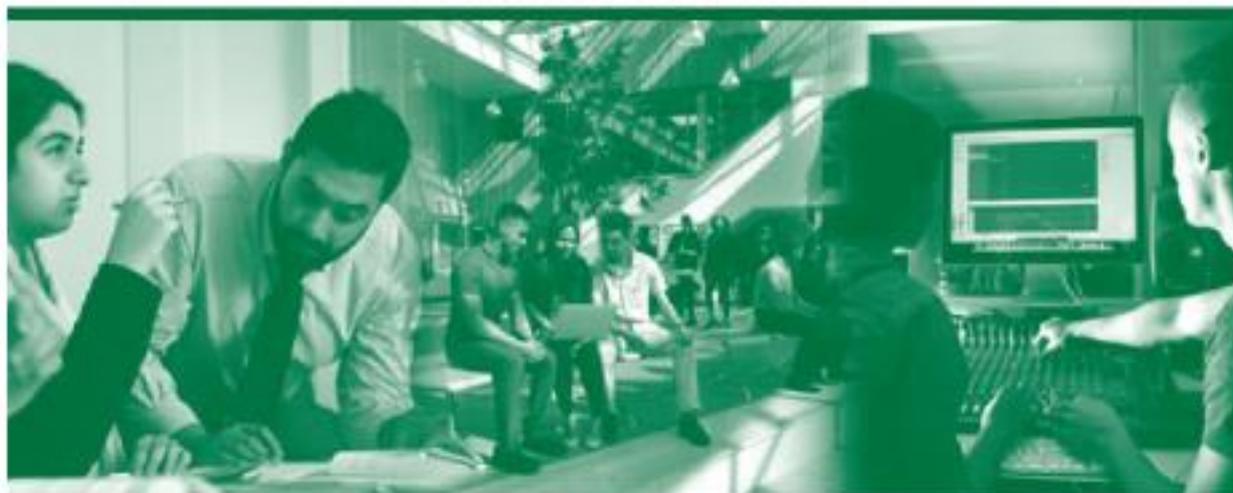




— THE —  
ELMGREEN  
— SCHOOL —



## Sixth Form

At The Elmgreen School

We look after ourselves • We look after each other • We look after our school • We look after our community

*BE PART OF SOMETHING SPECIAL*

Autumn Newsletter 2017

@Elmgreen6

## Welcome

I am very proud to be The Head of School for The Elmgreen Sixth Form as I know it is a very special place to work and learn. Support and care is at the heart of everything we do and at The Elmgreen Sixth Form you will find a fantastic team of teachers and support staff who work tirelessly each day to ensure all our students are happy, safe and successful. This ethos is embodied in our school Mission Statement which reads: "to be an inclusive community working together so that all members achieve above and beyond their potential".

In the few years since we opened we have quickly gained a reputation of academic rigour, excellence and outstanding pastoral care. This year the students outperformed many other sixth form institutions locally and nationally with our 2017 Year 13 results exceeded targets and achieving grades of 21% A\*/A, 56% A\*/B and 100% A\*/E in the Academic Subjects and grades of 53% Distinction Star and a 100% Pass in Vocational Subjects. Additionally, Ms West, the Director of Sixth, along with our Careers and Sixth Form Team have successfully guided 97% of those students into some of the top Russell Group Universities in the country and high quality apprenticeship programmes and employment; we can securely say we have developed a model that ensures the very best for our learners.

**Aidan Ryan**

**Deputy Headteacher – Head of School KS5**

## Introduction

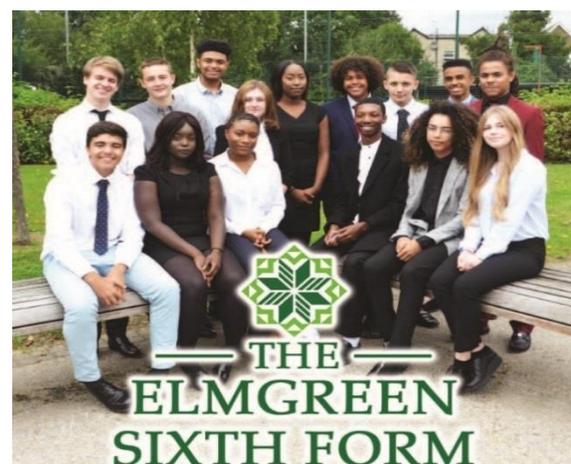
At The Elmgreen Sixth Form our vision is 'to foster aspiration and develop excellence in all' and we know in order to do this students' academic achievement and well-being comes first. This belief lies at the heart of everything

we do. We understand that in order for students to succeed and reach their full potential they must be happy and feel supported. We combine this caring approach with very high level of standards and expectations, removing any barriers that may prevent students reaching their goals.

