

CORBYS BUSINESS ACADEMY SIXTH FORM PROSPECTUS



Sixth Form

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Corby Business Academy is part of the Brooke Weston Trust; a network of schools which includes five secondary schools and five primary schools. The Brooke Weston Trust has a reputation for delivering high-quality education in order to help every child flourish. The benefits of the Trust include the sharing of staff expertise and offering a wider variety of opportunities to students through joint ventures.



DEAR STUDENT



"Thank you very much for your interest in Sixth Form life at CBA. The choice of Sixth Form is incredibly important and not a decision to be taken lightly. Finding a course that matches your aspirations in a school that supports you to achieve is

ultimately what every student wants when entering a Sixth Form. I am confident that Corby Business Academy provides the supportive, aspirational environment that ensures that our Sixth Form students become the best they can be.

The CBA Sixth Form Promise

In addition to offering you a wide range of A Level and vocational subjects to choose from, we promise that:

Your future really matters to us and we will take great pride in helping you succeed. Whatever your goals, we're with you all the way.

You will be taught in a way that provides individual support and academic mentoring to help you be successful.

You will have exciting opportunities to meet new people, make new friends, and take on new challenges.

You will be certain to develop new skills outside the classroom which will be valued by employers and universities alike.



"What you do in the Sixth Form prepares you for your next steps, be that higher education, further education, training or employment so it is important that you choose to study subjects that are right for you. As you consider which subjects to study,

it is essential to seek information and advice from a variety of sources including that contained in this prospectus. Within the Academy there are a number of people who can offer advice and I strongly recommend that you use their expertise to ensure you are applying for the most appropriate courses.

We have high expectations of anyone who joins our Sixth Form here at CBA. Students must demonstrate commitment to their work, organising their time effectively and engaging in self directed study and research. Students in

You will benefit from excellent study and sports facilities with continued investment into Sixth Form opportunities in the coming years.

Ultimately the subject choices you make must be right for you. 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 including the information in this prospectus. There are a number of people available within the Academy that can also offer you advice and I would strongly recommend that you use their expertise to ensure that you are applying onto the correct courses.

What will we expect from you?

We will expect anyone joining the Sixth Form at CBA to work hard, dress in a businesslike 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 make sure you commit to the courses you choose and work to the best of your ability. In the pages that follow you will find further information about life in the Sixth Form at CBA. The prospectus also includes the views of existing students, which I hope you find useful.

I look forward to you joining us in September."

John Henrys
Executive Principal

the Sixth Form are expected to be role models to the younger students in the standard of their dress, conduct, attendance, punctuality and attitude to learning. Students are expected to take full advantage of our varied extra-curricular activities to develop those skills and competencies required for their next steps after the Sixth Form. The Academy will provide you with everything to make your Sixth Form years an excellent academic and social experience. You need to commit to the courses you choose and work to the best of your ability acting on advice given to make further progress.

This prospectus contains information about life in the Sixth Form here at CBA including the views of existing and former students which I hope you will find useful.

I look forward to you joining us in September."

Janet Duggan
Associate Principal

LIFE AT CBA'S SIXTH FORM

The Sixth Form is characterised by:

- Ambitious leadership and management which embodies the Academy's aim that everyone will have a positive 'can do' attitude.
- High aspirational targets for all students.
- Close monitoring and information to ensure high quality levels of achievement.
- Courses which reflect our business and enterprise specialism and which are appropriate to the needs of students.

- Rigorous and innovative standards of teaching and learning.
- Structured support to enable all students to achieve their maximum potential.
- Independent, high quality career education and guidance so that students are encouraged to aim high.
- A range of enrichment opportunities to promote personal, spiritual and cultural development.
- Excellent accommodation and access to local, national and international business environments.

Dress code and hours of attendance

Many students will be working alongside employers both in and outside the Academy so smart office wear must be worn - jacket, shirt and tie, a suit or skirt is acceptable.

Students are expected to attend for the full Academy day which means they can take advantage of the facilities, resources and help on offer throughout the day.



"Teaching and learning are good and improving. It offers an increasingly wide choice of subjects to its students, who are making good progress."

Ofsted Inspector



Here at Corby Business Academy we provide all our Sixth Form students with a varied, high quality and exciting curriculum covering both academic and vocational courses. As well as a detailed tutor programme offering challenge, individual development and pastoral support, there will be opportunities for enrichment activities. These will include among others Duke of Edinburgh, Literacy and Numeracy mentoring, and Young Enterprise. Our aim is for all students to gain the skills, qualifications and experiences to make the best possible transition to higher education or the world of work. They will be guided through their time at CBA by a dedicated team of experienced teachers and tutors who will support and encourage them both inside and outside of lessons.

