



Sandbach College

at Sandbach High School

An ambitious school with kindness
at the heart of our high expectations

Contents

Welcome.....	3
Six reasons to choose Sandbach College.....	4
Meet our Students.....	6
College Life.....	8
Course Information.....	10
Life After College.....	12
Meet our alumni.....	13
Admissions.....	14



Welcome

Dear Students and Parents/Carers,

Thank you for your interest in Sandbach College. We hope that our prospectus will help you to find out more about what it is like to be a student with us.

We are very proud of our College because of what our students achieve. As a community we strive for excellence. We place our values at the core of our College. They are our promise to all our students that in the College we will: **Create Opportunities, Shape Futures, Learn with Passion, Nurture Ambition and Respect Difference.**

We are open to all students regardless of gender or background. We work hard to ensure that you will be studying the right subjects at the right level to meet your future aims through a comprehensive admissions and induction process. We help you to settle into the new and exciting ways you will study at Sixth Form level. We support you through your studies and in your choices about how you will progress after leaving us.

Our teachers are specialists in their subjects, compassionate and supportive.

We have close links with many universities and providers of apprenticeships. Our students go on to a huge range of careers and courses.

Our College is an exciting place to study. We have an active Student Union which plays a major role in the way the College is run. There is a very wide variety of activities beyond the classroom, including expeditions and trips abroad, literary journals, music and drama productions and the Duke of Edinburgh Gold Award.

If you would like to know more about how we can help you to achieve your ambitions, please contact us.

Richard Troth

Head of College, Deputy Headteacher
Sandbach High School and Sixth Form College



Six reasons to choose Sandbach College

Outstanding academic achievement

Students at Sandbach College achieve excellent results and outcomes, consistently making progress well above national averages and achieving high grades; our levels of achievement and attainment are as high as any sixth forms in our local authority, including specialist colleges. Our results are equally good in traditional A levels as in BTEC courses. Our College is an aspirational and high-achieving one.

A welcoming and supportive community

We are a relatively small College which means that students and staff get to know one another well. All students will be part of a form with around 15 other students. Your form tutor will get to know your strengths and aspirations and support you in achieving your goals. Whether you are joining us from our lower School or from elsewhere, you will quickly become part of a vibrant community of students and teachers.

The right courses for you

We offer a fantastic range of courses including A levels, BTECs and project based qualifications. This means that we can support you in putting together a bespoke programme of study which is suited to your individual strengths and skills. There is detailed information on individual courses available on the Sandbach College website and all applicants have the opportunity to attend a college interview where a senior member of staff will help you choose the right courses.

A great learning environment

We have our own dedicated new building where College students have their own learning hub, ICT facilities, cafeteria and common room.

Opportunities to challenge yourself beyond the classroom

We are very proud of the range of opportunities for students to extend their learning and enjoy new experiences outside lessons. We are particularly proud of the College Student Union who represent the student body, lead College initiatives and campaign for changes in College. We have an excellent range of clubs and societies including music ensembles, a senior science society and the CAUC electric car team.

The chance to achieve your aspirations

Sandbach College provides a full programme of support to help you move on to the next stage in your education or your career. Our students continue on to a wide variety of destinations, including medical, veterinary and dentistry courses, world-class universities including Oxford and Cambridge as well as higher level apprenticeships and employment. We will guide you through every step of the university application process and help you make the right choices for your future.



Meet our Students



Ryan

Coming from an external school, there were obviously some initial fears about coming to Sandbach High School and Sixth Form College. Any concerns I had were quickly extinguished as the team at the College were extremely welcoming and friendly; I quickly settled into both my classes and my form group. Now, in Year 13, I'm studying English Literature, Modern History and Politics and I couldn't be more excited about the future. Sandbach has a highly-committed support team that is on hand to help students out – and that's in addition to the incredible teachers who work hard to ensure there is a vibrant learning community around the Sixth Form. Outside lessons, a fellow student and I have set up a Politics Club for lower years, I've delivered recruitment assemblies to other schools, helped to create videos for younger years and as part of class research and I'm also the editor of school magazine, The Voice. Eventually, my aspiration is to become a journalist, and the College team do an amazing job in helping to achieve that final goal: from helping with personal statements and university applications to feedback on articles I've written for fun. I can't imagine a more harmonious and exciting learning environment to be involved in, and I couldn't recommend Sandbach College enough.