We are also extremely proud of the contribution the sixth form students make to the life of The Elmgreen School. We believe all our students have the potential to lead and inspire others so we provide a wide range of student leadership, mentoring and teaching assistant opportunities to contribute to the school and wider community. We believe this rounded sixth form experience prepares students for adult life. If you are an external student and would like to experience first-hand the type of supportive learning environment we offer, please visit us on our open morning or contact the sixth form office to arrange an appointment to visit our school.

**Kirsty West**

**Assistant Headteacher – Director of Sixth**



*Be part of something special*

**Visit our Open Sessions**

19 October 6.00pm - 8.00pm

14 November 9.00am - 10.15am

Elmcourt Road, London, SE27 9BZ Tel: 020 8766 5020  
[www.the-elmgreen-school.org.uk](http://www.the-elmgreen-school.org.uk)



## Career Advice and Guidance

The cohort that have just left us have applied to a whole array of subjects and universities and offers rolled in from universities such as Durham, Goldsmith's, Bristol, Portsmouth, London Metropolitan, Leeds, King's, Edinburgh and Sussex. Our students have elected to study subjects ranging from Medicine to Sports Psychology to Criminology to Digital Film.

Among the many success stories are Helena Smagala, who studied A Levels in English Literature, Drama and Theatre Studies and Art and Design. Helena was given offers to all five of the universities she applied to and has elected to study English at the University of Birmingham. Hamsa Mohamud, who studied A Levels in Biology, Chemistry and Maths, has accepted an offer to study Medicine with a Foundation Year at Bradford and Johannes Sasay-Wada, who studied A Levels in English Literature, History and Sociology has accepted an offer to study Law at Warwick. Ashan Shepherd, who studied A Level French and BTEC Sports accepted an offer from St. Mary's to study Sports Science and Bradley Williams, who studied A Level in History and BTEC Sports accepted an offer from Buckinghamshire to study Sports Journalism.

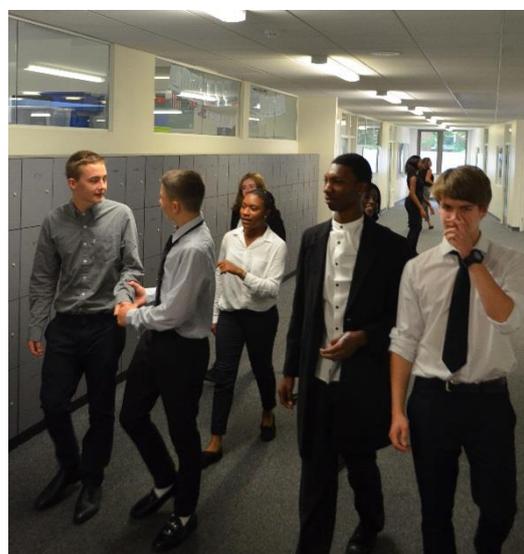
Year 13 have been busy making firm decisions about the paths they wish to pursue. To support with this, Goldsmiths University came in to school to do a workshop on personal statements. Students' feedback was resoundingly positive and they are making fantastic progress on their writing. Eight students have submitted their applications and three students, Finn, Stephan and Camila, have already received offers from Glasgow, Bristol and Plymouth

respectively. We invited Dr. Matt Williams to speak to both year groups about their Oxbridge applications and exactly what kinds of skills, knowledge and attributes Oxford and Cambridge are looking for in candidates. He also did mock interview with our Year 13 candidates which was a most useful exercise. Our four Oxbridge candidates have now been registered for their entrance exams and are working hard on their preparation for these - we wish them every success.

