



sixth form
prospectus

Skinner's academy



Message from the Principal

Tim Clark

Welcome to the aspirational and high achieving sixth form at Skinners' Academy which opened its doors in September 2015.

Our sixth form offers a wide range of courses, both academic and vocational, taught by inspirational and dedicated teachers. We also provide a dedicated Sixth Form Centre where students can both socialise and undertake individual study. We passionately believe that all students can achieve highly, regardless of ability and background, on the condition that they work hard and remain committed to their studies.

Life in the sixth form is very different to life in the upper or lower school, though our aim is very simple: after two years in the sixth form we want every student to leave us ready to pursue further study at university, or to embark on some other highly respected training course. We want all students to be proud of themselves academically, to embark on a variety of extra-curricular activities and to recognise that our commitment to quality careers provision will help you stand out now and in the future. I look forward to welcoming you to our sixth form and to you being a successful member of the exciting and prestigious sixth form at Skinners' Academy.



Tim Clark

Tim Clark
Principal
Skinners' Academy

Message from the Head of Sixth Form

Hannah Potter

Choosing where and what to study after Year 11 can shape the course of your life.

We help you to successfully balance your desire to be an independent, adult learner and your access to the expertise and experience of your teachers. You won't get lost in a crowd of students here at Skinners'. Our dedicated and specialist sixth form team of teachers, advisors and the Senior Sixth Form tutor look forward to supporting you through your qualifications. We offer a broad curriculum and many extra-curricular activities and opportunities. We strongly believe that your involvement in a structured careers programme which includes work experience, engagement with employers' initiatives which increase your employability skills.

We also offer additional qualifications to supplement your A-Levels and BTECs such as, Duke of Edinburgh Gold award, LAMDA and the EPQ, which will help prepare you for life after sixth form.

We celebrate the achievements of our students and we have a dedicated year team to assist you in choosing and applying for the right universities and have alumni who are currently studying at Oxford University, Kings College London, Manchester University, and many other Russell Group and leading institutions.



Hannah Potter

Hannah Potter
Head of Sixth Form
Skinners' Academy

Message from the Chair of Governors

Nick Roberts

Committed to the provision of quality education, we believe in traditional education values delivered in a modern context.

The Skinners' Company has a long tradition of supporting education. Its educational involvement in Hackney started in 1890.

We have continued with Skinners' Academy which is part of a family of seven schools supported by the company. We believe in traditional educational values delivered in a modern context; and are enthusiastic about the integral role the Academy plays in the evolving Woodberry Down community.

The Skinners' Company is especially excited about the Skinners' Academy Sixth Form which opened in September 2015. The Sixth Form offers both academic and vocational courses – suitable for students who are determined to do well in their post-16 study. We look forward to welcoming you to be part of our thriving, high achieving community.



Nick Roberts

Nick Roberts
Chair of Governors
Skinners' Academy

A vibrant, friendly and stimulating environment

The Sixth Form Centre at Skinners' Academy provides innovative and exciting courses in a state of the art environment.

We offer a broad, comprehensive and flexible curriculum, including both A-Level and BTEC qualifications at level 3.

We specialise in Enterprise, therefore we are able to offer extensive links to the City and local community.



Why choose the Skinners' Academy Sixth Form?

Our Sixth Form provides:

- Our "Be the best you can" ethos which encourages you to make the most of the vast opportunities accessible to you in the sixth form
- Experienced and well-qualified staff
- Excellent choice of academic and vocational courses
- Exciting enrichment activities
- Unwavering commitment to quality Careers Education, Information, Advice & Guidance with events including our Careers Fair
- Opportunity to go on work experience in a range of industries
- Outstanding support services tailored to your individual needs
- Opportunity to complete additional qualifications such as the Duke of Edinburgh Award (Gold) and Extended Project Qualification (EPQ)
- High standards of performance and achievement
- Links to industry – enabling fantastic opportunities with organisations from The Brokerage to Barclays Life Skills
- An opportunity to have a role of responsibility, such as Head Boy / Head Girl, subject ambassador and school council representative
- State-of-the-art facilities including world class ICT resources, sports hall, dance studio, music studio and more!

