

Sixth Form Prospectus

Change your world

Discover more: f O akslytham.com Our Sixth Form prepares you for your future, both professionally and personally. We believe that everyone should be able to pursue their passions, achieve their ambitions and, ultimately, to change their worlds for the better.



Clifton Drive South Lytham St Annes FY8 1DT 01253 784104 @AKSLytham @AKSLythamSchool www.akslytham.com "AKS Lytham Sixth Form sets you up for who you want to be in later life." Student comment

The AKS Lytham experience is far wider than just academic. It is CCF, Duke of Edinburgh, school productions, sports events and tours, field trips, charity and community initiatives and much, much more."

Parent comment



WELCOME

From the Headmaster

The Sixth Form at AKS is an exceptional preparation for life beyond school, whatever pathways people pursue. We want individuals to leave the Sixth Form prepared and empowered to enter the wider world with confidence, ready to make a real difference.

AKS Sixth Form combines a high-quality academic education, delivered by dedicated and supportive teachers, with an extraordinary range of wider activities and experiences, including sport, performing arts, outdoor education and service, together with opportunities to develop the skills of inquiry, to build team and leadership skills as well as entrepreneurship.

Alongside outstanding examination results, AKS students have an enviable track record of progression to their chosen university courses, prestigious apprenticeships and employment. Whether you join us in Year 12, or have been at the school for many years, the Sixth Form at AKS is an amazing place to be.

David Harrow MA



From the Head of Sixth Form

Reflective learning is the key to success at Sixth Form. Our bespoke enrichment programme will strengthen your transferable skills, develop your critical thinking and broaden your aspirations.

We pride ourselves on the character education we offer and our extensive cocurricular programme provides clubs and activities to satisfy every interest; we also offer you the scope and support to create your own.

We respect all of our students as individuals, with their own unique aspirations for the future. Equally, you will quickly find yourself a member of our inclusive community and we maintain strong working links with our extensive alumni body.

Expert careers guidance and pastoral support are at the heart of what we do, with a proven track record of securing places at the UK's top universities and higher apprenticeship providers. An AKS Sixth Form education is a global one; our membership of the Round Square organisation offers exciting opportunities to work with other like-minded individuals across 50 countries worldwide.

Your two years with us will certainly be busy but there is also ample opportunity to make new friends, experience some amazing opportunities and to push yourself like never before.

Kevin Maund BA



OUR SIXTH FORM OFFERS...

First-Class Teaching

An experienced and highly qualified network of teachers and tutors will give you the personal attention and support necessary for you to realise your aspirations, and to meet the responsibilities of life beyond the Sixth Form with confidence and integrity.

"Teaching is effective in meeting the aim of the school to guide each individual to develop and grow into a knowledgeable and successful young adult." ISI Inspection Report 2016



Personalised Learning

Wide Curriculum Choices

The majority of students take three A levels, and there are plenty of opportunities to stretch your learning through our super-curricular programme, whether it be completing an Academic Research Project or a Massive Open Online Course (MOOC). Alternative curriculum arrangements are also considered for individual students, where appropriate and advisable. You will have a free choice of all the subjects we offer, and every effort is made to accommodate personal preferences, where possible and viable. Our broad range of academic subjects ensures you meet the requirements of the most prestigious universities.

"The curriculum is excellent. It is broad, balanced and enriching." ISI Inspection Report 2016

Fantastic Community

Our Sixth Form provides a comprehensive range of opportunities. You will quickly settle into life at AKS, where you will be supported and valued as an individual as part of an inclusive and diverse community. Our beachside location is perfect for providing a multitude of opportunities for outdoor activities and study. Our Sixth Form Common Room is the social hub for students and provides an ideal place for relaxation and meeting up with friends. The many clubs, societies, performances, concerts, competitions and sport teams offer further opportunities for you to fulfil recognisable roles in our larger school community.

