



Sixth Form Prospectus



Building Successful Futures

RESPECTFUL · RESILIENT · RESOURCEFUL · ASPIRATIONAL



Welcome, to Victoria College Sixth Form

Victoria College Sixth Form offers something unique.

The Sixth Form at Victoria College will provide you with outstanding opportunities to develop your talents to the full. This is an exciting time and this is where you start to build a successful future.

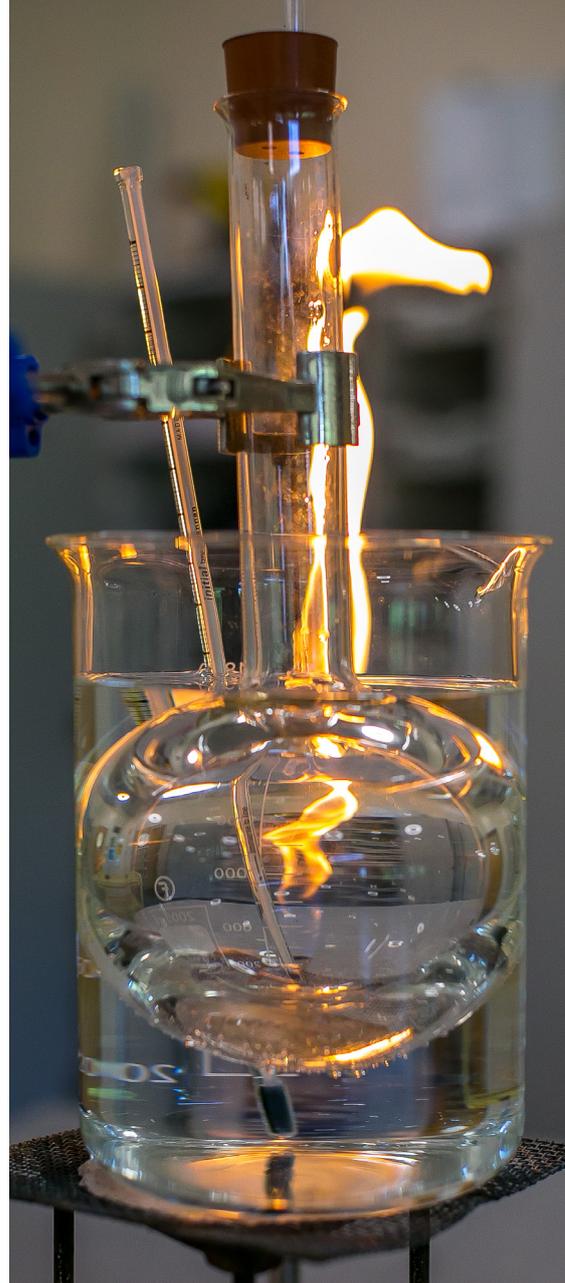
The academic excellence, camaraderie and our traditions give students a strong sense of belonging that lasts long after they have moved out into the world as Old Victorians.

You will find a stimulating, friendly and supportive environment where you can study to the highest level in the subjects you enjoy most and will be taught by experts. Outside the classroom, you can explore and expand your talents in a variety of other areas. Our combination of outstanding teaching and broad range of extra-curricular activities will help you develop as a whole person.

Whether you are moving up from Year 11 in our school or joining us from another secondary school, you will notice a difference in the independence and opportunities available. A leadership role as a School Prefect, Peer Educator or Peer Mentor (helping other students) will give you skills that are highly valued by employers and universities.

We aim to help you develop research skills, debate confidently, solve problems creatively and think critically. Your Sixth Form will include study trips, a range of lectures and public speaking opportunities. All these elements combine to make a unique 'super-curriculum' for Sixth Formers at Victoria College.

We are here to support you in every way but it's important you know what we expect from you academically and personally. This booklet sets out how our Sixth Form works and how you can ensure you have a successful two years.



183
pupils



across **2**
year groups

34 subjects
available

Sixth Form overview

Entering sixth form brings a new world of opportunities and independence.

Academic excellence

Entering the Sixth Form is an exciting time in your education. Choosing A levels means you can focus on the subjects that interest you most and inspire you to learn and explore in more depth. The Sixth Form at Victoria College is where our pupils develop into confident, well-rounded individuals with inquiring minds, strong moral values and a lifelong love of learning.