“”

I joined the sixth form as an external student and found it very easy to make new friends and meet the Academy's expectation to 'be the best you can'. I've asked if my younger brother can join the Academy next year!

Musab Ahmed, Year 12

Our Core Values

- Friendship
- Respect
- Excellence
- Determination
- Inspiration
- Courage
- Equality



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The Academy has helped me progress as a person from Year 7 to Year 13. I would recommend this sixth form to anyone who wants to be independent but always have teachers at hand for help.

Mustafa Kulecki, 2018 Class

Curriculum Offer

Advanced Level & BTEC Qualifications (Level 3)

Advanced Level qualifications or equivalent typically require two years full-time study after GCSE. Good results in these qualifications provide an effective way of entering higher education or a profession. We expect students to have obtained Grade 5/C or above in at least 5 subjects including English and maths at GCSE with a Grade 6/B in the subjects they wish to study or a related subject before taking an A Level course. Students wishing to study maths and/or science must have obtained a Grade 7/A or above in the subject at GCSE. To study A Level music an applicant must have reached at least Grade 5 on an instrument.

For a BTEC programme, we expect students to have obtained Grade 4/C or above in a similar subject.

The Advanced Level qualifications we offer include:

- GCE - This covers the traditional A Level subjects: humanities, sciences, social sciences, business studies, arts, maths and further maths etc.
- BTEC National Certificates & Diplomas in areas such as health & social care, business studies and Cambridge Level 3 in Digital iMedia.

We have some fantastic subjects available to you and you can visit us at www.skinnersacademy.org.uk to access the latest information about courses we are offering.



Academic Learning & Support

Highly skilled, outstanding teachers facilitate personalised learning

- Excellent wide ranging learning and teaching techniques - and facilities to engage students
- All learning is linked to the wider world of work
- Student feedback questionnaires give you a voice in the learning you receive
- Dedicated teachers passionate about their subjects, who offer extra revision classes at half term and Easter
- Exam technique and revision workshops run by professional external and internal educators

You will benefit from a personal advisor who will meet with you regularly to support your learning

- Daily advisory sessions focused on study skills, developing global awareness, student voice and celebrating achievements
- You will be informed about the UCAS process from the first term in Year 12 and the application process starts in the summer term after your end of Year 12 examinations
- We work closely with 'Into University', an organisation of graduates who run workshops designed to make the aspirational prospect of going to university a tangible reality

A dedicated Sixth Form Leadership Team with a holistic focus on the wellbeing of each student

- Weekly student drop in sessions
- Close achievement, attainment, behaviour and attendance monitoring - designed to ensure students are being the best they can
- For some students, half termly meetings with Head of Sixth Form, wider sixth form team and Principal to refocus learning
- Weekly Personal Social and Health Education (PSHE) sessions, which form part of a programme designed to equip you for life after sixth form.
- We celebrate you in regular awards assemblies



Enrichment & Extra Curricular Activities

As firm believers in learning beyond the classroom, we encourage students to participate in enrichment and extra-curricular activities

- While successful academic study is the priority, the sixth form also provides the opportunity to develop skills and interests
- We regularly work with external partners to promote a range of opportunities and welcome specific suggestions and requests from current sixth form students



Our Specialism

The Academy specialises in Enterprise. This means we are committed to nurturing important skills needed to promote your academic success and in the world of work thereafter. Essentially, Enterprise is all about helping you acquire the skills you need to succeed in life.

These skills and qualities include; effective communication, leadership, negotiation, teamwork, resilience, innovation, problem solving and more.

Specialising in Enterprise means all our students have equal access to various resources needed to become well-rounded individuals that stand out from the crowd when applying for jobs, university places, apprenticeships and a diverse range of progression routes available to young people today.

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I had the opportunity to take part in the 'Company Programme' delivered by Young Enterprise. My team started a small business and I experienced first hand what it is like to manage others.

Being a part of this project gave me the opportunity to explore and gain essential key skills and values which I will take on to university.