> "Students show a high regard and mutual respect for each other. They are courteous, personable, articulate ambassadors for the school." ISI Inspection Report 2016

You will be allocated a form tutor and an academic tutor from our Sixth Form teaching staff, who will work with you throughout the two years of your Sixth Form studies. Your tutors will be a driving force in guiding and monitoring your progress, both academic and pastoral. Our friendly Sixth Form team will ensure that you feel valued and supported, both individually and as a leading member of the whole AKS community. Tutors will also assist you in the completion of your application forms for higher education and degree apprenticeships.

"At each point in school life, pastoral systems and well-considered plans create a structure that ensures that students are provided with excellent support and guidance to progress with confidence to the next phase." ISI Inspection Report 2016

Perfect Competities

"I'm particularly impressed with the academic rigour of AKS Lytham. As parents we've felt involved in curriculum progress with clear feedback helping us support our children in specific areas for improvement. Both our children have surpassed their target grades and they love going to school; we thank the school and couldn't ask for anything more."

Parent comment

ACADEMIC RIGOUR

Our dedicated staff are highly skilled and qualified specialists in their subjects. We are an incredibly wellresourced Sixth Form with a strong culture of academic achievement and intellectual challenge. It is our approach of promoting the best habits of independent thought and the skills of academic inquiry in pursuit of excellence that equips our students to achieve their own personal academic ambition. Our students are focused, positive and determined to achieve at the highest possible level and our

team of staff will challenge you to meet your potential. Our structure for success combines professional standards of behaviour and the highest expectations with innovative ideas, the exploration of new opportunities and the use of state-of-the-art technological resources. We highly value continuous professional development for our staff to ensure the best learning experiences for you.

In 2021, 66% of all A-level grades were A* or A, and 87% were A*-B.

Our students have progressed onto competitive degree apprenticeships with world-leading companies such as Deloitte, BAE Systems and BDO.

"I am over the moon with my results. At AKS I have had so many opportunities to grow as a person, I feel more globally aware and confident to take on new challenges."

Student comment



THE PLATFORM FOR SUCCESS



"The school has helped me so much, not just with academic help and support, but also UCAS guidance, interview technique, work experience opportunities and the incredible range of extra-curricular challenges." Ben, reading Medicine, University of Manchester

AKS Sixth Form students celebrate more than most, consistently achieving above the national average. Our exceptional results, breadth of opportunities and dedicated staff make AKS Sixth Form a sought-after destination for many students from other schools. All university destinations and career paths are available, both in the UK and overseas. Whether your goal is Oxbridge, a Russell Group university, a foundation degree, drama school, employment, or a degree apprenticeship, our Careers and Higher Education Programme gives you the bespoke advice, guidance and support needed to pursue your personal ambitions.

"We are proud not just of the superb examination results our students achieve but of the many ways they contribute, whether it is performing on stage, on the sports pitch, in service of others or elsewhere – there is no typical AKS student."

David Harrow, Headmaster





LEADERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

There are many leadership opportunities at AKS Sixth Form. You could choose to take on extra responsibility, apply for a role as mentor, Creative Arts Ambassador, Sixth Form representative for the Senior Student Council, Subject Ambassador, Prefect, House Captain or as a member of the Sixth Form Student Leadership Team. All these roles help you develop vital skills such as confidence in communicating with others, public speaking, organisation, time management, caring for others, empathy, giving instructions and earning respect. We consider our sixth formers to be role models for the rest of the school.

As a member of our Student Council, you will develop skills in communication, problem-solving and teamwork that will prepare you for a range of formal professional scenarios, such as legal hustings and debates.

Our Sixth Form students are both academically and professionally ambitious. Hence, our Sixth Form dress code reflects the principles of dress for the job you want. Modern professional business attire is our expectation because we want you dress for your future success today. "My one piece of advice to new students is just to try everything - get involved in any clubs and make the most out of any opportunities that school offers, as you will learn so much and make friends from it too." J Jay, Head of School

"I will forever cherish the memories I have at AKS, in particular those made on the sports fields with some of my best friends. It's upsetting that this time in my life has come to an end, but equally I feel prepared and excited to move on."

