



Sixth Form Prospectus
2012-13 Entry



Immanuel
College

**Imagine
Immanuel**

Academic Excellence
Expert Pastoral Care
Inspiring Jewish Education



Welcome from the Head Master

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Imagine Immanuel.
Immanuel College is a school whose success is founded on the recognition of the unique worth and importance of each of its pupils.



Immanuel College is characterised by academic success, expert pastoral care and inspiring Jewish education. The School's size ensures that each child is known to me personally, as well as to my teachers. As a result, no pupil is anonymous or unsupported.

At Immanuel College, small class sizes promote confident learning and rapid academic progress. I am extremely proud of the excellent GCSE and A Level results achieved by the pupils of Immanuel College and take personal pleasure in the fact that in the past three years, 95% of our leavers have proceeded to the university of their choice.

The foundation of Immanuel's academic excellence is the nurturing approach to pupils provided by our expert and exceptionally attentive pastoral system, which supports the personal, social and academic development of each pupil. The close relationship between teachers, pupils and parents ensures that pupils' strengths are built upon and needs for their individual development addressed.

Our pupils feel at home in a school founded on Jewish values and learning. By the end of their time at Immanuel College, they are not only confident and well qualified academically, but have also attained a deep understanding of their faith and of the place of Jewry in the modern world.

Immanuel College has an established Senior School and Sixth Form and in September 2011 admitted the first entry of Reception class pupils to its new Preparatory School. Immanuel College's Sixth Form has earned its reputation for maximising the potential of each pupil. This is reflected by the fact that Immanuel College is one of the top 3% of secondary schools in the UK, measured by the proportion of pupils gaining places at the nation's 30 leading universities.

I look forward to welcoming you to Immanuel College.

Philip Skelker, MA.

Director of Sixth Form's Foreword

Immanuel College's Sixth Form is exceptionally successful. I take pride in our students' excellent academic achievements and their success in obtaining so many offers to study at the top 30 research universities in the United Kingdom.

The Talmud makes a curious assertion: scholarship increases peace or 'completeness' in the world. Yet it is scholars who invariably disagree vociferously and promote wildly divergent views. The ability to accommodate differing views, to see all knowledge as but a partial insight into truth is the cornerstone of our Sixth Form. In that sense our students are, as the tractate continues, 'builders' as they seek to broaden their understanding and piece together new insights.

In the Sixth Form we see students become confident, independent learners who relish questioning established thought, exchanging ideas and taking intellectual risks. Primarily this comes about through the pursuit of their Advanced Level courses, which are challenging and exacting. Students must quickly absorb complex ideas and concepts, master and practise new skills, and develop a self-disciplined and motivated approach to their studies in order to achieve success.

For this reason, our students are expertly supported by a first-class team of subject teachers and an alert and responsive pastoral system. The Sixth Form is a time of extraordinary personal growth; at Immanuel we support students' academic progress, university application and career aspirations. Yet this is only the beginning. The culture of the Immanuel College Sixth Form is vibrant and stimulating, characterised by warm friendships and respectful relationships. This creates the unique atmosphere of tolerance and kindness in which our students feel nurtured as individuals.

Thus academic progress develops alongside personal growth. Students enjoy the opportunity to develop leadership skills through service to the school and to take part in a wide range of extra-curricular activities. The Sixth Form Bet Midrash programme promotes a synthesis of Jewish living and learning by providing multiple, individually-

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tailored programmes. These are personally enriching and translate into initiatives that impact on the wider community.

It is this exciting blend of academic, personal and Jewish aspiration which is the heart of the Immanuel Sixth Form. Each student is cherished and valued. We aim to see every student leave the school confident and equipped to take on the exciting challenges which lie beyond our walls. I look forward to welcoming you into the Sixth Form whether as a student or a visitor so that you can see for yourselves!



Mrs Joyce Mays
Director of Sixth Form



Academic Excellence

Imagine Immanuel. Imagine attending one of the top 3% of secondary schools in the UK, measured by the proportion of pupils gaining places at the nation's 30 leading universities. A school whose pupils thrive on success and where results are excellent, with 95% of its leavers, over the past 3 years, proceeding to the university of their choice.

