Language &  
 Literature B 2725

AS/A2 Codes: 1726/2726

AS  
 Unit 1 ELLB1F  
 Introduction to Language  
 & Literature study.

Unit 2 ELLB2  
 Themes in Language &  
 Literature

A2  
 Unit 3 ELLB3  
 Talk in Life and Literature

Unit 4 ELLB4  
 Text transformation

Further information

01480 862217

skp@kimbolton.  
 cambs.sch.uk

www.kimbolton.cambs.  
 sch.uk

### Why Study English?

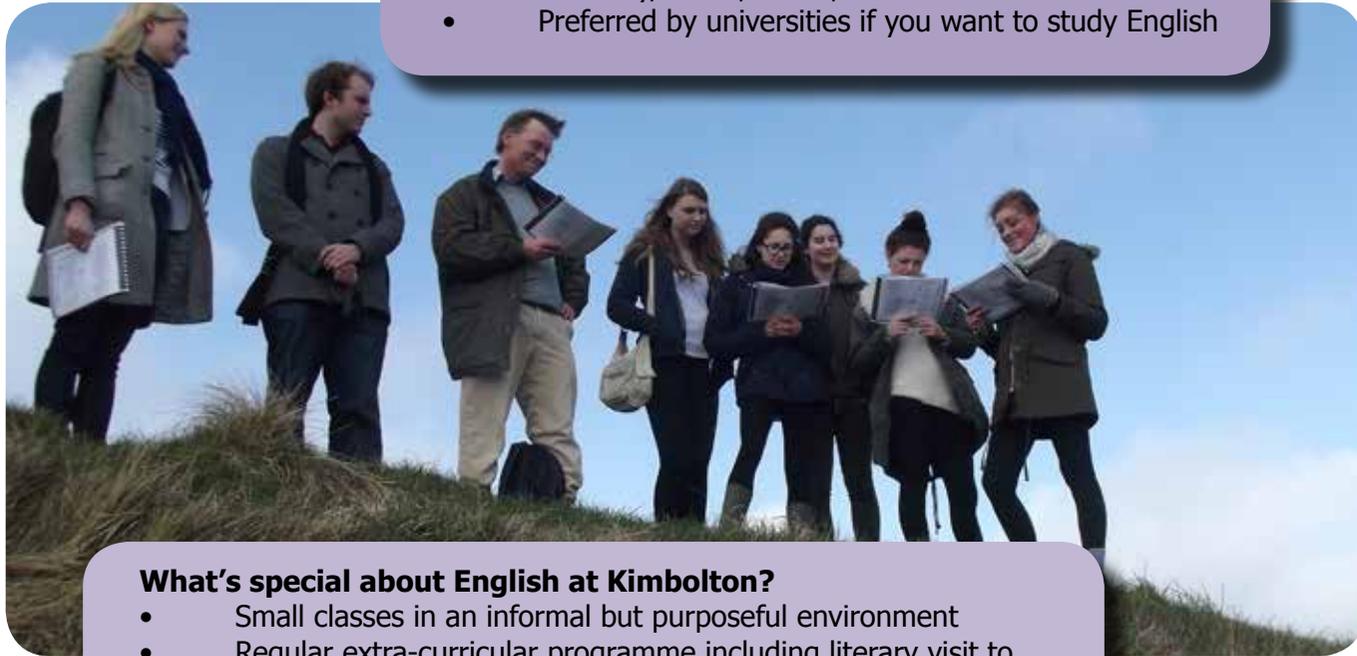
- Because you enjoy the subject
- Because you are good at it
- Because you love reading
- Because it fits in well with your other subjects
- Because you enjoy discussion

### English Language and Literature

- Varied texts studied including speeches, newspapers, magazines as well as literary texts
- Creative work
- Coursework in both years
- Some grammar and linguistic analysis involved
- Liked by universities but they are not so keen if you want to study English

### English Literature

- Entirely based on literary texts
- Shakespeare in Upper Sixth
- Coursework in both years
- A creative element
- Wide breadth of literature including major figures such as Hardy, Wilde, Owen, Wordsworth etc
- Preferred by universities if you want to study English



### What's special about English at Kimbolton?

- Small classes in an informal but purposeful environment
- Regular extra-curricular programme including literary visit to Hardy country and other literary visits
- Excellent results; 75% A/B average over past five years, some students with full marks at AS and A2 in the last two years
- Flexible approach to teaching
- Excellent resources

### What do I need?

- Enthusiasm
- Preparedness to listen and discuss
- An open mind
- A willingness to read widely
- Passes in English and English Literature at Grade C or above.



Home Economics A Level is an interesting, up to date and varied academic subject. It involves a large number of transferable and interactive skills such as market research, sensory evaluation, analytical technique and a wealth of other important life skills.

The course aims to encourage candidates to:

- ~ develop and apply knowledge, understanding and skills to meet human need in a broad range of activities.
- ~ develop an awareness of the management of resources to meet an identified human need in a diverse and ever-changing society, including values issues.
- ~ take account of rapid technological changes and the growth of scientific knowledge and understanding.
- ~ critically evaluate evidence to justify informed decisions.
- ~ use information and communications technology (ICT) where appropriate.
- ~ develop innovative, creative and original ideas through active investigations.
- ~ make use of their wider knowledge and understanding.

Past students have enjoyed the subject content and have found many of the areas stimulating and thought-provoking. We are lucky enough to have excellent contacts with Waitrose and Hotel Chocolat, to assist in the teaching of product development and current developments in the food industry. We have also been lucky enough to get previous students work experience at the Huntingdon site of Hotel Chocolat.

The subject has a good cross-curricular bias and blends well with a number of other A Level subjects. The Food and Nutrition side complements both Chemistry and Biology whilst the Sociology/Consumerism relates well to Business Studies, Geography and History.

As with any other A Level subject, Home Economics can open the door to a vast number of Degree Courses. It should be borne in mind that the Food Industry, Hospitality Industry and Hotel Management are all the fastest growing job providers in the UK. The specification, therefore, provides a suitable foundation for the study of academic or vocational courses in higher education, including careers in Food Technology, Nutritional Science, Sports Science and Diet, Consumer Protection, and Food Retail and Manufacture. Home Economics does not have to be limited to the Food Industry since students have gone on to study Journalism, Sociology, Microbiology, Biochemistry, Dietetics and Advertising – all of which lead on to interesting careers at home and abroad.

Awarding Body: OCR  
 Course Title and Codes  
 GCE Home Economics  
 (Food, Nutrition and  
 Health) H111

AS  
 Unit 1 G001:  
 Society and Health

Unit 2 G002:  
 Resource Management

A2  
 Unit 3 G003:  
 Investigative Study

Unit 4 G004:  
 Nutrition and Food  
 Production



Further information

01480 862243

ceb@kimbolton.  
 cambs.sch.uk

www.kimbolton.cambs.  
 sch.uk

Awarding Body: OCR  
Course Title and Codes  
French  
AS H075 / A2 H475

#### AS

Unit 1 F701  
Speaking

Unit 2 F702  
Listening, Reading and  
Writing 1

#### A2

Unit 3 F703  
Speaking

Unit 4 F704  
Listening, Reading and  
Writing 2 (Essay)

At Kimbolton School, there has not been a more exciting time in recent years to study a foreign language.

We aim to enthuse the students studying French and ensure that they excel in terms of examination results, but enjoy the rigorous, yet fulfilling linguistic and cultural experience. The French Department is delighted by its examination success (89% A\*/A/ B over the last three years), as well as the growing numbers of students who opt to read the subject at university.

Furthermore, students opting for French have the opportunity of staying in Paris as part of a cultural experience (visits include art galleries, Assemblée Nationale, Matignon) as well as participating in a regular Joutes Oratoires (debating) forum. There is also the opportunity of extra study for those applying to read French at Oxford or Cambridge.

How many of our top government, industry, commercial or legal leaders can conduct an interview in a foreign tongue? The French Department is proud of the linguistic competency of its AS and A2 students. There is a very strong emphasis on sound grammatical principles, weekly one-to-one Speaking classes with a French assistant(e), and regular exposure to French current affairs through newspapers, television, or radio, thanks to the presence of new technology and Apps that facilitate learning and create a more Gallic ambiance. Students are expected to listen to and read French outside of the classroom. In addition, speaking and writing skills are honed to ensure authenticity and accuracy.

At AS level, current topics include Media, Education, Transport, and Immigration, Environment, or Politics (at A2 level). Lessons are conducted in French and students are encouraged to work in groups or autonomously, in order to develop sound research skills. Presentations are also delivered, particularly in preparation for the Speaking examination Special Topic (for example, Reforms in the Hollande government, Unemployment in France, or Nuclear Energy). At the end of the Lower Sixth year, there is a special study on the France Algeria crisis of the 1950s and 1960s.

In conclusion, students leave the course fluent, stimulated, and zealous to continue their language studies or employ French in a work environment. 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, a business-related degree, indeed myriad other specialisms.



Further information

01480 862214

rek@kimbolton.  
cambs.sch.uk

www.kimbolton.cambs.  
sch.uk



Geography is a flexible subject that may be classified as an Art, a Science or as a Social Science so it combines and compliments many other AS subjects. It is a popular Sixth Form option and provides a broad academic base for many university courses and careers. Geography graduates have entered a variety of professions as diverse as forest management, weather reporting, overseas aid work, journalism, publishing, law, teaching and banking.

The AQA AS Geography course provides a balance between both Physical and Human Geography taught by four specialist teachers. A wide variety of topics are covered including: population, energy, rivers, plate tectonics, urban studies, globalisation climatology and glaciation. There is no coursework requirement for AS or A2 Geography although students are expected to attend fieldwork days and have the opportunity to attend a residential course in October to Iceland.

