



UNIVERSITY OF  
BIRMINGHAM  
SCHOOL



# Together, we'll flourish.

Prospectus 2020





Drawing upon our partnership with the University of Birmingham and their world-leading research and best practice resources; focusing on learning without limits; and combining our own diverse experience in education, we are setting an example of what's truly possible for secondary school education - one that gives character development as much attention as academic success.

By continually innovating, welcoming challenges, and staying infinitely curious, we'll see our school and our region recognised around the world for creating better schools, better citizens, and better communities.

**Together,  
we'll flourish.**





# What's Inside

Welcome from School Principal	2
Welcome from Chair of Governors	4
Welcome from the Vice-Chancellor	5
Character Education	6
Our School Day	7
Our Curriculum	8
Enrichment	10
A University School	12
Our Building	14
Additional information	16
Sixth Form	18
Introduction to Character Education in Sixth Form	19
Joining us in Year 7	20
Joining us in the Sixth Form	21
Alumni Success Stories	22





# Welcome from the School Principal

It is a great privilege to be introducing this new prospectus of University of Birmingham School as we welcome our fifth cohort of Year 7 and Year 12 pupils. It has been a wonderful start to my first year here as Principal of the School. I hope that reading this prospectus and visiting us at an open event, you will be as excited as I am about our future.

At University of Birmingham School, standards and expectations are very high as we want our young people and staff to be exceptional. I am honoured to lead our ambitious and distinctive learning community.

Distinctive - in that we purposefully and explicitly prioritise the development of students' character and academic accomplishments in equal measure – so that they flourish as happy, socially aware, skilled citizens equipped to find and take their places on the world stage.

We speak of good character as making the right choice at the right time for the right reason - and our core purpose of developing character is planned and active. Opportunities and learning which allow our students to discover and further shape their personal qualities, attributes and virtues receive explicit time in each school week through a taught programme and wide ranging enrichment.

We are a school for all – for youngsters of all abilities, aptitudes and backgrounds – with an admissions process which by design seeks to welcome students and families from across the city. Accordingly our school is intentionally diverse and representative of Birmingham.

We aim to personalise learning and provision so that each individual excels to a personal best – facilitating life chances and successful pathways beyond school education - surpassing any preconceived expectations.

We benefit very considerably from the proactive involvement of the University of Birmingham – a world class University within an aspirant and thriving city – whereby learning partnerships, expertise and opportunities routinely enhance our students' development and education.







As a University Training School we work closely with the University School of Education collaborating in areas such as initial teacher education, educational research, evidence informed practice and CPD – recognising that our staff flourish as life-long learners, and when we are inquisitive and outward facing.

We are committed to working with parents and carers to ensure that all are active participants in their child's learning and development. We recognise and greatly value these partnerships, including those in the wider community – we truly achieve more together than in isolation.

We are driven to provide a great, rounded education for our young people - a compelling and pioneering educational offer for Birmingham, nationally and internationally. I very much hope that you are interested in discovering more about our school.

**Colin Townsend**  
Principal,  
University of Birmingham School



***“Character is about making the right choice at the right time, for the right reason; sometimes the children say it’s what you do when no-one is looking.”***



# Welcome from the Chair of Governors

It is a great honour and privilege to lead the Board of Governors of the University of Birmingham School. As Governors, we believe in the power of education to make a tremendous difference to the lives of young people; and to help them to understand what it means to become a good citizen. This, in turn, will allow our pupils and our School to help to forge stronger communities and make a difference to the world around us.

Moving into our fifth year of operation, and the first year in which we will have all year groups full, it is clear that the pupils at our School are flourishing and we are creating a community of happy and confident young people, who embrace all that their School has to offer. In both lessons and enrichment, our pupils are making the most of every opportunity available to each of them. Regardless of background or ability, our pupils are finding their place in society, developing their characters and equipping themselves for whatever they choose to pursue in life. Our pupils are encouraged to work and study hard and achieve all they are capable of academically. Equally important, we believe, is that they become well-rounded citizens, who demonstrate good character and virtues in all aspects of their life, both personal and professional.

Our bespoke programme of character education provides all pupils and students the space to practise their character virtues alongside their academic study – balancing the two elements to create a full and rounded educational experience for all.

As Governors, we are responsible for putting in place the foundations which will allow the School's remarkable staff to excel and to continue to inspire each pupil as the School grows. We support and work alongside our Principal Colin Townsend and his team, to continue to innovate and motivate both staff and pupils from the first day they set foot in our School.

It has been a wonderful start to the life of the University of Birmingham School. I believe it will only get better, as the

School evolves to include more young people, more teachers and more people who share our belief that an outstanding education is the right of each pupil, not a privilege. I hope you will consider joining us as our journey continues.

**Professor Jeff Bale**  
Chair of Governors,  
University of Birmingham School





# Welcome from the Vice-Chancellor of the University of Birmingham

The University of Birmingham is a global institution that has been challenging and developing great minds for more than a century. Growing out of the radical vision of our first Chancellor, Joseph Chamberlain, we have always been unafraid to take the lead and do things differently.

Birmingham was England's first civic university when it was founded in 1900. Our university represented a new model for higher education where students from all religions and backgrounds were accepted on an equal basis. We were also the first to be built on a campus model, to establish a faculty of commerce, to incorporate a medical school, to create a women's hall of residence and to have a purpose-built students' union building.

