

BRIGHTON COLLEGE



OPENING DOORS

20 free places
in our Sixth Form



Introduction

From the Head Master



In 2015, I met a young Syrian boy called Sulaiman. He had recently arrived in Brighton, escaping his own war-torn country with his mother, journeying across Europe before crossing into England in the back of a truck, surrounded by frozen chips. Sulaiman arrived with one shoe and few belongings but was brimming with potential and determination.

Since 2015, Brighton College has been privileged to host the local refugee community each Sunday, providing a space for them to gather socially, and offering language and cultural lessons delivered by our pupils and staff. Sulaiman joined one of those sessions, and in a short space of time, we had offered him and a fellow Syrian teenager, Elias, full scholarships to study in our Sixth Form.

It was a life-transforming moment for Sulaiman and Elias; Sulaiman won a scholarship to read Mathematics at Balliol College, Oxford while Elias won a place to study Medicine at Queen Mary's, University of London.

Sulaiman and Elias inspired us in many ways during their time with us; we were transformed by the power of their stories, by their resolve to work hard and to pursue their dreams, regardless of what life had thrown at them. And, inspired by them, we resolved to ensure that many more young people like them might also benefit from the same life-transforming opportunity.

The Brighton College Opening Doors programme has been launched to do precisely this. Twenty completely free Sixth Form places are now available for talented and ambitious young people from the local area for whom our pastoral care and academic rigour will prove to be life-changing.

I hope you will come to visit us, and I hope that you will apply to join us.

Just like Sulaiman and Elias, everyone is on a journey, and yours will look and feel very different to anyone else's. It would be our privilege to support and encourage you during the Sixth Form years, and to help prepare you for the next exciting leg of that journey.

Richard Cairns
Head Master

OPENING DOORS

to your future

From September 2020, Brighton College is offering twenty free Year 12 and Year 13 places in our **Opening Doors** scholarship programme. This initiative makes Sixth Form places at Brighton College, one of the world's leading schools, available to talented and ambitious young people from the local area.

At Brighton College, we want every young person to have the chance to pursue their academic interests, their passions and their future hopes within a supportive and stimulating environment.

With **fully-funded Sixth Form scholarships**, we hope to attract local pupils for whom our pastoral care and academic rigour will offer a life-changing opportunity. This may include, but is not limited to:

- Pupils who are eligible for free school meals;
- Pupils in care or who have been in care;
- Pupils who would be the first in their families to attend university;
- Pupils who have experienced a significant disadvantage, or who have been displaced, such as a refugee.

With outstanding academic opportunities, an amazing range of activities and sport on offer and continual support in developing practical life skills, the Opening Doors programme will allow pupils to enjoy studying their chosen subjects, to access a place at a leading university, and begin preparing for their future career.



Reasons to choose Brighton

Sixth Form at Brighton is different – we focus on your happiness and individuality, while supporting you in every way to achieve your potential. The Opening Doors scholarship is an opportunity to join a diverse group of pupils, from a range of different backgrounds, in a school environment that is the perfect stepping stone to university and to the working world.



Making a difference

Every young person hopes that they will be able to contribute something meaningful to the society around them, and our expectation is that each of our pupils will make a difference to people, both in Brighton and much further afield. We hope that habits and attitudes learned at Brighton College set you very much as part of society, not apart from it; engaged with the issues and needs of the world, using your talents and skills to be a force for good within it.



Career guidance

Every Brighton College Sixth Former takes part in our entrepreneurship programme, forming fledgling business ideas and receiving mentoring from local entrepreneurs – learning skills that every young person will need, whichever career path they choose. Our support continues into university and beyond, allowing you to connect with people already in their chosen career, opening doors to opportunities worldwide.

College for Sixth Form

Results and university success

Our A-level results speak for themselves: in 2018 we ranked 5th in the country, and we are consistently the top-performing co-educational school in England. The support we give you goes beyond your time with us, focusing also on facilitating your next steps, whether taking up a place at a top university, or creating career opportunities in sport, business and the arts.