The majority of students decide to continue their Sixth Form Geography by completing the A2 course in the Upper Sixth. Topics taught in this final year include: plate tectonics, hazards, global climates, multi-national companies, development and the European Union. Students are expected to develop skills such as note taking, essay writing, argument development and fieldwork techniques. Decision making is an important skill for a geographer and students are given a geographical problem to solve for the final examination. This involves looking at a variety of sources and using these to make an informed, supported judgement on a particular issue. Recent examples include: management of tourism in Nepal, responses to a typhoon in Bangladesh and how should a national park be managed? Students are also expected to keep up to date by using the extensive library facilities including the internet, by reading a quality newspaper and by being generally aware of any relevant local, national and global geographical issues.

Awarding Body: AQA  
Course Title and Codes  
Geography 2030  
AS1031 / A2 2031

#### AS

Unit 1  
Human/Physical  
Geography

Unit 2  
Applied Geography

#### A2

Unit 3  
Contemporary  
Geographical Issues

Unit 4  
Geography Fieldwork



Further information

01480 862243

sw@kimbolton.  
cambs.sch.uk

www.kimbolton.cambs.  
sch.uk

Awarding Body: AQA  
 Course Title and Codes  
 History 2040  
 AS/A2 Codes  
 AS 1041 / A2 2041

### History 'A' AS

Unit 1 HIS1G  
 Britain, 1815-1865

Unit 2 HIS2G  
 The Forging of the Italian  
 Nation, 1848-1871

#### A2

Unit 3 HIS3G  
 British State and People,  
 1865-1914

Unit 4 HIS4X  
 Historical Enquiry  
 Personal Study based on  
 Russia 1855-1956

### History 'B' AS

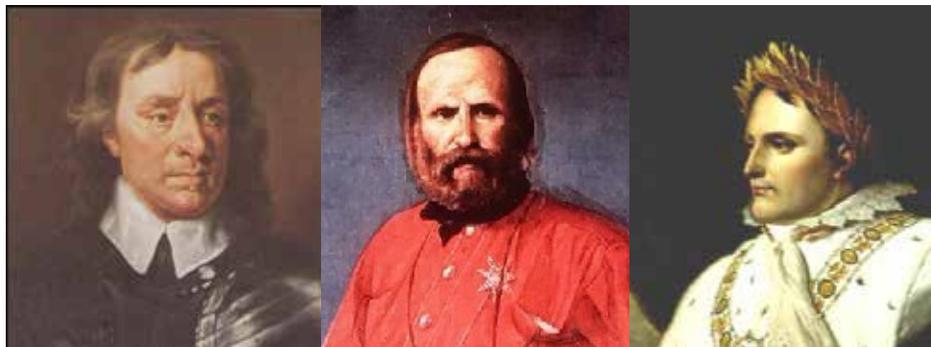
Unit 1 HIS1F  
 France in Revolution,  
 1774-1815

Unit 2 HIS2D  
 Britain, 1625-1642: The  
 Failure of Absolutism?

#### A2

Unit 3 HIS3D  
 British Monarchy: The  
 Crisis of State,  
 1642-1689

Unit 4 HIS4X  
 Historical Enquiry  
 Personal Study based on  
 France 1815-1915



At Kimbolton, we aim to create a lively and stimulating environment for the study of A Level History. The focus is on the interchange of ideas and debate, creating a classroom atmosphere that is both enjoyable and academically rigorous. We are proud of our record of exam success and of how many of our students choose to continue their history studies at university level. The castle buildings offer a wonderful backdrop to the study of the subject and the cut and thrust of the classroom is complemented by visits to Russia and workshops at the National Archives. There is also a thriving History Society with regular speakers from leading academics.. The Department also runs extra classes for high achievers. History students at Kimbolton enjoy their lessons and achieve excellent examination results. In 2013, 51.7% of candidates gained grade A\*/A at A2 and 79.3% A\*/ B. We aim to use the past to build a successful future.

As the department is a very popular choice at A level, we are able to offer a range of period options. On the British side of the course, students can study the seventeenth century, focusing on the civil war era or the development of British democracy in the nineteenth century. On the European side, there is a choice between Italian and Russian history since 1848 and Europe from 1789, particularly focusing on the impact of the French Revolution. All students complete a Personal Study in the UVI. This is a major opportunity for independent research in preparation for higher education. Each student investigates an historical theme of their own choosing leading to a dissertation style essay of 3500 words.

History combines well across the academic spectrum to create an attractive portfolio of qualifications. Combined with English and a Modern Foreign Language it would provide a good basis for an arts or languages-based degree. Many students study History with Economics and Politics as it helps to put these subjects into their historical context.



Further information

01480 862264

ajb@kimbolton.  
 cambs.sch.uk

www.kimbolton.cambs.  
 sch.uk



Mathematics is an increasingly popular option at Kimbolton, with almost half of our Sixth Form taking it for AS, the majority of whom continue through to A2 . The course builds on (I)GCSE by developing the pupils’ algebraic and problem-solving skills. It requires both natural ability and a willingness to learn and practise new concepts and techniques. The course also branches out to cover Mechanics and Statistics. These elements of the course support many other subjects such as Physics, Economics and Geography.

**Teaching and learning**

Pupils are prepared for three modules over the course of the year to make up the AS; two Pure Mathematics options (Core 1 and Core 2) and an Applied module which is usually Statistics in the Lower Sixth (and Mechanics in the Upper). Homework is an essential part of the course and individuals are encouraged to take responsibility for their learning at an early stage.

**Support & Encouragement**

Pupils will, at times, inevitably encounter problems. In these cases help is at hand via our Help Desk. There is a teacher on hand every lunchtime to help with any problems and give guidance to help do the weekly homework. Furthermore our Intranet site is full of past papers, notes and exercises to help pupils when they are at home.

**Exam Preparation**

The reality of the exam system in the United Kingdom is that pupils are assessed on their ability to perform in the examination room. In lessons, teachers and pupils work through problems and review challenging concepts. The key element of the department’s success is the close relationships that exist between the pupils and staff so that every member of the group is known and treated as an individual.

Awarding Body: Edexcel  
 Course Title and Codes  
 Mathematics  
 AS/A2 Codes  
 AS 8371 A2 9371

AS  
 Core Maths 1  
 Core Maths 2  
 Statistics 1

A2  
 Core Maths 3  
 Core Maths 4  
 Mechanics 1

Unit	Summary of unit content
Core Maths 1	Algebra and functions; coordinate geometry in the (x,y) plane; sequences and series; differentiation; intergration.
Core Maths 2	Algebra and functions; coordinate geometry in the (x,y) plane; sequences and series; trigonometry; exponentials and logarithms; differentiation; intergration.
Statistics 1	Mathematical models in probability and statistics; representation and summary of data; probability; correlation and regresssion; discrete random variables; discrete distributions; the Normal distribution.
Core Maths 3	Algebra and functions; trigonometry; exponentials and logarithms; differentiation; numerical methods.
Core Maths 4	Algebra and functions; coordinate geometry in the (x,y) plane; sequences and series; differentiation; intergration; vectors.
Mechanics 1	Mathematical models in mechanics; vectors in mechanics; kinematics of a particle moving in a straight line; dynamics of a particle moving in a straight line or plane; statics of a particle; moments.

Further information

01480 862213

asj@kimbolton.  
 cambs.sch.uk

www.kimbolton.cambs.  
 sch.uk

Awarding Body: Edexcel  
 Course Title and Code  
 Further Maths 2230

AS/A2 Codes  
 AS 1202B / A2 2202B

Further Maths comprises of the A level Maths course plus the units below:

Unit 1  
 Further Pure Maths

Unit 2  
 Further Pure Maths

Unit 3  
 Further Pure Maths

Unit 4  
 Mechanics 2

Unit 5  
 Mechanics 3

Unit 6  
 Statistics 2

Some pupils opt for two A levels in Mathematics, the second of which is called Further Mathematics. This is probably the most demanding of the A levels and should only be considered by pupils who 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. Further mathematicians are taught in their own designated small group throughout the course to ensure correct pace and content.

### Step and University Entrance

STEP exams are set by Cambridge University and these will continue in Mathematics for the foreseeable future. They involve a high degree of algebraic manipulation and problem solving techniques. Any candidate who is thinking about applying to Oxford, Cambridge or Warwick to read Mathematics or any related Oxbridge degree that requires an entry paper in Mathematics is advised to discuss the matter with Head of Mathematics at the earliest opportunity. Additional teaching is available for such students.

### Mathematics beyond the classroom

Our Sixth Form pupils are invited to take part in the national UK Mathematics Challenge Senior Challenge. This is a one and a half hour multiple choice exercise that tests logic, spatial awareness and the use of a wide variety of mathematical techniques. The most successful participants are invited back to a further competition, The British Mathematics Olympiad, which is a three hour paper consisting of only six demanding questions. Only the brightest students in the country take this and from those the International team is chosen.

Our Lower Sixth students provide support in the Kimbolton School Masterclasses which the school offers to gifted and talented pupils in local primary schools.

Further information

01480 862213

asj@kimbolton.  
 cambs.sch.uk

www.kimbolton.cambs.  
 sch.uk



Trebuchet Day



Board AQA  
Course Title and Code  
Music 2270

AS/A2 Codes  
AS 1271 / A2 2271

AS

Unit 1 MUSC1  
Influences on Music

Unit 2 MUSC2  
Composing: Creating  
Musical Ideas

Unit 3 MUSC3  
Performing: Interpreting  
Musical Ideas

A2

Unit 4 MUSC4  
Music in Context

Unit 5 MUSC5  
Composing: Developing  
Musical Ideas

Unit 6 MUSC6  
Performing: A Musical  
Performance

Kimbolton is an exciting place to be a musician, particularly for those in the Sixth Form. Regardless of your A Level choices, there are (of course) many opportunities to get involved as an instrumentalist or singer outside the classroom. Please see the 'Music as an Activity' page for more information.