Sallie

I chose to take Modern History, Maths and Spanish, with hopes to continue to university to study Politics, Philosophy and Economics. A-Levels are very difficult but here, I feel completely supported by staff and know they have my best interests at heart. The main reason I actually decided to stay at Sandbach for Sixth Form was due to the excellent teachers we have. I felt comfortable in the fact that they already knew me and knew how to both challenge me while always offering their time to help me in drop-in sessions. My favourite thing about the College is that, despite coming from the high school, it feels like a completely new experience. The Sixth Form block separates us from the rest of the school, giving us the chance to be even more independent and get treated as young adults. I have never regretted the decision to come to this Sixth Form.



Charlotte

I am currently studying a Business Diploma and Economics, as in the future I would love to have a career where I can use these qualifications. With the support from college staff I know that this can be achieved as they are passionate, knowledgeable, and supportive every step of the way. Since joining the College I have loved being treated as an adult and doing independent study. I would recommend Sandbach College to anyone as I have loved my experience so far.



The College provides an amazing support network and teachers will always encourage you to reach your highest potential



“

I can't imagine a more harmonious and exciting learning environment to be involved in

”



Miranda

I have really enjoyed continuing my studies of French, History and Drama here at College. Despite the step up in difficulty from GCSE to A Level, I found the transition extremely positive and I think this was helped by the fact I was working in a familiar environment. The structure of College life allows you to enjoy more independence, however it is reassuring to know there is support available if you need it. I am hoping to become a barrister, and College offered me the opportunity to participate in the Bar Mock Trial competition at Manchester Crown Court-which allowed me to gain an insight into what life as a barrister could entail. There are many opportunities that you can take to help you decide where to take your studies, such as the languages trip to Manchester Metropolitan University which allowed me to experience a university style lecture. Knowing what to expect at university has allowed me to visualise my future more and reduce my worries. I believe Sandbach College has prepared me very well for my future.



Muskaan

My name is Muskaan and I am in Year 13. I study Biology, Chemistry and Psychology, and completed an EPQ in Year 12. I picked subjects that not only intrigued me but were vital for my future aspirational career in Medicine. I have thoroughly enjoyed Organic Chemistry and learning about complex compounds as well as several aspects of Human Biology and the regulation of conditions in internal systems. Outside school, I volunteer at Leighton Hospital, attend Senior Science Society and am a member of the Student Union. College has been very useful in ensuring my applications to university were made in good time and will continue to support me for future interviews.



Holly

I am studying Photography, Digital Media and Sociology here at Sandbach College. I have an interest in directing, film and photography, as well as a passion for visuals and fashion media layouts. The experience I have had from studying these subjects has been incredibly positive. I've been able to expand my knowledge and learn further about each element of what I hope to go into in the future. Sandbach College has offered me freedom and allowed me to grow in independence whilst also maintaining a relaxed yet purposeful environment to work in. The College provides an amazing support network and teachers will always encourage you to reach your highest potential.

College Life

How will I study in College?

At College your lessons are just part of the picture. You'll need to study independently in your non-contact time, to do your own research and read widely around your subject. You will be expected to take a leading role in lessons, delivering presentations and getting involved in group discussions.

What are the class sizes?

Class sizes are smaller than in main school and are typically in between 10 and 20 students. For our more popular subjects we will often create two classes so that group sizes are effective. College classes are designed to allow for small group discussion and plenty of individual support from your teacher.

How is College different to Years 7-11?

You'll have greater freedoms in College alongside greater responsibilities. You will have a different dress code, non-contact time where you will study independently and times where you are free to leave site if you wish. College students are given greater freedoms to manage their own time but you will need to work very hard to achieve success!

What support is available in College?

