

**Welcome**

Mr Wood – St Aidan's Head

**Choices: the Sixth Form Curriculum**

Mr Kidman – St Aidan's Head of Sixth Form

**Students' perspectives**

**Support and Opportunities**

Mrs Joy - St John Fisher Head of Sixth Form

**Students' perspectives**

**A Unique Sixth Form**

Mr Pritchard – St John Fisher Head



# Why the Associated Sixth Form?

- Range of Choices
- Relationships: Students, Teachers, Pastoral Support, Careers Advice and Guidance
- Results and Progression

# Range of Options

## The Changing Curriculum

- New linear A Levels
- AS Levels not offered as part of A Level in linear courses
- Revision of Applied qualifications
- GCSE assessed by number not grade (C equivalent 4 or 5)



# A Level Courses

New revised specifications in place for all subjects for September 2017:

- Two-year linear A Levels with all external assessments at the end of Year 13
- Longer, more challenging exams involving application of skills
- Reduction in coursework content in many subjects

# 2 year Applied Courses

- Mixture of portfolio and examination assessments
- Some courses modular with assessments taken and qualification attained at the end of Year 12; some linear assessment at end of Year 13.
- BTEC, AQA Level 3 Applied General, Cambridge Technicals
- In 2016 50% of BTEC entries attained Distinction\* or Distinction
- UCAS points tariff values similar to A Levels

# Other Courses

- Requirement to study GCSE Mathematics and/or English for students not attaining Grade 4 or above in Year 11
- Extended Project Qualification
- Core Maths
- Employability, Enrichment and Pastoral through Tutorial programme and fortnightly lesson Wednesday pm.

# Extended Project Qualification

- Valued by universities and employers for independent study skills and initiative
- Weekly commitment to research and independent study alongside careful preparation and supervision
- Significant additional workload (research plus 5000 word essay or practical product)
- Not as important as the right grades in the right subjects – universities unlikely to make a condition of offers
- Valued as 50% of A Level
- 71% of entries in last four years were at A\* - A



# Core Maths qualification

- Valued by employers and universities
- Practical applications of Maths
- Supports other courses which involve Maths eg Geography, Economics, Biology, Psychology
- Ideal for students who don't want to choose Maths A Level but recognise the importance of higher level Maths qualification
- Weekly timetable commitment of 4 hours

# Course structure / options

- Students follow a minimum of three A Level and/or Applied courses
- Some may choose to follow four A Levels depending upon prior attainment, aspirations and ability to cope with workload
- Students may add EPQ (all students) and/or Core Maths (three A Level students)
- GCSE Maths or English added to timetable for students who have not attained Grade 4 in Year 11

# Choosing Courses

## The Key to Sixth Form Success

- Subject interest
- Subject skills
- Career progression
- High grade prospects
- Motivation

# Useful sources of information

- [www.staidans.co.uk](http://www.staidans.co.uk)
- [www.sjfchs.org.uk](http://www.sjfchs.org.uk)
- [www.russellgroup.ac.uk](http://www.russellgroup.ac.uk) (Informed Choices)
- [www.ucas.com](http://www.ucas.com) (Course Search)

# Voice of Experience

## Matt Topham





# Transition to Sixth Form

- Relationships and Support
- Students - meeting new peers, developing new friendships
- Teachers - working with students within and beyond lessons
- Teaching Groups - each student should expect to be taught across the two schools
- Pastoral - role of Senior Tutors
- “The assessment and monitoring of students’ academic performance is excellent...there are clear systems for recording and monitoring students’ progress.....This process involves the students, their subject teachers, Senior Tutors and Heads of Sixth Form”

# Monitoring Progress

## Year 12

- Target grades
- Driving Test
- Grade Review and Discussion
- Formal assessments in class
- Grade Review
- Mock examinations in exam room
- Discussions with Senior Tutor and confirmation of Year 2 course

# Voice of Experience



## Nic Cain



# Results and Progression

## Careers Department

- Bespoke Careers Advice and Guidance service
- 3 Professionally qualified Careers Advisors
- Individual careers guidance appointments offering tailored advice (which parents may attend with students)
- Taught programmes for all, covering university options, college, gap years, employment and apprenticeships
- Expert support throughout UCAS application process
- Well established links with university and college Admissions Tutors, Alumni network and employers
- Specialist advice on specific career routes eg Medicine, Dentistry, Veterinary Science, Nursing, Teaching, Business and Management, Engineering
- Employer events, eg our Humanities, Languages, Business, Creative and Performing Arts Careers Evening, Thursday 9 March 2017 at St Aidan's

# THE CLOCK Careers Evening 2017

THURSDAY 9 MARCH 6-8PM, CONSTANCE GREEN HALL



## Humanities, Languages, Business,

## Creative & Performing Arts





# Progression Routes

- 2016: 93% of HE entrants gained 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> choice
- 2016: 167 students accepted at Russell Group and 1994 universities
- 2016: 14 students accepted onto Medicine, Dentistry and Veterinary Science Courses
- 2016: 22 students accepted onto specialist Music, Dance and Drama courses
- 2016: 50 students secured apprenticeships (including Nestle, Arla Foods, Rudding Park, Harrogate District Hospital and Audi)
- 52 Oxbridge offers in the last four years

# Extra-Curricular and Leadership Opportunities

- Music/Drama/Sport/Art
- Charity Fund-Raising
- Children in Need, Cafod
- Support for Community
- Peer Counselling, Amnesty
- Debating, Public Speaking
- Duke of Edinburgh Award
- Citizenship Conference
- Special Events, School Trips

# Voice of Experience – Jo Stephenson





# Students applying from Other Schools: Application and Induction Process

- Application Form available to download from the websites or this evening, to return by 3 March
- Individual meetings with applicants to discuss courses, interests, moving schools
- Offer letter and form to confirm acceptance
- Newcomers' Conference Tuesday 27 June
- Enrolment meeting post-GCSE results

# Students Applying from SA and SJF: Application and Induction Process

- Application Form handed out today at school, to be returned by Friday 3 March
- Careers interviews ongoing; follow-up available on request
- Subject information available in school
- Induction event for Monday 26 June
- Enrolment meeting post-GCSE results



# A Unique Sixth Form



# Save the Dates.....

- **Friday 3 March:** Applications due
- **Monday 26 June:** Induction event for students from SA and SJF Year 11
- **Tuesday 27 June:** Newcomer Conference
- **Thursday 24 August:** GCSE results
- **Thursday 31 August, Friday 1 September:** Year 12 enrolment
- **Wednesday 6 September:** Year 12 induction

# Keep in touch

- Telephone: 01423 818516
- Email: [associatedsixthform@staidans.co.uk](mailto:associatedsixthform@staidans.co.uk)
- Facebook:  St Aidan's and St John Fisher  
Associated Sixth Form
- Twitter:  SASJFSixthForm
- [www.staidans.co.uk](http://www.staidans.co.uk)
- [www.sjfchs.org.uk](http://www.sjfchs.org.uk)