For those who want more, the Music A Level course offers rewarding insights into how music works and the story of its evolution. Well respected by universities for demonstrating academic rigour, organizational skills and social confidence, Music A Level combines well with either Science or Humanities subjects. Set sizes are small, usually between 2 - 8 students, allowing us to tailor the course to your strengths and offering one-on-one support.

Much of our class work 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 also develop your own skills as a composer and learn how to write meaningfully about music. Whilst not overburdened with written work, you should expect to take pride in perfecting your essay-writing technique, as this is ultimately how you will demonstrate your understanding.

Strong performing skills are an essential starting point, as a third of the available marks are for a portfolio of recordings. You should have a minimum of Grade 5 in both theory and on your instrument by the start of the course. We recognize that learning an instrument takes hours of dedicated practice and this is reflected in the amount of written work you are set. You do not have to be studying your instrument in school, though we do have a team of experienced specialist teachers, catering for all disciplines and styles.

Previous A Level Musicians have usually had a high profile within the school and there is a tradition of achieving top grades in the subject. Whilst many go on to study Music at university (five in 2013), others have enjoyed studying Music purely out of intellectual curiosity and for its social dynamic.

As well as the many performing opportunities available at Kimbolton, visitors are often struck by our superb facilities. Our spacious accommodation in the Mews Quad is well resourced and, for many Sixth Form musicians, the Music School acts as a social hub, no doubt helped by its proximity to the Dining Hall!

Further information

01480 862254

scb@kimbolton.  
cambs.sch.uk

www.kimbolton.cambs.  
sch.uk

Awarding Body: AQA  
 Course Title:  
 Physical Education  
 AS/A2 Codes  
 AS 1581 / A2 2581

#### AS

Unit 1 – PHED1  
 Opportunities for and the effects of leading a healthy and active lifestyle.

#### Unit 2 – PHED2

Analysis and evaluation of physical activity as a performer and/or in an adopted role/s.

#### A2

Unit 3 – PHED3  
 Optimising performance and evaluating contemporary issues within sport.

#### Unit 4 – PHED4

Optimising practical performance in a competitive situation.

Do you:

- Enjoy participating in regular forms of physical activity and sporting competition?
- Want to know what it takes to be the very best in a sport on a global scale?
- Want to learn more about the historical, psychological, physiological and biomechanical factors that affect an individual's performance?
- Want to learn how to train effectively for a sport?
- Think you may follow a career path in sport?
- Enjoy watching and analysing sporting performance?

If your answer to the above is YES, then you will find the A Level Physical Education course at Kimbolton School an extremely suitable, satisfying and enjoyable course.

What is excellent about the Physical Education at Kimbolton?

The course is delivered by the PE Department who are both experienced in, and enthusiastic towards the subject. Lessons are varied in their delivery and make the very best use of the resources and facilities available including:

- An outstanding array of Sporting facilities including sports hall, gymnasium, astroturf pitch, extensive and picturesque playing fields, fitness suite and swimming pool.
- Sports-based classroom with ICT access to intranet, PowerPoint delivery of lesson material, informative wall displays and television/DVD support.
- Fully resourced library with detailed information to support a wide variety of pupil requirements within the course.

How do I get the best out of the course at Kimbolton?

- Be prepared to get involved and put the theory into practice.
- Demonstrate enthusiasm and determination.
- Further your sporting talents by participating in the extra-curricular activities available.
- Have a willingness to research aspects of sport in fine detail.
- Have an interest/ability in science (particularly Human Biology).

A final word:

Physical Education offers a balance to the more traditional academic subjects on offer. It enables pupils to follow an interest in sport whilst also pursuing a fully recognised A Level qualification.

Further information

01480 862248

msg@kimbolton.  
 cambs.sch.uk

www.kimbolton.cambs.  
 sch.uk





Awarding Body: Edexcel  
Course title:  
Government & Politics

#### AS

Unit 1: 6GP01 People & Politics

Unit 2: 6GP02 Governing the UK

#### A2

Unit 3: 6GP03/3C Representative Processes in the USA

Unit 4: 6GP04/4C Governing the USA

Aristotle described politics as “the master science” because it was through politics that society’s priorities were ordered. It is a challenging and dynamic subject for Sixth Formers to study at A level as the content can change dramatically; it is this topicality that makes it an exciting and highly relevant course for students to follow. A week is a long time in Politics A level, you might say.

The course at Kimbolton covers the political systems of the United Kingdom and United States of America. Students are encouraged to think independently, critically assessing both the workings of the key political institutions and debating contemporary political issues.

To do this well requires an interest in, and commitment to, reading books, periodicals such as the Economist and broadsheet newspapers, as well as watching quality political and current affairs programmes on television.

To assist students’ understanding, the Department organises visits to conferences, where academics lecture on key topics, and an annual trip to Parliament. For some lucky students, participation in the Kimbolton American exchange allows them to visit Washington DC and to see Congress, the White House and the Supreme Court at first hand.

Politics is a lively subject that has been taught at Kimbolton with great enthusiasm and excellent results for many years. It appeals to an inquiring and critical mind and to someone who wants to do something new and challenging in the Sixth Form.



### AS British Politics The Prime Minister

How powerful is David Cameron?  
Is the PM becoming more like an American President?  
What are the implications of coalition government for the UK political system?

### Parliament

What is the role of an MP?  
Should the House of Lords be elected?



### A2 American Politics The Presidency

How powerful is the modern President?  
How is Barack Obama performing as President?



### Congress

Congress is the most powerful legislature in the world. Why?  
How do Democrats and Republicans control the House and Senate?



Further information

01480 862203

ab@kimbolton.  
cambs.sch.uk

www.kimbolton.cambs.  
sch.uk



## WHY LEARN SPANISH IN THE SIXTH FORM?

Spanish is the world's fourth most spoken language after Mandarin, Hindi and English, and ranks second in terms of native speakers. Presently, about 350 million people speak Spanish as their native tongue in 21 countries on four continents. When combined with the many millions who speak Spanish where it is not an official language, there are some 500 million Spanish speakers worldwide. It is the first foreign language in the USA.

Spanish provides a gateway not only to opportunities for business, travel and friendships, but also to a rich variety of cultures expanding across three continents and many centuries.

Proficiency in Spanish means maximum career prospects and it says a great deal about you to a future employer. It says that you are flexible, adaptable, culturally aware and internationally marketable. Being fluent in Spanish is, therefore, an invaluable asset and can lead directly to careers in the business world, travel, tourism, journalism and the media, diplomatic service and teaching. There is no doubt that you will be more employable.

Spanish is a subject that links well with ALL other AS/A2 Level studies and at University. It can be studied either as the sole focus of the course or in combination with many disciplines, such as French, Business Studies, History, Law, Engineering, etc.

The AS/A2 Spanish course is academically rigorous, but we also aim to develop a real enjoyment and enthusiasm of Spanish language and culture in our students. At AS, students begin by consolidating language learnt previously. The objective of the course is then to develop students' understanding in a wide range of topic areas; some areas are similar to GCSE, but are covered in greater depth and some new. Students consolidate the GCSE grammar and are introduced to the subjunctive.

Material is drawn from a variety of authentic sources including newspapers, magazines, the internet, films, television and books. Linguistically, during the two-year course, students will broaden their vocabulary and build a solid knowledge of grammar so that they can become confident in expressing themselves both verbally and in writing.

We encourage our students to spend some time during the A-level course in Spanish-speaking country. There is an established range of successful and enjoyable trips organised by the Spanish Department. Previous trips include: Barcelona/Cataluña, Cuba, Andalucía, Ecuador and the Galápagos Islands. Students will also be able to attend Spanish plays, shows and conferences.



Awarding Body: OCR  
Course Title and Code:  
Spanish H477

AS  
Unit 1 (F721)  
Speaking

Unit 2 (F722)  
Listening, Reading &  
Writing 1

A2  
Unit 3 (F723)  
Speaking

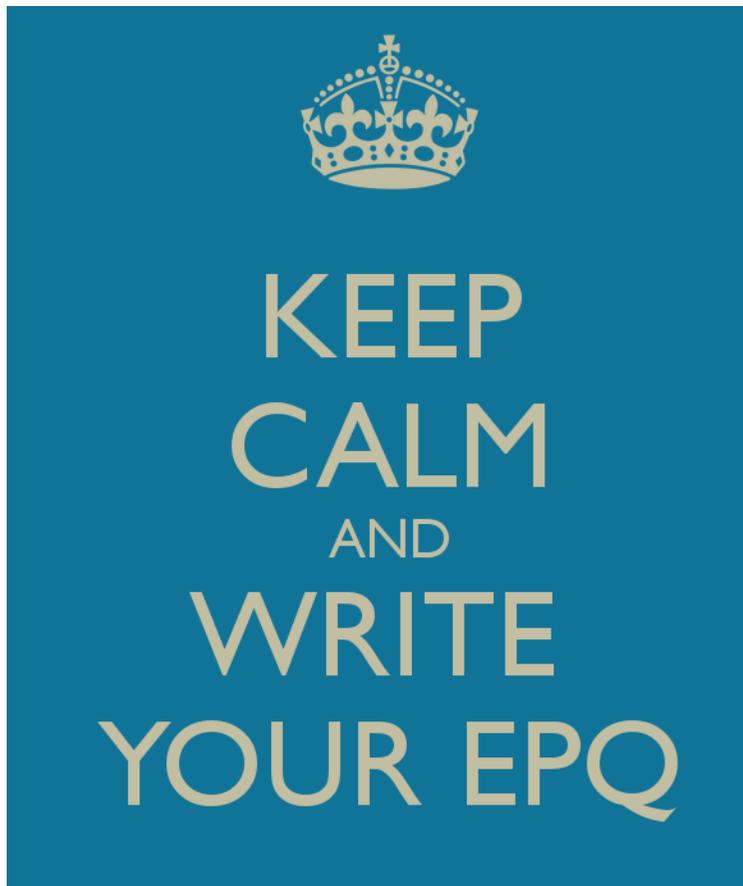
Unit 4 (F724)  
Listening, Reading &  
Writing 2

Further information

01480 862277

jcg@kimbolton.  
cambs.sch.uk

www.kimbolton.cambs.  
sch.uk



The Extended Project Qualification provides an opportunity for students to extend their abilities beyond the A level syllabus, stand out and prepare for university or their future career. It can also be used to earn extra UCAS points. Following discussion with Heads of Department and tutors, this qualification is open to Lower Sixth students on a voluntary basis, starting in the second term of the Lower Sixth Year.