We have the highest expectations of all our post-16 students to be both inspirational to the lower school and to lead by example. There will be opportunities to have an impact on the wider life of the school through the roles of Head Boy and Girl, as a member of the Forum or Senate, leading assemblies and presenting to smaller groups of younger students. Students at CBA will be encouraged in progressing to the next stage in their development with an excellent careers advice service and a committed team of staff to support university applications.

As a Sixth Form student you will be expected to work hard inside and outside lessons, conduct independent research to further your knowledge and understanding and to show commitment to both academic studies and the whole school community. In return we will give you every opportunity to achieve your goals through the passion and dedication of the staff at CBA.

Sam Anderson
Head of Sixth Form

CHOOSING YOUR COURSE

Post-16 education is a crucial time in your life. What you decide to do now will have an impact on your opportunities in education and employment for many years to come. The best general advice is to choose subjects which you enjoy and feel that you can do well at. It is very important that you choose courses at an appropriate level for you.

At CBA we offer a range of academic and vocational courses with tailored Gateway and Pathway routes. An options booklet detailing courses on offer is included at the back of this prospectus.

Entry to the Sixth Form will depend on a number of factors including performance in GCSEs and equivalent examinations. All potential Sixth Form students are invited for an interview with the Head of Sixth Form or member of the Senior Management Team, where choices are confirmed and a formal offer is made, subject to predicted GCSE grades being achieved.

The final confirmation of the course offer will be subject to timetable arrangements, viable subject choices and entry requirements.



"Teaching in the Sixth Form is good overall and the use of assessment is rigorous. Class sizes are generally small and teachers take advantage of this to provide personal interventions and challenge wherever possible."

Ofsted Inspector

EVERY STUDENT MATTERS: SUPPORT AND MOVING ON

Personal tutorial support

Sixth Form students are allocated a Personal Tutor who they meet with on a daily basis. They review their targets, attendance and discuss career aspirations as well as any concerns. All students follow a comprehensive tutor programme aimed at developing personal qualities including independent thinking and problem solving skills, debating techniques and in-depth preparation for university or career pathways.

Tracking performance

The Head of Sixth Form oversees student performance. The ALPS reports data is used to help set students challenging but achievable targets. Progress reports are sent out a number of times a year which are discussed with Personal Tutors. Parents are encouraged to make contact following the report to discuss individual progress. Formal consultation evenings and email contact are used if further contact is required.

Guidance and Careers Service

We have a robust system of advice and guidance throughout the Academy to when Sixth Formers leave. All Year 11 students are asked to complete a Future Plans questionnaire which informs the planning of the curriculum.

In the Sixth Form all students have access to external employers and universities. In Year 13, students are given additional advice and guidance regarding future aspirations and career progression. Tutorial sessions are provided to help with the UCAS application process or transfer to a job with further training.

The Academy also employs the services of the local careers advice company Timely Advice to support students in both the transition into the Sixth Form and the later move into university or work.



Business links

Our business specialism means we can offer unique opportunities to Sixth Formers to gain a better insight into the world of work and develop the skills that employers value. For example, we have strong links with major international businesses such as RS Components, Roquette and Rockingham Speedway. All Year 12

students take part in mock interviews with business representatives, to give them experience of a professional interview.

Students also have the opportunity to work on a one-to-one basis with a Business Mentor. This professional relationship can support the student in gaining valuable experience of the business environment.



CBA meets the needs of a wide range of Sixth Form students

We have facilities within the Unit for students with profound and multiple learning difficulties and severe learning difficulties. The students have a range of facilities which supports independent living and transition. The facilities include a life skills room where students can learn to carry out day-to-day living activities.

The courses followed include modules in creative and cultural studies, sports and leisure, citizenship and community activity. As a Business Academy there is also a strong focus on developing enterprise skills throughout all the modules of study.

Ofsted
raising standards
improving lives

“Sixth Form students say they receive well-focused information, support and guidance. They note that their teachers are always willing to give individual help.”

Ofsted Inspector

ENRICHMENT




Ofsted
raising standards
improving lives

“Students in the Sixth Form have good opportunities to contribute to the Academy, for example on the Academy Senate, as sports leaders, or as mentors to younger students.”

Ofsted Inspector

Head Boy and Head Girl

Our Head Boy and Head Girl are proud ambassadors of CBA and represent the Academy at events and open evenings. The roles are appointed following applications and rigorous interviews. The Head Boy and Head Girl lead the Senior Student Team.