The pursuit of academic excellence is a defining feature of the Immanuel College Sixth Form. The rigorous yet supportive tuition provided by the school's expert subject specialists enables students consistently to reach and then extend themselves beyond their academic potential. Students are not only equipped to achieve excellent A Level results (and, in turn, obtain sought-after places at the UK's leading universities) but are also encouraged to think independently and to develop their own responses to the material that they study. The ambitious and vibrant culture of the Sixth Form provides a stimulating environment in which students can take intellectual risks, challenge the premises of conventional thought, exchange ideas, and probe beyond the confines of examination syllabuses. Sixth-form students thus grow intellectually in a way that enables them to excel in their A Level studies, preparing them for study at undergraduate level, and equipping them to respond to the challenges of their future careers.

Successful academic results and university offers
Imagine a school where, in the last five years, over one-third of leavers have achieved the top grades (A or A*) in every A Level subject they have taken. A school whose A Level results reflect the strength of the

Sixth Form's commitment to academic excellence. Immanuel College is a school whose academic success was acknowledged by the Independent Schools Inspectorate in its report of March 2010, which noted its A Level results 'are high in comparison with maintained selective schools'.

The school has a deserved reputation for delivering impressive academic results. This was highlighted in a Sutton Trust report, which placed Immanuel College in the top 3% of the nation's secondary schools in terms of the proportion of its students gaining admission to the leading 30 UK research universities. No other Jewish school features in this list of the 100 'elite' schools dominating university admissions.

A diverse and flexible curriculum

Students at Immanuel enjoy a choice of 24 A Level subjects. They are also supported in their preparation for university admission examinations, such as the BMAT (medicine), LNAT (law) and TSA (required by many Oxford and Cambridge colleges).

Immanuel College's well-established partnership with the Open University enables Upper Sixth (i.e. Year 13) students to enjoy the unusual opportunity of taking undergraduate modules in conjunction with their A Levels, enabling them both to explore their academic

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interests more widely and to add lustre to their university applications. Since 2008, 28 Immanuel students have followed OU courses as diverse as 'Robotics and the Meaning of Life', 'Molecules, Medicines and Drugs', and 'Leonardo da Vinci'.

Expert individual guidance

Imagine a school whose sixth form has fewer than 15 students for more than 85% of its AS and A Level classes. A place where small class sizes enable subject teachers to monitor students' academic progress closely and respond to their individual needs.

A school where teachers spend many hours out of formal lesson times helping individual students master the skills required for examination success.

A place where students are assessed regularly and parents are frequently updated on students' academic progress. The school issues formal academic checks or reports every half term, and quickly communicates with parents when an issue pertaining to a student's academic progress arises at any time during the school year. There is an annual parents' consultation evening for each year group, and parents are always welcome to discuss their children's progress with teachers at any time, by telephone, or by appointment.



Expert Pastoral Care

Imagine Immanuel. Imagine a Sixth Form which offers exceptionally supportive and attentive pastoral care that focuses on maximising the potential of each student.

A Sixth Form which believes that students succeed best in their studies only if they are valued and nurtured as individuals and given the widest opportunities for personal growth. A place which believes that academic success will be optimised by students who have a healthy measure of self-esteem and a sense of personal well-being. Promoting students' personal growth is a priority of the Immanuel College Sixth Form, which aims at nurturing confident, well-balanced and compassionate young adults whose lives are informed by enduring values and principles.

All students in the Sixth Form are personally known to the Director of Sixth Form, who operates an 'open-door' policy which gives students easy access to them in order to discuss any academic, personal or other issue. The culture of the Sixth Form is thus characterised by friendly, candid, respectful, and mutually supportive relationships between all members of its community.

Immanuel College rigorously and frequently monitors its students' progress, on both the academic and personal fronts, and parents are involved wherever possible in matters to do with the pastoral welfare of individual students. Students also have access to the School Counsellor, the Director of Pastoral Education and her team and, of course, the College's Head Master.

