

Be the best you can be

Executive Headteacher Jamie Foster

Year 11 Information Evening



Key Staff

Mr M Read: Head of Year 11

Mrs K Wells: Deputy Head of Year 11

Ms L Potter: Director of KS4

Ms J Box: Assistant Headteacher (Assessment)

Mrs A Day: Deputy Headteacher (Quality of Education)

Mr G Samuels: Deputy Headteacher (Sixth Form)



PPEs and Beyond

Ms J Box

- Understand the GCSE grading system
- To understand the expectation of GCSE pupils
- To highlight key strategies used within St Martin's to develop learning and progress
- To demonstrate practical tips/approaches to help during their GCSEs



How the new grades compare with the old ones

GCSE Grading System

Old grades	New grades
A*	9
Α	7
В	6 5. OTDONO DAGO
С	5 STRONG PASS4 STANDARD PASS
D	3
E	2
F	2
G	1
U	U



Strategies to develop learning and progress





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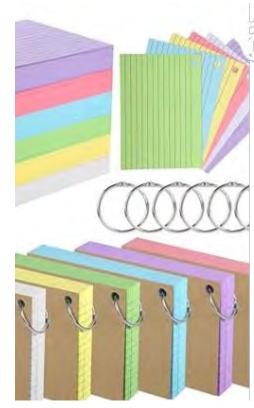
Strategies to develop learning and progress



Flash Cards Exemplar mark schemes
Retrieval Practice Spaced Retrieval
Websites/Apps Practice papers
Deconstructing exam questions

Learning/Revision Techniques





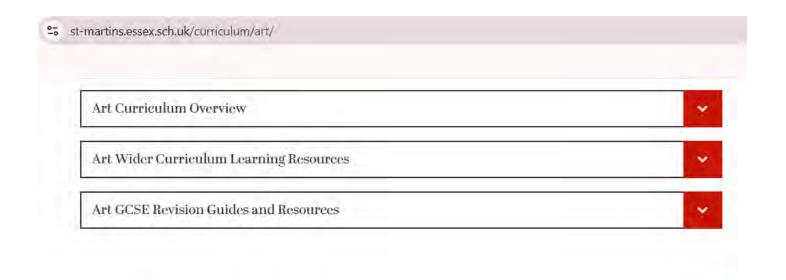
Subject support



Ms J Box

Everything you need all in one place

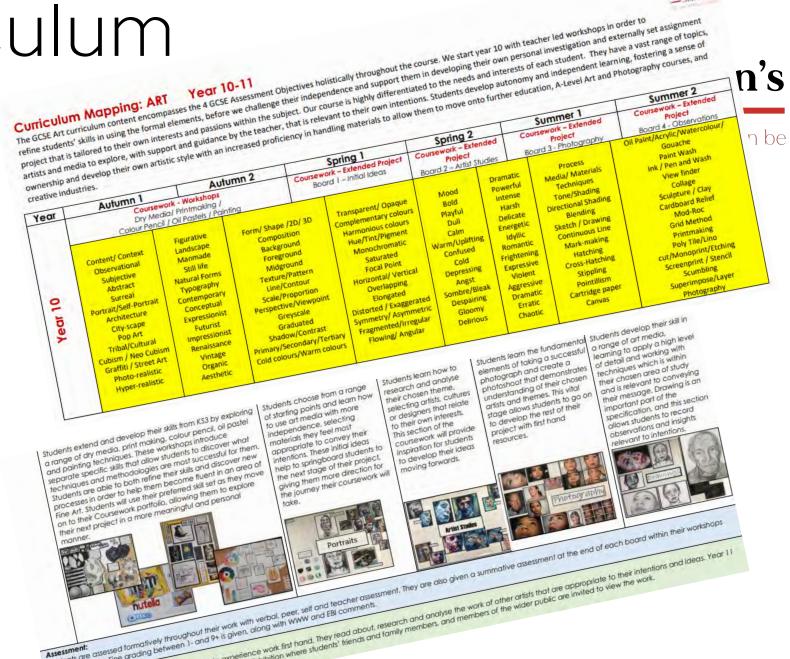
In the curriculum section on our school website, you will find the curriculum subjects section which provides all the information you need for each KS4 subject.



GCSE Curriculum

Ms J Box

You will find curriculum subject overviews for each subject.
These highlight the key topics for each GCSE subject, alongside subject specific terminology that we expect pupils to learn, use and embed by the time they sit examinations.