This spirit of innovation continues throughout our work today in pioneering research, partnerships, and teaching. On the back of this success, I have taken enormous pride in the opening of the University of Birmingham School and am watching it grow with great excitement.

In establishing the UK's first secondary University Training School, we have created a new community in Birmingham where pupils of all abilities, sixth form and university students, teachers, and academics learn, debate, understand, and share with each other the great issues and knowledge of our time, irrespective of age, ethnicity, gender, financial or social background.

The energy at the School is palpable to anyone who visits and meets the pupils, students, and staff who are helping to form this new community, and this extends to the wider University. From academics to professional services, sports coaches to alumni donors, the University has mobilised behind the School to ensure that all pupils have

access to the wonderful resources, both physical and intellectual, of a leading Russell Group institution.

We hope that you feel this same energy as you read through this prospectus and that you are inspired to join us. We look forward to welcoming you soon.

**Professor Sir David Eastwood**  
Vice-Chancellor and Principal,  
University of Birmingham



# Character Education

Aristotle once wrote “We are what we habitually do.” The habits that children learn and practice when they are growing up follow them through into adulthood - imagine how the world would be if children developed habits of courage, justice and integrity. We believe that just as a school can be a place to teach a child to read and write, a school can also be a place where a child practises gratitude, curiosity and humility.

More specifically, these character virtues can be ‘caught’ from interactions in our community, ‘taught’ through educational experiences and reflection, and ‘sought’ by people who choose to pursue and direct their own character development. As part of character education children might consider how honesty could look in different situations, how it might conflict with other virtues such as kindness, and practise wisely choosing the right amount of honesty to apply. Aristotle believed that this practical wisdom is the most important virtue to explore as it enables us to see, know, desire, and act with good sense.

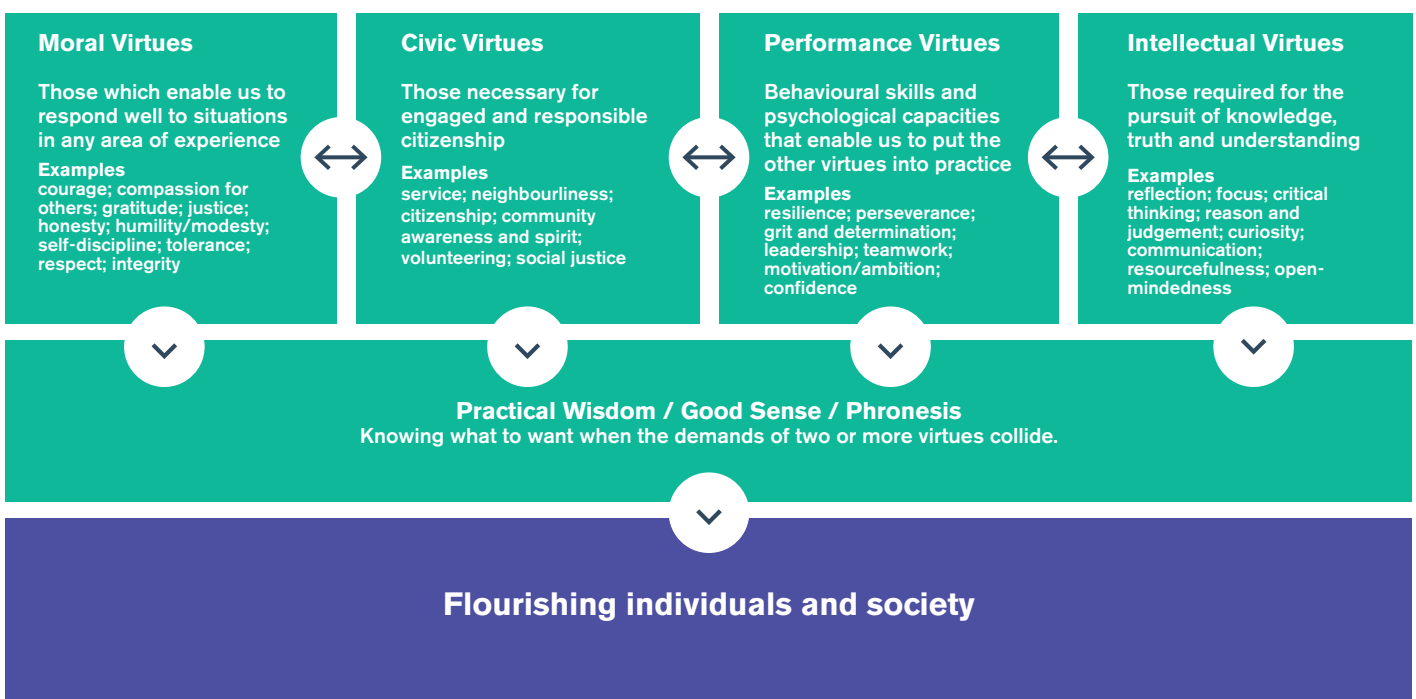
When we can choose intelligently between alternative courses of action, when we understand what a good life looks and feels like, when we value others enough to keenly enable their own character development, then together, we’ll flourish.

**At the University of Birmingham School we demonstrate our commitment to character education and human and societal flourishing through:**

- Our taught Personal Learning and Development (PLAD) curriculum;

- Working towards character infusing our taught academic curriculum;
- Timetabled enrichment for all children and adults;
- Employing staff who themselves have demonstrated dedication to character education;
- Endeavouring to be an organisation that models this dedication in our interactions with our classes and communities.