### What is it?

The EPQ allows students to embark on largely self-directed projects, 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:

- The creation of a teaching resource on coastal features for a Year 7 class.
- A short story aimed at a teenage audience on the Holocaust.
- An interview with Jane Austen.

The eventual result is judged just as much on the 'journey' as the outcome – students have to log their research, analysis and evaluation and their 'research diary' forms a high proportion of the overall mark.

### Why is the EPQ such a good thing?

- It is 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).
- It constitutes half an A Level – so an A\* is available.
- It allows students to develop skills of research, independent learning and presentation which may set them up nicely for university courses.

### Further information

- The Presentation Evening will be 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 which they are not studying at A Level.
- The EPQ is viewed positively and as something very different by universities.

01480 862040

jcn@kimbolton.  
cambs.sch.uk

www.kimbolton.cambs.  
sch.uk



## EXTENSION COURSES

The Sixth Form is not just about studying for your AS and A2 exams. It is also a chance to broaden your horizons academically as well as personally. With this in mind, we offer a series of Extension Courses in the Lower Sixth and Upper Sixth. Some of these courses lead to an optional exam at the end of the year if you want to gain a qualification, or they can be taken as a stand-alone extension to your A Level studies. They are a way of broadening and enriching your education, personal development and curriculum vitae. When you enter the Upper Sixth year you can look into the possibility of joining another Extension Course if there are places available.

Extension Courses & Activities are run on Thursday afternoons. These allow you to continue your CCF or CSU activities or to take up an area that broadens your experiences and abilities. These courses are looking to develop interests and abilities in areas outside the normal curriculum and make up an important part of the school's commitment to developing the 'rounded' individual. Running each course does depend in part upon numbers opting so we cannot guarantee that every course will run. There may be other courses added during the year. The following Activities and Extension Courses are planned to be available in 2014 or 2015:

- Combined Cadet Force (CCF)
- Community Service (CSU)
- Debating & Model United Nations
- Digital Media
- Creative Writing
- Duke of Edinburgh
- Cooking for Life
- Ethical Philosophy
- Arts & Film
- Astronomy
- Electronics
- Business Trading
- Psychology
- Classics
- Political Ideas
- Computer Programming
- English as an Additional Language

## DEBATING AND CRITICAL THINKING



The Debating extension course offers students the opportunity to engage in lively and vigorous debate on a variety of topical and philosophical issues, whilst at the same time introducing them to the academic discipline of critical thinking,

Debating has been thriving at Kimbolton School for a number of years, and this course will train students in the key techniques: public speaking; speech writing; constructing logical arguments; rebuttal. Our aim is to provide students with the chance to participate in at least one external competition over the course of the year – including the European Youth Parliament, English Speaking Union competitions and the Model United Nations.

Critical Thinking involves considering issues in a logical manner, assessing arguments and ideas using reasoning

rather than instinct. This course will appeal to students who are seeking an academic challenge and who are interested in current affairs and philosophical ideas. It is hoped that they will gain confidence in expressing their views and the ability to make reasoned judgements that will help them throughout life.

Above: Kimbolton School European Youth Parliament Team at EYP National Finals Sept 2013



## The Combined Cadet Force (Navy, Army and RAF)

Membership of the CCF in the Sixth Form is open to all those pupils who have been in the CCF in the 4th and 5th form and also to L6th formers new to the school who have preferably been members of a cadet force before coming to Kimbolton. The Lower Sixth year is devoted to attaining the advanced awards relevant to the three sections but is also very much slanted towards developing teamwork skills and leadership qualities. These will count towards promotion and be employed when training younger cadets in the Contingent. Cadets of all sections will have the opportunity to attend internal or externally run instructors courses which enable them to become effective teaching NCOs in the U6th form.

One of the extra opportunities offered to the L6th year cadets is participation in the BTEC First, Level 2 in Public Services, a vocational qualification that may reflect well on UCAS forms and, in future years, on further education and job applications. Kimbolton has a fine record of passes, both at Merit level and at Distinction, and is recognised as one of the leading establishments in this field.

There are many opportunities for cadets to attend extra training and camps, be it a nationally organised activity, competitions, or our own senior exercises and adventurous training. The cadet force at Kimbolton is recognised as one of the strongest in the country offering discipline, challenges, fun, advancement and self-development.





## COMMUNITY SERVICE UNIT

The Community Service Unit operates on Thursday afternoons and students participate in a variety of activities helping out in local schools, nurseries, care homes, kennels and nurseries.

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

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 pupils 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.

### 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 out at local kennels, stables and vets
- Running Kimbolton School's recycling scheme
- Assisting with games and music lessons at the Prep Dept
- Working at a local charity shop
- Visiting the elderly
- Gardening
- Office work

## OTHER OPTIONS INCLUDE:

- 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.
- Creative Writing** Involves learning about and enjoying the skills of creative writing. Plenty of practical experience, creativity and the chance to take an AS if you wish.
- Computer Programming** One for wannabe programmers and designers with a course in C++. Technical, challenging and rewarding.
- KiMedia** A course for students who want to make the most of digital media devices and computers, focussing on creativity - digital videos, animations, pictures, etc.
- Cooking for Life** A practical and tasty course in culinary skills and healthy eating and cooking.
- Ethical Philosophy** Is there a world beyond the physical world? Is there any such thing as life after death? Is God a product of the human mind? From Aristotle to Dawkins to challenging traditional views in an informed and thoughtful way.
- Classics** A chance to learn about the culture and history of the Ancient world with a bit of classical language thrown in.
- Psychology** A chance to learn about the social science of psychology - how we think and how we live.
- Political Thought** Learn about and discuss the major ideas in political philosophy - from Anarchism to Fascism; from Marx to Mill.
- Arts & Film** Enjoy the themes, development and variety of film through the ages and genres.
- Business Trading** Trading stocks and shares and how markets work through a game/competition structure.

## SPORTS, MUSIC, ACTIVITIES AND TRIPS

There is a whole host of sporting and other activities to get involved with in the Sixth Form. The major sports are football, hockey, netball, cricket, tennis, rounders, clay (pigeon) shooting, swimming, sailing and canoeing, where matches against other schools are held during the year. The standard of competition is high, with Kimbolton boys and girls going on to represent their county, region and nation in major sports. Other sports available include aerobics, basketball, girls' soccer, badminton, target shooting, gymnastics, dance club and weight training. There is something for everyone and the key message is to get involved with some sporting activity to keep fit and balance the mental stresses and strains of academic work with physical exercise.

In addition to the sports activities and the multiple music groups, choirs and ensembles, there is a whole host of other activities available to get involved with. The following is a selection of what is on offer:

**Young Enterprise; Debating and Model United Nations; Philosophy Society; Drama and Musical productions; History and Geography Societies; Medical Society; Christian Union; Kimboltonian Magazine editing and production; Equestrian Club; Duke of Edinburgh Award; Literary Film Society.**

As well as these regular activities during term time, there are numerous trips for Sixth Form students to enjoy during the holidays. The American Exchange is a unique opportunity for Lower Sixth students to host an American school student and visit the United States in the Easter break to see life in an American High School and tour the sights of New York, Philadelphia and Washington. The History Trip to Moscow and St. Petersburg is a regular and memorable feature of the Sixth Form calendar. The Combined Cadet Force offers camps and exercises, and individual courses aplenty to senior cadets. Spanish trips to exotic locations of Ecuador, Cuba and Mexico are well-established. The English Department literary tour to Edinburgh gives a close up experience of Scottish culture and history. Sports tours, both long and short haul to Holland, Italy or Malaysia or Australia are immensely popular. The World Challenge Expedition to Himalayas is the latest addition to the list. These examples, and the many other opportunities to travel and broaden horizons, have a particular focus on the Sixth Form where leadership, interest and the rewarding experience are most keenly felt.

Altogether, the extra-curricular activities and opportunities on offer for you are impressive. Getting involved in these is a sure way of enjoying and getting the most out of your time in the Sixth Form.



Above Left: 'Back to the 80's'  
Right: Sixth Form Geography trip to Iceland



## MUSIC AT KIMBOLTON

Music plays a central role in our lives. As consumers, we are lucky to have instant access to the world's musical heritage and the British music industry is one of our greatest exports. At Kimbolton, we try to encourage students to become actively involved in making their own music, whatever their interests and aspirations. With a team of twenty-six dedicated musicians on the staff, we offer coaching in almost every instrument and style, helping to build skills that will enrich lives and potentially fuel a desire for a future career in music.

The Music School is a vibrant and bustling corner of the campus. Located behind the new Dining Hall, those new to the school are encouraged to pay us a visit and check out the opportunities displayed on our notice boards. You will find details of our wide range of groups and ensembles catering for all tastes and abilities. Better still, please feel free to pop into the Music Office and introduce yourself. There will undoubtedly be something musical to get your teeth into, even if you have had no prior musical training.