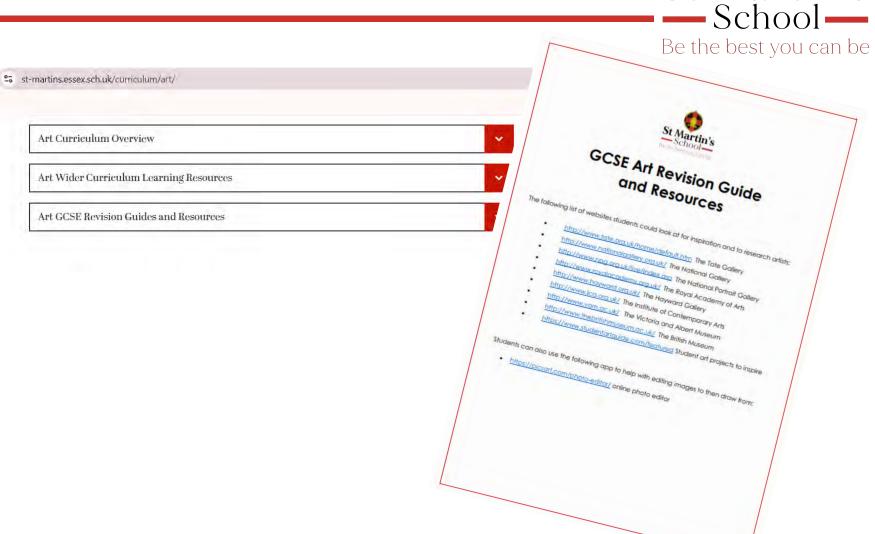


GCSE Curriculum



Ms J Box

You will also find access to revision guides and resources.



Wider Curriculum



Ms J Box

We also provide resources to develop our learners beyond the classroom.

Something to read, watch, listen or do...

Wider curriculum padlets are available for all subjects (curriculum/curriculum subject area of the website).

Fostering curiosity, independent thinking, stretch, metacognition & wider subject interest and revision.

No excuses, there will always be something to do at home.

Recipe for effective revision & successful results



Spaced Practice

Retrieval **Practice**

Mindset

Support

Attendance

Success

Spaced Practice

Retrieval **Practice**

Mindset

Support

Missing

Lower results

Spaced Practice

Retrieval **Practice**

Mindset

Missing

Attendance

Anxiety

Spaced Practice

Retrieval **Practice**

Missing

Support

Attendance

Under performance

Spaced Practice

Missing

Mindset

Support

Attendance

Ineffective strategies

Missing

Retrieval **Practice**

Mindset

Support

Attendance

Cramming

Kate Jones | lovetoteach87.com | @87history | lovetoteach87 |



Year 11 PPE Timetable Nov 2025



https://www.st-martins.essex.sch.uk/assets/Exams-v2/Y11-PPE-Timetable-2025.pdf

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Paper 2: Computing Concepts

re NEA Session 2 (N103) **IS ONLY 12:20-12:55**

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Be The Best You Can Be

Mrs S Baxter - Head of Science Study tips:

1. Know what you need to know: AQA specification

Highlight all the key words in one colour. Make sure you make flashcards or learn the definitions for all of these.

Highlight anything you feel like **you've** never heard of before in another colour. These are the parts of the spec you need to sit down with a revision guide or textbook and try to learn about before you start your revision.

Highlight areas you

are not fully confident on in a third colour. These are areas where you need to make sure you are testing yourself on key words/concepts with flashcard, doing mind maps and practising past paper questions for.



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Mrs S Baxter - Head of Science

Study tips:

2. Make sure you are revising content in enough detail

Keep referring back to the specification you printed off and tick off each section as you revise it. This will help you make sure you are not missing out on details you need to know!

All of this revision should be as active as possible.

Scientists have proven we are more likely to remember information if we rehearse it, process it, and practise retrieving it. This is one reason flashcards are so great!