## The Building Blocks of Character





# Our School Day

The School has an extended School day, which allows plenty of time to deliver a broad curriculum and an extensive programme of Character Education and enrichment.

## Monday - Thursday Timetable

Time of Day	Year 7 - 8	Year 9 - 10	Year 11 - 13
08:30	Registration		
08:55	Period 1		
09:50	Break	Period 2	
10:10	Period 2		
10:45		Break	
11:05	Period 3		
12:00	Period 4 Part 1	Lunch	Period 4
12:30	Lunch	Period 4	
12:55	Period 4 Part 2		Lunch
13:25	Registration 2		
13:50	Period 5		
14:45	Period 6		

## Friday Timetable

Time of Day	Year 7 - 8	Year 9 - 11	Year 12 - 13
08:30	Registration		
08:45	Period 1		
09:40	Break	Period 2	
10:00	Period 2		
10:35		Break	
10:55	Period 3		
11:50	Lunch	Registration 2	
12:20	Registration 2	Lunch	Lunch/home
12:50	Enrichment		



# Our Curriculum

All of our young people, regardless of background and prior learning experiences, should have access to the best that has been thought, said, written and discovered. We aim to deliver this through an academically-focused and knowledge-based curriculum, underpinned by a taught, caught and sought Character Education programme, so that pupils develop the virtues, and embed the knowledge needed to understand the world, contribute to society, and change it for the better.

At the University of Birmingham School, we plot the entire learning journey from Year 6 to undergraduate study in each subject – crossing key stages – but taking account of external examinations along the way. Designed by subject specialists, the curriculum aims to inspire a curiosity and love for the subject by tapping into the exciting stories and wonderful experiences beyond the core knowledge, whilst giving pupils the solid foundations necessary to ensure academic success. Rather than just ‘teaching chemistry or languages’ we consider that we are ‘creating young chemists and linguists’. Our relationship with the University of

Birmingham helps to support this, as we often have visitors from researchers, undergraduates and other professionals from relevant university departments.

Structurally we have a three year Key Stage 3 in Years 7-9, with a broad and balanced curriculum of academic subjects, to ensure that the pupils have time to develop a rich general understanding in each area before making their important GCSE choices. This is complemented by a weekly Personal Learning and Development (PLAD) curriculum, physical education, wide-ranging enrichment, and dedicated daily reading programmes, so that

pupils’ moral, spiritual, emotional and physical attributes develop, alongside their intellectual capacity and cultural literacy. At Key Stage 4, pupils in Years 10 and 11 follow a similarly academic curriculum, with a small number of valued and appropriate vocational courses on offer - nearly all pupils study between eight and ten GCSEs or equivalent. At Key Stage 5 we aim to provide Sixth Form students with a highly academic experience, with a focus on ‘facilitating’ subjects, which opens up a range of choices between excellent further and higher education institutions (including Russell Group universities), and employers.





## Subject Lists

### Key Stage 3 Subjects

- Art
- Biology
- Chemistry
- Computer Science
- Design Technology
- English
- French
- Geography
- History
- Mathematics
- Music
- Personal Learning And Development (PLAD)
- Physics
- Physical Education
- Religious Studies

### Key Stage 4 (inc GCSE) Subjects

- Art
- Biology
- Chemistry
- Combined Science Trilogy (double GCSE)
- Computer Science
- Design Technology
- English Language
- English Literature
- French
- Geography
- German
- History
- Hospitality and Catering (WJEC Vocational Award)
- Mathematics
- Music
- Photography
- Physics
- Physical Education
- Religious Studies
- Sports Studies (Cambridge National Certificate)

### A Level Subject Choices

- Art
- Biology
- Business Studies
- Chemistry
- Computer Science
- English Literature
- French
- Geography
- History
- Mathematics
- Further Mathematics (fourth subject only)
- Music
- Physics
- Psychology
- Religious Studies
- Sociology



*The School is simply brilliant. The staff are encouraging, friendly, professional and promote the ethos of the School. The School exceeds expectations."*

**Donna Belk, Parent**





# Enrichment

As humans, we learn and grow from new experiences. Enrichment is a vital part of our 'taught, caught and sought' character education curriculum, where these additional learning opportunities enable pupils to put into practice virtues such as courage, curiosity and resilience that they have learnt about during the school week. Our enrichment programme helps pupils to understand better the unique relationship we have with our University, as well as trying new cultural and social experiences that expand their understanding of their world.

At the University of Birmingham School, enrichment is not extra-curricular, it's a core part of our School week.

From Be Military Fit to feminism, from henna hand-painting to Egyptology, from the die-hard Harry Potter Fan Club to Ultimate Frisbee, our range of enrichment activities change each term, offering a truly broad education for pupils.

## Some Examples of Enrichment

- A wide range of sporting activities to inspire and energise, which may include Lacrosse, rugby, American Football and Ultimate Frisbee.
- Understanding more about our University with visits to the Barber Institute of Fine Arts, the Lapworth Museum and the Bramall Hall.
- Learning the power of social action by planning and hosting a Street Party for members of the School community as part of The Big Lunch.

## College Events

Our College System is designed to foster healthy competition, teamwork and leadership through the commitment of all members of our community. It's a great opportunity to try new things and to mix with other pupils across form and year groups, making new friends in the process. Previous College events have included a rugby festival, ArtsFest, and a healthy mind and body week which included the College rowing championships.

Our Sixth Form students and prefects play a key role in the organisation, delivery and leadership of college meetings and events, acting as role models and mentors for the younger pupils.

