

TOWNSEND
SIXTH FORM

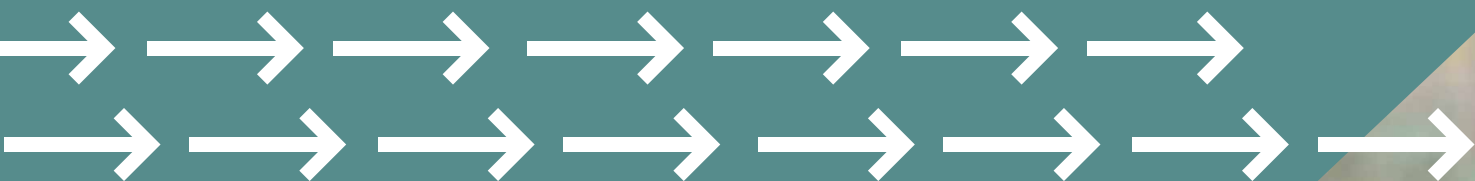
www.townsend.herts.sch.uk



Sixth Form

Prospectus





Welcome

Townsend Sixth Form provides a challenging, enriching and welcoming environment in which our students are known, nurtured and inspired to grow in academic excellence. The courses we offer are taught by well-qualified, experienced and dedicated teachers in a fully equipped, studios Sixth Form Centre that is highly conducive to independent learning.

Our Sixth Form is a place where everyone is welcome and everyone succeeds. We welcome students of all faiths and of no faith. Our Sixth Form culture is underpinned by our whole school Respect for All and Achievement for All policies, which, together with our Bible-based vision for Love Your Neighbour, taken from the Parable of the Good Samaritan (Luke 10: 25 – 37) create a fully inclusive and warm environment. We encourage students to develop self-respect, to take pride in positive achievement and to care for their own physical and mental health.

We take delight in the extremely positive working relationships which develop between students, staff and parents alike. The Christian family atmosphere and caring community that we foster in the Sixth Form enables our students to develop a sense of worth, show responsibility and leadership and become the very best version of themselves. The pastoral team have a strong commitment to ensuring all our students feel part of our school community and are successful.



