



SIXTH FORM PROSPECTUS



MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

It is a privilege to welcome you to George Spencer Academy Sixth Form. The students we work with each day create the community that we are extremely proud of. Our ethos centres on excellence; from the challenge and intellectual rigour to the support we provide for each individual. Our Sixth Form is focused on a culture of learning, the motivation of study and a real sense of cherishing each other. We offer outstanding academic education for all our students in small class sizes with teachers who build strong relationships with each student and will strive to get the very best out of everyone. George Spencer Academy Sixth Form is an inspirational place with a true sense of belonging to something special. We very much hope that you will choose to join us in September.

Helen Corbett

Mrs Helen Corbett, Principal



WELCOME

Thank you for your interest in George Spencer Academy. We are a values-driven, learning rich community where your independence is championed, your identity is celebrated, and your future is shaped with care.

We are driven to create a sense of belonging for every person, built on strong relationships, personalised support, and a culture that puts them first. Guided by our core values and our motto:

YOUR INDEPENDENCE, OUR SUPPORT, YOUR IDENTITY
everything we do is designed around the individual and what they need to be truly successful.

We are intentionally a small sixth form which allows us to know every student personally, offering tailored academic guidance, exceptional teaching, and one-to-one support, while still providing a broad and ambitious curriculum. Alongside high-quality lessons, our bespoke enrichment programme, careers guidance, work placements, and volunteering opportunities develop confidence, leadership, creativity, and real-world skills.



We understand the importance of academic outcomes for the students at this stage of their education. We also understand this time is about them growing into themselves, finding their voice, and stepping forward with confidence. Whether students join us from our academy or another school, they will find a warm welcome, a supportive team, and a community that believes in them.

Stacy Crawford

Mrs Stacy Crawford, Director of Sixth Form



"Sixth form has helped me become more independent by giving me responsibility for managing my own studies and study periods".

"I like the support given, I'm more confident in emailing teachers to ask for help with classwork, homework and revision."

"Completing my EPQ developed my research and organisational skills, while taking on a leadership role as a peer mentor helped me build confidence and responsibility".



"Welcoming and inclusive. Everyone is willing to help each other out".

"It's a positive atmosphere, people are accepting of others".

YOUR INDEPENDENCE

Our Sixth Form environment fosters independence by giving you greater responsibility in managing your own learning and personal development. This comes hand in hand with taking more responsibility for your studies, with students deciding how to effectively use their independent study periods. Our leadership roles help develop your decision-making and responsibility, whilst our Extended Project Qualification encourages independent research, planning and problem-solving.

OUR SUPPORT

Help in the Sixth Form is always close at hand. Whether it is from the Sixth Form team or fellow students, you will find that we are a close community who are there for each other. We have a dedicated team who will direct you down the right path, whether it be for wellbeing support or general guidance. In addition, you will be allocated a personal Learning Manager who will monitor your progress and guide you throughout your time in the Sixth Form. Our students note how supported they feel for both academic and pastoral matters.

YOUR IDENTITY

This is your time to explore the subjects that really interest you, to get involved in all the opportunities available and to become who you want to be. Our extra-curricular activities enable you to pursue personal interests and connect with others who share them, whilst our dress code gives you greater freedom to express yourselves while maintaining professionalism.

The supportive community surrounding every pupil at George Spencer Sixth Form ensures each student is given every chance and opportunity to pursue their own path and passions.



YOUR INDEPENDENCE
OUR SUPPORT
YOUR IDENTITY

STEP UP TO SIXTH FORM

What is studying at sixth form like?

Students are fully supported in making the transition from GCSE to Sixth Form study and quickly realise that it is not like studying at school. As a Sixth Form student you focus on fewer subjects in greater depth and are given more responsibility for your learning. You are expected to manage your time effectively alongside preparing for higher education or employment.

"The atmosphere is much different to secondary, those who come tend to take education seriously."

SIXTH FORM COMMUNITY

George Spencer Academy Sixth Form is a place where students are empowered to discover their strengths, pursue their ambitions, and shape their own future. Our vibrant and supportive community encourages students to challenge themselves, embrace new opportunities, and develop the confidence to succeed beyond Sixth Form. By combining high expectations with a caring and inclusive ethos, we create an environment where every student can thrive.

