



THE SCHOLARS PROGRAMME

 Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world.

Nelson Mandela



 Success is the sum of small efforts repeated day in and day out.

Robert Collier



thornleighsixthform.co.uk

WELCOME TO THE SCHOLARS PROGRAMME

Aiming High. Thinking Deeper. Standing Out.

The Scholars Programme at Thornleigh Sixth Form is a specialised academic pathway designed for students with the highest aspirations. Whether you are aiming for the historic colleges of Oxford and Cambridge, the research-intensive Russell Group universities, or prestigious Level 6 Degree Apprenticeships, this programme is your roadmap to success.



WHY JOIN THE SCHOLARS PROGRAMME?

In today's academic climate, top-tier universities and employers look for more than just high grades. They seek individuals with a 'scholarly mindset' - the ability to think independently, analyse complex data, and communicate sophisticated ideas.

Our programme is designed to bridge the gap between A Level study and the rigors of the world's leading institutions, ensuring you possess the core skills to truly stand out from the crowd.

WHAT THE PROGRAMME OFFERS

Academic Stretch - Challenges that push you beyond the A Level syllabus into undergraduate-level thinking.

Expert Guidance - Dedicated support for UCAS applications, including bespoke personal statement workshops.

Interview Mastery - Realistic mock interviews and coaching to build confidence and eloquence.

Critical Analysis - Seminars designed to sharpen your research, debating, and analytical skills.

Future Readiness - Developing the independence and resilience needed for life beyond Sixth Form.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Who is eligible for the Scholars Programme?

The programme is targeted at our highest-achieving A Level students. Typically, we look for students with a strong profile of GCSE grades (7 - 9) who demonstrate a passion for academic inquiry and a desire to progress to highly competitive universities or apprenticeships.

Is it only for students wanting to go to Oxford or Cambridge?

No. While we provide specialised support for Oxbridge applicants, the programme is equally beneficial for those targeting any Russell Group university or prestigious Higher/Degree Apprenticeships with major global firms.

What is the time commitment?

The programme is designed to complement, not overwhelm, your A Level studies. It includes regular scheduled seminars, workshops and guest speaker events. Some independent research and 'super-curricular' reading are expected to help you develop the depth of knowledge required for top-tier applications.

How does this help my university application?

Universities look for 'super-curricular' engagement - evidence that you have explored your subject beyond the classroom. The Scholars Programme provides you with the opportunities and the vocabulary to demonstrate this engagement in your personal statement and during interviews.

Will I receive help with admissions tests?

Yes. For courses that require entrance exams (such as Law, Medicine, or Oxbridge-specific tests), we provide guidance on preparation and signpost you to high-quality resources and practice materials.



Dreams don't work
unless you do.

John C. Maxwell



SCHOLARS BADGES

See below for an overview of the badges you can work towards and achieve throughout the Scholars Programme in Year 12 and Year 13.

AMBASSADORSHIP

Support at least three Sixth Form events:

- Open Evening
- New Student Day
- Year 10 Taster Day
- Represent Thornleigh at local high schools
- Pensioners Christmas Party
- Assist Chapel Assemblies

1
BADGE

ENRICHMENT - ACADEMIC

Complete a full term attending at least one enrichment club / society AND attend at least two guest speaker talks.

- Medical Society
- Debating Society
- Public Speaking Competition
- MOOCs
- British Sign Language
- Guest Speaker Talks

2
BADGE

ENRICHMENT - RECREATIONAL

- Dance Club
- Sporting Activities
- Chess Club
- Music
- Retro Games Club

3
BADGE

RESEARCH SKILLS

Complete one of the following:

- EPQ
- Duke of Edinburgh Award

4
BADGE

SOCIAL ACTION

Participate in at least two of the following for a full term:

- Litter Picking • School Gardening
- Literacy Mentoring • Numeracy Mentoring
- Uniform Project • Lower School Duty
- Volunteering at a care home for the elderly
- Volunteering at the Dementia Café
- Member of the fundraising team

5
BADGE

CAREERS

Complete at least two of the following:

- Careers Appointment
- A Mock Interview
- University Open Day

6
BADGE

NETWORKING

Complete at least two of the following:

- Create a LinkedIn Profile
- Join the Scholars Network
- Attend one networking event

7
BADGE

WORK EXPERIENCE

At least one week of in-person work experience. Medics / Dentists must complete two separate work locations.

8
BADGE