## Challenge Week

Challenge Week is an off-timetable week, where pupils undertake transformational experiences, and have the opportunity to go outside their comfort zones, try out new activities, and practise their character virtues in a different environment. We set ambitious tasks that engage our pupils in opportunities that enable them to practise courage and cooperation, and foster a sense of unity.

In previous years, Challenge Week has seen pupils take part in kayaking, stand-up paddle-boarding and raft-building at Edgbaston Reservoir, pupils have learnt life skills including spending a day learning bushcraft skills with former Royal Marines, and making flat-pack furniture with no adult instruction.







### Duke of Edinburgh

All Year 9 students take part in the Duke of Edinburgh (DofE) Awards programme. This nationally recognised award combines fun adventure, social action and new challenges.

The programme encourages pupils to try new things, grow in confidence, and gives pupils opportunities to forge lasting friendships. Endorsed by over 100 UK employers, and recognised internationally, the award also gives pupils the edge when applying for college, university and employment in the future.

### Music

Our approach to music aims to empower and enable students to engage meaningfully with this important form of human expression. Alongside our core curriculum lessons, our enrichment programme offers opportunities for

pupils to try a range of music-related options, as part of planned enrichment and as additional lunchtime and after school clubs.

Pupils and students can also access additional small group, paired and individual instrumental tuition on a full range of instruments, such as violin, dhol drumming, steel pans and brass instruments. This provision enables students to develop high levels of skill on specific instruments, and we are pleased to be working in partnership with the Birmingham Music Service.

### Sport

Whether playing recreationally or moving towards elite level sport, or taking on other roles such as coach, official, analyst or volunteer, we have an inclusive approach to physical education and sport at UoB School. As well as a comprehensive physical education

curriculum, we have a wide-ranging sporting enrichment programme and numerous opportunities across the school year for competition.

We also enter teams into local and regional sporting competitions for sports such as athletics, football, netball, cricket, dance and more.

Our students have also had opportunities to spectate and be inspired by sporting events, such as watching cricket at Edgbaston Stadium, or travelling to London to see the Women's FA Cup Final and the Para World Athletics Championships.

We also organise sports tours, and pupils have enjoyed taking part in PGL tours in the UK, and our first international tour to Barcelona.



*This school is amazing and in the space of just one year my daughter really has come so far! Their enrichment programme is outstanding. The opportunities for students are endless."*

Tammy Moseley, Parent







*We had gravitational waves professor Alberto Vecchio come in to School, which was really inspiring. He's working on world-changing research, but he was so relatable. It made me feel like this was something I could see myself doing in the future."*

Nick, Sixth Form student

## A University School

We have a broad and deep relationship with the world-class University of Birmingham. Since 1900, the University of Birmingham has been pushing the frontiers of understanding, and, as its first dedicated secondary school we have unrivalled access to its resources, research and people. This partnership gives us endless opportunities to collaborate, learn and grow as a School.

Pupils become regular visitors to the University of Birmingham campus during their time at the School. Pupils often take part in enrichment activities hosted by the University, such as getting to learn about dinosaurs at the Lapworth Museum, or exploring Edwardian heritage at Winterbourne House and Garden. Pupils also regularly have short talks and assemblies from professors and other academics about world-changing research at the University.