"As an external student, I felt like I instantly belonged. All the staff were super welcoming and supportive of myself and other external students, as we were all in the same boat. I fully recommend George Spencer to both external and internal students as not only have I been supported in applying to top universities, such as Cambridge and Imperial, but I have also made lifelong friends I wouldn't have had if I didn't apply! "





COURSES

A wide range of A level and vocational courses are offered. For further information please see the Course Overview Booklet on the school website. When applying you are asked to choose three subjects plus a reserve choice. Students who are academically strong may opt to choose four subjects, and this will be discussed and agreed with you.

The entry requirements are a minimum of 5 courses at GCSE Grades 9-4 including English and Mathematics. In addition, there are subject specific entry criteria, and many subjects require specific grades in the subject area, and/or related subjects.

<http://www.georgespencer.org.uk/entryrequirements/>

CREATIVE ARTS

- Art & Design
- Drama & Theatre Studies
- Music

DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY

- Product Design

ENGLISH

- English Language
- English Literature
- Media Studies

ICT & BUSINESS

- Computing
- Business Studies
- Economics
- Digital Media Level 3

MATHEMATICS

- Mathematics
- Further Mathematics
- Core Mathematics

MODERN FOREIGN LANGUAGES

- French
- Spanish

SCIENCE

- Biology
- Chemistry
- Physics

SOCIAL SCIENCES

- Applied Diploma in Criminology
- Geography
- History

- Philosophy & Ethics
- Politics
- Psychology
- Sociology

SPORT

- Physical Education
- Level 3 Diploma in Sport

EPQ

- Extended Project Qualification



georgespencer.org.uk/sixth-form

EXTENDED PROJECT QUALIFICATION (EPQ) COURSE

The Extended Project Qualification (EPQ) is taken alongside A levels during Year 12 for most students. It provides the opportunity to study a topic that you have a particular interest in. The EPQ helps to develop independent learning, critical thinking and research skills that will be important for further study, careers and life.

The qualification can lead to an alternative offer being made by universities. The EPQ can also be considered an additional AS pass by some Universities, and many look favourably when students detail their EPQ in their personal statement.

ENRICHMENT

Students benefit from a study programme that is not only academically rich but also has varied opportunities for developing skills and growing in confidence. Taking part in activities such as the student leadership team, charity and community committees and mentoring younger students all contribute to your individualised study programme which enables you to grow and develop as a person.

There are 3 elements of the Enrichment Programme and there is student choice, so you participate in the right options for you. The marketplace of activities is designed to feel like a university Fresher's Fair when students choose which societies they want to be part of.

■ Health and Wellbeing ■ Life Skills ■ Community

"Other opportunities that have been open during my time in Sixth Form include British Sign Language courses, peer mentoring, competitions, societies and sport clubs. I have been on 2 fieldwork trips with Geography during the A-Level and am looking forward to visiting CERN in Switzerland with Physics this summer."

"There's always something going on here. I feel that this is an important part of the Sixth Form, for not just producing good A-Level results, but also well-rounded young people with extra skills and qualities that help to make the difference for their future endeavours."



SPIRES PROGRAMME

The Spires Programme is our bespoke pathway for high-achieving students aspiring to study at Oxford, Cambridge, or other highly competitive universities. Through a carefully curated programme of super-curricular opportunities, including university-style lectures, academic reading, research projects, and wider subject exploration, students are encouraged to deepen their knowledge beyond the classroom. Designed to develop intellectual curiosity, critical thinking, and independent learning skills, the programme also provides valuable insight into the university application process. Through tailored guidance and enrichment experiences, students gain the confidence, skills, and ambition needed to make competitive applications and realise their full academic potential.

CELEBRATING SUCCESS

At our Sixth Form, we believe every achievement deserves recognition. We celebrate success in all its forms, from academic excellence to contributions to the wider life of the Sixth Form community. Through our Bonus Reward Scheme, you can earn points and exchange them for a range of rewards at a time that suits you. Half-term and termly celebration events recognise individual and collective achievements, while our bespoke Astral Award highlights students who demonstrate exceptional commitment to personal development and enriching the Sixth Form experience for others.