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Ms S Baxter - Head of Science

Study tips:

3. Practise your maths skills.

Maths skills are assessed across all the GCSE Sciences

- -graph skills
- -algebra
- -handling data: means
- -percentages
- -significant figures
- -decimal places



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Ms S Baxter - Head of Science

Study tips:

4. Make use of the resources you have at school

Revision sessions Teachers Satchel Sparx Science

5. Practice your exam technique

English

Ms R Goulding - Head of English

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Be The Best You Can Be

GCSE Curriculum

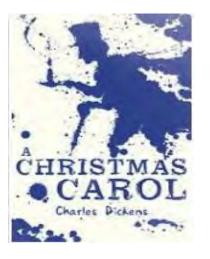
English Literature:

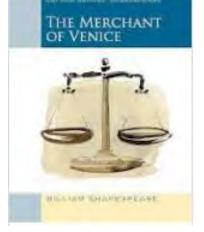
- An Inspector Calls
- The Merchant of Venice
- A Christmas Carol
- Power & Conflict poetry
- **Unseen Poetry**

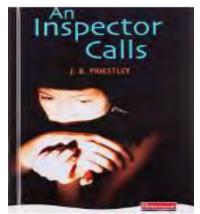
English Language:

- Paper 1 = Reading and Writing (fiction)
- Paper 2 = Reading and Writing (non-fiction)











English

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AQA Poetry Anthology: Power and Conflict







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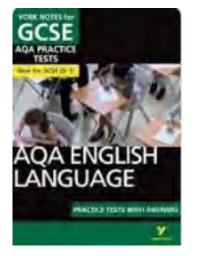
Revision Guides:

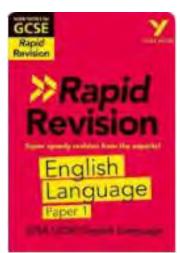
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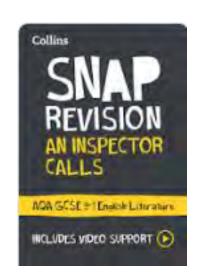
York Notes

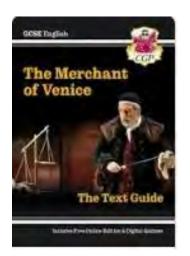
Snap

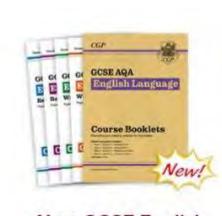
The Quotation Bank











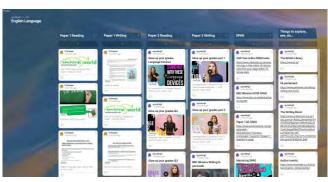
New GCSE English Language Course Booklets!

English



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Be The Best You Can Be

Revision & Mental Health

- A quiet space to work
- Short sessions rather than hours of cramming
- English Literature & Language Padlets
- Talking and sharing ideas together
- Quizzing using directory cards
- Watching the film/live play versions
- BBC Bitesize Mr Bruff on Youtube Seneca
- Revision sessions every Monday Lunchtime or Wednesday after school

Maths

Be The Best You Can Be

Mr Weston - Deputy Head of Maths

FROM SATCHEL

St Martins's Y11 Mathematics - Online Resources Guide

Exam Board: Edexcel

SPARX MATHS

https://www.sparxmaths.uk/

- 1. Select student



- 3. Use school email address as username
- Use same password as for school computer login
- 5. Complete compulsory tasks before exploring XP Boost, Target and Independent learning

Bookwork codes

Each question presented to students has a code that is displayed at the top of the question screen:



- . This code is formed of a number (which corresponds to the task number) and a letter (which corresponds to the position within the task).
- · Students must note down this code before they do their workings and answer their questions.
- Using randomised codes helps make it harder for students to rely on guesswork when they are given a

Other recommended online resources

- https://corbettmaths.com/contents/
 - index of all GCSE topics with videos, worksheets and answers
- https://corbettmaths.com/2023/02/15/edexcel-gcse-foundation-revision/
 - revision videos and practice papers (foundation)
- https://corbettmaths.com/2023/02/15/edexcel-gcse-higher-revision/
 - revision videos and practice papers (higher)
- https://www.mathsgenie.co.uk/gcse.html
 - -GCSE topics listed in order of grade with videos, exam-style questions and worked solutions for each
- https://www.mathsgenie.co.uk/papers.html -past exam papers along with worked solutions, markschemes and video walkthroughs

SPARX MATHS

https://www.sparxmaths.uk/

- 1. Select student
- 2. Press



- Use school email address as username
- 4. Use same password as for school computer login
- Complete compulsory tasks before exploring XP Boost, Target and Independent learning

Bookwork codes

· Each question presented to students has a code that is displayed at the top of the question screen:

Bookwork code: 2B

- This code is formed of a number (which corresponds to the task number) and a letter (which corresponds
 to the position within the task).
- · Students must note down this code before they do their workings and answer their questions.
- Using randomised codes helps make it harder for students to rely on guesswork when they are given a
 bookwork check.