Denzel Asiedu-Bouh,
Former Student, 2017 Class

Be the best you can

We have achieved the National Standard for Enterprise Education and our Enterprise culture influences all we do.

The Academy works closely with local employers, other educational establishments and international organisations, which ensures students benefit from professional industry expertise. Organisations / businesses we have worked with through participation in an initiative include:

- Adobe • BAFTA • Bank of England
- Bank of Montreal (BMO) • BBC
- Berkeley Homes • British Council
- The Brokerage • City of London Corporation • East London Business Alliance (ELBA) • Fairtrade Foundation
- Genesis Housing • Hackney Council
- HSBC • KPMG • Linklaters • London City Airport • Mediacom • Medic Mentor • Mosaic • Next Tech Girls and more...

Careers Education, Information, Advice & Guidance (CEIAG)

You will have the opportunity (and are encouraged) to take advantage of our well respected careers programme

All students at the Skinners' Academy Sixth Form have access to independent and impartial Careers Education, Information, Advice and Guidance, modelled in line with Quality in Careers Awards and incorporating the Gatsby Benchmarks. This is a reflection of our commitment to supporting the aspirations and labour market intelligence and social mobility of our students. Students will participate in our Careers Fair, National Careers Week and other initiatives designed to raise aspirations, confidence and achievement in relation to careers.

Recent careers events / initiatives have been attended by organisations such as the BBC, NHS, Department of Energy & Climate Change (Civil Service), The Old Vic, London Fire Brigade, EY, Arsenal, M&G, Pret A Manger, Rivington Street Studio, Berkeley Homes, the Freedom Charity and others. Top universities such as Cambridge, London School of Economics (LSE), Exeter, UCL, Portsmouth, Queen Mary, SOAS, Sussex, Kings College London, Middlesex have also participated - and Skinners' Academy has been recognised as a "best practice" case study at national careers events for schools and colleges.



““

My work experience placement in Year 12 was at an asset management firm specialising in emerging markets. I developed my communication and organisation skills whilst expanding my network to include links within financial support management.

Rayyan Bawazir, 2018 Class

““

Skinners' focus on UCAS applications is amazing.

Getting a job through the sixth form was one of my highlights.

Former Student, 2017 Class



Our Dress Code

There is no set uniform in the sixth form however the dress code is formal office style attire, with students wearing matching (2-piece) business suits of choice, reflecting our enterprise (prepare for the world of work) culture.

This opportunity to truly prepare for the workplace will build confidence for interview and work scenarios and smart dress means sixth form students may participate as ambassadors to the younger pupils in the Academy. Smart dress codes are applied throughout the Academy and all students are required to adhere to it.



Sixth Form Expectations

At all times students are required to meet all standards of the Academy and act as role models.

- Consistent hard work and commitment is required to achieve success
- The Sixth Form area is open to students for study outside of lesson time
- During lunch times students may go off site but must return on time for their class / study period
- Participation in extra-curricular activities is encouraged as they will help build your awareness, self-confidence and employability skills.
- Students are expected to challenge themselves - sometimes by stepping out of their comfort zone, to take advantage of the many exciting opportunities we have available at Skinners' Academy.

“”

The staff at Skinners' sixth form have supported me with planning for my future.

I have been offered unique opportunities and experiences which I believe will help me with my future career.

Yasemin Kelimet, Former Student, 2018 Class

“”

I joined Skinners' Academy in Year 12 and have had a great support system from the sixth form team. As an external student at first it can be frightening when starting a new school, however the teachers got to know me quickly and helped to guide me to success.

Muzna Khan, Year 13

Top Tips For a Successful Experience

When embarking on your sixth form journey, the essential point to remember is that there is a very significant transition from GCSEs to A Level / Level 3 BTEC – in ways, probably greater than sixth form to university. Therefore, it is very important that you are aware of the differences and try your best to adapt to them.

But worry not! At Skinners', we will ensure you are guided at every step of the way and receive all the information needed to make a successful transition in order to excel in all you do during the next two years of your academic life. Your job is to put in the hard work and maximise the opportunities you have.