FINDING YOUR FUTURE

Whether your goal is a degree apprenticeship with a leading employer, a place at a top university, or discovering the right pathway for you, our Sixth Form will help you get there.

Through work experience, university visits, employer workshops, and personalised careers guidance, students are supported to explore their options and make informed decisions about their future. Our use of the Unifrog and UCAS platforms helps students research university courses, apprenticeships, and career pathways, while expert support is provided throughout the application process.

For students with ambitious goals, our bespoke Spires Programme prepares applicants for Oxford, Cambridge, and other highly competitive universities, while our Degree Apprenticeship Programme provides tailored support for securing opportunities with leading employers.

Students will leave us as excellent candidates in their chosen field and are fully prepared through the UCAS process of applying for university or the apprenticeship route to start their careers.

"You get lots of opportunities to look at your future and work towards enhancing your personal statement and CV."

"Staff are passionate about helping you to achieve your individual goals. I experienced this throughout Year 12, through regular meetings with my Learning Manager, then in Year 13 with detailed Personal Statement feedback, as well as a practice interview for my application to the University of Cambridge."

"I can assure that George Spencer's Sixth Form team is a real asset to putting forward high. quality applications for university, jobs, or apprenticeships."





WHY STUDY AT GEORGE SPENCER SIXTH FORM?

Emma Snow, Digital Journalist



Studied: English Language, Geography and Media Studies. Broadcast Journalism degree at Nottingham Trent University.
Career: Broadcast Journalist, BBC East Midlands Today

"It's the best job in the world and studying at George Spencer definitely helped me get to where I am now. During my time at Sixth Form I was a student governor, helping shape the future of the school and Sixth Form through regular meetings with senior leadership. The Sixth Form really encouraged my career ambitions, allowing me to interview MPs on behalf of the school, as well as supporting me when I was presenting shows on community radio. I have fond memories of my time at George Spencer and I'm really glad I chose to study my A-Levels here, as it provided great foundations to enable me to take the next step in my education and career".

Chris Gray, Journalist



Studied: Journalism, Mass Communication and Media Studies at Lincoln University.
Career: Assistant Editor at the BBC News Channel.

I chose George Spencer Sixth Form because I loved the school and the teachers. They knew how to get the best out of me, helping me progress to university. Aside from that, the extra-curricular activities, such as the school productions and bands were the perfect light relief whilst studying for A-Levels. I found the Sixth Form incredibly welcoming, supportive and always felt the staff would bend over backwards to get the best out of you.

Aaron Fryer, Doctor



Studied: Chemistry, Biology, Maths and English at King's College, London.
Career: Medicine

I went to George Spencer Sixth Form because I was a student at GSA from years 7-11 so I knew the school well. I studied Chemistry, Biology, Maths and English Language. I achieved a Degree in Medicine at King's College London and an Associate's degree in Philosophy and Theology. Specialities I have worked in include: cardiology, accident and emergency, vascular surgery, cardiac surgery, respiratory medicine, general practice and I am currently working in trauma and orthopaedics.

James Ross, Paramedic



Studied: Biology, Psychology, Sociology. Paramedic Science at St George's University of London.
Career: Paramedic with the London Ambulance Service.

I studied at GSA for my GCSEs and decided to stay on at sixth form as it was a smaller college that allowed for more tailored learning. The teachers are knowledgeable in their fields and I found they always wanted the best for their students. Because of the effort my teachers put into my learning I'm now working my dream job.

Working as a Paramedic is a rewarding and challenging job in which you can make that difference. I can't think of any other job I would rather do.

YOUR QUESTIONS ANSWERED

How do I apply?

You are encouraged to attend our Open Evening to come and see our Sixth Form for yourself. Ask us any questions that will help you decide - we know that it can be daunting to choose the right place for you. To apply please complete our application form:



georgespencer.org.uk/apply/

How do I choose what subjects to take?

Visit all the subjects that you might be interested in when you attend the Open Evening, as the more information you have, the better. You will be able to find out from teachers and students about what each course involves. Think about your strengths and your enjoyment of the subjects you have already taken, and do not be afraid of trying something new. Do not worry if you change your mind as you just need to get in touch with us to see what other subjects can fit.

Is the transition to Sixth Form Challenging?

