A valued member of the Brooke Weston Trust
“Thank you very much for your interest in Sixth Form life at TCA. As you prepare for your Year 11 GCSE examinations you should also be thinking about the next step in your academic career. Whether or not you are considering university, high quality apprenticeships or further training there are many good reasons for joining the Sixth Form at TCA. In the summer of 2018, we had another strong set of A Level results for those students who stayed with us through Years 12 and 13 including students progressing to Russell Group universities. I know that this improving trend will continue.

Ultimately the subject choices you make must be right for you and your career aspirations. As you begin to consider which subjects you may wish to study, it is very important that you seek advice from a variety of different sources available to you in school and through our many links with external companies.

We will expect anyone joining the Sixth Form at TCA to work hard, dress in a business-like manner and be punctual. We expect you to take full advantage of the support offered by our dedicated and experienced staff.

We also hope you will take advantage of our varied extra-curricular activities. We will provide you with everything you need to make your Sixth Form years an excellent academic and social experience. You just need to supply the motivation and commitment.

This prospectus also includes the views of existing students which I hope you find useful.

I hope you will be joining us in September and I look forward to welcoming you to our Sixth Form.”

Richard Scott
Associate Principal
Our Sixth Form

The aim of the Sixth Form is to help you to gain the qualifications needed for your future learning and career.

Our pledge is that each and every student who studies here will leave us with the tools and knowledge necessary to excel in their next step in life. Whether it is academic or vocational qualifications for entry into university or the world of work, we will provide the best possible education.

In order to achieve this we will offer you a wide range of courses to choose from. We provide a variety of A Level courses as well as Level 3 BTEC qualifications and have an expert team of teaching staff who provide first class tuition.

Our A Level track record is impressive. Following another strong set of results in the summer of 2018, 100% of our students who applied to university received offers. This included offers from prestigious Russell Group universities.

We expect from you, hard work, dedication and commitment to your future. There will be an emphasis on managed independent working and you will be expected to put in additional hours of study to achieve the best results possible.

Your progress will be supported by teaching staff and your own personal tutor. This will enable you to develop both your academic abilities and the skills you will require for either further study or employment.

Our Sixth Form students are also eligible for an NUS extra card which entitles them to great savings across a range of brands. For the cost of just £12 per year our students can buy items at a reduced price.

www.thomasclarksonacademy.org • 3
Being a member of Thomas Clarkson Academy Sixth Form is a privilege. You will study in a first class, modern learning environment with two areas dedicated solely for Sixth Form students, complete with computers and quiet study space.

All lessons will take place in specialist learning suites tailored to meet the needs of all courses with access to the latest technologies and equipment.

In line with our whole academy philosophy, we expect our Sixth Form students to have a business-like attitude and appearance. As part of this you will attend each day, for the full day, using any free periods to carry out independent study.

You will also be part of one of the academy’s three learning communities, be a member of a Sixth Form specific tutor group and expected to set a good example to younger students; acting as a role model and mentor.
Courses

Post-16 education is a crucial stage in your learning and we will give you thorough guidance to ensure you choose the right courses in line with your career aspirations.

A Level
- Art
- Biology
- Business Studies
- Chemistry
- Computer Science
- Dance
- English Language
- French
- Further Mathematics
- Geography
- History
- Mathematics
- Media
- Music
- Philosophy & Ethics
- Physics
- Product Design
- Psychology
- Sociology
- Spanish

BTEC Level 3
- Business
- Food Science & Nutrition
- Health & Social Care
- Performing Arts
- Sport

Entry requirements
Those wishing to study at Sixth Form need to secure five 9-4 grade subjects. Those choosing A Levels need a grade 6 in selected subjects to study them at A Level (maths, physics, chemistry, biology, English). A grade 5 is required in all other subjects that students wish to study at A Level.

Those opting for BTECs need to secure a grade 4 in their selected BTEC subjects.

Please note that the final courses that we run may be different to those listed. This will be due to whether the course is viable.
Enrichment

At TCA we understand that universities and employers look for more than excellent academic success. Our students are given opportunities to develop essential skills outside the classroom.

We have developed an extensive Session 5 enrichment programme that will open up a wide range of different experiences to you. It is important that you take as much as you can from this programme, as it will help you to develop new skills and manage the transition between school life and early adulthood. Within our specifically designed Session 5 programme, you will take part in and lead a variety of different sessions to build skills such as teamwork and communication.

