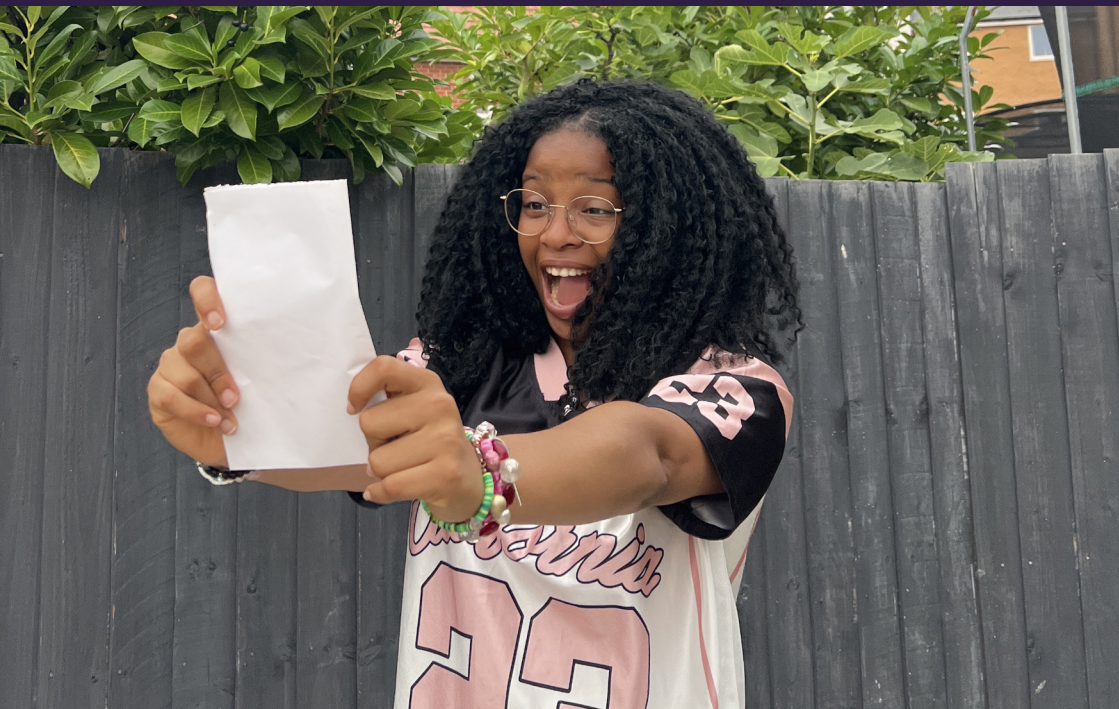




THE SIXTH FORM COLLEGE
COLCHESTER

Ofsted
Outstanding
Provider



ACADEMIC ASPIRATIONS

OPPORTUNITIES FOR OUR MOST AMBITIOUS, HIGH-ACHIEVING STUDENTS

At college, you'll find a huge range of opportunities, activities and guidance to help you aim high. We build your programme around you — including tailored support if you're aiming for the most competitive universities or courses.

Every year, hundreds of students from our college go on to selective universities such as Oxford, Cambridge and other top Russell Group/Sutton 30 institutions. Many secure places on highly competitive courses like law, medicine, mathematics, architecture and more, supported by excellent A Level results.

This leaflet gives you an overview of the opportunities, guidance and specialist support available to help you reach your highest goals — wherever you want to go next.

ASPIRATIONS AND VISION

The AV Programme is designed for A Level students who have big plans – for example, to secure places at the most competitive universities. Each week you will be part of an ambitious programme of talks, discussions, mini lectures, visits and specialist sessions that encourage and support you in refining your goals. The aim is to widen your perspective, sharpen your ambition and give you the confidence to pursue the most prestigious opportunities in higher education and the workplace. Throughout the course, you will have direct support from our AV Coordinator, a dedicated point of guidance as you shape your future.

LAWYERS

If you want to explore law as a future career—whether or not you are studying the subject at A Level—the “Lawyers” group opens that door. Alongside expert information and careers guidance, you will train in key legal skills, including debating and public speaking. You will take part in mock trials, with students frequently competing, and succeeding, at national level.

SUPPORT WITH PREPARATION FOR UNIVERSITY ENTRANCE EXAMS

Many of the most competitive universities require or favour additional admissions tests, including STEP, BMAT, UKCAT and LNAT. You will receive specialist help to prepare; some students even choose to join the STEP group simply because they relish the challenge and want to push their mathematical thinking further.