We think you'll really enjoy your College career but we can all feel the pressure when juggling our academic commitments and busy personal lives. Your first port of call for pastoral support will be your form tutor who will get to know you really well and become someone you can talk to. The College Achievement Coordinators are also available to provide pastoral support. We also have full time counsellors available in College for students who need further professional support. Importantly though, we are a relatively small College where students and staff get to know each other well, creating a supportive and friendly atmosphere.

How should I choose which subjects to study?

We offer an exceptionally wide range of subjects – including traditional academic A levels as well as BTEC subjects which have a more substantial coursework element - so there is something to suit everyone's interests and aspirations. First and foremost, you should choose subjects which you are passionate about and that you enjoy. Be sure to look carefully at the subject specific course information on our website. If you have particular university or career aspirations, you should do some research to find out which subjects will be required to achieve success. Applicants to Sandbach College all have a one-to-one guidance meeting where we'll discuss your application in depth and help you make the right choice.

What is the College campus like?

We are exceptionally lucky to have a new and modern College building separate from the main School. The College Learning Hub is the heart of this environment and is a spacious, quiet place to work with computers and printing facilities available. College students also have their own cafeteria, serving hot meals and snacks.

Will I have a say in how the College is run?

You will! We have a very active Student Union made up entirely of College students. Our Student Union meets regularly to organise College initiatives, to discuss what matters to students and to pitch these ideas to the College leadership team. The Student Union has already campaigned successfully for significant improvements to the College facilities. At Sandbach College we expect students to embrace opportunities to leadership and the Student Union is the perfect way to do this.



Course Information

The College is firmly committed to developing and delivering as wide a range of courses and opportunities as practically possible. There are over 40 courses to choose from, including A levels, BTECs, and project-based qualifications.

We are a mixed college where female, male and non-binary students are equally welcome.

The general guidance for admission of students into College is that individual students select courses appropriate to their ability and linked to their areas of academic interest.

The College is proud to have an open entry policy. We welcome students of all abilities, and a guidance meeting takes place to ensure that purposeful and realistic programmes of study are chosen.

Experience suggests that students embarking on A level courses or similar should have normally achieved at least 4 GCSE passes at grade 4 or above, with a grade 5 or 6 desirable in some subjects. Subject specific course entrance requirements will naturally be discussed at your College interview.

As part of the application procedure, we ask both pupils already attending Sandbach High School and those attending other institutions to complete an application form and attend a College interview with a senior colleague.

For a full list of courses and further information on each subject please visit [Sandbach College website](#).





Life after College

Whilst you are with us you will be supported by your form tutor, the College team and the careers adviser to determine how best to achieve your aspirations. You will find out about how to apply to university and what life and study at university entails. You will have visits from university staff and have the opportunity to visit universities. You will access high quality careers advice and undertake relevant work experience to help guide you to achieve your aspirations.

In Year 13 we will support you through the whole UCAS application process. You will also be guided in how best to prepare for higher level apprenticeships and have the opportunity to meet representatives from local and national employers. You will be supported in undertaking work experience.

Our students go on to a very diverse range of future courses and employment. In recent years our students have gone on to study at Oxford and Cambridge universities, have taken up places at Medicine, Dentistry and Veterinary courses as well as music and drama conservatories. Around half of our students continue to study at prestigious Russell Group universities. Many of our students gain higher level apprenticeships, for example with the RAF, Barclays and Nestle.



Meet our Alumni



Ella Lycett

Commercial, Rights and Business Affairs Executive at the BBC

Ella left Sandbach College in 2016 and secured a place on the BBC's Legal Apprenticeship scheme. (She was 1 of only 5 successful applicants from across the UK!)

Her apprenticeship was originally 2 years including part-time study of law, and included 3 placements: 1 at Children in Need, 1 in an external law firm DFW LLP, and 1 in the Business Affairs team.

In 2018 Ella completed the apprenticeship and qualified as a paralegal. She then took a year off studying to work full-time as Assistant in the Commercial, Rights and Business Affairs team

Since 2020 she has continued studying with the intention of qualifying as a solicitor in 2024, as well as being promoted to Commercial, Rights and Business Affairs Executive.