At TCA we strive to make our students stand out. We pledge to give our students something more in their preparation for higher education or employment. Using the new inspirational PiXL Edge framework our students develop and gain accreditation and acknowledgement for personal attributes essential for employability and life. University applicants are experiencing huge success as a result of following the PiXL Edge framework.

There are also opportunities to take part in the running of the academy. The Head Boy and Head Girl are selected from the Sixth Form and our Sixth Formers lead our Student Voice, a school-wide forum which ensures students’ suggestions and comments are fed back to the Academy’s senior leadership team.

Work experience

All Year 12 students will be provided with a professionally managed 2 week work experience placement. This will be a high quality placement designed specifically to meet the individual’s career aspirations.
Additional CEIAG support includes a highly successful Mock Interview Day led by senior executives from recognised national companies as well as organised high quality work experience.
This is what our students say:

**Sebastien Njingo**  Year 13
“There are a lot of opportunities here – I recently entered an Anglian Water competition through the school which gave me the chance to meet HRH The Prince of Wales and co-host a business awards ceremony with Sir Lenny Henry. The staff here are friendly and our teachers go above and beyond. The students here are like-minded so we all help each other.”

**Irmantas Ruzgys**  Year 13
“I like that we have our own, quiet areas to study. Our teachers push us to achieve our ambitions and there is a lot of help with university applications. We had a whole day looking at UCAS and help with compiling a CV.”

**Paige Kingsbury**  Year 13
“If you want to pursue a certain career path, the teachers help to get you on the right track and give you the work to achieve it. They help to give you direction. If you’re willing to put in the hard work, you will get on the career path you want. I’d like to be a Special Educational Needs teacher and for my work experience placement in Year 12, I spent time in a school which helped me to make up my mind.”

**Rui Santos**  Year 13
“The support we get from the teachers is really good. It’s important with A Levels to get the grades you need for university and our teachers give good, constructive feedback. For instance, I’m studying art and you need very specific feedback to achieve the higher grades – my teacher always picks up on things that I haven’t seen.

There’s a strong focus within this year group and everyone who is here is working hard to be here. There’s a diversity of subjects and teachers help to pick subjects that are right for you as an individual.”
TCA will guide you through the crucial decisions and options facing students through their Sixth Form education. We ensure you have developed all the necessary skills, achieved the required grades and developed the knowledge to excel on your chosen path.

All students have access to a specialist careers adviser to support you in making your Post-18/19 decisions. The CEIAG team will work closely with the Sixth Form staff to assist you through applications, personal statements and the UCAS process.

There is also specific support for those wishing to apply to Russell Group universities.

With frequent off-site visits to career fairs, university campuses, skills shows as well as regular guest speakers from a number of organisations, we provide you with a range of experiences to inform your decisions.

2017/18
Student destinations included Russell Group universities

100% of university applicants secured places

Life beyond Sixth Form
Alicia Baghdouyan
Alicia is going to study biomedical science at King’s College London.

“I’m looking forward to starting the course. I’m hoping to apply to do medicine at the end of it but I’m also interested in the research side of biomedical science too. I’d like to do a year abroad – one of the placements the university offers is at UCLA in Los Angeles and I’d love to go there.

There are lots of opportunities so it will be nice to get to university and see what’s out there.”

Chloe Browne
Chloe is moving to Wales to study English literature and criminology at Bangor University.

Chloe, who enjoys wakeboarding in her spare time, said the opportunities for water sports at the university was one of the attractions. She said: “There’s a man-made wave machine built into one of the mountains. I’m looking forward to seeing what extracurricular groups and societies there are.

I’m pleased to get into Bangor as their social sciences are very good.”

James Watts
James is all set to start his degree in biochemistry at Liverpool John Moores University after picking up A Levels in physics, chemistry and biology.

He said: “I’m really pleased to have got my place at university. I’m looking forward to the whole experience. It looks like a great campus with good accommodation.”
How to apply

Applications to our Sixth Form can be found on the Sixth Form section of our website

www.thomasclarksonacademy.org

To speak to the Head of Sixth Form please call 01945 585237 or email

JSmith1@thomasclarksonacademy.org

Join us

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