The school year starts with an event that will see every Sixth Former on stage. The Senior House Music Competition includes an inter-house singing evening and you will find yourself fully immersed in making your house song come alive. For the more experienced musicians, there are classes for group and individual performances and you are most warmly invited to take part in this highly enjoyable competition. In the first term you are also invited to audition for our annual show. Recent productions include West Side Story, The King & I, Sweeney Todd, We Will Rock You and Grease, all of which have received tremendously positive reviews from parents, staff and students in the audience. Those involved find themselves part of a close-knit social group and leave with many lasting memories.

Beyond these large whole-school events there is a busy programme of concerts, from huge orchestral and choral evenings to weekly informal lunchtime concerts held in the Castle Saloon. All are welcome to participate, either as a performer or as an interested listener supporting your friends.

Over a third of Kimbolton Students learn an instrument or take singing lessons and it is never too late to become one of them. Regardless, it is my firm belief that absolutely everyone can sing and many find that they can do so much better after a few weeks of coming to choir. No audition is required, just turn up on Fridays after school!

If you have any questions about what we offer please contact the Music School on 01480 862254 or: [music@kimbolton.cambs.sch.uk](mailto:music@kimbolton.cambs.sch.uk). The door to the Music Office is always open.



## GAMES

Kimbolton School Physical Education Department offers an enviable array of sporting, recreational and academic opportunities to all students opting for further study in the Sixth Form. Aspects include:

- An emphasis on major sports including football, hockey & cricket for boys, and netball, hockey and tennis for girls.
- A busy list of competitive fixtures, practices, social events, trips and foreign tours in these major sports, plus opportunities in other areas including swimming, girls rounders, boys tennis, cross country, athletics, gymnastics and dance.
- Recreational options in weekly games lessons including squash, badminton, aerobics, table tennis, softball, volleyball and health-related fitness.
- Regular House competitions in all sporting areas.
- Professional coaching clinics with emphasis on skill development.

All Kimbolton Sixth Form students will gain many personal, social and physical benefits from their participation in the Games offered including:

- Leadership, organisational and team work skills.
- A balance from the academic nature of A Level studies.
- Opportunities to be challenged in areas of strength or weakness.
- Attitudes of fair play and good sportsmanship.
- Recognition for the roles played and services to school sport.
- Improved self-esteem, awareness of abilities, encouragement and enjoyment.

With an outstanding array of sporting facilities to support them, the Kimbolton School PE and Games staff provide expertise, enthusiasm and commitment in every sporting area. Focus is placed largely on the development of the individual, and it is with this in mind that so many students have been able to use the school as a stepping stone to further enjoyment and success.



## OUTDOOR PURSUITS

The Outdoor Pursuits department offers you the opportunity to take part in various watersports during timetabled games afternoons and as extra-curricular activities during weekends and evenings. All activities are offered throughout the ability range from beginner to expert. The sports of Sailing and Marathon Canoeing are both strong areas with teams that compete at high level against other schools and clubs. Activities are open to all pupils and the school is proud to have such an extensive outdoor programme and a wealth of equipment to cater for all interests. The centre is an RYA (Royal Yachting Association) recognised teaching establishment and BCU (British Canoe Union) affiliated with highly qualified and dedicated staff, enabling us to offer qualification courses throughout the ability range.

### Canoeing

This takes place on the River Great Ouse, approximately 15 minutes drive from the school, and on one of the school lakes. We offer tuition in many canoe disciplines from general purpose kayaks and open canoes to long distance racing kayaks. BCU Star courses are offered to 2 Star level with courses running on a regular basis.

The canoe team competes regularly in marathon races around the country, most notably the 125 mile Devizes to Westminster canoe marathon. This takes place over Easter weekend and is a severe test of physical determination and mental strength. Pupils prepare for this by regular training and competing in the Essex Winter Series and the Waterside Series (hosted by Newbury Canoe Club) The canoe team are a well-respected entity within the sport and have had many successes, such as finishing the 2012 Devizes to Westminster as second placed team and with all crews having some fantastic individual performances, most notably first in the Junior Women's category. Entry into the canoe team is open to all, regardless of ability and experience.

### Sailing

The school's extensive range of sailing dinghies is based at Grafham Water, about 10 minutes drive from the school. Grafham Water offers some of the finest inland sailing in the country and is the host water to some of the top sailing fleets. The school offers RYA qualification courses throughout the learning spectrum, courses run at weekends on a regular basis throughout the academic year. Kimbolton proudly boasts a wide range of dinghies to cater for beginners, sailors who wish to improve and more advanced sailors, from Laser Picos for the beginner, Dart 16 Catamarans, Laser 2000s and the Junior Olympic Class Boat the 29er, whatever your ability we have something for you to experience and push to the next level.

The senior pupils have the opportunity to represent the school in the sport of sailing at events around the country and against other schools. The team has had many successes and receives coaching during timetabled games lessons when not competing. Pupils are also encouraged to gain instructor qualifications, once the necessary amount of experience has been gained.



DW Team

## Windsurfing

This takes place at Grafham Water, pupils are taught by the school's own outdoor pursuits instructor. Whether a beginner or advanced, pupils are pushed to improve. The club is a popular choice among pupils due to its relaxed and fun atmosphere. The club operates in the Summer Term on a weekly basis.

## Rowing

Rowing is a popular, extra-curricular, choice at the school and, even in its formative years, is enjoying much success. Kimbolton operates from Huntingdon Boat Club on the River Great Ouse that provides the fantastic setting and facilities for the pupils to train and develop. Pupils are coached by the school's BRA Coach from beginner to elite level. The rowing squad train throughout the year and compete in Regattas and Head of the River races at various locations.

## Powerboating

The School owns and operates 4 power boats as rescue, coaching and tuition craft. Pupils have the opportunity to work towards national levels of competence, from RYA Level One (Basic Handling) to RYA Safety Boat (Rescue Boat Driver), through the RYA courses run by RYA instructors at the school throughout the academic year.



## YOUNG ENTERPRISE

Young Enterprise provides a chance for Lower Sixth students to manage their own small-scale business. Teams appoint directors, issue shares, draw up a business plan, conduct market research, produce a product, organise sales, deal with the press, sign contracts with other businesses, keep accounts, produce an AGM and give presentations to a set of judges.

Kimbolton has a history of success in the competition and have reached the national finals twice. In the last six years a Kimbolton company has won the "Best Company in Cambridgeshire" award 5 times and came runners up the other time. Young Enterprise is unique to school life in allowing students a high degree of autonomy, boosting self confidence and learning valuable lessons. It brings out a wide variety of skills and provides opportunities for teamwork. It can be very rewarding to develop an innovative product and see this on sale in a high street retailer and usually boosts confidence as well as competence.



Teams meet weekly after school from 4.30- 5.45p.m. Application forms are issued at the start of the autumn term for this very popular extra-curricular activity.

## THE KIMBOLTONIAN

Sixth Formers play a key role in the publication of the school magazine. Membership of the editorial team gives students the chance to develop their writing and editing skills, to work as a team and to have a real involvement in the production of the magazine. As well as reporting on all main areas of school life twice a year, The Kimboltonian also includes original features, interviews and creative writing. There are also opportunities to get involved in the design, artwork and photography of the magazine.

If you have an eye for news, have journalistic aspirations or strong writing skills, you are encouraged to join our friendly editorial team!

## THE "PREPARING FOR CITIZENSHIP COURSE"

In the Upper Sixth, you will follow a lecture series that covers a wide range of topics and issues that will help prepare you for university and challenge your thinking. This includes world issues and subjects to broaden your horizons, brought to you by visiting speakers and staff specialists. There are also sessions on personal issues regarding university and careers to help prepare you for life beyond school. It is an exciting and challenging mix to take you through the Autumn and Spring terms of the Upper Sixth.



Visiting Speaker: Lucy Rigby. An Old Kimboltonian and Prospective Labour Party Candidate for Lincoln.



Visiting Speaker: Jonathan Djanogly MP

## CAREERS AND HIGHER EDUCATION GUIDANCE

Preparing to move on from school is a key part of life in the Sixth Form. Your A Level courses help do this with grades and study skills, and the 'Preparing for Citizenship' course in the Upper Sixth covers many issues relevant to life post-Kimbolton. The school is a member of the Independent Schools Careers Organization (ISCO), which offers a chance to experience a wide range of careers through its Experience Courses, known as Expanding Horizons. These are always very popular and a useful addition to any CV. Taster courses or Headstart programmes, often held at universities, cover areas such as Medicine, Veterinary Science, Physiotherapy, Engineering, Law and Forensic Science, and are very popular.

### CAREERS FAIR

We hold the Kimbolton School Careers Fair in April. This event gives students the opportunity to make contact with over 65 different professionals in a wide range of career areas. Many work experience opportunities have opened up as a result of the Fair over the last two years.

Thanks to the enthusiastic support of parents and OKs alike, a wide range of professions and industries are represented including medicine, architecture, law, the media, business, retail, engineering, the armed forces and the environment. There is always plenty of productive chat which inspires many pupils to consider new areas and to conduct further research.

Other events through the year include Careers Forums, at which guest speakers make a presentation and discuss career routes: over the last three years, careers covered have been journalism, accountancy, forensic science, medicine, law and engineering.

### APPLYING TO UNIVERSITY

Almost all students choose to go on to Higher Education, and in March each year an evening explaining the application process is held for Lower Sixth pupils and their parents, with a visiting speaker from a popular university – recent visitors have been from Essex, York and Nottingham. A similar evening is arranged for those wishing to apply to Oxford or Cambridge, with presentations by admissions tutors from both universities. Support is provided throughout the UCAS application process.

Lower Sixth students have two UCAS Preparation days in the post-AS period in June. These consist of a full-day university visit, a trip to the local UCAS Higher Education Convention, guidance sessions on course choice, student finance and writing a Personal Statement, and registration with UCAS for the following term's application. Recent OKs often come in to school to talk about University life.

