THE DEAN TRUST

Ashton on Mersey School Sixth Form

PROSPECTUS 2026/27

Believe Achieve Succeed

WELCOME
TO ASHTON ON MERSEY SCHOOL
SIXTH FORM

At Ashton on Mersey we believe that each student in our community should have the equal chance to be the best they can possibly be.

Our vision is that every individual will secure the knowledge and skills required to embrace opportunities and challenges with confidence and independence. Ashton on Mersey Sixth Form rightly builds upon the excellent foundations developed in Key Stages 3 and 4 whilst creating a platform and pathway to higher education including prestigious universities, apprenticeships and the world of work.

Students will experience an ambitious curriculum which provides a blend of experiences to suit individual needs and aspirations. A Level qualifications in a full suite of subject areas are provided alongside high quality technical and vocational qualifications. Our facilities are outstanding and are designed to meet the needs of modern and independent students; including, advanced ICT facilities, state of the art science laboratories, a dedicated learning suite, welcoming classrooms, world class sport and fitness facilities and contemporary social spaces.

Ashton on Mersey Sixth Form is 'Outstanding' (Ofsted) and provides a platform to higher education and employment in an educational environment that students enjoy. As Headteacher I know how valuable wider interpersonal skills such as teamwork and communication are alongside the importance of having an understanding of local, national and global issues. The culture of Ashton on Mersey is non-negotiable in its commitment to support young people to make a difference to our world.

I hope to welcome you to Ashton on Mersey Sixth Form so you can see for yourself.

Mr Lee McConaghie
Headteacher

Together, we will be the best we can be

An ambitious vision

Our **Vision** has been created by all stakeholders with direct input from pupils, parents, staff and governors.

Our **Mission** is our daily intent and why we exist. It indicates our desire to be a strong community with high aspirations for all.

Our **Values** encapsulate the personal qualities which we believe every member of the Ashton on Mersey school community should exhibit. Our values are further supported by our values charter as designed entirely by pupils and students.

VISION

To create an inclusive culture which celebrates diversity and where all pupils will gain the knowledge, skills and qualities required to embrace opportunities and challenges with confidence and independence.

Pupils will feel empowered as they strive to make a positive difference to their communities and the world.

MISSION

Together, we will be the best we can be.

VALUES

Equality **Compassion** **Respect**

Ambition **Integrity** **Resilience**

The Dean Trust
Ashton on Mersey School

The Dean Trust will ensure that school communities are built upon the following values:

- Diversity & Inclusion
- High Performance
- Ambition
- Aspiration
- Compassion
- Dynamism & Innovation

Admission

Admission to the Sixth Form is open to students from both within and outside The Dean Trust. We welcome students of varying abilities but do expect them to reach the minimum entry requirements for their chosen course of study.

Application

Application forms are available on our website: aomschool.co.uk/sixth-form.

Prospective students from within The Dean Trust complete a short online application.

Prospective students from outside The Dean Trust should download and complete the application form and return it to Sixth Form Student Services.

Entry Requirements

A Level Pathway

6 Full Course GCSEs at grade 9-4 including English Language and Mathematics.

BTEC Pathway

5 Full Course GCSEs at grade 9-4 including English Language and Mathematics.

In addition to the Sixth Form entry requirements, individual subjects may have specific entry requirements. Please refer to the individual subject cards on our website.

Come and join us

You will be joining a highly successful, 'Outstanding' community.

"The leadership of the sixth form is outstanding. There is a caring ethos and a passion to ensure that students excel."
Ofsted

Expectations

A Typical Day

The Sixth Form is open from 8:00am until 4:00pm, students are welcome to use the building to study during this time.

Form time is compulsory for all students and begins at 8:35am. Each day has six teaching sessions, the length of each teaching session is 50 minutes. Additional study periods will appear on student timetables dependent on the pathway chosen. Students are expected to use this time effectively in our designated quiet study zone.

Students are asked to stay on site during lessons and designated study periods. Outside of these times, providing students are on target they are permitted to leave the site to study independently. There is a coffee bar where students can purchase fresh coffee, snacks, sandwiches, salads and paninis. Students are also welcome to use the main school restaurant facilities or are free to leave the building and use the surrounding amenities during lunch.

Dress Code

In keeping with accepted professional and commercial standards a Sixth Form student dress code is in place. This establishes a professional ethos in the Sixth Form.

In the Common Room, social and learning areas, professional dress is expected of all students.

Attendance

High standards of attendance and punctuality are expected in the Sixth Form and are essential if students are to achieve their target outcomes on their chosen programme. This is closely monitored by our electronic attendance system.

Tutor Groups

Upon entry into the Sixth Form students are placed into tutor groups. Tutors assist in the mentoring of each student, tracking their progress and conducting personal one-to-one guidance sessions.

At the beginning of Year 12 minimum target grades are set based on GCSE results. These are then reviewed throughout Year 12 to challenge students further. Tutors are responsible for writing references for UCAS, apprenticeships and employment applications.