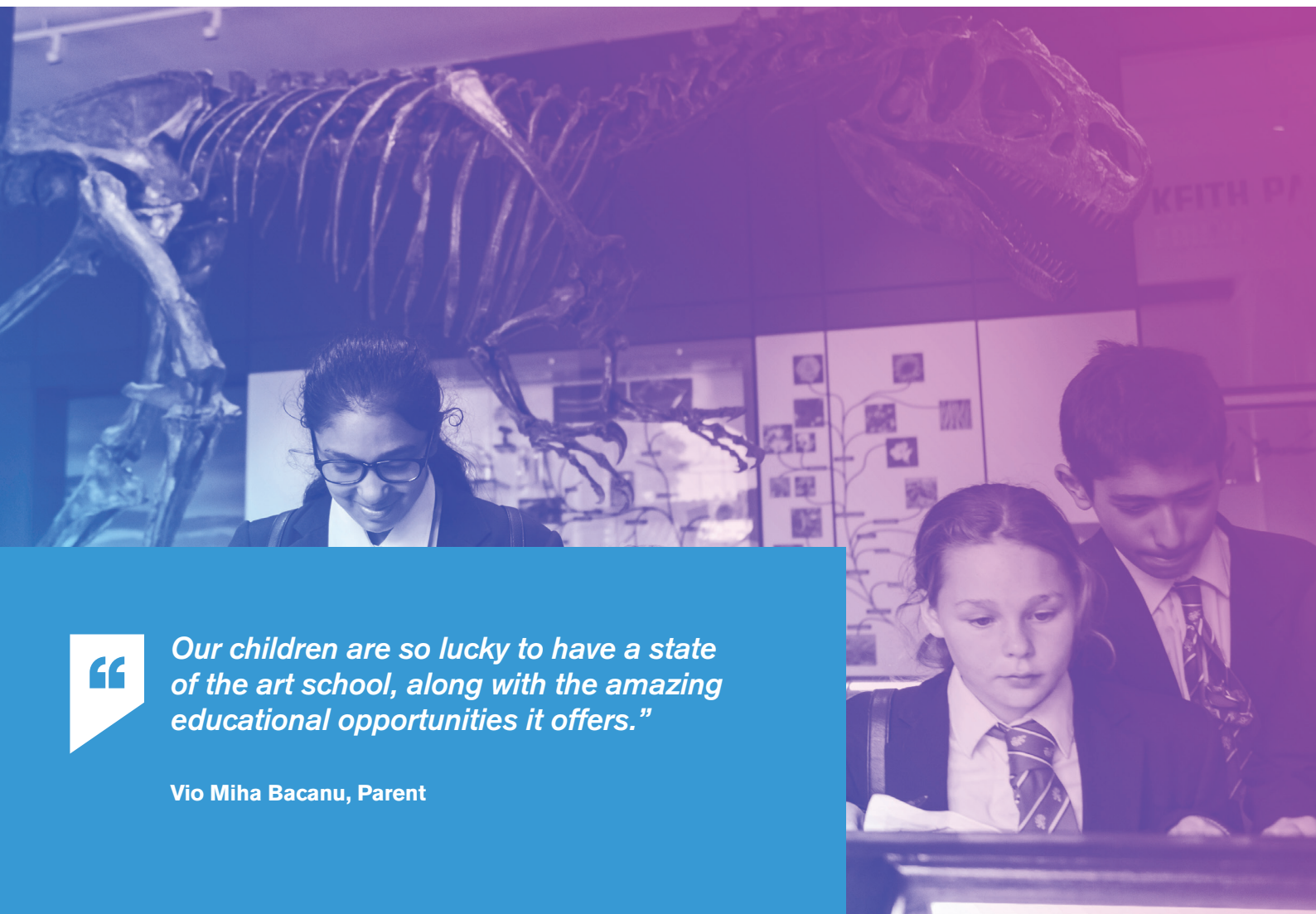


Teaching and learning at the School is distinctively enhanced through creative collaboration opportunities with the University's academic departments, as well as engagement in University research projects. Many subject leaders become associate members of the University and benefit from a range of physical and intellectual resources to enhance their own subject knowledge and pedagogy.

Sixth Form students enjoy the weekly Horizons Lecture Series, hearing from some of the University's leading academics about topics ranging from black holes to the latest research on Islamophobia. Sixth Form students also regularly visit the University campus to attend seminars or public lectures. In addition, Sixth Form students get involved in volunteering opportunities at the Guild of Students.

Our Rush Hour Research series of events sees our School welcome teachers and educators from across the region and country to hear from academics from the University of Birmingham during after-school professional learning events.

The School collaborates on a number of research projects, with pupils learning research skills and becoming researchers themselves. Projects have included research into transitions into newness, mathematics education, and character development in young people.



*Our children are so lucky to have a state of the art school, along with the amazing educational opportunities it offers."*

Vio Miha Bacanu, Parent



# Our Building

The University of Birmingham School opened in September 2015 and is located on the University's Selly Oak campus. We are fortunate to have a purpose-built School that provides a spacious, welcoming, safe and professional environment that is a pleasure for pupils to grow up in and for staff to work in.

## Welcoming and safe

- A large and welcoming central atrium where pupils, staff and visitors meet, gather and eat together.
- Wide corridors, a lack of 'hiding' spaces and staff workbases located across the building allow for passive monitoring from teaching staff to keep pupils safe and enable them to stay indoors at breaks and lunchtimes.

## Facilities

- A School Hall capable of accommodating two year groups, with an electronically operated seating system.
- A large Sports Hall, Activity Studio, Drama Studio, an all-weather flood lit MUGA outdoor pitch, with additional access to University playing fields.
- Use of the University of Birmingham's Sport and Fitness Centre and Swimming Pool.

- A light, spacious and peaceful Library that fosters a love of reading and promotes independent study.

## Classrooms

- Larger than average classrooms and laboratories, typically at least 50m sq for a classroom and at least 90m sq for laboratories.
- State of the art ICT infrastructure, with a site-wide wireless network capable of supporting the plentiful hardware and software provided in school.
- Eleven fully equipped science laboratories, a science studio and science terrace where the emphasis is on practical work.
- Two large music classrooms, a recording studio and practice rooms, as well as three art rooms, a graphics studio, and a design technology wing with facilities for food technology and resistant materials.

## Space

- Clusters of classrooms, lockers and breakout space that allow young people to work collaboratively and get to know each other quickly and foster a sense of community.
- Fully accessible building for pupils with physical disabilities, with a dedicated area to cater for the learning needs of our comprehensive intake.
- Interview rooms for pupil feedback or support for trainee teachers.
- Dedicated facilities for Sixth Formers, including a study space, ICT suite, career's office and seminar rooms.
- Space provided for individual and larger group meetings with parents / carers and the community.







*It's a unique school. The first secondary University Training School in the country – sponsored by one of the best universities in the UK. They've got some of the best facilities in the world including a new sports centre. I thoroughly recommend it."*

**Dean Miller, Paralympian**



# Additional Information

## Pastoral Care

The pastoral care of our pupils and students is at the heart of our school, and drives all that we do here at the University of Birmingham School. Our aim is for every pupil to be safe and happy which will, in turn, enable them to flourish, achieving their potential in both the classroom and outside. Pastoral care begins with the form tutor. Our form tutors share time with their tutor group each day, supporting them and delivering our personal learning and development (PLAD) programme, and fostering strong relationships with pupils and families.

## Support for pupils with Special Educational Needs

It is important to us that all pupils are able to flourish in our School, regardless of their abilities or disabilities. Our School building is fully accessible for pupils with disabilities and has a dedicated area where we can provide

tailored support for students with Special Educational Needs, overseen by an experienced SEN(D) Co-ordinator. We also work closely with all relevant agencies across the city and beyond.