The Sixth Form team are dedicated to nurturing and supporting you in a way that is intellectually challenging and stimulating.

Effective learning

After the breadth of your GCSE campaign you now need to be prepared to go deeper into your chosen subjects, and work at a higher level.

The work is harder and you'll be expected to study with greater independence than before. Seek help early if you feel like you're struggling, but also take ownership of your learning. There is one absolute, undisguisable fact – entry to university is determined by grades. You need to work hard to boost your options.

We recommend that you plan to spend at least 15 hours a week on work at home - that's around five hours a week per subject – on top of lessons and independent study at school.

Independent Study Periods

You are expected to be researching or doing course work if you are not in a formal timetabled lesson during the school day. Managing your time effectively is an important new skill to learn.

Year 12 and 13 students can use the De Quetteville Library, learning resource centre, Sixth Form study rooms and vacant classrooms (with permission) for private study.

Academic support from our team

Each Sixth Form student will have a Form Tutor that they meet every day for registration and who is the first point of contact for boys, parents and subject teachers if there are any concerns or queries.

The Form Tutor will help with informal guidance but also has a formal meeting with each of their students once a term to review progress and help set personal targets.

The Head of Sixth Form operates an 'open door' policy and welcomes students who want to discuss any issues.

"The school has provided me with valuable skills which will enable me to succeed in later life. Within my role as Deputy Head Boy, I have had to demonstrate leadership and communication skills in order to fulfill my duty.

Within the Sixth Form, there is a strong bond amongst the students and at Victoria College there is an evident community spirit and inclusion for all of the pupils.

I have thoroughly enjoyed my time at the school and I could not recommend it enough to prospective future students."

**Previous Deputy Head Boy, Sammy Cooil
2020/2021**

Home Study

Pupils in Year 13 may be given permission to study at home in the last period of the school day from 2.30pm if they have no timetabled lessons, no problems with their school work or other College commitments. This is seen as a privilege and they also need parental permission. School Prefects, in recognition of their office and the time they give to the College beyond the school day, have home study at other times.

Students need to apply for Home Study and the Sixth Form staff will make your parents aware of

any time agreed. In order to meet safeguarding and insurance requirements, you will need to sign out at the School Office every time you leave the Victoria College campus. You should also note that the Home Study slots can be reviewed and rescinded if there is a cause for concern about your progress.

While we recognise that many Sixth Formers are ready for more independence, we still have responsibility for all our students so every person who leaves the campus must sign out at the School Office so that we are aware of your location during the school day.



Beyond the classroom

Victoria College offers excellent opportunities alongside the academic curriculum.

If you have a particular interest in music, sport, languages, drama or many other areas, then you will find a niche here to build your skills to the highest level and develop new talents. Friday afternoon is set aside for sport, CCF or editing the school magazine.

Sport is a particular strength at Victoria College and our students regularly represent the Island at football, rugby, cricket and other competitive events.

Combined Cadet Force (CCF)

The CCF is a thriving hub for a wide range of activities including off-island trips and outdoor challenges such as the Duke of Edinburgh's Awards. We have our own shooting range and many of our marksmen compete in national competitions with great success.

Guidance

Wellbeing and resilience are an important part of Sixth Form education. Each boy has a tutor within the school's house structure who will be

their guide in pastoral and personal issues. In turn, boys can train as Peer Mentors to offer support to younger students in the school.

Careers guidance is an essential part of any Sixth Form and we work hard to prepare you for university or employment. Our weekly programme of talks by potential employers and work-related learning will ensure you are ready for life after Victoria College.

Enrichment

Alongside A levels, all Sixth Form students take part in a programme of lessons on life skills. This includes revision techniques, first aid, health education, current affairs and local government, mindfulness, cooking skills, public speaking and sports coaching.

It is important during the Sixth Form to continue developing social awareness, resilience, emotional intelligence and wider employability skills.



Learning structure

All Year 12 students start three A levels in September, with five lessons a week for each one. Some of our A levels are run jointly with Jersey College for Girls, Beaulieu and De La Salle. These include A level politics, the BTEC in Business or the Cambridge Technical IT course.

