



RAVENS WOOD SCHOOL
COMMITTED TO EXCELLENCE

Learn  Lead  Excel 

SIXTH FORM



RAVENS WOOD

welcomes you

At Ravens Wood we are committed to delivering an outstanding education for all.

We are very proud of the achievements of our Sixth Form students and the contribution they make to our School Community. With opportunities to develop knowledge, skills and experience in a supportive, challenging learning environment, the Sixth Form offers excellent provision for all students to access a first class education. Our expectation is that everyone enters the Sixth Form with the goal of maximising their potential and contributing positively to the Ravens Wood Community, leaving with the currency to open doors to the future.

Our ethos of Learn, Lead, Excel embedded in our aims:

- To develop a **culture** which fosters a love of learning and intellectual curiosity, within a strong and supportive community.
- To equip students with the tools to develop their individual **character**, in an environment which promotes dignity, integrity, self-discipline and self-esteem.
- To deliver a rich and varied curriculum, which leads to high academic performance and provides our students with the **currency** to open doors to the future.

We are delighted to welcome you to the school and wish you success in your studies with us.

Melanie Lester – Headteacher



WELCOME

from the Director of Sixth Form

In this prospectus, you will read about the broad provision of academic, vocational and enrichment opportunities available to you.



Ravens Wood is a school where students are able to achieve outstanding performances, not only in the classroom, on the stage and on the sports field, but through a range of creative opportunities through our extensive Academy enrichment programme. We have maintained a wide offer of over 30 Sixth Form qualifications, and our teachers are experts in each of their fields. We are relentless in ensuring that teachers are experts in their field and, as such, teaching and learning in lessons is of the highest standard. High quality facilities are available to all students, with elite level coaching during curriculum periods for our Academy groups. We aim to fully cater for your needs.

We are committed to supporting the success of every student, with effective monitoring and targeted individual support in order to maximise progress. Most students at Ravens Wood go onto study at university. UCAS support begins in Year 12, with students receiving bespoke advice and guidance to produce high calibre applications.

We also deliver a comprehensive apprenticeship programme, coordinated by our Careers Department, and students take part in workshops run by a number of external organisations and employers.

We have an 'aim high' approach, and support our students in their applications to the very best universities, including a bespoke support programme for Oxbridge, medicine, veterinary science and dentistry applicants.

We have a comprehensive programme of workshops and support for students applying for top apprenticeships and employment opportunities using relevant Labour Market Information (LMI).

“In the Sixth-Form study areas, students’ behaviour is excellent. They are hard working and mature in their study habits. The many different courses available in the Sixth-Form curriculum meet the needs of a wide range of students.”

Ofsted

“Students receive helpful careers information about university applications, apprenticeships and employment opportunities. Students said this helps them to make well-informed decisions about their future. More students than the national average go on to higher education or apprenticeships when they leave school.”

Ofsted

“Sixth-Form students take part in a wide range of enrichment activities that enable them to develop their skills and interests. These include sports tours, volunteering and performing arts events.”

Ofsted



ENRICHMENT

Going beyond the Curriculum

This is something that Ravens Wood School is incredibly proud of and sets us apart from the rest. We strive to develop an environment which is fully inclusive providing opportunities to make our students shine and stand out from the crowd. At Ravens Wood, we believe it is essential for Sixth Form students to be involved in the wider school community, develop leadership skills and improve self-confidence.

Tutor and Academic Mentoring Periods

Students meet their tutor daily, with time set aside for tutorials and target setting. Extra sessions throughout the year are planned to introduce and discuss Personal, Social, Health and Economic education (PSHE) and Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural (SMSC) topics/ themes relevant to post-16 students, such as finance, resilience and wellbeing, and to also introduce the UCAS programme.

Individual Personal Study and Supervised Silent Study

All students are expected to work independently during the school day. Supervised Study is timetabled daily for all students in a dedicated learning environment, which is well resourced and located in the heart of the school. Students have access to laptops, textbooks, publications, personalised learning checklists and a wide range of study resources. The Learning Commons is also available exclusively to Sixth Form students to work in before and after school.