- 1) Stay focused! Minimise your distractions - you have just two years in the sixth form (one before you start making applications!)
- 2) Set yourself goals and objectives (beyond the ones we will set you)
- 3) Use your independent time wisely
- 4) Seek assistance whenever needed - be honest when you are struggling
- 5) Be confident and realise your potential from day one - we will help you!
- 6) Prepare for your lessons in advance and meet all your deadlines - this will ensure you have time for feedback and improvement
- 7) Start exploring your next steps (university and other progression routes) early. What subjects excite you? Where would you like to go? Do research and use the brilliant resources available to you
- 8) Participate in extra-curricular activities... from Duke of Edinburgh (Gold) to conferences and mentoring opportunities to volunteering
- 9) Take advantage of all resources / facilities available to you
- 10) Finally, enjoy what you do and all the above steps will follow!

Head Boy & Girl

The Head Boy and Head Girl will be Skinners' Academy ambassadors and act as positive role models for our younger pupils.

Students at the Skinners' Academy Sixth Form have the opportunity to put themselves forward for the posts of Head Boy and Head Girl in Year 12. Once elected the post is valid for one year.

As well as acting as representatives of the Academy, the post also requires:

- Setting a good example to others in behaviour, work and appearance
- Supporting various Academy events
- Helping staff, carrying out duties/ requests
- Seeing where help is needed and volunteering without being asked
- Being a helpful and understanding friend to younger pupils



Student Voice & Leadership

The Sixth Form Council will encourage student voice. Developing student voice increases confidence, improves presentation skills, contributes to a range of employability skills and is an important aspect of the Skinners' Sixth Form journey.

Students at the Skinners' Academy Sixth Form have the opportunity to use their student voice to make a positive contribution to the Academy. This develops varying skills and facilitates the creation of interesting opportunities. In addition, participation as a Sixth Form Council representative often makes students more attractive candidates to universities and employers. Student Council meetings take place every half-term.



“”

I chose the Skinners' Academy sixth form to complete my A-Levels because the staff are always willing to offer their support and the dedicated sixth form area is a professional environment.

Nereisha Chambers, Year 13



Student Destinations

The Year 13 class of 2018 progressed on to a range of university opportunities after their time at Skinners' Academy. Some of their destinations are listed below and we anticipate similar and greater successes in the future:

- Bournemouth University
- City, University of London
- University College London
- Goldsmiths, University of London
- University of Greenwich
- Kings College London
- University of Leeds
- University of Manchester
- University of Portsmouth
- Queen Mary University of London
- University of Southampton

Exploring Medical Careers and beyond

We encourage our students to explore their interests in all fields, including medicine and healthcare. Some sixth form students have participated in a programme with Gap Medics, a specialist company dedicated to providing year-round hospital work experience for medicine, midwifery, nursing and dentistry abroad to students 16 years and over .

Aware that careers in healthcare and especially those in medicine are particularly competitive to access, sixth form students have an opportunity to get involved in the Gap Medics programme, which includes a clinic-based work experience opportunity abroad (in recent years, participants on this programme worked in the Dominican Republic). Furthermore, a student-led Medic Mentor society is another avenue to gain unique insights which have the potential to give you a valuable competitive advantage.



Application Procedure

Complete the enclosed application form, download copies from our website or apply online via www.skinnersacademy.org.uk.

All applicants will attend a meeting to discuss options and courses.

Application deadline: Mid-February... please see the website for exact dates

Early applications are encouraged.