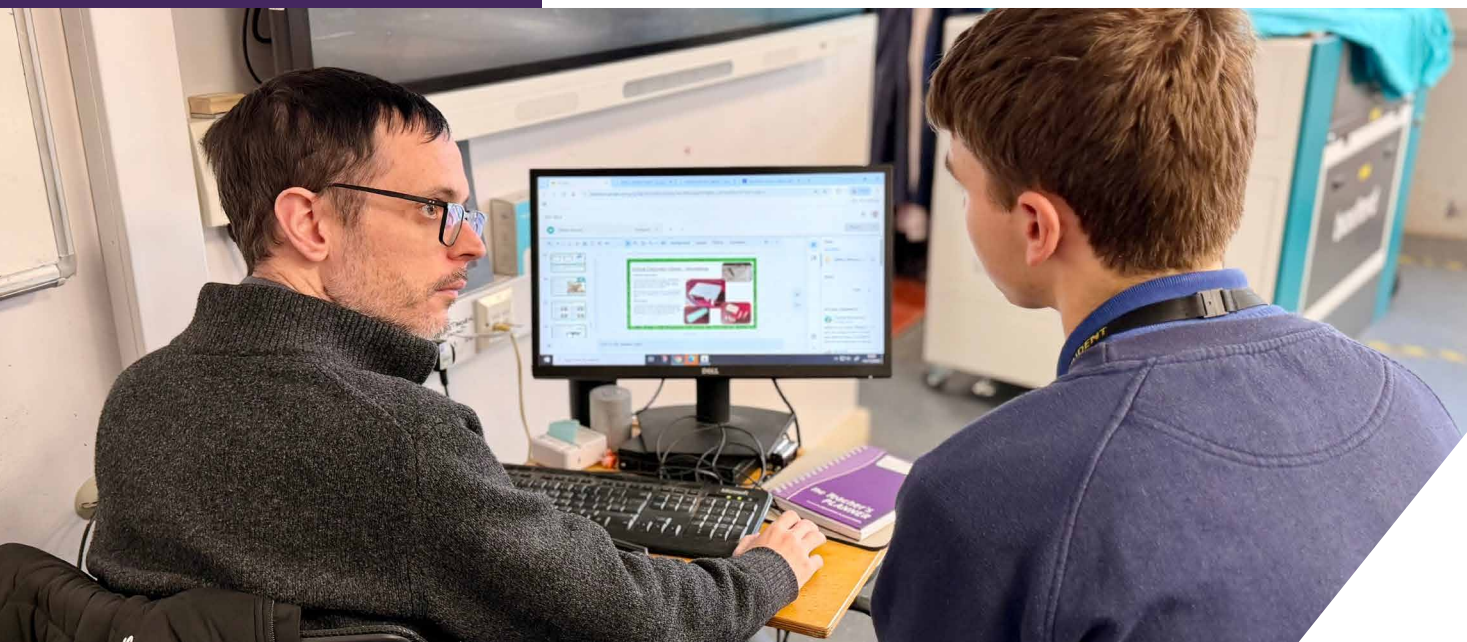
Sixth Form

We are a growing Sixth Form and because of this, our class sizes are usually smaller than in many other post-16 settings. As a result, we are able to provide excellent support, feedback, and monitoring for all our students throughout their time here.

Sixth Form outcomes are generally strong. Our commitment to excellence is demonstrated by consistently high examination results, with many students achieving top grades and exceeding expectations.

Students aspiring to pursue higher education at a university achieve this goal successfully, with a significant proportion securing places at Russell Group institutions. Additionally, students are well supported in exploring alternative pathways, including apprenticeships, employment, and other higher education opportunities.

At our Sixth Form, you will gain a broad set of transferable skills that prepare you for success beyond the classroom. We actively encourage you to take on leadership roles and utilise the extensive personal development opportunities available throughout your journey with us.





“Joining Townsend’s Sixth Form offers great opportunities to achieve both in and out of the classroom. There is a very friendly vibe in the Sixth Form and everyone gets on really well. The teachers at Townsend are very welcoming and easy to go to for help and advice. The Sixth Form is also a good place to get closer to your friends and make new ones.”

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Sixth Form



Sixth Form Centre

You will have access to the Sixth Form Centre. This separate wing of the school has been designed to provide Sixth Form students with the best possible working environment.

A quiet study room equipped with desktop computers and Chromebooks, study areas, as well as wireless internet

access, provides a comfortable environment to work independently. This is complemented by a suite of classrooms and meeting rooms exclusively for Sixth Form students. School-issued iPads are also a key part to students’ independent study. The recently refurbished Sixth Form Hub offers soft seating, a coffee machine, and a fully

equipped kitchen area, providing the perfect space for break and lunchtimes.

The Sixth Form Centre encourages students to gain a sense of belonging, whilst fostering a culture of achievement allowing students to flourish.

Sixth Form Study Programmes

A Level Pathway

A traditional 3 A Level pathway where students choose 3 subjects to study at A Level.

There is also the option to take additional qualifications (subject to GCSE grades), such as Further Mathematics and the Extended Project Qualification.

Pathway options

(subject to availability – this may change on a yearly basis)

Hybrid Pathway

Our Sixth Form offers a flexible Hybrid Pathway, combining Advanced Academic Qualifications (AAQs) with traditional A Levels. This approach allows students to tailor their studies by selecting a personalised mix of three A Level subjects and/or AAQs, ensuring a curriculum that aligns with their strengths, interests, and future aspirations.

Complementary studies

In addition to your courses, you will also be required to participate in the complementary studies programme that includes Learning for Life & Religious Education lessons, Physical Education lessons, Core Maths and other courses designed to support your learning.



Alban Learning Partners



“The consortium system enables you to have the experience of learning in a new environment and to meet new people from other schools. Going to other schools for lessons also opens up more opportunities to study subjects that might not be available at Townsend or clash with another subject.”

Townsend works within a consortium of schools known as the Alban Learning Partners.

If the course is unavailable or clashes with another subject choice at Townsend, it will likely be offered across the Alban Learning Partners, due to the extensive range of subjects available across the schools in the consortium. Students who attend the Sixth Form here at Townsend can take one subject at one of our consortium partners:



ALPs Campuses

- **Loreto College**
- **Marlborough Science Academy**
- **Nicholas Breakspear School**
- **Samuel Ryder Academy**
- **St Albans Girls' School**

Students at a partner school, may also study one subject at Townsend.

Subject Information

Students joining the Sixth Form are encouraged to follow a broad, challenging curriculum. Most students will select three courses for their studies from a wide range available. The course booklet will provide more in-depth information for each subject, including entry requirements and assessment guidance.

Townsend Sixth Form can offer a comprehensive range of subjects.

A Level Courses

Art & Design
Biology
Business
Chemistry
Criminology
Drama
Economics
English Literature
Fashion & Textiles
French
Geography

History
Mathematics
Further Mathematics
Film and TV
Physical Education
Physics
Politics
Psychology
Philosophy & Ethics
Product Design
Sociology

Advanced Academic Qualification (AAQs)

Health and Social Care
Mental Health

Other courses available via ALPs consortium

Classics, Computer Science,
Photography, Spanish





Choosing what to study



Choosing what to study may be a difficult decision to make. You must first consider what you would like to do after Sixth Form, as this will help you choose an appropriate pathway and subjects for you. Some subjects are more frequently required for entry to degree courses than others.