Alongside this core study, the Enrichment programme complements academic learning with classes that cover important life skills. Students have one enrichment session per week in Year 12 and two in Year 13. You will also have one lesson a week devoted to careers education and guidance plus a whole afternoon for sport, CCF or other social learning.

Extended Project Qualification (EPQ)

Alongside A levels, our students can choose to take an extra qualification that is recommended by UCAS as preparation for university - the EPQ.

Students choose a topic, carry out research and either write an extended essay or create a unique artefact over the course of Year 12, learning essential research and essay skills.

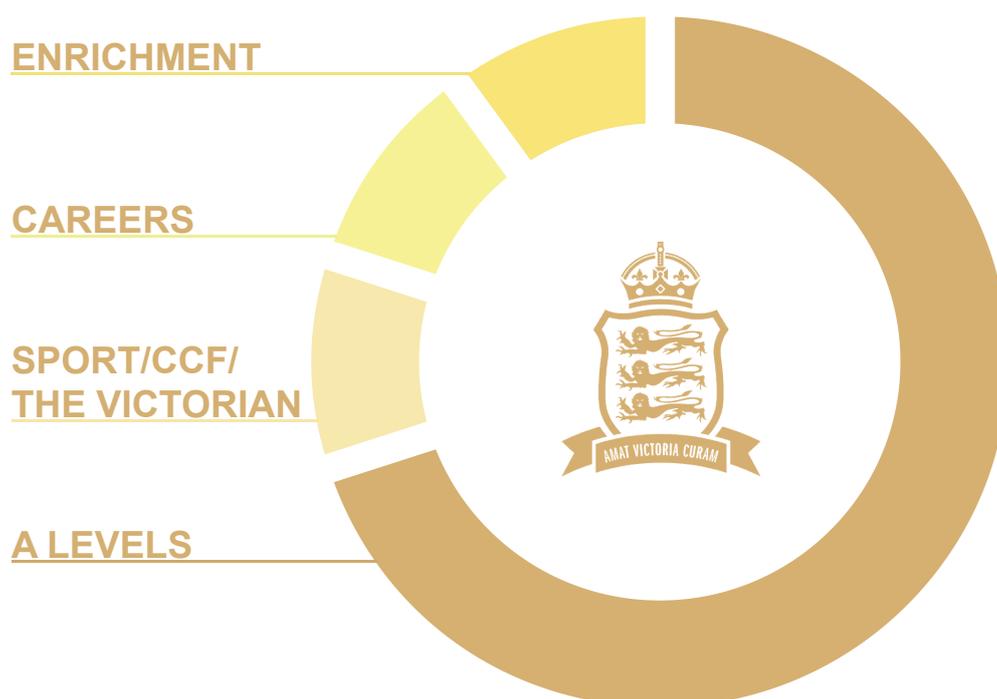
Friday afternoon

All Sixth Form students spend Friday afternoon doing either sport or CCF or working for the editorial team of the school magazine.

Assemblies

Assemblies are a vital part of life at Victoria College. They enable students to come together in a large group and provide a slot to address important issues, hear visiting speakers or communicate about school events.

All Year 12 and Year 13 students are expected to attend Sixth Form assemblies, House assemblies and main school assemblies and Prefects may be asked to help or run some of them.



Leadership and personal development

One of the unique aspects of the Sixth Form at Victoria College is the opportunity students have to develop leadership skills in a variety of ways and gather additional experience that employers and universities value. It's up to you to get involved and gain the benefits on offer.

- Apply to become a School or House Prefect.
- Are chosen as Head Boy or Deputy Head Boy.
- Peer mentors who learn the skills to support younger students usually one-to-one and act as a point of information and guidance.
- Mentors who support Form Tutors, especially in helping Year 7 student with the transition to secondary school.
- Peer Education Project, helping to deliver mental health awareness and training to Year 7 boys.
- CCF leadership positions
- Organisation of House competitions in art, drama, music, cooking, STEM and sport. Participation in Young Enterprise (a business entrepreneur challenge), Institute of Directors, (a work-shadowing scheme), the Huelin public speaking competition and the Jersey Youth Assembly.
- Targeted work experience and work-shadowing either within curriculum time or during vacations. (See Mrs Job for more details.)

2021 A level Results

81.6%

A to B grade*

93.3%

A to C grade*

100%

Pass rate (A to E grade)*

83

No. of A level students

57.6%

A and A grade*

Prefects

The Prefect system at College is highly valued by staff and students alike.