Senior student team

This is a select group of Sixth Formers who take a proactive role in Academy life, such as chairing the various sub committees in our Student Senate.

Senate and Forum

The Sixth Form Forum provides an excellent opportunity for students' views to be heard and help bring about change. A number of Forum representatives are then chosen for the Academy Senate.

In addition, Sixth Formers can get involved in Academy events by joining one of the committees, which include: promotions, fundraising, site committee and social committee. These groups of senior students help to shape many aspects of Academy life.

Peer mentoring

Sixth Formers are regarded as role models for younger students and are expected to make a positive contribution to Academy life. They support younger students through a literacy and numeracy support programme.

Business and Enterprise

Sixth Form students can develop their entrepreneurial spirit through a variety of business challenges.

An exciting project the Academy has had great success in is the Young Enterprise Project. Our Sixth Form students have created their own companies and have learned in real life business situations. Working with mentors from local companies, this is the perfect opportunity to see an entrepreneurial dream become reality.

Community involvement

As a Business Academy we are asked to support local organisations and activities taking place in the community.

Duke of Edinburgh Award

The DoE Award encourages students to have self belief, confidence, independence, responsibility and the opportunity to gain a nationally recognised award whilst developing new relationships. These are all qualities that will help students progress to the next phase of their education or career path. The four areas are Physical, Skill, Volunteering and Expedition. Each area challenges the students in different ways and ensures the students develop new key skills.

Work placement

As part of the Sixth Form enrichment programme students are able to make use of our business links to undertake periods of work experience. Work placements in school also help students to develop invaluable skills to support their personal and professional development.

Paid work at CBA

There are opportunities for paid employment at the Academy, with Sixth Form students working as reception staff, sports coordinators and supporting site staff.



At CBA we believe in offering our Sixth Formers a host of different experiences to help them develop as confident, able young people who manage the transition between school life and adulthood with ease.

Each student is expected to be involved with extracurricular activities and the opportunities on offer at CBA can help students to stand out from the crowd when it comes to university applications or putting a CV together.

WHAT OUR STUDENTS THINK



Joe Folan, Year 12

Studying

A Level English Literature, A Level History, and A Level Mathematics.

Ambition after CBA

To achieve the grades I need to attend university.

Career ambition

To become a pilot within the Royal Air Force.

"I have attended the academy since 2009 and have seen it grow greatly over the years since then. The hard working attitude of the staff and students alike make the CBA environment educational and professional but also enjoyable. Although the work can be challenging at times, the constant support for each student provided by teachers and peers means that it is never a struggle to find help in your studies.

On top of this, the CBA Sixth Form is very well suited for any student wishing to continue their studies in the direction of A Levels. Although the jump in difficulty from GCSE to A Level is large, the level of support and resources provided by the school makes it more than possible to achieve."

April Atkin, Year 12

Studying

A Level Geography, A Level Media, and A Level Psychology.

Ambition after CBA

To go to university to study something relating to film or media.

Career ambition

To work in film or media production.

"I've been at CBA since Year 7. I decided to stay on in Sixth Form after Year 11 due to the opportunities offered in Sixth Form and the quality of teaching that I received in previous years.

Sixth Form is definitely a step up from GCSE studies, but your teachers are there to support you and you quickly learn how to work independently and manage your time. "You get the chance to become more independent and manage your own learning. As well as the many A Levels on offer, you get the opportunity to develop other transferrable skills through enrichment activities."



Alex Lawless, Year 13

Studying

A Level English Literature, A Level History and A Level French.

Ambition after CBA

To read History or English at university.

Career ambition

A fiction writer or historical writer.

"I love to write, whether it's fiction or about any factual subject I am interested in. I hope to travel to many countries in my career and learn about different cultures and ways of life. CBA Sixth Form offers both academic and extracurricular opportunities, the latter including Young Enterprise and Extended Project which I am going to be

taking part in. Also, the fact that the classes are generally much smaller in the Sixth Form allows for more effective one-on-one tuition at any time, and in French you have the opportunity to spend an hour per week with a French assistant.

"I feel valued and respected by my teachers and peers, something which is essential for getting the best results along with hard work and dedication. I would recommend CBA Sixth Form to anyone who wants the freedom to study in a professional environment and is willing to put the effort in to achieve the best of their potential."



Harrison Tomkins, Year 13

Studying

A Level Physics, A Level Chemistry and A Level Maths.

Ambition after CBA

I hope to study a physics course at university as I am currently really enjoying my physics lessons.

Career ambition

I am still undecided on what I want to do for my career but hopefully it will be physics based, maybe teaching.