Millie, Head of School



LEADING ON LEARNING

One of the advantages of being part of a wider community is the variety of leadership opportunities on offer, leading both your peers and younger students.

Extra Activities

The commitment of our staff at AKS enables us to offer you an enhanced and diverse co-curricular programme, where you will be given the opportunity to develop your personal interests and talents. These include:

- social committees
- academic societies (allowing for exploration beyond the curriculum)
- academic research projects
- Round Square
- charity work (including AKS Action and volunteering)
- choirs, musical ensembles and concerts
- debating and public speaking
- drama productions (award winning at national level)
- educational and cultural trips
- study opportunities beyond A level









"I'd highly recommend new joiners to get involved in the clubs and societies" Olivia, Class of 2021 "Going to India in Year 12 was such an enriching experience, one I will never forget."

Olivia, Class of 2021







"The highlight of my time in 6th Form was the Round Square International Conference trip to India, it was an experience I'll never forget and I'd do it all over again in a heartbeat!" J Jay, Class of 2021











STUDENT SUPPORT



Mentoring and Personalised Learning

From your first day in Lower Sixth, you will receive personalised support to help you get the most out of your time with us.

We will work with you to monitor your progress carefully and provide regular feedback to you and your parents, including:

- full, personalised written reports which are completed each year
- parents and students invited into Sixth Form to discuss progress and strategies for improvement twice in the Lower Sixth and twice in the Upper Sixth

If any student appears to be struggling or underperforming at any time, we will intervene as appropriate, and parents will be kept fully informed.

Similarly, parents are encouraged to contact the Sixth Form team without hesitation, should they have any questions or concerns about progress.

Personalised Learning Support is offered for any student with a recognised learning difficulty, enabling them to fully access the curriculum and achieve the outcomes you expect.



"AKS really helped me ensure my personal statement was up to standard. We had dedicated sessions on UCAS throughout the week. This meant we submitted our forms early and could then focus on our studies."

Student comment

UCAS Support

You will be guided through the UCAS programme and given specific, tailored guidance, depending on your goals. This includes:

- individual career interviews
- Personalised support throughout the UCAS application process
- individual practice interviews in Sixth Form, tailored to your application
- speakers from local universities
- visits to higher education fairs or open days

All of this is designed to ensure that you will be properly prepared and guided through the UCAS system and able to maximise your chances of securing the university place you want.

Further to this, we offer specialised support for students pursuing Oxbridge, medical, veterinary and dental applications.

This includes:

- BMAT/UCAT preparation or similar
- STEP preparation
- practice interviews and subject mentoring

We pride ourselves on helping you maximise your potential and finding the right course or career.





SPORT IN THE SIXTH FORM

We all know the benefits of an active lifestyle, and at AKS Sixth Form we provide access to a range of sport and fitness activities for all tastes.

Our aim is also to provide support and guidance for all students who wish to push themselves towards regional, national or international success. Numerous students represent Great Britain and England across twelve sports, supported by our Enhanced Sports Performance Programme (ESPP).

The ESPP is designed to support you achieve your goals in whatever discipling you choose, incorporating a multitude of areas including strength and conditioning, diet and nutrition and injury prevention to name but a few. You will be given access to first-class coaching and specialist instructors, as well as access to the school's excellent sports facilities.













Opportunities for All

Inclusivity is a hallmark of AKS Sport. You will be able to enjoy a wide range of sporting activities, each enabling you to experience both participation and competition through school representation, or simply to enjoy them for the fun of it.

In addition, there are oversea tours available in girls' hockey and boys' rugby. Recent tours have included Australia, Canada, New Zealand and Sri Lanka.

Dates for the next set of tours can be found on www.akslytham.com.





PERFORMING ARTS

AKS Sixth Form offers a vibrant and exciting programme of Performing Arts, which allows students to explore their creative potential.

