

'COMMITTED TO ACHIEVEMENT, LEARNING FOR LIFE'



**SHESTOW** SIXTH FORM  
Quality First Teaching Learning to Achieve

## WHY CHOOSE SMESTOW?

- Quality first teaching
- Individualised study programmes
- Rigorous tracking and monitoring
- Dedicated pastoral support team
- Independent career advice and guidance

“Overall the Sixth Form is good. Students are highly positive about their experiences at school.”

*OFSTED, JUNE 2013*



*Continuing your education with Smestow Sixth Form is a real experience. It's an adventure to share with friends. It's a place to grow, develop and flourish.*

This prospectus will give you a guide to what we offer and convey the special atmosphere that makes Smestow Sixth Form such a great place to study. We put your welfare first and seek to support your success through our partnership with staff, students and parents. If you choose to join us we ask you to commit with high aspirations and expectations, in return you will become a valued member of a tightly knit student community where we will help you thrive and succeed.

At Smestow Sixth Form we focus on students as individuals and believe that education means more than just a set of qualifications. Our Sixth Form offers a range of post-16 academic and vocational qualifications as well as extra-curricular and enrichment opportunities.

Through the Building Schools for the Future programme our Sixth Form environment has been transformed, providing our students with their own space for independent study, a café area and the most up to date technology such as tablets and fingerprint technology printers.

'Students are polite and friendly towards adults and treat each other with respect and consideration'

OFSTED, JUNE 2013

## STUDENT SUPPORT

Our personal development curriculum is tailored to meet the specific needs of our students outside of the classroom from 'driver's awareness' to 'cooking on a budget'. The school also offers specific support around health and well-being to ensure that our students are supported to achieve.

The tutorial system plays a key role in the support of students' pastoral and academic progress with a target review programme that supports our learners in their journey to success.

## UCAS SUPPORT PROGRAMME

The UCAS support programme provides students with independent advice and guidance around the different course and Universities on offer. There are a range of external speakers, a UCAS convention visit and dedicated time in the summer term to ensure students make the

right choices for this important transition. As part of the support, we have a specialist link teacher who focusses on ensuring those applying for Russell Group Universities are supported in their application process.

## VOCATIONAL EMPLOYMENT COURSES

We have two employment enrichment programmes in Sport and Child Care that have been developed to support students looking to advance directly into these industries. We run specific routes in sport coaching and football, both of which lead to nationally recognised qualifications and valuable work experience. Our Child Care enrichment course offers student the opportunity to study for a British Sign Language qualification alongside an industry standard Child Care award.

## *Innovative, research based teaching and learning strategies to help maximize student learning*

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The retention of vast amounts of information is vital to success in the sixth form. Based on research, we have devised a strategy that supports our students with the development of the memory retention. Learning is structured in a way that aims to maximise students learning within and outside of the lessons. Students are asked to reflect on their learning alongside planning and prepping for the future lessons.

## DEVELOPING HIGHER ORDER THINKING SKILLS

Students are challenged to use higher order thinking skills to ensure they master their learning and gain a deeper understanding of their subject. We have re-

designed our tutor time programme to include specific targeted study skills workshops and the use of Universities to help our students develop these much needed academic skills.

## EFFECTIVE FEEDBACK

A major focus for the sixth form is the use of formative feedback that informs students as to their successes and targets within their learning. Feedback is an important part of the learning journey in which teachers are providing the information needed to further develop student learning.



"I really enjoy all my lessons as the support from each of my teachers has been amazing. They have supported me through my 6 years of being at Smestow and I know they will keep on doing so"

*Lakita Chohda, Year 13*

"I like the independence of working in class with others, using our ideas and having discussions. I feel like my teachers have really helped and encouraged me to take responsibility for my learning"

*Salma Saeed, Year 13*

"There are many aspects that appeal to the student population. These include a positive atmosphere and inviting staff and students help and support is always at hand. I enjoy life at Smestow"

*Deepak Mach, Year 13*

"I like the fact that we can use our independent study time to work on our homework. I'm allowed to work at my own rate and get support from any teacher.

*Alex Wildsmith, Year 13*

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### MAIN SCHOOL CONTACT

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### PASTORAL CONTACT

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