"I like the Sixth Form here because the support from the staff is really good. The jump from GCSE to A Level is big, but the teachers regularly check you understand the work and enquire about your well being. Even outside of lessons the staff are always

available and happy to help with anything they can. I have never been in a situation where I have been stuck and not been able to find help easily. The support is there if you need it however there is definitely a focus on being responsible for yourself and acquiring the independent skills that will prepare you for university or work.

"Throughout the school, students are encouraged to think about the future and where we see ourselves, especially in tutor time.

"I would recommend CBA Sixth Form because the teachers are really good, especially at A Level and the expectations are high and consistent for all students."



Eloise Robertson, Year 13

Studying

A Level Music, A Level History and A Level English Literature.

Ambition after CBA

To go to university or a music school/college to get a Bachelor of Arts degree in Music/Music Performance.

Career ambition

To be a successful musician and/or performer in musical theatre.

"I started CBA as a Year 7 student when the academy was in its second year and have stayed on to Sixth Form. I thoroughly enjoy the atmosphere around the academy as a Sixth Former. There are so many places to study and you are given a lot of freedom.

I also like the fact that you can ask any subject teacher for assistance whenever you need it as they are always willing to help.

In Sixth Form, you are treated like an adult and are given extracurricular opportunities (such as the Key Skills qualifications) which help you to prepare for the transition between Sixth Form and university.

I enjoy being part of the CBA Sixth Form as you are able to take control of your own learning. I would recommend CBA Sixth Form to others because it has a great learning atmosphere."

OUR ALUMNI



Charlotte Bean

The former winner of the Student of the Year accolade, left CBA in July 2013 after getting top marks in her A Level studies. Charlotte studied History, English and Media and is now in her second year reading History and English at Sheffield University.

"I found the jump from GCSE to A Level studies quite big and this definitely prepared me for my university studies. The way we focused in on subjects during A Level has given me research and analysis skills that I have found really useful within my degree.

I really enjoyed my time at CBA Sixth Form as the teaching staff were extremely helpful and would always do all they could to support you.

It was during CBA Sixth Form that I really found my love of history and this is a field in which I want to pursue a career. I had always thought that I wanted to go on to teach, which is something I would still like to do, but first I would like to work as a curator.



Chris Usher

Former Head Boy Chris Usher has just landed a marketing intern role after graduating in July 2014. He left CBA in June 2011.

"I graduated this summer from the University of Lincoln with a 2:1 in Advertising and Marketing. I was fortunate to obtain an intern position for Marketing and Sales at a local recording studio in Lincoln for three months. Since then I've relocated up to Hull and looking for a full time position in a marketing agency to kickstart my graduate career.

I really enjoyed university, we had fantastic lecturers and tutors who are really experienced.

When I was in Sixth Form I studied Travel and Tourism, Public Services and Business Studies. I was Head Boy when I was in Year 12 and I feel that gave me valuable experience because at university I was president of the Christian Union. CBA was great for teaching leadership.

It was brilliant having all the staff invested in us for the long term. I found that I took the things I learned at CBA and used them in my university life, so Sixth Form definitely helped me in that sense.

The CBA Sixth Form is really dynamic. I felt the staff were really on hand all the time to help us, there was no ifs or buts, even if they had a class they would still see us. The staff are really proud to see you succeed, they are so invested in everyone. I thought the facilities were great too."



Ksenija Nazarova

The talented student is now in her final year studying English Language and Communication with Psychology at Oxford Brookes University. Ksenija is considering going into teaching when she finishes her degree.

"My advice to any student considering CBA Sixth Form would be to choose subjects that you are interested in and are passionate about. Also to put in your best effort.

I studied Maths, Further Maths, Biology and Psychology and always found staff really helpful. CBA also helps you to take on extra responsibilities. As well as studying for my A Levels I worked as a classroom assistant and also as a volunteer helping students with their English.

I came with my family to Corby from Latvia when I was in Year 9 and although I could read English I found it hard to speak it. With help from CBA staff I quickly picked it up and went on to do well at my studies.

I hope to work within a languages field. I am fluent in English and Russian and am considering learning a third language. I work part time teaching English and Maths to students aged 9-15 and I am considering a career in teaching."



"Learning and progress in the Sixth Form are good. Carefully chosen and varied activities promote independent thinking and enquiry well. All the students who applied, gained places at their first choice universities."

Ofsted Inspector





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“The rapid
improvements in
attainment, attendance
and behaviour are
a consequence of
outstanding care,
guidance and support.”

Ofsted Inspector



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