Our A level courses in Drama and Music explore the subjects from a highly academic perspective, as well as offering the chance to develop exceptional skills in live performances and the devising of original pieces. Many past students have gone on to study at the UK's top music conservatoires and drama schools, as well as achieving great success as professionals in the arts industry.



"The 'Drama Family' as we call it, means the absolute world to me and the memories that we created together throughout the years are ones that I will treasure forever."

Student comment





"The highlight of my time at school would be all of the performing opportunities, such as the annual musicals." J Jay, Class of 2021

The range of co-curricular opportunities in Performing Arts at AKS is outstanding, with Sixth Form students taking leading roles in concerts, ensembles and plays, as well as in our award-winning annual musical productions held at The Lowther Pavilion. These productions are held in a professional setting, allowing students the very best preparation for a future in musical theatre. Students at AKS Sixth Form benefit from excellent facilities, including a Drama Studio, Recording Studio, Recital Room and numerous performance and rehearsal spaces, as well as the chance to work towards graded LAMDA and ABRSM exams with a fantastic team of visiting teachers.

The environment in Performing Arts at AKS Sixth Form is welcoming and inclusive, truly offering aspiring actors and musicians the very best chance to flourish.





SIXTH FORM PROSPECTUS



BROADENING HORIZONS



The Duke of Edinburgh's Award – Gold Level

The Duke of Edinburgh's Award is recognised and valued by employers and university admissions tutors alike as an indication of personal integrity, perseverance, commitment and service to others.

Our experienced staff will guide you through all aspects of the Gold Award. To take part successfully in the Duke of Edinburgh Award scheme is a real achievement, and those who complete their Gold Award are invited to St James' Palace to collect their certificates.

"AKS Sixth Form has improved my confidence. We have enrichment sessions twice a week, with various external speakers which helps us prepare for the future." Student comment



The Combined Cadet Force

The CCF was founded in 1899 and is affiliated to the Duke of Lancaster's Regiment. At AKS, we have the Army section.

The aim of the CCF in the Sixth Form is to give an opportunity to exercise leadership qualities and instructional techniques in a disciplined environment.

Members of the Sixth Form may become NCOs (Non-Commissioned Officers) after a period of training. This will naturally have a military bias, but the CCF does not aim to produce fully trained servicemen/ women, nor is it a recruiting organisation for the services.

The training includes map-reading, camping and self-reliance, as well as adventure-type training, such as rock climbing, abseiling and canoeing. There are two field days each year and an annual camp, both of which are voluntary; attendance at these develops new skills and provides lifelong memories.



Business Opportunities

The business opportunities available at AKS enable any Sixth Form student to demonstrate and develop their entrepreneurial flair, leadership potential, creativity, organisation, public-speaking and teamworking skills.

Our Business Department provides a robust framework to allow our students to take part in a range of competitions and activities that lets them develop their creativity and business acumen, including the Tycoon in Schools competition, where AKS has dominated the leader boards for some years.

> "AKS Sixth Form helps you get the best out of your academic education, and make the most of the time before you go on to university." Student comment

ALUMNI PROGRAMME

Our alumni are very keen to support our students with preparation for online assessments, mock interviews and CV writing. In addition, our series of OAKS Introduce webinars, offer students an opportunity to discover the varied career pathways our alumni and members of our Local Governing Body have forged and to make their own contacts with experts in their fields of interest.















A GLOBAL EDUCATION

Your time with us will be further enriched by a varied range of opportunities to travel and discover new cultures. Whether it be through a range of departmental trips, sports tours or the benefits of our Round Square membership, you will have the chance to expand your horizons through our rich and varied character education. Many of our alumni have gone on to travel, study and work in countries all over the world. At AKS we promote in all of our students a taste for adventure, and an awareness of the opportunities and responsibilities of global citizenship. **Opportunities include:**



MUSIC TOUR TO NEW YORK

London Residential

A two-day super-curricular and cultural trip to the country's capital. Students have the opportunity to visit a range of educational attractions linked to their area of study.