Academic support

There is no school in the country that gives its pupils as much teacher contact time during the vital Sixth Form years. Our world-class teachers will help you get the most from your studies, through the tutorial support and in regular informal conversations about your next steps. You will have the chance to excel academically, and be able to explore in depth the subjects you really enjoy.



Co-curriculum

Every term at Brighton College is packed with a huge variety of activities. These form a normal part of your daily routine, so you don't need to look for them outside school. Many of our pupils go on to pursue professional careers in the arts and sport, and those who are involved in dance, drama or music get to showcase their skills in national theatres and festivals. There's something to suit everyone – whether that's gym, modern dance, choir or poker!

Social life

Each year we welcome a large number of new pupils into Year 12. The Sixth Form is big enough that you can quickly make friends and share similar interests with many others, but small enough that you will soon feel as if you know everyone.

Opening Doors

Frequently Asked Questions

If you would like more information, or to discuss making an application, please email Meghann Thomas at mthomas@brightoncollege.net or call her on 01273 704201.

What does the Opening Doors scholarship include?

The scholarship covers all costs associated with studying in Brighton College's Sixth Form. This includes (but is not limited to): tuition fees, meals during the school day, travel to and from the school within the local area, a contribution towards uniform and school trips, loan of a laptop/surface device and textbooks to support studies.

How do I know if I am eligible to apply?

These scholarships are aimed first and foremost at talented and ambitious young people from the local area for whom our pastoral care and academic rigour would offer a life-changing opportunity. This may include those who are eligible for free school meals; those who are in care or have been in care; those who would be the first in their families to go to university; or pupils who may have experienced some other disadvantage in their young lives, such as being a refugee. The Opening Doors programme is aimed at young people who would be excited by the opportunity to continue their education with us, with a view to accessing a place at a leading university.

I'm not sure whether I meet the above criteria. What should I do?

Come along to our Open Evening on Wednesday 13 November in the first instance to meet some of our teachers and pupils and to find out more. You can also contact Meghann Thomas in the Admissions department who will be pleased to answer any questions you might have, or arrange for you to have a tour of the school with a current pupil.

What are the academic entry requirements?

You should be on track to achieve good grades in your GCSEs, aiming for a minimum average of 6.5 on the 9-1 scale, across all subjects taken. You should also be aiming for a minimum grade 6 in English Language and Maths. *These criteria are flexible to some degree so please get in contact with us if you have questions about this.*

How do I make an application?

You can make an application by completing our registration form (online or by paper copy). Please contact Meghann Thomas in the Admissions department to request a registration form.



Is there an assessment process?

Once you have registered, we will invite you to attend our assessment and interview day at the College on Saturday 18 January. All candidates will sit a verbal reasoning test (45 minutes), a maths paper (60 minutes) and a general paper (90 minutes), consisting of equal sections in reading, writing and scientific reasoning. There will also be an interview with one of our teachers. This will be an opportunity to get to know you better as a person and to answer any questions you may have about studying at Brighton College.

I'm probably not going to achieve the academic requirements but I'm an outstanding sportsperson. Can I be considered?

Yes, absolutely! This programme is open not only to strong academic pupils but also to those who have outstanding sporting ability in their relevant field. As well as A-levels, Brighton College offers a PE & Sports Science BTEC qualification, known to be an excellent pathway for anyone considering a possible sporting career.

Are there any other requirements?

A willingness to throw yourself into life at Brighton College, to work hard and fully embrace the opportunity to study with us.

I'm not from the local area. Can I apply as a boarding student?

Unfortunately this programme is only for pupils who live in the local area, who would be able to travel to and from Brighton College each day. I'm afraid we cannot, therefore, consider applications from potential boarding pupils.

Can you send me practice papers for the assessments?

It is our school policy not to give out any past or practice papers for the assessment day. However, provided you are up-to-date with your school work, you will definitely find the papers manageable.

When will I find out if my application has been successful?

We will write to you early in February with the results of the assessments, letting you know whether or not we have been able to offer you a place on our Opening Doors scholarship programme.



BRIGHTON COLLEGE

ENGLAND'S INDEPENDENT SCHOOL OF THE YEAR 2019