Online resources guide



Maths - SPARX



"1 hour of Sparx Maths a week significantly improves student grades"
(Independently evaluated by University of Cambridge and RAND Europe)



Maths - Revision



Other recommended online resources

- https://corbettmaths.com/contents/
 - index of all GCSE topics with videos, worksheets and answers
- https://corbettmaths.com/2023/02/15/edexcel-gcse-foundation-revision/
 - revision videos and practice papers (foundation)
- https://corbettmaths.com/2023/02/15/edexcel-gcse-higher-revision/
 - revision videos and practice papers (higher)
- https://www.mathsgenie.co.uk/gcse.html
 - -GCSE topics listed in order of grade with videos, exam-style questions and worked solutions for each
- https://www.mathsgenie.co.uk/papers.html
 -past exam papers along with worked solutions, markschemes and video walkthroughs

Maths

Y11 Diagnostic 1H	Corbett Maths	Name		
Торіс	Video Number	Question	Marks	You Got
Indices	174/175/17	1	4	4
Volume of cuboid	355	2	5	5
Forming and solving linear equations	115	3	4	2
Simultaneous Equations	295	4	3	3
Standard Form	300-303	5	5	3
Combined mean	53a	6	4	4
Inverse proportion	255	7	3	1
Form and solve quadratics	266	8	5	1
Rates of change	390a/b	9	3	2
Density	384	10	- 4	1.
Difference of two squares	120	11a	3	0
Simplifying Algebraic Fractions	24	11b	3	3
Graph Transformations	323	12	2	0
Surds Rationalising Denominators	307	13	5	3
Total				32



Y11 Diagnostic 2H	Corbett Maths	Name		
Topic	Video Number	Question	Marks	You Got
Dividing in a ratio	270	1	2	2
Venns and set notation	379/380	2	5	3
Trigonometry	329-331	3	3	3
Compound shapes	41	4	5	5
Inverse proportion	255	5	3	3
Compound Interest	236	.6	.3	1
Boxplots	149/150	7	4	3
3D Trigonometry	332	8	4	1
Indices	17/174	9	5	4
Expressing ratio as fractions	269a	10	4	0
Quadratic Inequalities	378	11	4	- 4
Vector Geometry	353	12	3	1
Function Notation	369/370	13	4	0
Probability Equations	Mathsgenie	14	5	ò
Total			54	30

Maths

Be The Best You Can Be

Mr Weston - Deputy Head of Maths

Y11 Maths Support Sessions (1 hour after school)				
Tuesday	Foundation	S109	Mr Lister	
Tuesday	Higher	S110	Mr Weston and Ms Carr	
Wednesday	Mixed	S109	Mr Lister	

Careers

Mrs Frappell Careers and Aspirations



Be the best yo

Life after GCSEs

- Benefits of the Careers Programme CV, Mock Interview, Work Experience
- Breakfast Networking Events
- 1:1 Careers Interview
- Post 16 Applications





Mr M Read - HOY11



Expectations of GCSE pupils

- Above 95% attendance
- Punctuality
- Engages with Satchel One to keep on top of home learning, notices, communications with teachers etc
- Be accountable
- Conscientious about their work and mistakes
- Proactive in their learning
- Plans forward (Proactive not Reactive)

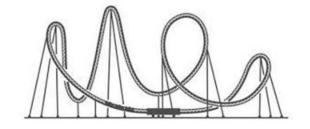
Supporting your child during PPEs/GCSEs



Be the best you can be

Exams are a stressful time for any young person

- Mood swings and outbursts are more likely to occur during this period.
- Look out for other signs that your child may be struggling, including poor sleep patterns or a change in appetite or behaviour.



It is worth preparing ways of supporting your child during exam weeks and thinking about how you will react and respond on the day if they do not get the result that they, or you, are hoping for.