Round Square International Conferences

An opportunity to meet representatives from over 200 schools across 50 countries that make up the global Round Square organisation during a seven-day conference hosted by a different global member each year.

Sports Tours

A great chance to represent your team internationally and to explore new cultures with friends. The 2022 Rugby Tour to South Africa and 2022 Hockey Tour to Australia will be a highlight of Sixth Form for many.

Music Tours

Showcase your musical prowess as part of the senior school's band of musicians. Recent tours have journeyed to Italy and New York.

Alton Towers

Celebrate the end of the academic year in Sixth Form with a white-knuckled visit to UK's biggest theme park. "Don't look down!"





WORLD CHALLENGE EXPEDITION TO ROMANIA



VOLUNTEERING OPPORTUNITY IN THAILAND



HOCKEY TOUR TO AUSTRALIA

ROUND SQUARE CONFERENCE IN INDIA





RUGBY TOUR TO SOUTH AFRICA

SKI TRIP TO AUSTRIA



Sixth Form London Residential

Our Lower Sixth Form London Residential is a great opportunity to spend two days with friends soaking up the many cultural and intellectual opportunities the capital has to offer. The trip is designed to accommodate all interests. You will have a choice of tours to experience with like-minded students, whether it be museums, galleries, The Globe Theatre, or the Houses of Parliament to mention a few. The trip will also offer you the chance to do some Christmas shopping with friends and to take in an evening show!



LIFE IN SIXTH FORM



Spotlight on Sixth Form... An interview with Jasper, Year 12

What is your favourite thing about Sixth Form? And why?

Our private study periods because they give us more time to spend on work and independent study, and I also enjoy spending time in the common room.

What does a typical day in Sixth Form look like for you?

I'm usually busy with my subjects because I try and research more and read further about a topic that I may be on. Also, I have all my subjects every day, therefore that keeps me busy.



What advice would you give to a Year 12 student about to start Sixth Form?

Take part in activities but don't overdo it, so you will still have time to do work. Also use your frees for homework and revision, which should hopefully help you keep on top of your work.







SCHOLARSHIPS

With our Scholarship Programme, we seek to recognise and reward individuals with passion, ambition and dedication in a particular area, and to provide rich and challenging opportunities within a thriving community of like-minded individuals.

Academic, Art, Drama, Music and Sport Scholarships are available for Year 12 entrants. These are awarded on the basis of school-based assessments and the track record of the individual, and are assessed with transparency, honesty and consistency. We expect an ongoing dedication to personal development and participation in the chosen field throughout the award-holder's time at AKS.

Students may apply for scholarships when transitioning into Year 7 and Year 12; at other points of entry, scholarships may be available at the discretion of the Headmaster.

Academic Scholarship

An Academic Scholar can be characterised as 'intelligent, interested and interesting'. They will have one or more subjects or intellectual pursuits that particularly excite them, as well as a demonstrable passion for learning in general, and a strong level of academic ability.

Scholarship candidates will be invited for an interview with the Headmaster and Head of Sixth Form, or other senior member of staff, to explore their academic passions. In addition, the school will seek references from their current school, including anticipated grades at GCSE or equivalent: their candidacy should be supported by a strong track record at school or in another academic arena.

Academic Scholars are expected to demonstrate an excellent work ethic, achieving a high level of attainment in their academic studies. They should maintain the general high standards expected of a member of the AKS school community, being a good role model to their peers and an inspiration to younger students and scholars. Successful candidates will be expected to take part in the Academic Scholars Programme, including attending lunchtime lectures and meetings of the Scholars' Society, as well as participating in other academically-enriching events within school and beyond.

Academic Scholarships are provisional on achieving appropriately strong results at the end of Year 11.



Scholarships represent a reduction (up to the value of 20%) in annual fees, and are not dependent upon family income; nor are they negotiable. The number of scholarships is not fixed: we consider each candidate individually on their merits.