Sixth Form Student Leadership Team

Student leadership is valued extremely highly at Ravens Wood. The pinnacle of this is the Sixth Form Leadership Team. This elected team supports the Student Council for the lower school and has a considerable leadership role. Our Year 12 and Year 13 Diversity Ambassadors play an instrumental role in promoting diversity throughout the school, leading meetings with lower school Ambassadors, delivering assemblies and developing strategies to raise awareness and engage students in key events throughout the year.

Sixth Form Prefect Team and Mentors

Students in Year 12 and 13 form the Ravens Wood Prefect Team. Every department has a team of Subject Prefects who carry out a range of duties, including mentoring students in the lower school and supporting teachers in lessons. They also assist at school events. The Year 12 mentors support students in the lower school, and we are proud of the contribution they make towards our school community. Mentors are assigned to Heads of Year to assist with providing pastoral support to their peers. This includes helping new Year 7s settle in, acting as excellent role models to promote our ethos and our strong sense of community.

Enrichment at Ravens Wood

Ravens Wood offers an extensive programme of extracurricular activities in which all Sixth Form students are expected to take part in, which take them beyond the curriculum. At the heart of this provision are RWS Scholars and RWS Community.

RWS Scholars

We are particularly proud of our RWS Scholars Lecture Series, where we provide students with opportunities to experience inspirational lecture type talks from guest speakers from a variety of fields and industries. The aim is to develop a University like atmosphere, promoting independence, supporting UCAS applications and extending students beyond their specifications to bridge the gap between school and higher education.



In order to explore our fantastic Enrichment offer you can view the full programme on our website.

“Enrichment is integral to life at Ravens Wood, with students benefiting from participation and performance opportunities in a wide range of subject areas.”

Ofsted

RWS Community

In Year 12 all students who are not part of our Academy provision will take part in bespoke RWS Community leadership programmes. Once a week they will take part in activities which help to improve and support our school community. On a rolling half term timetable, they will receive training and go out in to the wider school as leaders across many platforms such as being mentors to lower year students in Departments, helping students with reading, charitable fundraising initiatives, developing our curriculum, improving sustainability etc.

Sixth Form Wider Enrichment Programme

For those who are keen to pursue other enrichment areas, we are very proud to offer students a variety opportunities. Below we have listed our current options:

- Academic Mentoring
- Extended Project Qualification
- Representative Sport (Football, Rugby, Netball)
- Leadership Skills
- Community Service
- Duke of Edinburgh award scheme
- Fitness Development
- ILM Mentoring
- RWS Investment Club



ELITE ACADEMY PROVISION

Achieving Excellence

The Ravens Wood Academy groups bring together the most talented students in the areas of Music, Media, STEM, Rugby and Football, and are designed and developed for students entering Year 12.

Entry may be by trial or audition, where relevant.

The Academies have been designed to allow students to apply themselves effectively to their academic studies, alongside a dedicated programme of professional training in their given area of specialism.

Students applying to an Academy group choose between a variety of A Level and vocational courses on offer at Ravens Wood. Academy members receive 3 hours of coaching within curricular and extra-curricular periods, including work within coaching and leadership. Academy groups are linked to industry professionals, and there are opportunities to tour and compete at the highest level amongst schools nationally.

The 3 core principles of our academy groups are as follows:

1. Students receive professional coaching from our own staff and professionals from outside of the school, for at least 3 hours each week, alongside, and in addition to, their formal academic studies.
2. Academies develop links to professional bodies external to the school, which provide opportunities for students to progress to an elite level.
3. Students are expected to compete and perform at the highest standard amongst schools nationally, (this may include tours and performance platforms in other countries).

“Through the school’s specialist ‘academies’, students in the sixth form benefit from opportunities to broaden their knowledge and understanding of subject areas and careers.”

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Oakley Road, Bromley, Kent, BR2 8HP
Tel. 01689 856050 | Twitter: @rw_school

office@rws.uk.net | www.ravenswood.bromley.sch.uk



Ravens Wood School is part of the
Impact Multi Academy Trust.