Student Services

The Student Services team are based in the Common Room and are the focal point for all advice, guidance and additional support. Our Student Services team are available to all students for confidential advice and support on any matter. They are available from 8:00am until 4:00pm every day.

Support from our Student Services team begins from an expression of interest, throughout the application process, through to the completion of their chosen curriculum. Personalised support is available if a student has any additional needs.

On their first day all students are welcomed into the Sixth Form by the Sixth Form management team who will lead a morning of induction activities. This induction process gives students the opportunity to meet the management team, their tutor and each other, and is an opportunity to support students in the challenging transition between Key Stage 4 and 5.

Reporting to parents

The Sixth Form promotes independence; however it is important that we have a partnership with parents/carers to provide mutual support for all of our students. Parents/carers are welcome to visit or call the Sixth Form at any time to discuss any concerns. Parents/carers who wish to speak to the Sixth Form management team can contact Student Services, who will arrange a convenient appointment. The Sixth Form will notify parents of academic performance, achievements and social development through progress reports and a progress evening.

Next Steps

Advice on career opportunities is readily available in the Sixth Form. Our dedicated Careers Advisor conducts presentations to the students on general Post-18 opportunities, as well as providing personal guidance meetings with individual students supporting them with their chosen career pathway.

Events are held throughout the year ensuring students and parents/carers are fully informed of opportunities available post Sixth Form. Professionals from universities, apprenticeships and employers work with the students offering further advice and guidance.

Supporting you

University

We have a comprehensive UCAS application programme, with support provided at every step of the application process to ensure that our students make the right choice for them, for the next stage of their academic journey.

Our careers advisor, form tutor team and the wider Sixth Form support team have extensive experience of supporting students in securing their first choice university place, including at prestigious Russell Group Universities.

As well as providing practical UCAS application support; understanding entry requirements and completion of personal statements, all students are invited to attend the UCAS conference and visit universities as part of their wider Sixth Form experience.

The wider experiences offered by the Sixth Form ensure that our students leave with the skills and confidence to succeed in their chosen pathway post 18, whether that be university, a higher level apprenticeship or the world of work.

Wider experiences include field trips, university visits, extra curricular sport, charity fundraising and team building days.

Student Leadership Team

Our student body is represented by a chosen group of ambassadors recruited to provide guidance and support, not only to the Sixth Form but also to the lower school pupils. These ambassadors are key to the continued development of all aspects of student education.

The four areas prioritised for the team are: the promotion of leadership opportunities for all students, the development of literacy across the School, the leadership of the Student Council and fundraising.

Be involved

Charity

Each year we have a dedicated fundraising team, who lead activities across the School to raise funds for a charity chosen by the students. Since the Sixth Form opened students have raised over £55K for their chosen charities including; The Christie, Barnardos, The Alex Hulme Foundation, Francis House, The Alzheimers Society and Genesis.

Students gain experience in presentation, finance, budgeting, marketing and team work and have a lot of fun too, all whilst raising money for charity.

Enrichment

Enrichment is a significant and important part of the overall curriculum in the Sixth Form, it enhances the important skills and personal qualities that employers and universities are looking for.

Providing an opportunity for students to gain career specialised experience is also a key factor within their enrichment time. All students are given the opportunity to source an enrichment placement independently in their chosen career path to gain and develop employability skills throughout Years 12 and 13.

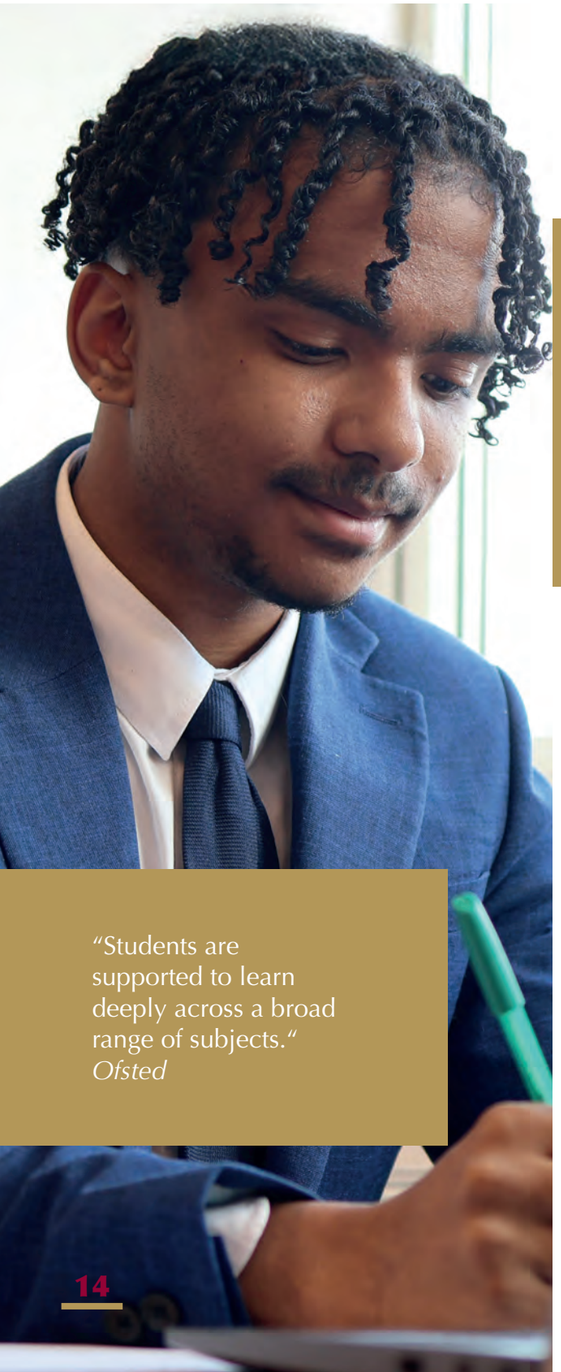
If this is not the student's preferred option, students partake in a 'carousel' of activities provided within the Sixth Form.