There is also plenty of advice and information available from the Careers Room and Mrs Bates. The Careers Room is well stocked, up to date and open at all reasonable times. Mock interviews for those that need them, and preparation courses in specialised areas such as medicine and law are also provided.

Mrs Bates, Head of Careers, is always pleased to give guidance, and every Lower Sixth form pupil is allocated a university adviser to guide them through the UCAS process.



Our annual Careers Fair

Recommended resources for students researching University and Higher Education options:

Choosing Your University Course  
(Kimbolton School Booklet, March 2013)

The Times Good University Guide 2014

The Virgin Guide to British Universities 2014

University Degree Course Offers (Brian Heap) 2014

What do Graduates Do? (UCAS, annual)

[www.ucas.ac.uk/coursesearch](http://www.ucas.ac.uk/coursesearch)

[www.prospects.ac.uk](http://www.prospects.ac.uk)

[www.guardian.co.uk/universityguide](http://www.guardian.co.uk/universityguide)

All resources, including prospectuses from all UK universities, are available in the Careers Centre.

Careers advice and guidance are available on:

Choice of subjects for AS and A2

Choice of universities and courses

Completion of UCAS application forms

Sponsorships and financial support

Interview techniques

Guidance on CVs and Personal Statements

Gap year opportunities...and much more

Top ten university destinations of  
Kimbolton students, 2009 – 2013

1. Leeds	23
2. Newcastle	21
3= Nottingham Trent	16
3= York	16
5. Durham	15
6. Bath	13
7. Oxford	12
8= Cambridge	10
8= Birmingham	10
10. Nottingham	9



Further information

01480 862211

[ab@kimbolton.cambs.sch.uk](mailto:ab@kimbolton.cambs.sch.uk)

[www.kimbolton.cambs.sch.uk](http://www.kimbolton.cambs.sch.uk)



## LEAVERS' DESTINATIONS 2012

Kimbolton pupils won places at University as follows:

Aston	Chemical Engineering
Bath	Business Administration
Bath	Chemical Engineering
Bath	Mathematics and Physics
Bath	Natural Sciences
Bath	Natural Sciences
Bath	Politics with International Relations
Birmingham	Chemical Engineering
Birmingham	Computer Science
Birmingham	Maths
Brighton & Sussex	Medicine
Bristol	Economics and Finance
Bristol	Law
Brunel	Sport Science
Cambridge	Chemical Engineering
Cambridge	History
Cambridge	Medicine
Cardiff	Biomedical Science
Cumbria	Primary Education
Durham	Biological Sciences
Durham	Economics
Durham	Geology
Durham	Law
Edge Hill	Geography
Edinburgh Napier	Sports Science
Exeter	English
Exeter	Economics and Politics
Exeter	Exercise and Sports Science
Harper Adams	Agri-business
Hertfordshire	Management
Hertfordshire	Music/Entertainment Management
Hull	History
Hull	Politics and Legislative Studies
King's Coll London	English Lang & Communication
King's Coll London	International Politics
Lancaster	English Lit and Film Studies
Leeds	Art and Design
Leeds	Criminology
Leeds	Design & Technology Management
Leeds	Economics
Leeds	History and Philosophy
Leeds	Medical Engineering
Leeds Met	Business Studies
Leeds Met	Events Management
Leicester	Medicine
Liverpool	Avionic Systems
Liverpool	Sociology

Loughborough	Industrial Design & Technology
Loughborough	Maths
New Coll. Humanities	History and Philosophy
Newcastle	Accountancy and Finance
Newcastle	Business Management
Newcastle	International Business Management
Newcastle	Politics
Northumbria	Business Management
Northumbria	Business with Economics
Northumbria	IT Management
Nottingham	English
Nottingham	International Relations
Nottingham	Mathematical Physics
Nottingham Trent	English with Creative Writing
Nottingham Trent	Graphic Design
Nottingham Trent	Politics and Int. Relations
Nottingham Trent	Sports Science and Management
Oxford	French and Linguistics
Oxford	History
Oxford Brookes	Motorsport Engineering
Queen Mary	Geography
RAC Cirencester	Rural Land Management
Reading	French and International Relations
Reading	Geography
Reading	Real Estate/Urban Planning
Royal Holloway	History
St Andrews	Geography
Salford	Contemporary Military History
Salford	Contemporary Military History
Sheffield	Law and Criminology
Sheffield	Urban Studies and Planning
Sheffield Hallam	Interior Design
Southampton	Computer Science
Southampton	Podiatry
Teesside	Computer Games Design
UEA	Adult Nursing
UEA	Philosophy and Politics
UEA	Society, Culture and Media
York	Electronic Engineering
York	History and Politics
York	Music
York	Politics with International Relations



## Kimbolton School

### From the Deputy Head (Academic) – academic life in the Sixth Form

The Sixth Form is a bridge between school and university. It is important to bear in mind the following when thinking about the Sixth Form. Your studies will follow a new format and you will be treated differently by your teachers and tutors. You will be given more responsibility, more independence and you will have to decide more things for yourself about your subjects, your work, and eventually, where you wish to go when you finish school. The Sixth Form at Kimbolton will help develop your qualifications, your experience and your character as preparation for university and career.

The aims and principles we follow for the Sixth Form are as follows:

We aim:

- to enable Sixth Form pupils to achieve their highest academic potential.
- to encourage and develop good working practice, self-motivation, organisation and achievement.
- to provide a broad and balanced curriculum for pupils
- to provide guidance, support and encouragement for pupils from academic and pastoral staff
- to provide plentiful opportunities for intellectual, academic and personal enrichment

The Sixth Form is a new start and new experience for you whether you join from the Fifth Form or from another school. It is a friendly, sociable and exciting place to study for your A Levels, offering a distinctive sixth form experience combining strong academics with plenty of opportunities to build up your CV, enjoy social events and gain successful entry to your chosen university or career. I hope that you find the following pages useful when considering your options in the Sixth Form. If you have any questions about the academic aspects of the Sixth Form at Kimbolton, then do please contact me via email or telephone.

I look forward to seeing you at the Sixth Form Open evening in November. In the meantime, best of luck in your exams and remember that the harder you work, the luckier you get.

**Christopher Bates**

Further information

01480 862203

cjab@kimbolton.  
cambs.sch.uk

www.kimbolton.cambs.  
sch.uk



## The Option Choice Process

- A full explanation of the Sixth Form curriculum and the options choice process will be given at the '**Entering the Sixth Form' Evening on Monday 18th November 2013.**
- Students in the Fifth Form and applicants for entry from other schools need to give serious thought as to which four subjects will be chosen to study to AS level, and also to which three of these will probably be pursued to A2 level, during the first half of the Spring term.
- Students should take every opportunity to discuss these choices with tutors, parents and subject teachers and Mr Bates, the Deputy Head (Academic). In addition, the University Advisers – Mr Skinner, Mrs Firby, Mr Saunders and Mrs Bates – will be able to give advice on subjects and university courses. Mrs Bates can also be consulted regarding careers.
- The **Fifth Form Parents' & Pupils' Evening on Tuesday 22nd January 2014** provides an opportunity for Kimbolton parents, students and teaching staff to discuss AS level prospects and finalising decisions, in the light of the results of the GCSE mock examinations.
- A provisional decision about the four AS subjects to be chosen must be made by **Friday 14th February 2014.** Students will be asked to indicate their four AS subject choices and Extension Course option.
- After this date subjects will be blocked together for timetable purposes. This will be done in such a way as to accommodate as many requested combinations as possible. However, the school cannot guarantee that all combinations will be available, and it is possible, if extremely rare, that a small number of students will have to settle for their second preference AS subject. With Extension Courses students are asked for a rank order of choices in case some courses become full and second preferences have to be used.
- Any changes to students' subject choices after this date will only be possible if they can be accommodated within the blocked structure, and then only if set sizes allow. After the February deadline, the range of choices available can become less flexible.
- Once they have embarked upon their four AS courses, students should regard each subject as having equal importance throughout that year. They will not need to finally decide upon their three A2 subjects until the second half of the Lower Sixth year. Changes of mind often occur during this time.
- All subjects are offered on the basis that sufficient numbers of pupils will opt to take them. None can be fully guaranteed, although in recent years all options have gone ahead. Students opting for subjects that are withdrawn owing to insufficient uptake will be asked to re-consider their choices.
- If any questions or problems arise, parents should contact the Deputy Head (Academic).

## A Level Options and Course Information

### AS and A2

The GCE Advanced Level qualification has a two-tier structure designed to give breadth to studies in the Lower Sixth and to prepare for final specialisation in three subjects in the Upper Sixth. Each subject is examined and graded on a modular basis in four units for the majority of subjects. The first two units (for most subjects) make up the AS Level and are sat at the end of the Lower Sixth year and make up 50% of the final A Level mark and grade. Students' university applications and references are composed on the basis of these AS results, helping to determine the choice of course and university. The two units of the A2 (for most subjects), carrying the other 50% of marks, are sat in the summer of the Upper Sixth and complete the full A Level. The A2 is higher level work and more challenging academically than AS level. Pupils can re-sit some of their AS units in the summer of the Upper Sixth year in order to maximise their final marks and grades but this needs to be minimised to avoid impacting on the A2 exams.

### Entry to the Sixth Form

Sixth Form academic work is not suited to everyone and there is an entry requirement of 6 GCSE passes at C grade or above with at least 5 graded at B. Some students who don't quite make the entry requirement are asked to enter a probationary period. A small number may be asked to embark on a course of only 3 AS subjects on the basis of their GCSE results.

### Scholarships and Bursaries

Sixth Form Scholarships and Exhibitions are awarded to candidates who achieve excellent results in their GCSE examinations and have the potential to work at the highest academic level within the Sixth Form. Governors' Bursaries may be awarded where there is a financial need that would otherwise prevent a student from entering the Sixth Form. Parents wishing to be considered for Bursary awards should apply to the Bursar by 23rd April 2014.

