

Ashbourne College

GCSE Programme

Unlocking Potential



ASHBOURNE

Kensington, London

GCSE AT ASHBOURNE

Contents



Why Choose Ashbourne For GCSE?



One-Year GCSE Programme



Two-Year GCSE Programme



GCSE Subjects



Beyond Learning: Honour Roll, Extracurricular & Events



Results: GCSE, A-level & University Destinations

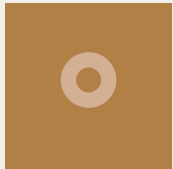


Success Stories: Student Testimonials

Why Choose Ashbourne For GCSE?



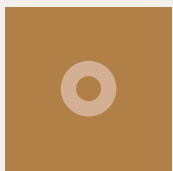
Guaranteed Entry into a Top London Sixth Form College



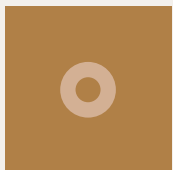
More than 30 Years' Experience



Individual Attention



Central Location



Grown-up Environment



I would recommend Ashbourne unreservedly for any child with the maturity to function well in a less structured, more flexible environment. Equally, for families who seek an inclusive, mutually respectful and more mature environment for their kids. ”

Sara, Parent of Year 13 Student

Why choose Ashbourne for GCSE?

Guaranteed Entry into a Top London Sixth Form College

Students who complete the GCSE programme at Ashbourne will automatically gain entry onto our A-level courses. Ashbourne has been one of the top two colleges in London for many years. Our A-level students consistently achieve outstanding exam results, with half attaining A* or A grades and more than 50% going on to Russell Group universities.

More than 30 Years' Experience

Ashbourne has been delivering a GCSE Programme for more than 30 years. Our teachers and operations staff therefore have detailed and extensive knowledge of what is required to deliver high level teaching as well as an enjoyable and effective student experience.



“

Even though a one year accelerated course may sound quite daunting, a lot of stress is removed thanks to the efficient lesson structure and fantastic support from teachers, staff and classmates. ”

Kristina, Year 11 Student

Why choose Ashbourne for GCSE?

Individual Attention

Individual attention begins with the small class sizes of rarely more than ten students. This allows teachers to devote more time to assessing each student's work individually. Students make excellent progress because of the discipline of regular homework and half-termly mock examinations. Each round of mocks is followed by a detailed personal report outlining specific areas for improvement which ensures that all students' performance is monitored carefully and consistently.

Central Location

Ashbourne is wonderfully located close to Kensington Palace and Hyde Park, a picturesque and leafy area of Central London. Students have ideal access to a wide range of cultural sites including world-famous museums, libraries concert halls and art galleries.



“

What I enjoyed the most about GCSE at Ashbourne was the sense of community. All students were friends with each other and encouraged each other to excel in their studies. ”

Antonio, Year 13 Student

Why choose Ashbourne for GCSE?

Grown-up Environment

Ashbourne embraces a friendly and adult approach to education, often presenting a refreshing change from more traditional schools. We believe this encourages independent thinking, learning and discipline. The great range of subjects offered within the College's curriculum reflects the wider diversity of Ashbourne's students and their personalities, interests and ambitions.

Ashbourne has zero tolerance for poor behaviour which enables students to enjoy the focused and informal environment that Ashbourne is able to cultivate. Often students develop a warm affection for Ashbourne and form friendships that will be lifelong. We consider student happiness our most important outcome.



“

I have found each and every one of my teachers to be approachable, considerate, organised and eager to help at all times, which is exactly what students require when undergoing an intensive academic year. ”

Nadeen, Year 11 Student

One-Year GCSE Programme

Students enrolled on Ashbourne's One-Year Intensive GCSE Programme typically complete a total of nine GCSEs, comprised of a combination of core and optional subjects. This sets students up for progression into Ashbourne's Sixth Form, where they will undertake their A-levels.

Supervision is much closer than at A-level but our GCSE students still enjoy the informal relations between teachers and students, which is what attracts many of our students to us. Most would say that they have never been happier educationally than when studying at Ashbourne.





One-Year GCSE Programme

We welcome students from a diverse range of backgrounds, including British students returning home from boarding school, international students looking to transition to the British system, as well as students who simply want a more tailored and academically focussed education programme.

Our GCSE Programme includes teaching in both PE (Physical Education) and PSHEE (Personal, Social, Health and Economics Education). PE takes place each week at an external sports centre and includes different individual and team sports. PSHEE helps teach students invaluable life skills as well as an understanding of how to keep happy and safe as a teenager in Central London. Students also receive initial support and guidance in the UCAS application system.

Two-Year GCSE Programme

Ashbourne offers a specialised two-year programme, beginning in Year 10, for students who are academically capable of starting GCSEs early. This programme is seen as a four year course, with students completing their A-levels by the end of their fourth year with us.

First Year

The students will study the core GCSE subjects (English Language, English Literature, Maths and Science Double Award). Students then sit examinations for these subjects at the end of this first year. Much of the content covered in this first year forms foundational knowledge that will aid students when studying their optional GCSE subjects and subsequent A-levels.





Two-Year GCSE Programme

Second Year

In the second year, students will complete a maximum of four optional subjects chosen from Art & Design, Computer Science, Drama, Economics, French, History, Music and Spanish.

Students who are performing particularly well will have the opportunity to start either one or two A-level subjects in this academic year. This will provide them with a head start to their studies in the Sixth Form.

GCSE Subjects

Core:

English Language
English Literature
Mathematics
Science (Double Award)

Optional:

Art & Design or Economics
Computer Science or Drama
French or Spanish
History or Music



“The GCSE experience was very inclusive as the whole year interacted together a lot and we got to partake in many trips and PE activities.”