It is good to do some careful research to think through your possibilities. Take advice from family, friends and teachers so you can make an informed decision, based on accurate up-to-date information - but remember, the final choice is yours as you are the one who will have to put the hard work in. Don't assume you will like the subject at A Level just because you liked it at GCSE – it could be very different. We also suggest that you don't take all new subjects unless you have thoroughly researched them.

Some careers require very specific course combinations. This should therefore be investigated carefully. Information to help you can be researched on websites such as:

UCAS

www.ucas.com

Services for Young People

www.servicesforyoungpeople.org

Unifrog

www.unifrog.org

Individual university websites

Your GCSE results are likely to have the biggest bearing on what you finally decide to do when you come to enrol for the Sixth Form on GCSE results day.



“The Sixth Form provides a more individual experience than the rest of school and prepares you well for adult life. This is partly because we have an excellent Sixth Form Centre. The Sixth Form Hub is a great place to relax and unwind during break and lunchtime. The smaller classes give you a chance to have better relationships with both your peers and teachers, and this also adds to the positive attitude of Sixth Form students at Townsend.”



Expectations



Townsend Sixth Form Aims are to:

- Develop skilled and educated young people, prepared for adult and working life
- Provide an environment that enables and encourages all students to reach their full potential
- Provide clear progression opportunities and flexible pathways
- Offer learning environments where you feel safe, valued and informed



A Townsend Sixth Form student will display the following characteristics and qualities:

- Hard working with the ability to meet deadlines and complete all assignments that are required
- A sense of responsibility which demonstrates high expectations and standards
- A growth mindset which enables the development of independent skills and self-reliance
- Self-reflective and evaluative of own performance
- A role model within the school community

Academic Progress

It is important that you, your parents/carers and staff know that you are demonstrating progress in your studies. When you join the Sixth Form, your GCSE results will be analysed and you will be given a target grade for each of your courses, based on your GCSE results. Your academic progress will be monitored on a regular basis, and you will be challenged if you are not reaching your potential in any area. The support you receive as a sixth form student is of high quality and teachers are available for individual support when needed.

Throughout Sixth Form, your teachers will regularly report on class attainment. This information will be used to track progress and identify areas that require support. Students who are underperforming will be challenged and supported to improve attainment levels. By the end of Year 12, all students should be demonstrating the ability to succeed in their chosen courses.

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“Sixth Form life often gives students the chance to become more responsible and mature people. There are many positions of responsibility, such as anti-bullying ambassadors, lesson assistants, paired reading mentors and running the school shop. I love the opportunity given to me within the student leadership team, as this has developed my interpersonal skills.”

The Parent/Carers Consultation evening is an opportunity for you and your parents/carers to discuss progress with individual teachers. If you study a course at a consortium provider, you will be expected to attend the appropriate parent/carer consultation evening at that institution.





Personal Development and Enrichment

During Sixth Form, students develop into young adults and demonstrate more maturity and independence. Therefore, it is essential to gain experience outside the classroom.

Activities include, for Year 12, work experience, University and Apprenticeship trips, external talks on mental health, personal statements and personal safety. Additionally, students can volunteer to lead the organisation of a senior citizens' Christmas party and take part in a leadership conference.

Aspiring to Oxbridge or other top universities? Our exclusive Highflier programme gives ambitious students the edge – offering expert guidance, tailored activities, and unparalleled support to help you stand out and succeed.

We offer additional opportunities, including a First Aid Qualification, Mental Health Awareness Training and a variety of local, national and international visits and residentials. Sixth form students also have the opportunity to participate in cultural and enrichment trips to New York, Auschwitz-Birkenau, Oxbridge, London and Brighton throughout their time here.



Next Steps...

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Next Steps..

To apply for Townsend Sixth Form, scan the QR code below and fill-out the Online application form or complete a hard copy that can be obtained from the school's website or main office. The Head of Sixth Form will then meet with you to discuss your application and check the details and appropriateness of your chosen courses.

You will also have an opportunity to take part in various activities throughout Year 11 to prepare you for Sixth Form at Townsend.

In August, when the GCSE results are published, you need to send us your grades for each subject. Subject to meeting the entry criteria, you will be enrolled on the course(s) you applied for. If you did not achieve the grades you were expected, please contact us, as we may have an alternative option for you.

We look forward to welcoming you into our Sixth Form community.