## Uniform

Our uniform policy for Years 7–11 balances a smart style with affordability, whilst the Sixth Form wear business attire. Our full uniform policy is available on our website.

## Home Learning

Traditionally known as homework, home learning, or independent study plays an important role in our School. There is always a purpose to the work that we set and, whatever year pupils are in, self-directed learning, research and preparatory work play a critical role in their development and in enabling them to fulfil their potential.

## School Meals

Eating together in our large atrium is an important part of our school day that we want everyone to enjoy. We have a fully equipped kitchen to provide a range of healthy hot lunches that pupils, staff and visitors can enjoy, as well as breakfast options, break-time snacks and 'grab and go' lunches for those busy with activities. We use a cashless system of payment, with opportunities for top-up online.

## Our Governance

As a University Training School, the University of Birmingham School is a new model for the UK that came out of the 2010 White Paper 'The Importance of Teaching'. We are a free state school, overseen by a Governing Body and Trust set up by the University of Birmingham.







*Our son has been here since the opening of the School, and is loving school. The choice of 'big school' is a big deal to both parents and kids. You're always focussing on what's going to be the best decision for everyone. This School has proved to live up to our expectations, and more importantly, our son's expectations as well."*

**Dorne Peacock and Rob Hughes, Parents**





# Sixth Form

We understand that making the choice about where and what to study in the Sixth Form is a major decision for students and families. With a focus on character education, a close partnership with the world-class University of Birmingham, inspiring teachers, a supportive School environment, a focus on developing character, and a wide range of enrichment options to take part in, the University of Birmingham School Sixth Form offers a truly distinctive experience at this important stage of your life.

## Sixth Form Curriculum

The University of Birmingham School offers a traditional academic curriculum in the Sixth Form. We want our students to have the widest range of options when they consider their next steps into employment or higher education so our curriculum is based around 'facilitating subjects' recommended by the Russell Group of leading UK universities.

At Sixth Form, students will mainly follow a three A Level programme. Each A Level course is led by a well-qualified subject leader, supported by a team of inspiring teachers who bring outstanding subject knowledge and an impressive commitment to the ethos of our ambitious and distinctive School. For more details on specific subjects on offer, please see page 8.

## Enrichment

Sixth Formers have the chance to take part in and lead enrichment activities during their time in our Sixth Form. Enrichment allows students the opportunity to discover passions they never knew existed, time to continue pursuing an interest they already have,

and valuable opportunities to connect with peers and teachers away from academic study.

We have a wide-ranging selection of enrichment options that change with each term. In the past enrichment options have included: Debate Club, German for Business, Basketball, Yoga and many more. Students have also had opportunities to prepare alongside teachers for selection tests (UKCAT, LNAT etc.) for some of the most competitive courses at university.

## Support

Taking the step up to Sixth Form, and joining a new School is a big change. We work to ensure our students are fully supported with this important transition. When our new Sixth Formers arrive at the University of Birmingham School, they are allocated a Sixth Form Tutor who works closely with students, the Sixth Form Manager, and the Progress and Pastoral Manager to support them in:

- Individual strategies to aid confidence and progression;

- University entrance planning and applications;
- Career planning;
- Research and study skills;
- Target setting and monitoring of progress;
- Leadership and independence;
- Character virtue development;
- Developing a healthy lifestyle and work/life balance.

## Leadership and Mentoring

As a Sixth Former, our students are given the opportunity to contribute to the leadership, management and on-going development of the School. This could be mentoring younger pupils; leading enrichment; taking part in College and whole School activities; being involved in the recruitment of teaching staff; and contributing to the development of teaching and learning. This list is not exhaustive – we welcome suggestions and proposals from Sixth Form students for activities they would like to lead.





*The best bit about my time at the University of Birmingham School has undoubtedly been the friends I've made. I hardly knew anyone when I came and now I'm leaving with a whole new group of friends."*

Bethan, Former Sixth Form Student

# An Introduction to Character Education in the Sixth Form

As students progress into the Sixth Form, we want to inspire and guide them in the development of their character. Exploring the specific issues that confront everyone making the transition from late childhood to young adulthood, we provide opportunities to take greater personal responsibility and to continue to grow into authentic freedom. They include identifying meaningful and worthwhile future pathways in life, different kinds of fruitful engagement with the world and sustained exposure to, and reflection on, the challenges of a balanced adult life.

In addition to a diet of 'hard currency' A Levels, students follow a taught course that aims to build character which is complemented by the much more practical and experiential approaches, whether on the sporting field or stage, or in concert hall or debating pit, or in school or the community. Here, character will be 'taught', 'caught' and 'sought' through our ethos and values. Indeed, we will look increasingly to the Sixth Formers to model the role of being a good character to those in the lower School – a great privilege and challenge, no doubt! Such an approach is both broad based and pervasive; it

should deepen students' insight into the morally relevant features of situations, enhance their own self-awareness when confronting them, and provides ample opportunity to practise and reflect on how to strengthen and integrate more fully the virtues required to meet such challenges.

Our approach continues to cut deeper than 'study or employability skills' or 'knowledge about civics', important as these are. We aspire to guide our students in becoming fully flourishing individuals, who live with increasing good sense, courage, fairness, gratitude

and self-control. This will naturally lead our students to becoming high performing, active and engaged citizens, amongst other things that will not only place them on firm footings when confronting the complex and varied challenges of adulthood, but will also furnish them with enduring traits and worthwhile habits of character.