The Sixth Form provides manifold opportunities for students to grow as individuals, develop self-discipline, nurture leadership skills, and deepen their understanding of the world around them. The Friday Lecture Programme, at which distinguished men and women from all walks of life address the Sixth Form, introduces students to a range of contemporary themes and issues in, for instance, the arts and sciences, public health, law, religion, business, politics, and community care, and enables students to gain an understanding of their duties as responsible citizens. Students are carefully guided in their career options. Their work experience placements at the end of the Lower Sixth (i.e. Year 12) academic year provide an opportunity for them to explore their career options.

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Sixth Form students may serve as academic mentors for the lower school, train as peer counsellors for younger pupils, participate in the School Council, run a variety of clubs and societies, and apply for a number of prefectorial positions. They also benefit from opportunities to play sport and undertake voluntary service. Sixth-form students traditionally take a leading role in raising money for the nominated school charities, including running fund-raising stalls at festivals such as Purim and Yom Ha'atzmaut. By virtue of these opportunities to nurture their individuality, explore their leadership potential and build their team-working skills, Immanuel College leavers are outstandingly well equipped to become principled, effective and influential leaders and citizens in the wider community.



Inspiring Jewish Education

Imagine Immanuel. Imagine a school which instils a love of Jewish living and learning in its students.

Immanuel College aims to inspire its students to live fulfilling Jewish lives. All sixth-form students are encouraged to deepen their love of Jewish customs and practices and play a crucial part in promoting the school's vibrant Jewish atmosphere. They organise, lead and participate in the celebration of Jewish festivals such as Succoth, Chanukah and Purim. Many students lead prayers, either in the morning service in the Immanuel College Beit HaMidrash (Jewish Study Centre) or for lower-school form groups. The Sixth Form also plays a leading role in commemorating Yom Hazikaron (Remembrance Day).

The Sixth-Form Programme of Jewish Studies

All sixth-form students take some form of non-examined Jewish living and learning course. An intensive text-based option is available for students who would like to further their Jewish studies with a view to attending yeshiva or seminary. This programme constitutes a series of courses in Torah SheBichtav, Torah SheB'al Peh, and Halakha, which are taught separately to male and female students.

Other students follow a leadership course ('Torah V'Chochma'), aimed at giving them the necessary skills and knowledge to become active on university campus and in the wider Jewish community. In conjunction with this, the Social Action Programme provides sixth-form students

with the opportunity to work with the elderly, homeless, asylum seekers and others.

In addition, all students follow at least two six-week Jewish Enrichment courses taught by the members of the Beit HaMidrash, choosing from options in areas such as textual study and Jewish history. The Beit HaMidrash also organises an informal 'Lunch and Learn' programme—engaging and stimulating weekly sessions with guest speakers.

The Poland Trip

Imagine a school that gives every sixth-form student the opportunity to visit Krakow, Lublin and Warsaw to study 1,000 years of Jewish history.

A school that believes that by understanding what Jewry achieved during centuries of Jewish life in Poland, its students are able to put their visits to the concentration camps into a context which enables them to appreciate better what was lost in the Holocaust. The time spent by students contributing to lessons and activities at the Lauder Jewish Day School in Warsaw deepens this awareness. Students draw upon their educational and life experiences as they consider the profound religious issues the Trip raises. The time spent in Poland plays a significant part in developing students' sense of Jewish responsibility, and has a unique impact on the quality of their relationships with one another. Each January, on Holocaust

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Memorial Day, Lower Sixth students share the knowledge and insights they have acquired on their trip to Poland the previous month with lower-school pupils.

Next Steps

We hope that, having read this prospectus, you will arrange a visit to Immanuel College. On your tour you will see how the atmosphere, activities and ideals of the Sixth Form, as described in these pages, are embodied in the daily life of the school.

External applications for September 2012 may be submitted at any time during the academic year 2011/12. However, early application is strongly encouraged, as it increases the likelihood of applicants being offered their first choice of A Level subjects. It may not be possible to offer the applicant's preferred choice of A Level subjects after 31st March 2012, owing to timetable constraints or to classes having been filled to their maximum capacity.

For more information please contact the Admissions Department on 020 8955 8938 or email admissions@immanuel.herts.sch.uk.





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