Supporting your child during PPEs/GCSEs



Be the best you can be

Things that can help your child in the lead up to exams

- Work with your child to find what revision style works for them.
- Encourage your child to take revision breaks and find a balance between studying and doing things they find enjoyable and relaxing.
- Make sure they are eating and drinking at regular intervals.
- Anxiety is often worst at night and this means it is useful to encourage a good bedtime routine (Phones).
- · Work with them to develop relaxation techniques.

Need **Help**?



Or you can speak to...

Form Tutor

Class Teachers

Head of Year

Directors of Key Stage

Deputy Head of Year

Senior Leaders

Mrs Wilson

Mrs McGorrell

childline

ONLINE, ON THE PHONE, ANYTIME

shout 85258



here for you 24/7

Contact us if you have concerns





DATE	EVENT		
16.10.25	Year 11 Information and Sixth Form Open Evening		
	St Martin's Sixth Form online application open		
31.10.25	St Martin's School Sixth Form application deadline (internal students)		
03.11.25 – 07.11.25	Year 11 PPEs - orals/practicals etc (students will come out of normal lessons to attend)		
10.11.24 – 21.11.25	Year 11 PPEs - written papers (no study leave)		
w/c 24.11.25	Drama NEAs		
16-17.12.25	Art practical PPE exam		
TBC	Year 11 Christmas dinner		
19.12.25	Year 11 PPE results. End of term, school closes at 1.30pm		
20.12.25 - 5.1.26	Christmas Holiday		
08.01.26	Year 11 Parents' Evening – face to face		
29.01.26	Poetry Live		
16.2.25-20.2.25	February half term		
23.02.26 – 27.02.26	Year 11 Core Subjects PPEs 2 (PPE)		
w/c 02.03.25	DT – PD/TX drop downs. FOOD NEAs, PE NEAs		
w/c 23.03.26	Drama C2: Scripted Tech & Exam		
30.3.26 10.4.26	Easter holiday – Easter revision sessions		
30.03.26-01.04.26	GCSE Art Exam (2 days, 10 hours)		
07.5.26	GCSE exam series begins		
25.5.26-30.5.26	May Half term		
09.07.26	Year 11 Prom		
20.08.26	GCSE Results Day/St Martin's Sixth Form Enrolment		



Be the best you can be

Sixth Form

Mr Samuels Deputy Headteacher







Key vision

- Our students are excellent learners and pursue academic excellence
- Our character development programme challenges students and creates opportunities
- Students thrive with confidence, resilience and motivation



Some of our mantras

- Have a growth mindset and make the most of opportunities
- Learning how to learn allows our students to be efficient life-long learners
- Have a goal in mind, even if it changes
- Work hard, play hard!







Our offer

- Excellent curriculum wide range of subjects and courses
- Brilliant teachers with expert knowledge
- Training how do you study A Levels and develop an A Level mindset?
- Enrichment opportunities
- Excellent support academic, welfare and career
- High standards









St Martin's — School— Be the best you can be Sixth Form

Transition

 A Levels and Level 3 vocational courses are really difficult and a huge step from GCSE

- Most are 100% exam!
- Our transition and character programmes teach you:
 - how to manage the demands
 - what to do when you have study periods
 - the best cognitive science of revision
 - how to become an independent learner
 - skills for the world: critical analysis, oracy, organisation, resilience
- Challenge and support: our standards are high we will be pushing you, but helping you too



Broad Curriculum Offer

- St Martin's
 School—
 Be the best you can be
 - Sixth Form

- 35 courses on offer
- 28 A Levels, 5 BTEC qualifications, 2 Alternative Academic Qualifications (AAQ) – all at Level 3
- Niche courses: Fashion & Textiles,
 Photography, Data Analysis, Accounting
- Courses you will not find everywhere: German, French, Further Maths, Physical Education, Music Performance, Physics
- Entry requirements are a 6 for most subjects (7 Maths, 8 Further Maths) and some require a 6 English or Maths







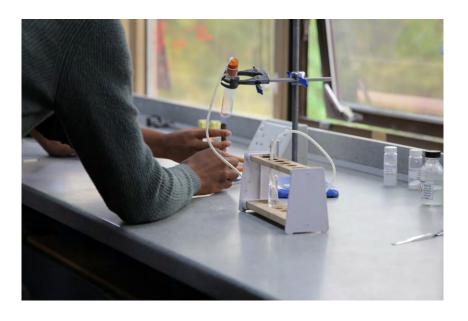


New courses for 2026:

- AAQ Data Analysis
- A Level Accounting
- A Level English Language and Literature
- BTEC Applied Sciences
- AAQ Food Science and Nutrition
- A Level Film Studies







Subject Choices and Combinations

- future career goals
- choose the subjects that you will need and those you enjoy the most
- Oxford or Cambridge: Research Subject Matters
- We encourage three subjects
- Consider our niche subjects!





