

Headteacher's Speech

Good evening. My name is Emma Yates and I am the Headteacher of Hayesfield School and Mixed Sixth Form Centre. I'd like to formally welcome you to our Sixth Form Open Evening.

Year 11, this is an exciting time for you. It's time for you to choose the right Sixth Form Centre. For those of you who live in Bath, this might be a difficult decision as you are very lucky - there are several good Sixth Form Centres within a 5 mile radius of your home. This evening, we will try to give you all the facts that you will need to make an informed choice. Obviously though, we're here to tell you why our Sixth Form is undoubtedly the best!

I am joined by Miss Trueman, Director of the Sixth Form, Mr Rutt, her Deputy, Katie and Kathryn our Head students, and Eben, who came to us in Year 12. We're going to each spend a few minutes describing different aspects of Hayesfield Sixth Form Centre to you. By the end of the evening you will see why life as a Hayesfield Sixth Former is completely different to being at school.

I would like begin by sharing with you the vision that underpins our Sixth Form. At Hayesfield, we aim to provide an inspirational environment, which will enable you to flourish and achieve your personal ambition. We have a high reaching and aspirational curriculum, with a distinct international outlook, which aims to prepare you for higher education and employment in the 21st century. And most importantly, we aim to have an outstanding tutorial system which will provide you with the personal support that you will need to be 'you at your best'. Put simply, our vision is to provide you with the keys that will open the doors to your future.

It's lovely to see so many familiar faces here this evening, and of course, I'm delighted to see so many new faces, too. For those of you who are new to Hayesfield, I would like to take a moment to describe our Sixth Form Campus. You see, there has been a great investment into making our Sixth Form a 21st century learning environment. We have a unique University styled campus with two main sites – Brougham Hayes and Upper Oldfield Park.

Brougham Hayes is our STEM, Applied Learning and Languages centre, which includes a modern Science block, The Nucleus and a Design Studio for Technology. Upper Oldfield Park houses our English, Humanities, Performing and Creative Arts teams and is the home to our Sixth Form Centre, the East Wing.

We are very proud of our specialist Science, Sport, Technology, Music, and Performance facilities. Please make sure you pop into the vibrant Sixth Form Common Room this evening for some refreshments and to chat to the Sixth Form team. But don't be fooled - It's not the

bricks and mortar or the concrete and glass that makes Hayesfield a great Sixth Form Centre – it what goes on inside that matters most and you will see this this tonight and in our Open Day. The biggest factor in ensuring high quality learning is high quality teaching. And that is why you should come to Hayesfield.

Choosing the right Sixth Form is much more than just seeing what courses are on offer. Without doubt, good grades at A Levels and other Level 3 qualifications like BTecs and CTECs are needed to gain a place at university. However, it's the extras like having an Extended Project Qualification in your chosen subject, proving that you have developed your leadership skills and completed a professional work experience placement that will make your application stand out.

Please take time to read our prospectus so you can find out about how you can participate in the Duke of Edinburgh's Gold Award, become an officer in our Navy CCF, be the next winner of the Young Enterprise Award, apply to be a member of our Student Leadership Team or gain a place in a prestigious Overseas Summer School.

Now is not the time to take any risks with your chances for success. Have confidence that you will join a Sixth Form that has significant and sustained academic success. Your future is in safe hands here - our experienced and caring teachers will work with you to make your dreams a reality. But don't take my word for it. Let me show you the evidence.

Hayesfield has a strong history of growing academic success – this is because we are not complacent and every year we strive to be better. For the last 4 years, we have been celebrating our best-ever A Level results! I hope you enjoyed reading about our students' success in the Bath Chronicle this Summer and will take time to read our performance data.

These graphs here (see powerpoint) show year-on-year improvement with our results at A Level. We are very proud of these graphs – they show a consistent and positive trend for both highest grades achieved and average point score gained per student over time. We feel that these are two key measures as they directly link to the points that you will need to access university courses.

Let's look more closely (see powerpoint) and see why our students achieved such success. Hayesfield offers a distinctly different curriculum to many other Sixth Form Centres – we ensure that the majority of our students study at least 3 A Levels or equivalents like BTECs and CTECs to completion. Three is the magic number as this is what is needed to access university courses. In 2016, 93% of students at Hayesfield gained 3 A Levels or their equivalents. **You can see here that our results are nearly 20% higher than both the Bath and UK averages.**

And you will also notice that our students didn't just achieve any old 3 A Levels – they achieved 3 really good A Levels – 57% of all grades were awarded at A*-B and 81% of all grades were awarded at A*-C.

I'd like to show you another graph (see powerpoint). This one is not normally in the public domain but one that Ofsted would use to grade a Sixth Form and to make judgements on its outcome for students. It's called a value-added graph. It compares the achievement of students at Hayesfield with the achievements of students nationally. It shows we are in the top 10% of Sixth Forms nationally, and the top 30% of schools in BANEs, which includes selective independent schools.

This graph answers a key question you should be asking us: Will I do better at Hayesfield Sixth Form than I will elsewhere? The graph shows that yes, you will. The graph shows that our students achieve grades HIGHER than they were expected to, based on their relative achievements at GCSE. This graph shows that achievement in our Sixth Form is significantly higher than national standards and is Ofsted outstanding. I hope I have made my point because sometimes data doesn't tell the full story and this graph does!

I have shown you that Hayesfield has a proven track record of success. A record of success which sees our students reaching the destination of their choice! This summer, 98% of our students gained their chosen University places. They can't be here this evening as they are currently living their dream are busy being a fresher. However, I do have 2 students here who can't wait to tell you about their experiences at Hayesfield and what their future dreams are. I have a firm belief that there is no achievement without enjoyment. Katie and Kathryn, our Head and Deputy Head Student will tell you why they are so very happy here and how you can be happy here, too.