



NEWSLETTER

CELEBRATING SUCCESS • CREATING OPPORTUNITIES • RAISING ASPIRATIONS

A FANTASTIC START TO 2026/27

Welcome from Mrs Smith

What a fantastic start to the new academic year.

A huge welcome to our new Year 12 students, who have made a brilliant start to life at New Brinsworth Sixth Form, and a very warm welcome back to our Year 13 students as they begin such an important and exciting year.

September has already been incredibly busy. From launching new courses and opportunities to welcoming employers, universities and former students into school, our students have embraced everything Sixth Form has to offer.

Our ambition remains simple: to ensure every student is supported to Stay. Grow. Achieve. and leave us ready to take their next step with confidence.

I hope you enjoy reading about just some of what has been happening this month.



Mrs Smith
Head of Sixth Form

WE'RE ON SOCIAL MEDIA! @newbrinsworthsixthform

We are growing, and we want to celebrate everything that makes our Sixth Form such a brilliant community.

With the support and enthusiasm of our students, we are delighted to be launching our own Post 16 Facebook and Instagram pages.

Follow us to:

- Celebrate student achievements and success stories
- See what is happening day-to-day in Sixth Form
- Discover careers, university and apprenticeship opportunities
- Get study tips, reminders and important updates
- Meet our students, staff, alumni and Sixth Form community

Please follow our pages, like and share our posts and help us celebrate the successes of our students.



OUR ALUMNI COMMUNITY IS GROWING

This month we officially launched our Post 16 Alumni network, and the response has been fantastic.

It has been wonderful to hear from former students and members of our wider community who want to give something back and help inspire the next generation. Could you support our students?

We'd love to hear from alumni, parents, local employers and members of our community who could offer:

- A careers or industry talk
- A workplace or site visit
- Work experience opportunities
- Mock interviews or interview coaching
- Careers advice or mentoring
- An insight into your university, apprenticeship or career journey

If you can support our students in any way, please get in touch with the Sixth Form team.

On **Wednesday 23 September**, we welcomed **20 businesses, universities, alumni and external organisations** for our Sixth Form Opportunities Event.

Students had the chance to attend talks covering an incredibly diverse range of careers and progression routes, including:

- The Army
- Medicine and healthcare
- The ambulance service and NHS
- Educational psychology
- Teaching and childcare
- Apprenticeships
- Human Resources with Rotherham Council
- Graphic design

Local universities and our Careers Adviser were also available to support students with university choices, UCAS applications and future pathways.

We were also delighted to welcome and work with organisations including AMRC, AESSEAL, Fulcrum, APTUS and Secure Power, helping our students understand the opportunities available to them locally and beyond.

Events like this are an important part of our Sixth Form offer. We want our students to leave us with qualifications, but also with the experiences, confidence and connections they need to succeed.

A huge thank you to every employer, university, alumnus and organisation who gave their time to support our students.



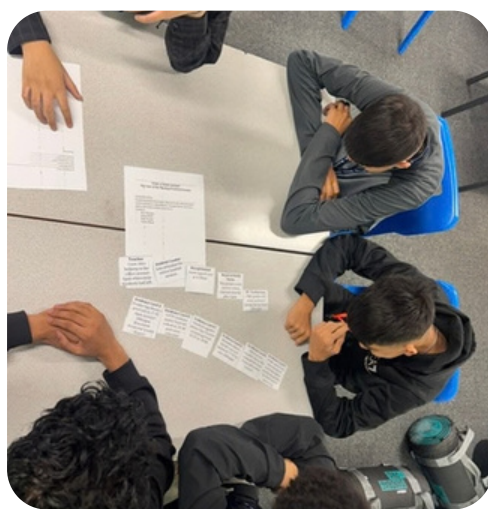
NEW FOR 2026: UNIFORMED PROTECTIVE SERVICES

September has seen the launch of our new Extended Certificate in Uniformed Protective Services, and our first cohort have made a fantastic start.

Students have already begun developing their knowledge and skills through activities linked to:

- Detective and investigative work
- Military and Army-related tasks
- Police investigation
- Careers within the wider protective services

We are excited to see how our first cohort progresses throughout the year.



CELEBRATING LAST YEAR

Before we look fully ahead to 2026/27, we want to recognise some of the fantastic experiences our students enjoyed at the end of the last academic year.

Year 12 Work Experience

Every Year 12 student had the opportunity to complete a week of work experience in July.

Students experienced a variety of workplaces and sectors, gaining an invaluable insight into professional life while developing skills and experiences they can use in future CVs, university applications, apprenticeship applications and interviews.



Brinsfest

Our Post 16 students joined the whole school community for Brinsfest, enjoying music, games, free ice cream, a fashion show and activities including henna.

It was a brilliant way to celebrate the end of the academic year as a community



Post 16 Cultural Celebration

Our Year 13 students also organised our first Post 16 Cultural Celebration, bringing students together to celebrate the cultures and backgrounds that make our Sixth Form community so diverse.

We're incredibly proud of the students who planned and delivered the event and look forward to building on its success.



CELEBRATING OUR 2026 RESULTS

Students at New Brinsworth Sixth Form celebrated another **strong set of results this summer**, continuing a sustained period of improvement.

Results across both A Level and Applied General qualifications improved for a **third consecutive year**, while students also made very good progress from their starting points at the end of Year 11.

These outcomes have enabled students to progress to an exciting range of **universities, apprenticeships and employment opportunities**.

Mrs Smith said:

"We are incredibly proud of our students and everything they have achieved. These results reflect their hard work, determination and ambition, alongside the unwavering support and dedication of our staff.