Great teaching

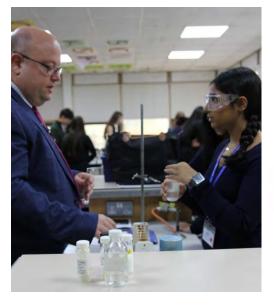


Focusing this year on:

- Revision skills embedded into teaching
- Metacognition
- Assessment and feedback





































Education Endowment Foundation



Sixth Form

Study Skills Day





What are the 5 Rs of Revision?



Be the best you can be











Bring everything together

What have you learnt?

Think about your learning

What do you need to know?

Think harder about your learning

How can you remember?

Test yourself

How much can you recall?
Are there any gaps?

Make the learning stick

Use spaced repetition













Alongside your studies

Opportunities... Our students participate!

- Shows and concerts
- Trips and visits
- Sports fixtures
- Competitions
- Enrichment opportunities



To name but a few...



- Sports tour in Barbados
- Sixth Form Trip to New York
- Art / DT Trip to Paris
- Model United Nations Competition at other schools
- Sixth Form Trip to Borneo
- Drama Trip to Stratford upon Avon (and MANY in London)
- Duke of Edinburgh
- Cambridge University Trip
- Cultural exchange in China



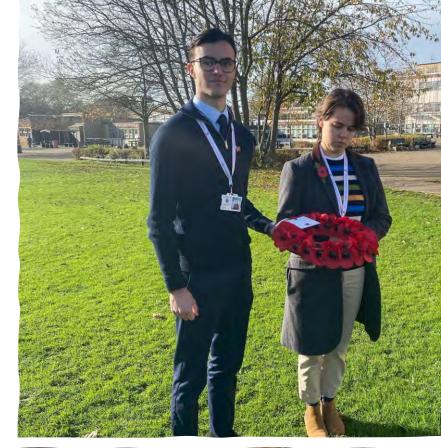
Sixth Form New York & Washington DC, 16th October to 20th October 2026

New York City:
Rockefeller Centre,
9/11 Memorial Trade Centre,
Central Park excursion cycle rental,
Boat Ride to Statue of Liberty, Ellis Island

Washington DC: 4-Hour City Photo Tour from Union Station Lincoln Memorial, Jefferson Memorial, Washington Monument White House, Capitol Hill, Ulysses S. Grant Memorial. Consent via EVOLVE by Monday, 3 November 2025.

Preparation for Life after St Martin's

- Oracy debating, presenting, podcast
- News and current Affairs critical analysis, understanding of the world
- Critical thinking making connections, analysing perspectives, challenging viewpoints
- The world of work careers workshops, hearing success stories
- Study skills and revising trying new ways to do things
- Being outside of your comfort zone gaining the edge









Be the best you can be

Sixth Form



WELCOME TO THE PIXL Edge PROGRAMME!

Here at PiXL we believe that your academic success is really important, but we don't think it's everything. We want you to leave education feeling confident not only in your knowledge but in your skills too.

The PiXL Edge programme aims to help young people discover the following skills and attributes in themselves:

LEADERSHIP
ORGANISATION
RESILIENCE
INITIATIVE
COMMUNICATION



















Enrichment / PSHE / Careers





















Work experience in Y12

Leadership opportunities



All students lead the community as role models

- Student Leadership Team
- Subject Ambassadors
- Tomorrow's Teachers
- Mentor to younger students
- Student voice

Students are safeguarding trained and many trained in Mental Health First Aid















Key celebrations

- Christmas dinner
- PROM
- Leavers' BBQ and video
- Honours Assemblies
- Rewards breakfasts
- St Martin's Day













What is the Sixth Form at St Martin's like?

