

## THE SCHOLARS' PROGRAMME

The Scholars' Programme has been designed to provide exceptional opportunities and guidance for our brightest Sixth Form students. At Weatherhead we are committed to supporting our students in successfully applying to the very best universities, including Oxford, Cambridge and the Russell Group.

### HOW DO I GET ON THE SCHOLARS' PROGRAMME?

- Top 10% of students achieving 6 Grade 7s or higher, including English and Maths, at GCSE.
- Have a good track record of strong performance and effort.
- Show the potential to achieve a minimum of A\*AA at A-Level, in facilitating subjects.

### Highlights of the Scholars' Programme -

- **4 A-Level Pathway** - An opportunity to take a 4th A Level in Further Maths or a practical subject alongside 3 facilitating A-Levels.
- **Scholars' Meetings** - Regular events to develop analytical thinking, communication and presentation skills. Scholars' debate and discuss topical issues with peers, staff and visiting speakers.
- **Extended Project Qualification** – Scholars' design and develop a largely self-directed project in an area of special interest. This greatly enhances all UCAS applications. Staff mentors ensure Scholars develop critical thinking and reflective skills which can be applied at interview and to other areas of study.
- **University Visits** - Weatherhead has close links with Oxbridge Colleges and Russell Group universities, allowing us to offer our Scholars fantastic trips to leading institutions. You will discover what university life is really like from current undergraduates and receive detailed information about different degree subjects on offer and the best application advice.
- **Scholars' Bursary** - A unique funding initiative enabling you to purchase books/journals for wider reading in order to extend and deepen your subject knowledge. Travel costs to all university events and conference will also be provided.
- **HE+ Programme** - The HE+ programme allows you to explore the subject you wish to study at university in an exciting way beyond the curriculum. This includes a group research project on a subject of your choice with other students from across Merseyside orchestrated by Cambridge University.
- Other support provided by the Scholars' Programme includes access to expert university and industry mentors, work experience with top graduate employers and dedicated inter support specific to Oxbridge and Russell Group universities.



Crystal, A\*A\*A\* A, Law,  
Cambridge



Khadiza, AAA, Dentistry,  
University of Liverpool



Emma, A\*AA, Medicine,  
University of Manchester



Katie, A\*A\*A, Ancient  
History, University of Durham

# THE GIFTED GATEWAY

## 6 Weatherhead SIXTH FORM

### Gifted Students

- On entry to Weatherhead Sixth Form, our Gifted and Talented register is reviewed based on GCSE results. This ensures that our top achievers and talented students are given exceptional support.
- This cohort joins the Scholar's programme.
- Students' progress is regularly monitored and reviewed.
- Celebration events are held to ensure all students are rewarded for their hard work and effort.
- An 'open door policy' provides support as and when needed including mentoring/academic support, careers and university guidance and application support.
- Personal interviews are conducted with G&T lead staff before the UCAS process starts. This provides one-to-one advice and encouragement for all G&T students to apply for top universities and provides them with the necessary information and support to do so.
- Extra UCAS application/interview support is provided by G&T lead staff and external providers (universities, past students). This is on top of the outstanding Sixth Form resources and support available to all students at Weatherhead.

### Extended Project Qualification (EPQ)

Allows Year 12 students to embark on a largely self-directed project.

By taking responsibility for the choice and design of an individual project they:

- Become more critical, reflective and independent learners.
- Develop and apply decision-making and problem-solving skills.
- Increase their planning, research, analysis, synthesis, evaluation and presentation skills.
- Learn to apply new technologies confidently.
- Demonstrate creativity, initiative and enterprise.

The EPQ is highly regarded by all universities. It leads to a qualification and is a valuable asset in successful progression to higher education and career opportunities.

### Scholars' and Gifted Gateway Events

**October-December:** HE+ meetings, initial mentoring and UCAS applications

**January:** Sutton Trust and Social Mobility applications

**February:** Year 12 Cambridge University Student Union Shadow Scheme - 3 day residential

**March:** Oxbridge Student Conference/Roadshow, Haydock Park. Cambridge Subject Specific Study Days - both fully subsidised, Cambridge University visit

**June:** Oxford Open Day Visits - fully subsidised

**July:** Cambridge Open Day Visits - fully subsidised

**August:** Sutton Trust Summer Schools - fully subsidised week long residential at a leading university

**September:** Mock Oxbridge Interviews/Mentoring