### Induction

After GCSE exams have been completed and prior to the summer break, all prospective Sixth Form students are invited to the Sixth Form Induction days. This serves to introduce students to their chosen subjects and pave the way for an efficient and smooth start to Sixth Form life in September. It is where the change to Sixth Form life really begins and involves a mix of sample lessons, team sessions and a social event.

### Making it Personal

You have choices to make regarding your A level subjects and it is important that you make the right choices for yourself and your own university and career plans. You are able to choose AS courses, an activity or Extension Course for the L6th and then select your A2 courses, also with an Extension Course. We will work to put together the best mix of courses for you for each year and look at any changes during your sixth form career if it is the right thing to do. Remember though that any changes to courses during the year can have implications on your final results and prospects.



## Sixth Form Course Information

The following subjects are available to choose from:

Fine Art (including a photography option)	French
Art Critical & Contextual Studies	Further Mathematics
Biology	Geography
Business Studies	History
Chemistry	Mathematics
Design & Technology	Music
Drama & Theatre Studies	Physical Education
Economics	Physics
English Language & Literature	Politics
English Literature	Spanish
Food & Nutrition	

Please note that the school cannot guarantee that a particular combination of subjects will be available. For this reason, pupils will be asked to indicate a second choice of AS subject. Please note also that the school reserves the right to withdraw a course if there is an insufficient take-up.

Before students make their decisions about subject choices they should read this booklet carefully and talk to their teachers about what is involved and what specific skills are needed to study successfully. Students must have three important factors in mind:

- The student must want to study the subject. In the Sixth Form, motivation is vital to success and a subject should not be chosen because of a lack of other ideas or because friends have made that particular choice.
- It might be necessary to study a particular subject in order to pursue an intended career or to gain entry to a University course.
- The subjects chosen should combine sensibly.

### Subject Combinations

Students do not need to finally decide, at this stage, which one of their four AS subjects they will drop at the end of the Lower Sixth. They should, however, have some provisional ideas about this when making their subject choices. The A2 subject combination is a key factor for entrance for many university courses. Choosing three likely A2 subjects and adding a fourth AS is quite a sensible approach. Some examples of sensible A2 combinations are on the following page.



## Arts/Humanities Combinations

For students considering Arts/Humanities based courses in the Sixth Form there are plenty of combinations of subjects that will help in university applications. A modern language is useful for many university courses and choosing complimentary subjects is a good way forward. Some recent examples are:

- Art, DT, Business Studies, Maths
- Politics, History, Economics / Business Studies
- English, History, French, Drama
- English, Spanish, Geography, PE



## Science Combinations

Any student wishing to pursue careers in Pure Science, Engineering, Medicine, Dentistry, Veterinary Science, and Computer Science should follow a combination of Science subjects at A2. Typical combinations include:

- Mathematics, Chemistry, Physics + one other
- Mathematics, Chemistry, Biology + one other
- Biology, Chemistry, Physics + one other
- Mathematics, Physics, Design & Technology + one other

Further guidance on suitable course combination and requirements can be gained from the university course advice pages in this booklet or from Mrs Bates (Careers Adviser).

## Extension Courses & Citizenship

As part of your Sixth Form curriculum we aim to provide breadth beyond your A Level subjects. You will choose an Extension Course in the Lower and Upper Sixth that you will take on Thursday afternoon. There is a wide selection of courses that will extend your horizons, build your CV and develop you personally. Extension courses available will vary slightly from year to year and all subjects are offered on the basis that sufficient numbers of pupils will opt to take them. None can be fully guaranteed but the typical selection of courses available would be: CCF, CSU, Debating & MUN, Digital Media, Cooking for Life, Creative Writing, Political Ideas, Psychology, Classics, Business Trading, Astronomy, Arts & Film, Computer Programming, Electronics and Ethical Philosophy. You will have options to take a different course in the Lower and Upper Sixth. Some courses such as CCF and CSU can be taken for both of your Sixth Form years.

## Progression to the Upper Sixth

Just as entry to the Lower Sixth depends on GCSE performance, so progression to the Upper Sixth depends on academic performance in the Lower Sixth. Students who fail to reach the required standard may be asked to retake the L6th year. Lower Sixth students are tested regularly at departmental level during the year and mock exams occur in the spring for both Lower and Upper Sixth years. The academic work done at A Level is challenging and requires hard work to be successful. Some students who fail to meet our expectations of what is required are placed on Academic Review. This process involves close scrutiny of that student's effort and performance, the setting of targets, the scheduling of extra work sessions, parental-school coordination and, ultimately, the consideration of the student's future position in the Sixth Form. This is a rare and exceptional process. The vast majority of students pursue their studies through both years in a positive, energetic and successful fashion.

## ACADEMIC SUPPORT

The Academic Support Department works in partnership across the school with staff, students and parents.

Our work is designed to support students in all aspects of learning and to ensure they are able to reach their full potential, using effective study skills and revision techniques. We also offer advice on some of the best apps and IT resources that can support learning. Our support can be given as one-to-one timetabled lessons on a weekly basis for a term or more, or more informally as a 'drop in session' on a needs-must basis or as part of 'help desk homework clubs' after school.

Our work at the Senior School includes the following:

- Assessments to identify a student's preferred learning style so they can use this to the full in class.
- Support for students who find writing with a pen may not be their preferred way of working in school. This can include an assessment to determine if a laptop would be a more effective and efficient writing tool.
- Advice on note taking, précis, use of bullet points, diagrams and mind maps.
- Advice on essay structure, collating notes, making summaries at the end of a topic.
- Advice on exams - revision technique and the most effective ways to revise, how to answer questions accurately and how to allocate time effectively in the exam.
- Assessment for extra time in cases where staff and a student feels that slow writing, reading or processing speed is impacting negatively on their ability to produce their best in timed exam conditions.
- Support for students and staff about best educational practice and advice to ensure that students with a dyslexic or other specific learning difficulty are not disadvantaged and achieve their full potential at school.

Further information

01480 862242

rs2@kimbolton.  
cambs.sch.uk

www.kimbolton.cambs.  
sch.uk

## Exam Results

Whichever subjects you choose to study in the Sixth Form the key objective is to gain the best grades possible to help you get into the degree course or career of your choice. Results at Kimbolton have been very good in recent years as a result of hard work by pupils and staff. In the past three years the Sixth Form have averaged above 50% at A\* or A grade and over 79% A\* to B in their A Level exams. The aim for each student is to achieve the best possible result in each subject taken.



A Level Results 2013	GRADES										Totals			Percentage				3 Year Averages		National 2013 % A*/B
	A*	A	B	C	D	E	A*/A	A*/B	Pass	% A*/A	% A*/B	% Pass	% A*/B	% Pass	% A*/B	% Pass				
Art (+ Photography)	6	0	3	1	1	0	6	9	11				54.5	81.8	100	90	100	58		
Art Critical & Contextual	0	1	1	2	0	0	1	2	4				25.0	50.0	100	63.9	100	58		
Biology	6	4	6	5	2	1	10	16	24				41.7	66.7	100	70.5	100	53		
Business Studies	2	3	8	2	1	0	5	13	16				31.3	81.3	100	73.2	100	43		
Chemistry	4	4	5	2	1	0	8	13	16				50.0	81.3	100	80	100	61		
Design Technology	0	5	7	2	0	0	5	12	14				35.7	85.7	100	87.1	100	42		
Drama & Theatre Studies	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a				n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	48		
Economics	4	3	4	2	1	0	7	11	14				50.0	78.6	100	81.4	100	63		
English Lang & Lit	1	1	6	3	1	0	2	8	12				16.7	66.7	100	56.8	100	48		
English Literature	2	4	2	1	0	0	6	8	9				66.7	88.9	100	78.9	100	48		
French	0	3	1	0	0	0	3	4	4				75.0	100	100	80	100	69		
Geography	1	6	13	5	1	0	7	20	26				26.9	76.9	100	79.7	100	58		
History	3	12	8	6	0	0	15	23	29				51.7	79.3	100	81.5	100	56		
Home Economics	0	1	1	0	1	0	1	2	3				33.3	66.7	100	66.7	100	42		
Mathematics	8	22	11	3	1	1	30	41	46				65.2	89.1	100	87.6	100	66		
Further Mathematics	2	3	2	0	0	0	5	7	7				71.4	100	100	93.3	100	43		
Music	3	1	0	2	0	0	4	4	6				66.7	66.7	100	81	100	78		
Physical Education	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	1	2				0.0	50	100	64.3	100	38		
Physics	1	4	2	4	3	0	5	7	14				35.7	50	84.6	59.5	95.2	55		
Politics	4	16	13	2	0	0	20	33	35				57.1	94.3	100	89.4	100	59		
Spanish	0	1	1	1	1	0	1	2	4				25	50	100	71.4	100	67		
	A*	A	B	C	D	E	Totals			3 Year Averages			National							
Total candidates achieving grade	47	94	95	44	14	2	141	236	296				% A*/B	% Pass	% A*/B					
Percentage of Candidates	15.9	31.8	32.1	14.9	4.7	0.7	47.6	79.7	100				79.5	99.8	53					

A talented games player, James is Captain of Football. He also plays Cricket and Hockey at 1st team level and is Head of Dawsons House. Studying Politics, Geography and History, James is applying to read History at university. He writes, *"Kimbolton Sixth Form has provided me with so many opportunities, giving me the freedom to pursue what I want with the full support of dedicated and hardworking teachers."*