Ella presented a BBC podcast 'Not all Lawyers have Law Degrees' to promote and encourage Diversity and Inclusion in law careers and applications.



Kathryn Maskew

Scientist (Biochemistry and Microbiology)
Technical Tutor at the University of Loughborough

Leaving Sandbach in 2011, Kathryn moved to the University of Warwick to study Biomedical Sciences. Initially she was on a three year BSc course but soon decided to convert to an MBio Master of Biomedical Sciences, staying on an extra year to complete a research project. She graduated with First Class Honours in 2015.

Kathryn enjoyed biological research so much she decided to stay in Warwick to complete her PhD in Biochemistry in a doctoral training partnership, joint with the universities of Birmingham and Leicester.

When offered a job as a Scientist within the Microbiology department at INFEX Therapeutics, based at Alderley Park, Kathryn was able to work part-time while finishing her doctoral thesis, before she gained her PhD and began work full-time, eventually becoming lead biologist on an in-house SARS CoV-2 coronavirus research project.

In October 2021 Kathryn took on a new role as Technical Tutor in Biological Sciences at the University of Loughborough, where she supports the teaching of biological sciences through laboratory practicals and managing research laboratories.



Jess Farrington

Journalist and Chief Reporter for Northwich, Knutsford, Winsford and Middlewich Guardian

After studying English Lit, Performance Studies, Media Studies and Spanish (along with an EPQ on the effects of television on children) at Sandbach College, in 2014 Jess went on to the University of Sheffield for a degree in English Literature.

Progressing to a Master's degree and further qualifications in News Journalism, by 2019 she was qualified to the twin gold standards of the National Qualification in Journalism and the National Council for the Training of Journalists.

Jess's career developed as a news reporter with experience working in both print and online. She has worked all over the North West and North Wales in print, radio and TV and also as an online journalist focusing on popular viral content.

As Chief Reporter Jess now helps manage a team of reporters and plan content. She also covers council meetings, inquests and magistrates'/crown court sessions, managing published articles online and on social media.

Admissions

Who can join us?

We welcome applications from all backgrounds. Our students come from our 11-16 High School and from other schools both in the local area and from further afield. We are a mixed college and male and female students are equally welcome.

We offer a wide range of courses at different levels. As part of the process we will help you to choose a course at an appropriate level. Some of our courses have entry requirements.

How To Apply

The easiest way to apply is by submitting an application form.

You can do this by:

- Downloading the application form from the College website
- Asking your form tutor (Year 11 Sandbach High School students)
- Contacting the Key Stage 5 office on 01270 765031 ext 221
- Picking up a form from Sandbach High School reception

Please return completed forms to:

office@sandbachhigh.co.uk

or post to:

**College Admissions Sandbach High School
and Sixth Form College, Middlewich Road,
Sandbach CW11 3NT.**

What happens next?

After we receive your application we will contact you to arrange a College interview.

You will meet with one of the College Team or one of our Senior Leaders at our next available opportunity. This is an informal but helpful part of the process which allows you to discuss your options and make better informed decisions. It will help you to choose the most appropriate courses for you. You are very welcome to bring your parents or someone else to help you to this meeting.

Welcome Day

If you are not from our 11-16 High School, once you have accepted an offer to study at Sandbach College you will be invited to one of our Welcome Days. This will be an opportunity to sample lessons and meet the teachers and students you may share lessons with.



Enrolment Day

You will make your final decisions about the subjects and courses you will take at Sandbach College at enrolment. This will take place on the day you receive your GCSE results.

Term starts

Following a successful enrolment your first day at Sandbach College will be in the first week of September.

Stay in touch

Make sure you keep in touch right the way through this crucial time. If you have any questions please contact our Key Stage 5 office using the contact details above.





Sandbach College

at Sandbach High School

An ambitious school with kindness
at the heart of our high expectations

Middlewich Road,
Sandbach
Cheshire CW11 3NT

Tel: 01270 765031

Web: www.sandbachcollege.co.uk

Email: officeadmin@sandbachhigh.co.uk