When our students leave us at 18 we aim to have inspired, engaged and supported them in cultivating all that they need for a perfectly balanced, flourishing adult life.



# Joining us in Year 7

At the University of Birmingham School, we have a diverse learning community that helps to address the needs of a rapidly growing city by admitting pupils from across Birmingham. If your child would like to join us in 2020, you will need to make your application through Birmingham City Council before 31 October 2019 and you will be notified whether you have secured a place in March 2020. Full details of how to apply are available at [www.birmingham.gov.uk/schooladmissions](http://www.birmingham.gov.uk/schooladmissions)

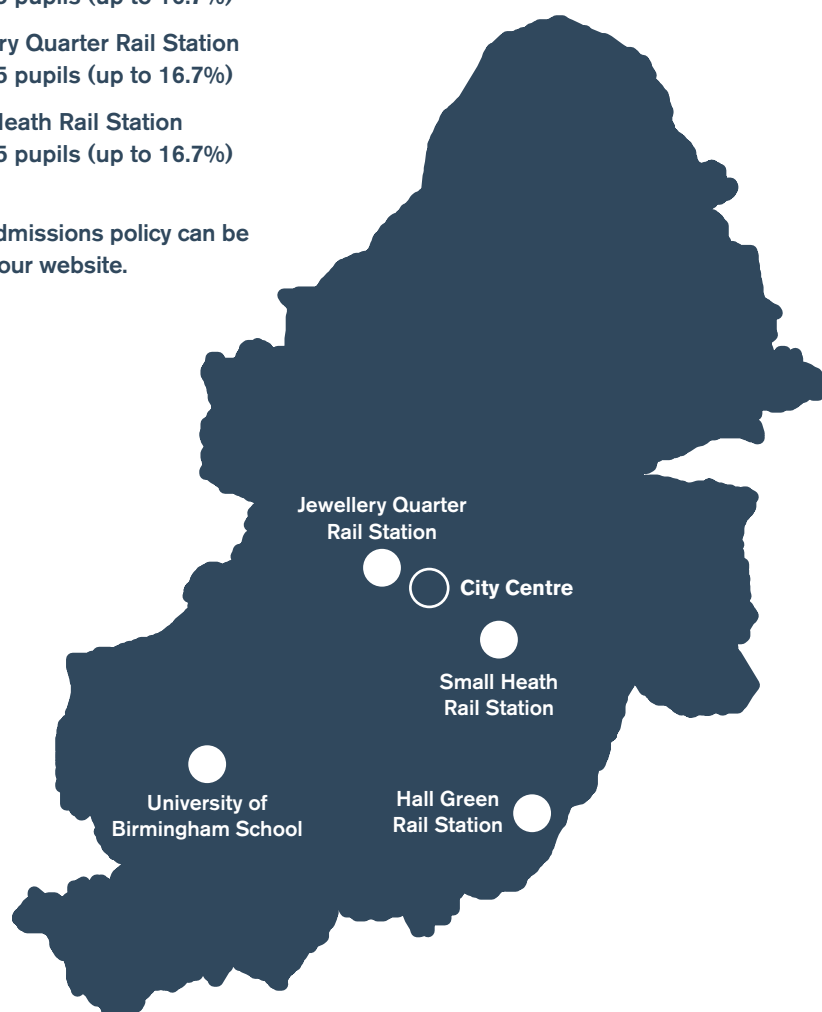
For 2020, we have an agreed Published Admissions Number (PAN) of 150 for admission into Year 7. If we receive more applications than this, places will be offered according to the following over-subscription criteria:

1. Pupils with either an Education, Health and Care Plan or statement of Special Educational Needs naming the University of Birmingham School.
2. Looked-after children and children who were previously looked-after.
3. Siblings of pupils currently attending the University of Birmingham School and who will continue to do so on the date of admission (from 2020). This does not include siblings who were external entrants to the Sixth Form.
4. Distance between applicant's home address and the nodal points set out opposite. Distance will be calculated according to straight line measurement between the applicant's home and the main entrance of the nearest node (as the crow flies). In the event that a tie break situation occurs for the distance criteria, a random allocation tie break will be used.

The expected number of students admitted from each node, per year, is:

- The University of Birmingham School main entrance – up to 75 pupils (up to 50%)
- Hall Green Rail Station up to 25 pupils (up to 16.7%)
- Jewellery Quarter Rail Station up to 25 pupils (up to 16.7%)
- Small Heath Rail Station up to 25 pupils (up to 16.7%)

Our full admissions policy can be found on our website.



*Indicative locations only, map not to scale*





*This School shapes you as a person for the future, and gives you opportunities you wouldn't get anywhere else."*

Kiana, Sixth Form Student

# Joining us in the Sixth Form

**At the University of Birmingham School, our large, selective Sixth Form provides outstanding opportunities for students across the city and region.**

Applications can be submitted from November 2019, using the School's online application system. You can find the link via our School website. The closing date for Sixth Form applications will be 31 January 2020 and applications received after this date will only be considered once applications have been processed for those who have applied before 31 January 2020 (applying within the prescribed timescale.) Further application details can be found on our website.

To be eligible for entry into the Sixth Form, you will be expected to meet the minimum academic entry requirements:

- At least a Grade 6 at GCSE in the subjects you want to study at A Level.
- At least a Grade 7 in associated subjects if your chosen subject is not offered at GCSE such as a Grade 7 in Mathematics to study Computer Science (Grade 8 or 9 in Mathematics if you wish to study Further Mathematics).