OXBRIDGE SUPPORT

If Oxford or Cambridge is part of your horizon, expert support begins the moment you join the college. Two Oxbridge graduate coordinators—one in the arts and one in STEMM—will guide you through every stage. You will meet former college students now at Oxford and Cambridge, gain early insight into the application process and later receive one to one interview preparation from your coordinator. Parents can find out more at the Oxbridge Briefing Evening, because there’s certainly lots to think about, from “super curricular” enrichment to personal statements, admissions tests and mock interviews; you will be supported throughout this process to compete at the highest level.

DOCTORS, DENTISTS AND VETS

If you are aspiring to medicine, dentistry or veterinary science, you will join a focused group designed to help you understand the profession and prepare for the demanding selection process. You will gain support in securing relevant work experience, preparing for admissions tests and practising challenging interview formats, including the “multi mini” or “speed dating” style interviews. Our specialists have deep knowledge of individual medical schools and will help you craft strong, successful applications.

OPPORTUNITIES TO ENTER PRESTIGIOUS NATIONAL COMPETITIONS

Students at the college regularly achieve distinction in national competitions such as the Biology, Chemistry and Physics Olympiads, the Maths Challenge and the Bar Mock Trial Competition. These opportunities allow you to test yourself against the best in the country.

BROADER PROGRAMMES OF STUDY AND EXTRA QUALIFICATIONS

If you have strong GCSE results, you can choose four or even five A Level subjects from a rich range of around fifty—including hard to find subjects such as further mathematics, classical civilisation, geology, art history and German. You can also undertake an Extended Project Qualification, similar to a university dissertation, tailored to your interests and ambitions. Students have produced outstanding EPQs in areas including law, medicine, anthropology, archaeology and creative writing.

THE CHANCE TO FURTHER DEVELOP LANGUAGE SKILLS

You can develop your language expertise through A Levels in a wide range of languages, including German, and through opportunities to explore Latin, Greek, Mandarin Chinese and Japanese.

A HUGE RANGE OF EXTRA-CURRICULAR AND SUPER-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

You will have access to an exceptional range of experiences designed to stretch, inspire and challenge you. From academic enrichment and volunteering to international trips, performance opportunities and debating, you will build the confidence and skills that set you apart.

A COLLEGE ETHOS WHICH FOSTERS SUCCESS BEYOND A LEVEL

College life mirrors many familiar elements of school, but in a more independent, university style setting. You will join classes averaging 17–18 students and follow a structured timetable of four double lessons per week in each A Level subject, within a 9am–4pm day. You will also meet your personal tutor daily, ensuring strong pastoral support for you, and, of course, an important point of contact for your parents. A key priority for us is that you become a self-motivated learner and an independent thinker. This is why our students not only secure places at leading universities—they excel there. National data makes clear that our alumni consistently achieve exceptional degree results.

Staff guide and encourage students to become independent thinkers and self-motivated learners. This ensures that, not only do they succeed in getting places but, once at university, they thrive. Our students consistently achieve stunning degree results.



"I'm incredibly grateful to the staff for all the support and encouragement George has received whilst at college" George's mum

George, who joined us from Honywood School, achieved an A* grade in English Language, and progressed to King's College London to read English



Bethany progressed to Balliol College Oxford to read English and History, having achieved an A* in English and an A in History. In this context it certainly seems appropriate that she sent us a photo of herself in Tudor costume at Kentwell Hall.

These students are just a few of last year's leavers who achieved the grades they needed to progress to an exciting range of courses and universities.

Amelie joined the College from Colne Community School. She is now studying at the University of Leeds, building upon the impressive A Levels and EPQ she achieved.

Anish joined us from Honywood Community School. He's now studying Pharmacy at University College London, having achieved A* grades in Law and Economics, alongside A's in Maths and Chemistry.

Sid, who joined us from The Maltings Academy after his GCSEs, is currently reading natural sciences at King's College Cambridge, having gained three A*s and an A in his Maths and Science A Level, alongside an A* grade in his extended project.

"I've loved my time at Colchester Sixth Form and it's a lovely atmosphere to learn in" said Onyx, who joined us from Tendring Technology College and achieved two A* grades and an A, before progressing to Bristol to read Sociology.

Polly, who joined us from St Mary's School, achieved three A* grades in her A Levels and progressed to Glasgow School of Art to study painting and print making.

Goodness (pictured on the front cover), who joined us from Thomas Lord Audley School, certainly seems pleased to receive her A Level grades – three A*s and an A! Goodness is currently taking a gap year before moving on to study medicine at Cardiff.