Maxim, Year 12 Student

Beyond Learning

Honour Roll

The Honour Roll is an Ashbourne tradition that rewards students who demonstrate outstanding achievement and conduct during their studies. The Honour Roll is announced twice a year and includes the names of some exemplary students nominated by Ashbourne staff. Students that gain a place on the Honour Roll will have demonstrated excellent academic performance, work ethic, punctuality and a positive attitude to their schoolwork.



“

From the small class sizes to the thorough and sharpened teaching styles, I found myself learning more quickly than I ever had previously, and before I knew it my fear of doing my GCSE exams in one year was replaced with excitement to get my grades back in the summer!”

Isaiah, Year 12 Student

Extracurricular Activities

The College runs a number of clubs and organises activities that take place throughout the year such as go-karting, laser tag, sushi making classes and even a trip to the House of Commons.

Students will attend a variety of theatre performances including a trip to The Globe Theatre to watch the Shakespeare play they are studying in English Literature. These clubs and events help to make students' experience at Ashbourne memorable, educational and fun!

Students are also encouraged to take part in the UKMT Intermediate Mathematical Challenge. This national mathematics competition tests students' logical thinking, reasoning and mathematic fundamentals.





Events

The Ashbourne Revue

Every year students and staff from across the College come together to create and perform in the very popular Ashbourne Revue, showcasing a range of skills and talents including dance, music, theatre, fashion and poetry.

GCSE Boat Party

The GCSE boat party is an end-of-year event to celebrate students' hard work and efforts following their exams. The party is hosted on board a boat which travels along the River Thames and includes a live DJ. GCSE Academic Awards are presented then.

Creative Arts Event

Each year, Ashbourne hosts a gallery event which displays the work of A-level and GCSE Art students. This includes live music performances and a fashion show.

Results

GCSE Results 2017 - 2019

Grade 9 - 7 = 41%

Grade 9 - 6 = 63%

Grade 9 - 4 = 87%



“ My GCSE experience at Ashbourne was fantastic. I felt very supported across all of my subjects and that the teachers not only comprehended the stress we were going through but also helped us through it. ”

Carlota, Year 12 Student

Results

A-level Results over the past
10 years

A*A = 47%

A*AB = 74%

A*ABC = 89%



“

I have seen the students grow in confidence, ability and love of their subject. Not only that, but our students learn to become independent learners, gaining the skills necessary to support them in their future and thrive in the next stages of education. ”

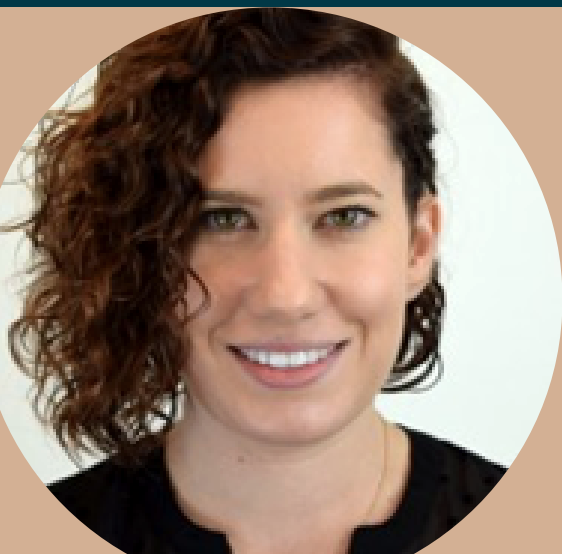
Alex, GCSE Science Teacher

Results

Top University Destinations for our GCSE Students 2015-2020

King's College London
Queen Mary University of London
University College London
University of Cambridge

48% of our GCSE graduates have won a place at Russell Group universities



“

We have high expectations of our students and we know they can meet them because we establish a foundation of respect and care. Our students are given the tools to take on challenges with a constructive attitude and leave the programme with the confidence that achievement is obtainable for them. ”

Lauren, GCSE English Teacher

Success Stories



"My decision to stay at Ashbourne for my A-levels after GCSEs was an extremely easy one because of the immense, individual support that I received from all of my teachers and the strong friendships that I made in GCSE."

Anna
English
University of Cambridge

"During my three-year ride as an Asher, doors opened up for me to a new world in which I found my true passion."

Danial
Medicine
University College London



Success Stories



"Ashbourne made me feel safe in my learning. While there is a push for independence, that helped me develop a strong work ethic and sense of confidence in my studies. The teachers are also extremely approachable and more than willing to help at any time of the day."

Lotte
Psychology
University of Liverpool

"Ashbourne has provided me with a comfortable environment to learn and improve. The school always encouraged me to push myself, take on challenges and helped me complete A-level Maths one year early."

Minh
Civil Engineering
University of Cambridge



Success Stories



"The independence given was very refreshing and encouraged me and my peers to mature faster and become more responsible about our lives."

Sasha
Veterinary Medicine
University of Bristol

"I received a lot of support academically, especially when deciding my A-level subjects that would later lead me to university. The teaching staff were willing to offer academic support outside the classroom, which was very useful."

Maria
Psychology
Queen Mary University of London



Success Stories



"If you want a school that is nurturing, that prepares you for life, that respects you, that treats you like you are valuable, then I couldn't recommend Ashbourne enough."

Hope
Computer Science
University of Leeds

"The method of teaching was quite different from my previous experiences, a big part of that being the small, intimate classes which gave me the added confidence to participate in discussion and as a result each student receives greater individual attention."

Alexander
History
University of Leeds



*To apply, please contact our admissions
team: admissions@ashbournecollege.co.uk
or 0207 937 3858.*



*17 Old Court Place
Kensington
London
W8 4PL
www.ashbournecollege.co.uk*