- 'Friendly'
- 'everyone is nice, it feels like a family'
- 'Teachers are great they really care and know their subject'
- 'You're treated like an adult'
- 'You have the freedom to work out how to do things for yourself'
- 'You're given a lot of advice'





Christoper Morris – Head Boy

Studying -

- > Maths
- > Further Maths
- Physics
- Computer Science

Future aspirations -

I am looking for a degree apprenticeship with a Formula One team in their test and assembly departments/race bay. My second option is to go to University to study mechanical engineering.

Poppy Lee – Head Girl

<u>Studying</u> –

- Biology
- Chemistry
- > French

Future aspirations -

I'm hoping to study medicine next year at university because I would like to be a doctor so that I can help people.



Isabelle Kazali – Head Girl

Studying -

- Maths
- > Further Maths
- > Economics
- Computer Science

Future aspirations -

I have a degree apprenticeship at EY in London. Here I will be studying and working in technology, ready to start next September.



KS5 Clubs and Enrichment











- **≻**EPQ
- ➤ Debate club
- ➤ Helping out in Drama/PE/ Music with lower school activities.
- ➤ Being a Mentor for students in the lower school
- ➤ Being part of the Student Voice/SSLT/ Subject Ambassadors
- ➤ Completing work experience
- ➤ Attending live broadcasts and webinars
- First Aid & Mental Health training opportunities
- > Residential and overseas trips
- ➤ Oxbridge
- ➤ Careers & Aspirations
- ➤ SpringPod/ MOOCs/ Unifrog
- ➤ Sporting Teams



How do our students do?

A Levels	2025 %	Improvement from 2024
A*-A	20.1	+ 1.9
A*-B	49.2	+ 6.7
A*-C	77.7	+ 9
A*-E	97.3	+ 2.2

Level 3 Voc	2025 %	Improvement from 2024
D*- D	44.8	18
D* - M	86.2	20.3
D* - P	96.5	1.5

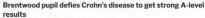
Best results since Covid-19 for school in Brentwood

Pupils at St Martin's School in Hanging Hill Lane have achieved the best A-level average point score since the return to traditional exams after the pandemic – meaning students have achieved more highly overall than











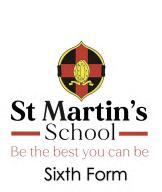












<u>Name</u>	<u>Grades</u>	<u>Destination</u>	Subject
Elizabeth S	A*AA	Leeds	Economics
Reggie D	A*A*A	PWC	Apprenticeship
Bonnie C	A*A*B	Leeds	Psychology
Millie Y	A*AB	Arts Bournemouth	Animation Production
Skye S	AAA	King's College London	Politics
Hannah P	AAA	Bath	Pharmacy
Charlotte L	A*AB	Birmingham	Ancient History & Archaelogy
Lucy H	AAA	Bath	Chemistry
Lienna B	AAA	King's College London	Biochemistry
Elvienne S	A*A*AC	Sussex	Drama, Theatre Performance
Shayut M	A*AAC	Southampton	Mechanical Engineering
Toby W	AAB	Anglia Ruskin	Medicine
Farheen L	AAB	King's College London	Biomedical Science
Ethan M	AAB	Employment	Trainee Accountant
Tess W	A*AC	Sheffield	Journalism













And after St Martin's?

- After achieving excellent results, many of our students go onto university, including Oxbridge, Russell Group universities, top 40 universities, Centres of Excellence and Conservatoires
- We have a growing alumni network









Facilities

- Dedicated Sixth Form Centre
- Bistro new from November 2025
- Supervised Study Area / Library
- Common Room / Group Study area
- Photography Dark Room
- Specially equipped rooms: technology, food, textiles, art, computing
- Excellent sports facilities















Dedicated team

- Mr Samuels Deputy Headteacher: Oversight of Sixth Form
- Miss Jackson Director of Sixth Form Pastoral Care & Wellbeing
- Mrs Page Director of Sixth Form Student Achievement
- Mrs Frappell Careers and Aspiration Lead
- Miss Griffiths-Apple Deputy Head of Sixth Form
- Form tutors first port of call and point of contact

SUPPORT

- Academic: review study habits, audit assessments, target-setting
- Pastoral: Welfare support, mentoring, counselling
- Careers: guidance meetings, UCAS
- Learning: Excellent inclusion department
- Bursary: Funding vulnerable and discretionary
- High standards
- Tough love!