A lot of students can worry about this. Studying at Sixth Form is a step up from your GCSEs, and so we have a Year 12 Bridge time programme to help you make that transition. We help you to develop your study skills so that you learn how to study effectively. We follow the VESPA mindset model helping you

develop the habits and attitudes needed to thrive in Sixth Form and beyond.

Will I fit in as I am not a student from George Spencer?

Students who are in Year 11 at other schools are more than welcome and find that they have settled in quickly. We hold a hot chocolate and cake morning so that you get to meet each other and have a chat with Year 13s who came from different schools. Being a small Sixth Form really counts here - you easily get to meet like-minded students and soon feel at home.

Will Sixth Form be different to school?

Yes! You are treated as young adults and are given independence to match this. We have a dedicated Resource Centre, a 6th Form Bistro and study areas solely for the use of Sixth Formers. In addition, there are many differences such as not having to line up for lessons and having an ID card so that you can enter buildings.

What will my timetable be like?

You will follow our Sixth Form Study Programme which consists of subject lessons, Bridge time, Enrichment and Independent study periods. Our Bridge time curriculum delivered by our Learning Managers So, you have time to complete independent work during the day. You also have dedicated time for enrichment activities, and registration sessions with a Learning Manager to help you progress and also plan for your future.

Are there work experience opportunities?

Yes, all Y12s do 1 week work experience, usually at the start of July.

If I don't have a lesson 1st period, do I have to come in for my Bridge session?

Yes, Bridge sessions are compulsory for all students every day at 8.45 am (except Wednesdays).

When are my exams?

Assessed are at the end of every half term in subject areas. There are also end of Y12 examinations in June/July, mocks in Feb/March of Y13 and final examinations at the end of Y13. Some vocational subjects have additional examinations to these, and some subjects have Non-Examination Assessments (NEAs) that are due in at different times.

I want to study medicine and/or go to Oxbridge or a Russell Group Uni, can you help me?

Yes, we have a strong tradition of supporting medical students and those who aspire to attend a Russell Group university. Our Spires Programme will particularly help you in securing those high quality super-curricular activities top universities love.

Is there any financial assistance available?

There is a national bursary scheme which provides support for some students. For details and eligibility criteria please see:



georgespencer.org.uk/16-19-bursary-fund/



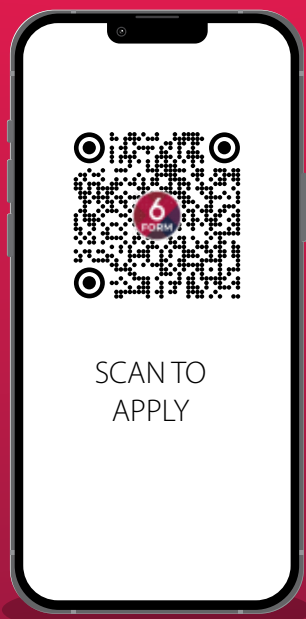


Spencer Academies Trust

Spencer Academies Trust is a family of schools spread across Derbyshire, Nottinghamshire, and Leicestershire. We are proud to provide quality education for over 16,000 children and young people from a diverse array of communities, guided always by our core values: aspiration, partnership and responsibility. We have 6 Sixth Forms who work collaboratively to ensure that we offer the widest opportunities for all our students. We are exceptionally proud of our results which places us in the top 10% nationally. These results enable our students to progress to a wide range of destinations at some of the most competitive institutions and courses including Oxford, Cambridge and Medicine, and higher apprenticeships at companies like Rolls Royce. We work closely with partners both locally and nationally, including University of Cambridge and University of Nottingham. All of our Sixth Forms provide the very best pastoral care so that each student feels that they belong to our family, as we prepare them to become well rounded world citizens with a bright future ahead of them.



**GEORGE
SPENCER
ACADEMY**



WHERE ARE WE?

Arthur Mee Road, Stapleford, Nottingham, NG9 7EW.
Located near the Toton Lane park and ride tram stop.

You can also find us online:



[georgespencer.org.uk/apply/](https://www.georgespencer.org.uk/apply/)



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[@gsasixthform](https://www.instagram.com/gsasixthform)

YOUR INDEPENDENCE

OUR SUPPORT

YOUR IDENTITY

ETHOS OF EXCELLENCE