As an Ingrams House Prefect and Captain of the Equestrian team, Rachel has a busy life at Kimbolton. She was part of the successful European Youth Parliament team that finished runner up in the National final and has twice been commended as a delegate at the Model United Nations Conference. A member of the Philosophy Society, Charities Committee and writer for The Kimboltonian, Rachel wants to read English at university. She writes, *"Sixth Form is the perfect pinnacle of your time at Kimbolton, as it encompasses the opportunities and familiarity of the lower school with new-found freedom."*



James Belbin and Rachel Pask

Emma is head of CCF at Kimbolton and Captain of the Clay Pigeon Shooting Team. Emma has enjoyed her role as Finance Director of the Young Enterprise team Fulcrum that reached the regional finals last year. She is studying Maths, Further Maths, English Literature and History and hopes to read English Literature at University. She writes, *"Sixth Form at Kimbolton has been a great way to finish off my 14 years of education here. It has given me an independent learning experience whilst still giving me the support I need."*

Michael is a Gown Prefect and Captain of Hockey. During his time in the Sixth Form he has toured Malaysia with the Football Team and visited America and Russia with the History and Politics departments. He intends to read Politics, with a law conversion course, at university. He writes, *"At Kimbolton, especially in the Sixth Form, there is a huge amount to get involved in and a wide range of activities to choose from, from CCF to debating, hockey to cookery courses. This is great for an all rounder like me."*



Emma Richmond and Michael Lane

Andy is a prefect for Ingrams House and has enjoyed being the managing director of a successful Young Enterprise team. They gained no less than 8 awards at the recent East of England Finals. Andy has been active in a whole host of areas from Gold Duke of Edinburgh, member of the 1st X1 Football team and drummer in the CCF band. He wants to read Financial or Business management at university. He writes, *"Sixth Form has proved to be a very rewarding experience giving me countless opportunities both in and out of the classroom. It offered an excellent academic opportunity that will help me achieve in later life."*

Jess is also a prefect in Ingrams House and second in command in the Army. She had a lead role in the school production 'Back to the 80's'. A longstanding member of Senior Choir, she is studying Business, Politics and History. Jess wants to train to be a Primary teacher. She writes, *"Kimbolton 6th form has helped me to grow as a person and strive for things that I did not initially think were achievable."*



Andy Hall and Jess Underwood



Sarah Farlow and Anh Doan

Sarah is head of the Girls' boarding house, White House. She enjoyed taking part in the American Exchange, using it to further her studies in Politics and Art History. Sarah hopes to study Politics, perhaps with Sociology at university. She writes, *"Kimbolton has helped me fulfil my potential. It has given me freedom to learn independently and remained at all times, a tight-knit caring community."*

Anh is a prefect in the Boys' boarding house, Kim House. He is interested in Chess and Football and was part of a Young Enterprise team that won an award at the regional finals. He is studying Maths, Further Maths, and Economics and he hopes to read Economics at university. He writes, *"Kimbolton people are so nice and friendly. Previously at school in Vietnam, I am enjoying the rigours of the academic environment at Kimbolton."*



Izzy Martin and Taylor Sutton

Izzy also joined Kimbolton boarding in the Sixth Form from Rebourne Upper School, Ampthill. She is studying History, Economics and Geography and would like to read Management at university. She writes, *"everybody is friendly and so very welcoming. This has helped me settle in and make some really good friends. I chose to come to Kimbolton especially because of the friendly atmosphere, particularly in the boarding house. I found the taster days were very helpful in making sure Kimbolton was the right school for me."*

Taylor joined Kimbolton School in the Sixth Form from The Ferrers College in Higham Ferrers and soon made her mark, being awarded Best Business Woman of the Year for Cambridgeshire in a Young Enterprise competition. She is a member of both Senior and Chamber Choir, The Charities Committee, Literary Society and Medical Society. Taylor wants to study Pharmacy at university. She writes, *"Moving to Kimbolton has been the best decision I have ever made. The 6th form allows you to become the best you can be and provides so many unique opportunities. You really do make some friends for life."*



Millie Harris and Tom Orme

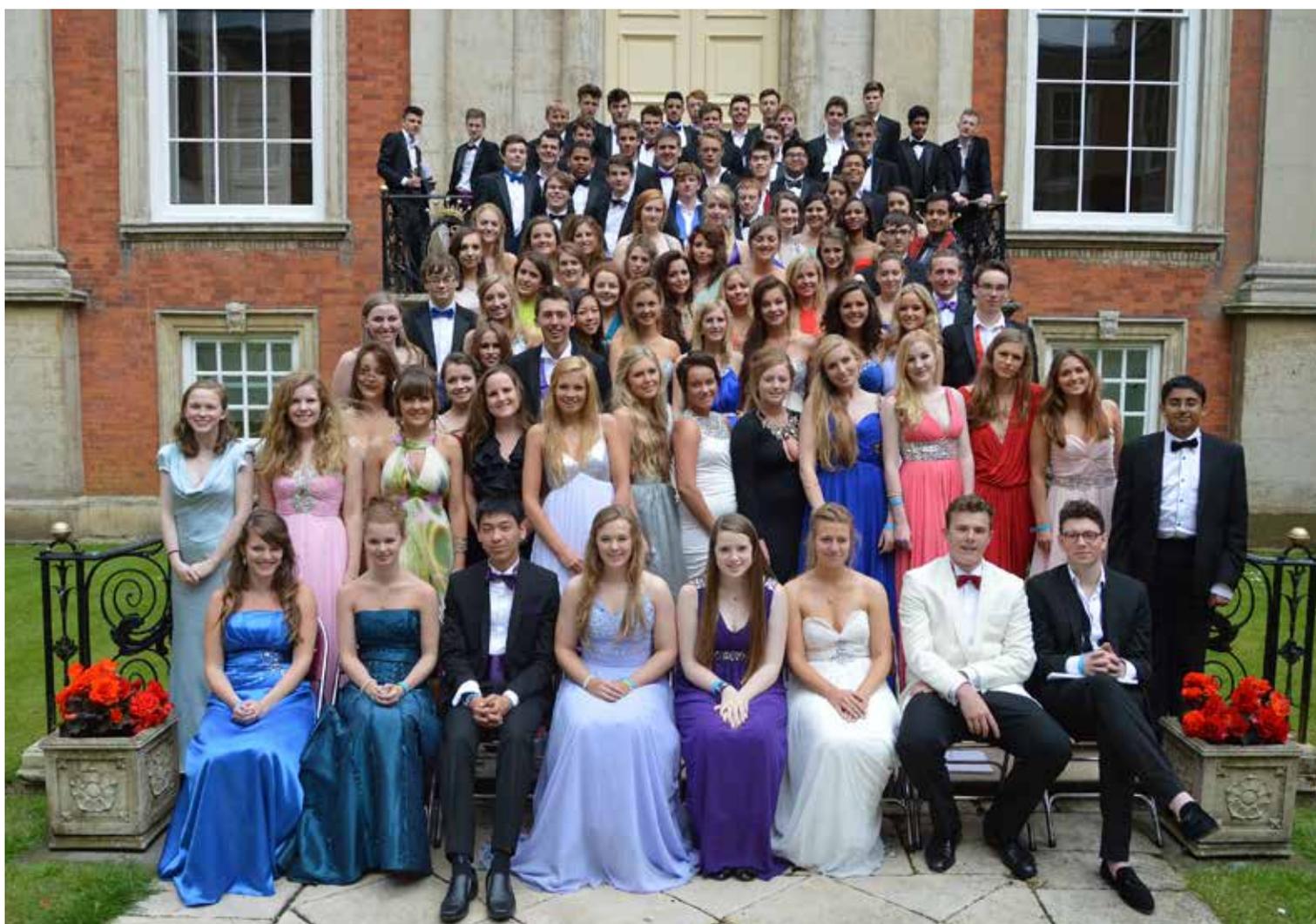
Millie is Head Girl and Girls Hockey Captain. She is a keen sports woman as well as playing Oboe to Grade 8 and Piano to Grade 6. She loves singing and acting taking the part of 'Sandy' in the school production of 'Grease'. She hopes to read Music at university and writes, *"Sixth form has helped to stretch me academically, whilst allowing me to still enjoy the musical, social and sporting aspects of school life. I love the strength of the music department and the breadth of opportunities provided by them."*

The Head Boy, Tom is a keen debater. He is a RAF Sgt and the Lord Lieutenant's Cadet, recently gaining a flying Scholarship, and is a member of the Air Squadron Trophy team. Tom has also been awarded the prestigious Arkwright Scholarship in Engineering. He wants to study Aerospace Engineering at university. He writes, *"The variety and caliber of opportunities both inside and outside the classroom is fantastic."*

## Advice from the Current Sixth Form

You have heard a lot about what the Sixth Form involves. Here are some uncensored words of advice from the current Lower and Upper Sixth:

- "Get involved, it makes the whole experience better."
- "Work really hard from the start, go to the Library and do research. You'll find the teachers are really nice in the Sixth Form, especially if you try and get involved in as many activities as possible. Most importantly, enjoy yourself!!!"
- "Knowledge is power. Power corrupts. Study hard."
- "Although the work became more strenuous and increased, it starts to be more relevant to your future."
- "Only choose subjects you enjoy."
- "Always pace yourself with work and social life."



Upper Sixth Leavers on their last day of School.

## Old Kimboltonians

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 2016. This is a result of the highly active nature of Sixth Form life with a huge range of activities, trips and social events that bring you together. The OKs organisation is very active and reunions occur annually on OK days and at other times. 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.

## More Information

You can find out more about the exciting opportunities open for you in the Sixth Form by reading the school prospectus, visiting the school website for news, activities and subject areas, or by visiting the school to meet the Headmaster and the Head of Sixth Form.





## Kimbolton School

Kimbolton School, Kimbolton, Huntingdon, Cambs. PE28 0EA  
Tel: 01480 860505 Fax: 01480 860386  
[www.kimbolton.cambs.sch.uk](http://www.kimbolton.cambs.sch.uk)