Art Scholarship

Selection for an Art Scholarship is based on an interview with our Head of Art, as well as the submission of a portfolio of work (this may be their current GCSE project): photographs of 3D pieces may be brought to interview, if the work itself is not portable. In addition, candidates will be expected to produce a piece of practical work, separate from their portfolio, within the Art Department during a specified time. It is normally a condition of the scholarship that successful candidates study A-level Art.

Music Scholarship

Selection for a Music Scholarship is made on the basis of interview with the Director of Performing Arts, and other departmental colleagues, during which candidates will be asked to discuss their musical activities. Candidates will also be required to demonstrate their musical ability through sight reading, aural tests and by performing two pieces of music on the instrument(s) of their choice. Although it is not an expectation that Music Scholars study the subject at A-level, it is a condition of the scholarship that throughout the Sixth Form they help maintain the

high standard of school music by playing a leading role in the school's musical activities, including participation in recitals, concerts and other musical events.



Drama Scholarship

Selection for a Drama Scholarship is made on the basis of interview with Head of Drama, during which they candidate will be asked to perform a 2-3 minute monologue of their choice.

Successful candidates should be able to demonstrate a high level of involvement in productions (either performance or technical support), the commitment to make an outstanding contribution to the school's Drama programme, and the potential to study the subject at degree level either at University or Drama School. It is normally a condition of the scholarship that successful candidates study Drama at A-level, and that they remain actively involved in the Department's performance programme.

Sport Scholarship

Sport Scholarship awards are open to talented and committed sportsmen or sportswomen. Successful candidates must have a high level (that is, regional representative or above) of practical skills and athletic prowess, as well as the necessary attitude and inclination to pursue sport to a high level.

Candidates are expected to submit a comprehensive sporting curriculum vitae, in which they outline their strengths and which should include evidence of recent achievement. The application should include a written recommendation from their Headmaster.

Candidates are required to discuss their achievements and aspirations with the Director of Sport and other sports colleagues, and may also be asked to undergo a practical test of skills, aptitude and athletic ability. It is a condition of the Sport Scholarships that award holders represent the school whenever required and play a supporting role in the development of younger students.



ASSISTANCE

Assisted Places

Our means-tested Assisted Places scheme offers a maximum reduction of 85% in school fees (lunches, examination fees and other charges are charged separately). Places are supported by the AKS Foundation, the Lytham Schools Foundation and the United Church Schools Trust (UCST), which is part of the United Learning group to which AKS belongs, in accordance with their charitable remits. Additional financial support may be available in particularly deserving cases.

Parents may apply for an Assisted Place by requesting and completing an application form, usually during the Autumn Term prior to the year of entry, which requires full financial details to be disclosed in confidence. The form can be requested from our Admissions Department by emailing admissions@akslytham.com.

Bursaries

Bursaries may be awarded to any existing parents who suffer temporary and unforeseen financial hardship: these are means tested annually for as long as they last. Additional funding may also be available as a contribution towards school fees, uniform, books, equipment, transport and so on.

Parents should make an appointment with the Bursar in the first instance, who will advise further on consideration of each individual situation.

Sibling Discounts

Sibling discounts apply automatically for children throughout the school, although the discounts are only applicable whilst an elder child remains on the school roll. The discount equates to a 10% reduction in school feels for each sibling, not including the eldest child.

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GET IN TOUCH

If you're thinking of joining us...

Enquiries from prospective families are welcome at any time, please contact our Admissions Office: Email: admissions@akslytham.com or call: 01253 784104. We welcome applications at any stage of the year.

To arrange a visit...

Please contact us at the school via the website or call us on 01253 784100.

Get a flavour of our school...

Read the Headmaster's and students' blogs: https://blogs.akslytham.com/headmaster/category/heads-blog https://blogs.akslytham.com/headstudents

Join our thriving community on social media...

Keep up to date with daily life at AKS Lytham.

- 💓 twitter.com/AKSSixthForm
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