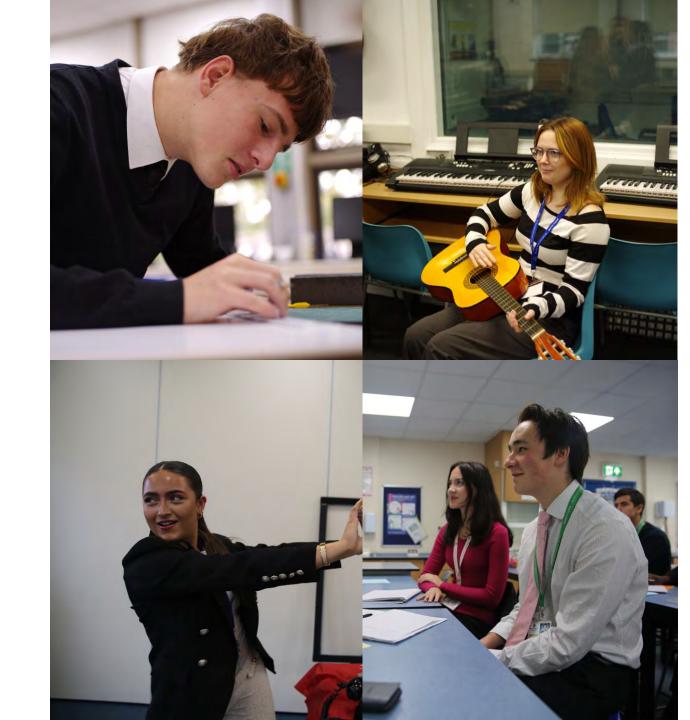


Will I be successful at St Martin's?

- Are you ambitious?
- Do you seek to be an excellent learner?
- Do you have a growth mindset?
- Will you try new things?
- Will you take advice on-board?
- Will you respond well to being challenged?

We are highly ambitious. If you are too, the answer is yes!

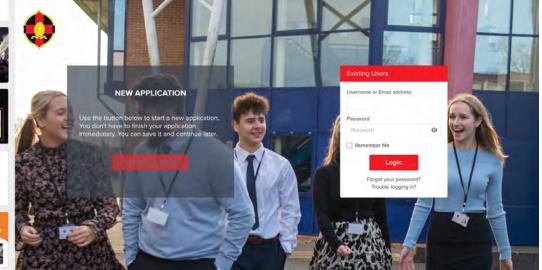




Next steps

applicaa







Applicaa Guidance



- St Martin's students MUST NOT create a new account
- Accounts are created by students, but communications will include parents. We recommend completing the application together
- Ask your current school who is best to be your referee
- Ensure data is accurate
- On sign-up, it may ask for personal and school email addresses, but you only need one
- New students: Form goes live at 6pm
- Internal deadline: 31 October 2025
- New Students: 31 January 2026
- Offers by 31 March 2026



Next steps after submission



- All students have a discussion about their application
- Internals: in-school New students: at St Martin's or online
- Once blocks are determined, offers will begin
- If you think your combination of subjects might be unusual, submit early
- Subject choices can be changed, but we do not always need to know as these can be changed until enrolment (but blocks will not change)
- Taster day in July
- Transition tasks to be completed before courses start
- Transition days: team-building, induction, study skills day



Wider advice

- Take mocks / PPEs seriously as they will give you an idea of what to work on
- Entry requirements are a 6 for most subjects (7 Maths, 8 Further Maths) and some require a 6 English or Maths
- Do as well as you can in each subject, especially English and Maths
- Have a plan B (and C) with different courses with different entry requirements
- Visit as many subjects as you can keep an open min



More information – see our website for information

www.st-martins.essex.sch.uk/sixthform/open-evening/



A week in the life of a Y12 SAINT 6th Former

Registration activities 3 days a week

Study methods: Feynman technique, blurting and Cornell Notes

Assembly

Black History Month and ADHD Month

Friday Quiz

General knowledge, news, music

Lessons across 3 subjects

Challenging, stimulating, enjoyable lessons

Supervised study

Homework, preparation for lessons Revision as I go, using 5Rs

PSHE

Do you worry about climate change often?

Careers

Investment 2020

Edge

Debate: This house believes that one cannot separate the art from the artist

Next week: help out year 8 class in one of my subjects

Extra-curricular

Football in the Essex Cup

Lunch & coffee

Catching up with friends in the common room with lunch from the bistro

What to look forward to

- 2 week October half-term
- Trips: New York

At home

Rest!