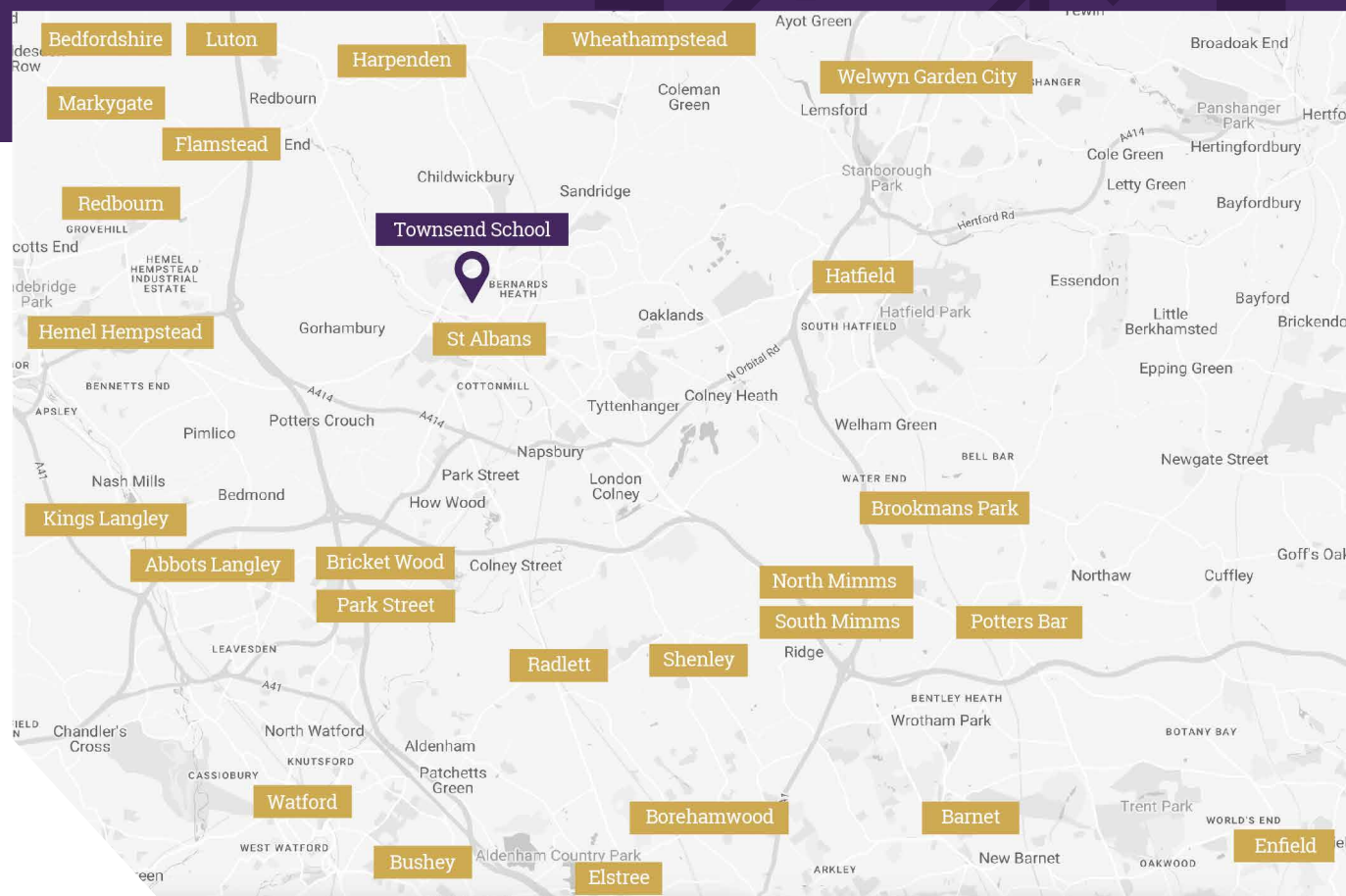
Scan the QR code with your smartphone to apply.

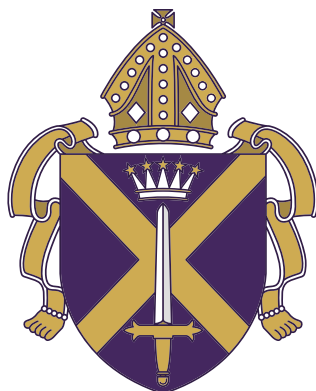


Getting here

Traditionally pupils come to Townsend from a very wide area - including from in and around all the areas show on this map!

For more information about transport routes, please see our website: www.townsend.herts.sch.uk





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**High Oaks
St Albans
Hertfordshire
AL3 6DR
Telephone 01727 853047**

Email for admissions: admin@townsend.herts.sch.uk