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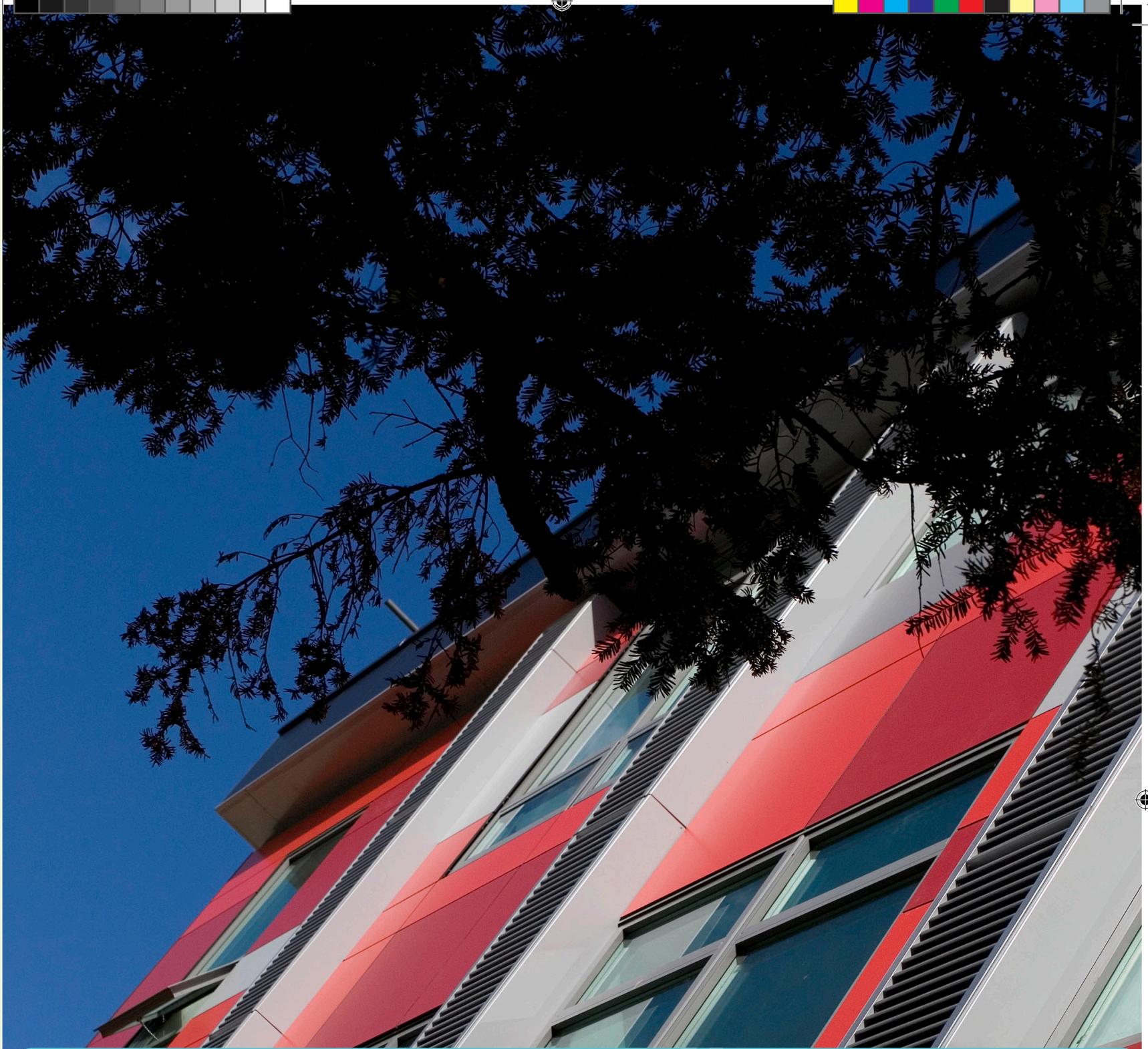
Words cannot describe how much gratitude I have for my teachers and the Sixth Form team – they were the greatest impact on my success. If it wasn't for their efforts I don't think I would have achieved what I did at A-Levels or been as ambitious.

Tracy Tran,
Former Student, 2017 Class

“”

A-Levels are only the start; just know it takes some time and effort to be successful.

Brando Williams,
Former Student, 2017 Class




Skinner's
 academy
 sixth form



Principal Tim Clark

Specialism: Enterprise
Age: 11-19 boys and girls

Skidders' Academy

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Transport

Bus: Woodberry Grove
253 / 254 / 259 / 279 Nearby 29 / 141 / 341
Rail: Stamford Hill then bus 253 / 254
Tube: Manor House