The Prefect is a historic, traditional role that recognises a student's past and present service to his House and to the College. School and House Prefects are role models and our ambassadors in the wider community. Below is an example of the current Prefect timeline. This is currently under review for 2020, in order to incorporate a few minor changes.

Prefect Timeline

MARCH
Y12

Each Housemaster appoints House Prefects from Year 12 in March, and they wear a lapel badge in their House colour to show their position. Other House Prefects may be appointed during the course of the Sixth Form.

SPRING
Y12

Housemasters recommend candidates for School Prefects from Year 12. These students are interviewed by the Headmaster and Head of Sixth Form and, if successful, are offered a place in writing. Appointments are offered by letter and students are asked to sign the letter to confirm that they agree to fulfil the duties required.

SUMMER
Y12

The Headmaster appoints the Head boy and Deputy Head Boy following interviews and recommendations of Housemasters, Head of Sixth Form and their peers.

SEPT
Y13

Applications in writing are invited for the post of School Prefect from House Prefects not previously promoted to the role. All are interviewed and further appointments may be made. An induction session is run for School Prefects at a convenient date soon after their appointment.

- School Prefects wear the Prefect's tie (presented by the President of the Old Victorians' Association), a scholar's gown and a coloured waistcoat. They have extra privileges, including being able to sign out of College premises when not in class or not required for duties.
- The School Prefects have a meeting with the Headmaster, Head of Sixth Form and Assistant Director of Sixth Form approximately every three weeks and represent student views.

Additional information

Entry requirements

We consider each application on its merits and every candidate meets the Headmaster and Head of Sixth Form for an interview. We are looking for a track record of positive behaviour and attendance plus a good attitude to learning. All students require a minimum Grade Point Average of 4.8, with a Grade 4 needed in English and Mathematics, in addition to subject specific requirements. Individual cases may be considered on their merit by the Headmaster and Head of Sixth Form.

Attendance and punctuality

It is compulsory for you to attend all timetabled lessons, form times and assemblies. The school is still responsible for you during the day and safeguarding is very important. You need to be in school at 8.30am every day. Any absences will be followed up, if necessary with parents, and if unauthorised absence or lateness continues, you could be required to attend a detention.

Dress and appearance

Sixth Form students are expected to act as role models for the younger members of the College and represent the College in the wider community. To achieve this, your appearance and behaviour must be of a high standard at all times. For full details of our uniform policy, please visit our website.

Sixth Form Common Room

This dedicated area in the Science block is for use exclusively by Sixth Form students of VCJ before school, after school, at lunchtime and during independent study periods.

The Sixth Form Common Room is managed by the Sixth Form Council. Each Sixth Form tutor group is represented by two students, and these 10 members are joined by the current Head Prefect and Deputy Head Prefect. All of

them can vote on decisions. The Head of Sixth Form also attends meetings, although solely in an advisory capacity. The Council meets twice a term. Each student pays a £10 subscription at the beginning of the Sixth Form in order to provide a fund for the Council to manage for funding improvements and facilities.

Request for Leave of Absence

We recommend you do not take absences during term time. However, if this is unavoidable (for university visits, for instance), there is a different process for Sixth Form students. A specific form needs to be signed by all tutors, parents and student, then submitted at least one week before the date of absence.

Parking

The College does not provide parking spaces for Sixth Form students.

Activities Week

Sixth Formers have four choices for Activities Week each year:

1. CCF - if they are a member of the Corps.
2. Assisting with an on-island activity for younger school students.
3. Work experience or work shadowing, privately organised or with formal schemes (a leave of absence request will be required).
4. A limited number of places for on and off island trips.

Financial Help

We aim to offer an education to all talented young men in Jersey so if lack of finance might affect your ability to attend then please get in touch. A number of means-tested bursaries are available to help families pay all or part of the school fees. People from all backgrounds attend our school and your query will be treated in the strictest confidence.

Email: bursaries@vcj.sch.je





Victoria College
Mont Millais
St Helier, Jersey JE1 4HT

01534 638200
admin@vcj.sch.je
www.victoriacollege.je

Building Successful Futures

RESPECTFUL · RESILIENT · RESOURCEFUL · ASPIRATIONAL