It is particularly pleasing to see our results continue to improve year after year. We are delighted to see so many of our students progressing to exciting next steps and wish them every success for the future." The results provide another strong foundation as we continue raising expectations and ambitions across New Brinsworth Sixth Form.



UCAS & EARLY ENTRY

UCAS

For Year 13, the UCAS application process is now well underway.

Early Entry

Students applying to Oxford, Cambridge and most medicine, dentistry and veterinary science courses need to be particularly aware of the early application deadline.

Sixth Form internal deadline:

Monday 12 October, 6:00pm

Our internal deadline allows the Sixth Form team time to complete the checks, references and processes required before applications are submitted.

All Other UCAS Applications

Sixth Form internal deadline:

Monday 11 January 2027

UCAS deadline:

Wednesday 13 January 2027

Students should continue working closely with their tutors and the Sixth Form team to ensure applications represent them and their achievements as strongly as possible.

LOOKING AHEAD TO 26/27

Post 16 Football Team

Our newly formed Post 16 boys' football team has been entered into the Rotherham Cup.

We'll be following their progress throughout the competition and cheering them on every step of the way.

Good luck, team. Let's bring home the cup!

Honouring Our Communities Competition

Students have entered the A&O Shearman Black Heritage Network 'Honouring Our Communities' competition.

We are extremely proud of the effort, creativity and thought that students have put into their entries.

We'll find out in October whether any of our submissions have been successful.

Well done to everyone who entered and good luck!

Extended Project Qualification

This year we have expanded our offer for Year 12 by introducing the Extended Project Qualification (EPQ).

Students will investigate an area that interests them in depth, complete an extended independent project and present their work.

The qualification provides students with an excellent opportunity to develop skills including:

- Independent research
- Academic writing
- Critical thinking
- Time management
- Presentation and communication

We have already enrolled a fantastic cohort of Year 12 students and are looking forward to seeing their projects develop.

UKMT Senior Mathematical Challenge

This year a team of our talented mathematicians will represent New Brinsworth Sixth Form in the UKMT Senior Mathematical Challenge.

The challenge takes place on 7 October, and we wish the whole team the very best of luck.

ASSESSMENT CALENDAR

Assessments are an important part of helping students understand their progress and identifying what they need to do next.

YEAR 12

A levels

Monday 2nd November to Friday 13th November 2026	Assessment 2
Monday 4th January to 15th January 2027	Assessment 3
Monday 15th March 2027 – Friday 26th March 2027	Assessment 4
Wednesday 16th June 2027 to Wednesday 23rd June 2027	Progression Exams

Applied General Qualifications

Monday 2nd November to Friday 13th November 2026	Assessment 2
Monday 4th January to 15th January 2027	Assessment 3
Monday 15th March 2027 – Friday 26th March 2027	Assessment 4
Wednesday 16th June 2027 to Wednesday 23rd June 2027	Progression Exams



ASSESSMENT CALENDAR

YEAR 13

A levels

Monday 16th November 2026 to Friday 27th November 2026	Assessment 2
Monday 1st February 2027 to Friday 5th February 2027	Assessment 3 – Mock paper 1
Monday 22nd February 2027 to Friday 26th February 2027	Assessment 3 – Mock paper 2
Monday 12th April 2027 – Friday 23rd April 2027	Assessment 4

Applied General Qualifications

Monday 9th November to Friday 20th November	Assessment 2 including mock exams for students with January 27 exams
Monday 4th January to 15th January 2027	External exams for subjects with January exams
Monday 11th January to 22nd January 2027	Assessment 3 for students who do not have external January exams
Monday 8th March 2027 – 12th March 2027	Assessment 4 – mock exam

We encourage parents and carers to discuss upcoming assessments with students and support them in establishing positive routines around **attendance, independent study, revision and meeting deadlines.**

EXTERNAL EXAMINATION DATES

It is important that students and families are aware of the key external examination windows for this academic year.

January Examinations

Students in **Year 12 and Year 13 studying Applied General qualifications** who have external examinations in January will sit these between:

Monday 4th January to Friday 15th January 2027

Summer Examinations

The summer external examination window for Year 12 and Year 13 students will run from:

Monday 10th May to Wednesday 23rd June 2027

Students should ensure that they are **available throughout the relevant examination windows** and avoid booking holidays or other commitments during these dates. Full individual examination timetables will be shared with students nearer the time.





I'M IN YEAR 11

WHAT SHOULD I BE DOING NOW?

You don't need to have your entire future mapped out. Now is the perfect time to start **exploring your options**.

1. Explore your subject choices

Think about the subjects you enjoy, the ones you are successful in and the subjects that could support your future plans.

2. Think about where subjects could take you

Don't just ask, "What subject do I like?" Ask:

"What opportunities could this subject open up for me?"

Consider university courses, apprenticeships and careers that might interest you.

3. Know the entry requirements

Different Sixth Form subjects have different entry requirements. Understanding these now gives you clear GCSE targets to work towards.

4. Talk to people

Speak to your teachers, Sixth Form staff, current Post 16 students and our Careers Adviser. Ask questions and find out what studying a subject at Level 3 is really like.

5. Keep your options open

You don't need to know exactly what career you want at 15 or 16. Choose a programme that matches your strengths, interests and future ambitions.

6. Focus on your GCSEs

The single biggest thing you can do now is **work hard, attend every day and aim for the strongest GCSE results you can achieve**. The stronger your results, the more options you will have available to you.

7. Watch out for our application launch

Our applications open in **mid-October**, so keep an eye on our website, social media and school communications for more information.