- At least 5 GCSEs, in any subject, at Grade 6.
- At least a Grade 5 at GCSE in English Language and Mathematics.
- If the School is oversubscribed, you may need to achieve at least a Grade A at GCSE in the subjects that you want to Study, or equivalent, typically at least a Grade 7 in the new grading system.

There are no geographical criteria for the Sixth Form so where there are more applicants that satisfy the academic entry requirements than we have external places available, priority will be given in the following order:

1. Looked-after children or children who were previously looked-after who meet the minimum academic entry requirements.

2. Pupils with either an Education, Health and Care Plan or a statement of Special Educational Needs naming the University of Birmingham School and who meet the minimum academic entry requirements.

3. Children eligible for the Pupil Premium who meet the minimum academic entry requirements.

In the event of two or more applications that cannot otherwise be separated, the School will use random allocation as a tie-break.

Please note that every effort has been made to make this information as accurate as possible. However, the School reserves the right to make changes, as circumstances demand, although these will be kept to a minimum. For up to date information, please see our website.



# Alumni Success Stories

The University of Birmingham School is proud to celebrate the success of all of our students. Whether students decide to continue their academic education at University, join the world of work, or take a road less travelled, we are creating a thriving alumni community, where our students continue to share in the journey of the School.



**Andie**  
Studying English Language & Literature at  
University of Oxford

*"It has always been a dream of mine to study at Oxford and I'm so pleased I have a place there. I would like to thank my teachers for encouraging and helping me to realise my potential. They showed me it was possible and I am much more confident as a person now."*



**Hannah**  
Studying Welding & Metal Fabrication  
Apprenticeship with Make UK

*"I am pleased with my grades and have decided to take control of my career and join an apprenticeship. Make the most of your two years, it really does go by quickly! Study hard and have fun too."*



**Mahfuz**  
Studying Mathematics at University of Birmingham

*"The entire journey at the sixth form has been a highlight for me, there was never a dull moment. I thoroughly enjoyed the experience and the opportunities I wouldn't have otherwise come across."*



**Priya**  
Studying Physics with Nuclear Science at  
University of Liverpool

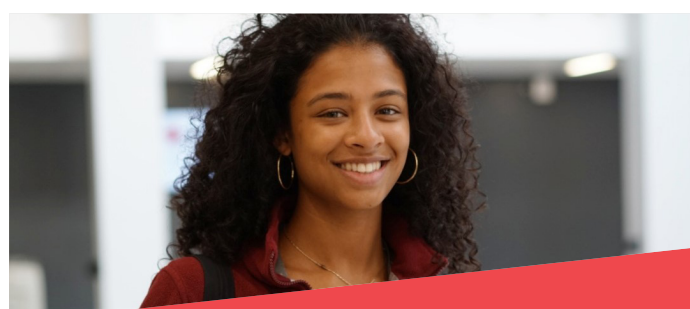
*"I couldn't have achieved my grades without all the help and support from my teachers. They have helped shape my future. I'm now going on to pursue a future in Physics and cannot wait to start."*





**Russell**  
Studying Civil Engineering at University of Cardiff

*"I was nervous before results day, but relieved when I got the grades I needed! I couldn't have done it without the support from my parents and the help from my teachers – those extra sessions outside of lessons and their belief in me to succeed kept me going."*



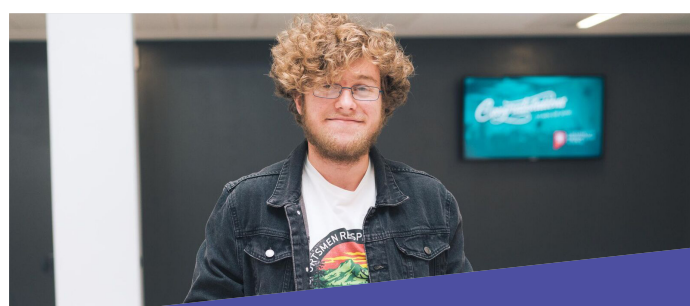
**Xanthe**  
Studying Chemical Engineering at Swansea University

*"I'm happy with my results. I worked really hard and my grades are a reflection of that. These are exciting times for women in STEM at the moment, so I'm proud to be starting my journey in engineering."*



**Bez**  
Studying Pharmacy at University of Birmingham

*"The links with the university helped me to decide what path I wanted to take after sixth form. I feel lucky to have had those unique opportunities."*




**Josh**  
Studying Mechatronics & Robotics at University of Leeds

*"The teachers here have so much knowledge and they will go out their way to help you. I cannot thank them enough."*




**Our mission is to make real progress every day to better our students and teachers, so they flourish and inspire other citizens around them to build better communities, and a better world.**









A photograph of two students in school uniforms walking towards the camera in front of a large, classical building with columns. The image is overlaid with a blue gradient.

## University of Birmingham School

12 Weoley Park Road  
Selly Oak  
Birmingham  
B29 6QU

t: 0121 796 5000

e: [welcome@uobschool.org.uk](mailto:welcome@uobschool.org.uk)

w: [uobschool.org.uk](http://uobschool.org.uk)

### Keep in touch



[@uobschool](https://twitter.com/uobschool)



[facebook.com/uobschool](https://facebook.com/uobschool)



[instagram.com/uobschool](https://instagram.com/uobschool)