



# TWYFORD ACCELERATED PROGRAMME

This is an initiative designed to cater for the increasing numbers of very high achieving students who need to be stretched further in order to have access to Oxford or Cambridge or other top universities, or are aiming for Medicine or Dentistry or related courses. It will be offered to about 25 students, selected on the basis of their achievements at GCSE – generally students gaining mainly Grade As or A\*s.

The programme will aim to develop the skills and experiences that top universities are looking for in interviews as well as stretching academic achievements. It aims to combine the extra skills and extended learning of the International Baccalaureate with the academic rigour and specialisation of A Levels.

The programme will involve teaching that develops thinking, presentation and interview skills. Students will be expected to broaden their CVs by their involvement in work experience, community service and the Duke of Edinburgh qualifications. They will take courses in Critical Thinking and Philosophy as well as the new Extended Project Qualification. If you want to know more about this opportunity contact the programme coordinator, Dr Evans at [revans@twyford.ealing.sch.uk](mailto:revans@twyford.ealing.sch.uk)

## EXTENDED PROJECT QUALIFICATIONS

This is a qualification based on carrying out an independent research project in the subject you are interested in studying at university. It will enhance your ability to demonstrate your interest in a subject at a university interview and give you the level of sophisticated knowledge in your subject that will help stretch you towards an A\* grade at A Level. It is also a valid qualification in its own right, worth up to 60 UCAS points (the equivalent of an A grade at AS Level).

There will be a timetabled course from September until February and you will be allocated a subject specialist tutor with whom you will have at least 3 individual interviews. The bulk of the research will be carried out after your AS Level exams and your finished project (which may be written or presented in different media) will be presented to your tutor for marking in September of Year 13, well ahead of university interviews.

These projects will be carried out by students on the Twyford Accelerated Programme as well as students taking the Advanced Creative and Media Diploma

## CRITICAL THINKING

This is a one year AS course and intended to help you think more effectively and to sharpen your skills in assessing and constructing arguments. The immediate benefit may be in the quality of answers you can give in your subjects, but it should enable you to present and support your point of view in any aspect of your life in the future – from discussing and arguing with your friends, trying to assess different points of view about things in the news or stating your case in an interview.

There will be lessons run immediately after school once a week by Ms Chapman and the AS exam is taken at the end of Year 12. As the aim is to develop your skills, there is very little content to learn and the emphasis is on activities to practice and improve your skills. Some students take the full A Level in one year.

## PHILOSOPHY

The aim of this course will be to support the extended research projects by developing reflective thinking in relation to contemporary issues and specific subject areas. You will improve your skills in research, presentation, thinking and reasoning, and make connections between different areas of your knowledge. Lessons will be run by Ms Hinkley.

In addition outside speakers (such as Oxbridge academics) will come in to deliver debates and lectures.