Students can also take the EPQ (Extended Project Qualification) or the Core Maths qualification as part of their enrichment.

Curriculum

Ashton on Mersey School has a reputation for delivering an innovative and effective curriculum to suit the needs of all learners.

Our Sixth Form builds on this to provide a seamless transition through our 16-19 curriculum.



What can I study ?

"Students are supported to learn deeply across a broad range of subjects."
Ofsted

How to choose the right course

Students are advised to focus on subjects they enjoy and are good at. However, if a student has a specific career path in mind it is important to select the required courses to enable this to happen.

Progressing to Year 13

Progression from Year 12 to 13 is not automatic and will depend on the academic achievement, attendance and attitude to learning of the student. The student's position will be reviewed at the end of Year 12. The Sixth Form reserves the right to provide advice about their prospects in the curriculum and to decide if the student is suitable to progress into Year 13.

Pathways

Students can choose an A Level pathway or a BTEC pathway.

Students choose a minimum of 3 A Level qualifications or choose a BTEC Extended Diploma (equivalent to 3 A Levels).

Information on all of our subjects and our elite sport pathways can be found by scanning the QR code or by visiting aomschool.co.uk/sixth-form

A Level Pathway

Only 1 A Level can be chosen from each block			
BLOCK A	**BLOCK B**	**BLOCK C**	**BLOCK D**
MATHEMATICS	ENGLISH LANGUAGE	CHEMISTRY	PHYSICS
LAW	BIOLOGY	HISTORY	GEOGRAPHY
MEDIA	BUSINESS STUDIES	SOCIOLOGY	PSYCHOLOGY
SPANISH	COMPUTER SCIENCE	PHYSICAL EDUCATION	ENGLISH LITERATURE
	DESIGN ENGINEERING	ACCOUNTING	POLITICS

BTEC Pathway

BUSINESS STUDIES	*1 Level 3 BTEC is chosen, each BTEC is equivalent to three A Levels*
SPORT	
CREATIVE DIGITAL MEDIA PRODUCTION	

Elite Sports Pathway

FOOTBALL SCHOLARSHIP	*Run alongside academic pathways*
SALE SHARKS ACE PROGRAMME	

Ashton on Mersey School and Sixth Form are proud to have prestigious partnerships with professional sporting organisations.

Our partnership with Manchester United Football Club established over 25 years ago, provides an educational package in which players aged 16-18 undertake a 'Scholars' programme on site. Manchester United Scholars study high quality level 3 courses with a comprehensive pastoral support that enables players to meet the dual demands of education alongside sporting excellence.

Hundreds of young players have passed through Ashton on Mersey Sixth Form, securing outstanding educational outcomes, with many becoming highly successful professional footballers. Our alumni is extensive and includes England, Scotland and Northern Ireland international players such as Marcus Rashford, Jesse Lingard, Scott McTominay, Kobbie Mainoo and Jonny Evans.

The Club directly support us in our development of facilities and resources that each and every student in the Sixth Form benefits from.

Our partnership with Sale Sharks provides students with the chance to train for a career in rugby alongside their studies. Students select a qualification pathway and are additionally provided with elite coaching, strength, conditioning and player development support by Sale Sharks staff.

The ACE Rugby pathway enables talented young rugby players to play in the ACE league whilst being fully supported in their studies.

WHERE TO FIND US

Ashton on Mersey School is easily accessible from North and South Manchester via the major motorways. It is a short drive from the M60, linking up with the M6, M61, M62 and M56.

The school is approached from Manchester or Altrincham along the A56 (Washway Road) and from Partington via the A6144, with the main entrance situated on Cecil Avenue.

It is convenient for all public transport including bus, train and metro-link from Altrincham, Partington, Stretford, Sale and Manchester.

Ashton on Mersey School Sixth Form

Part of The Dean Trust group of schools

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