## Partnerships

The first half term has been a busy one for destinations work at The Elmgreen Sixth Form. In Year 12, we have had the launch of our partnership with Sussex University. Students participated in a workshop led by the university's widening participation team, where they heard about university life and how to ensure that they can make a competitive application to university.

We have also had a trip to the offices of M and C Saatchi, a world-famous advertising executive. This day allowed students to find out more about jobs in advertising and to discuss how to build their CV with highly successful professionals.





Year 12 and 13 Maths and Further Maths students visited MFS, our business partner link. MFS are an international financial firm in the city and have been partnered with us for a number of years. Students got to see how the stock market works and hear first-hand about the career journeys from the CIO of MFS in London, The President of the European Department, Portfolio Managers, Compliance and Legal. The students found the day a truly inspirational event.

Abigail Melville, Director of 'We Rise' spoke to students about some of the incredible project-based work experience on offer. She currently has two commissions from The Post Office; participation in these work experiences would involve students completing in and pitching a project at The Post Office Head Office. Special congratulations go to Ruth Amfo, Lesley Dilangu and Bene Ellis for their proactivity in gaining a place on the Model Law Commission's programme. You can see more on Twitter @Elmgree6.

Our Baccalaureate Scholarship students in Year 12 had their first meeting where they discussed how they can start to build up their portfolio of activities (using their Elmgreen Passport) to ensure that they can make a competitive application to the UK's top universities or employers. Some students have already applied for The University of Cambridge's shadowing scheme.

A group of nine budding entrepreneurs got to the launch of the Micro-Tyco event in Croydon, where they learnt about how to generate income from their seed fund of only £1. Proceeds will go to charity and the groups have the chance to win a week of work experience with Deloitte.



Last week a cross-year group visit to Streatham to hear Chukka Umunna debate the merits of Black History Month was well-attended by our sociologists and historians, something which broadened their minds and encouraged them to be enquiring and challenging thinkers. @Elmgreen6

### **Dulwich College Partnership:**

On Thursday 5 October, ten sixth formers from various disciplines attended the annual Dulwich College Symposium, this year entitled 'Uncertainty.' Students were allowed to choose from seven different break out options, ranging from 'Philosophical and Psychological Problems of Perception' to 'Body and Brain: Uncertainty and the Guiding Role of the Heart in Decision

## Leadership and Enrichment

Making.' The sessions were both academically challenging and thought-provoking and provided our students with lots of material to reflect on. During Professor Barry Smith's closing remarks, we were exhorted to turn to experts in an era of the devaluing of expertise whilst simultaneously embracing uncertainty through collaboration. This was a powerful note to end on.



On October 5 we took a group of students to a lecture titled 'Architecture Matters'. The students who attended are interested in careers such as engineering, design and architecture. The talks were led by two ground-breaking young architects, one from The Assemble Group who won the Turner Prize in 2015 and Al Scott the Director of IF\_DO Architects (named one of the world's top 20 emerging practices by Wallpaper\* magazine). Many thanks to Dulwich College for inviting us and for kicking off what will be the start of our collaborative venture with them through the Southwark Schools Learning Partnership.

**Olivia Hood**  
**Development and Destinations Leader**

The start of term has an extremely busy time of the year and our Year 12 students have settled in extremely well. The leadership opportunities across the sixth form have grown significantly and we have a large number of students already in post. Our recreational leaders are supporting our younger students at lunchtime and our Year 12 BTEC Sports Leaders have been attending and leading sessions at Rosendale Primary School.



We have over 40 tutor time leaders who are developing their leadership skills across the whole school by supporting younger students through mentoring and reading. To develop our charity work the Head Girl and Head Boy have been instrumental in establishing a well-run student council and fundraising committee by recently organising

the staff v student basketball match last week.



Our sixth form football team has also been back to training in the September sunshine and have shown fantastic promise and will be locking horns with a number of opponents in the cup competitions.



This year has also seen the introduction of lunchtime lectures for our students. Most recently we had a lecture from London Southbank University discussing the value of cognitive neuroscience in psychological research. This followed our first of lecture delivered by Oxford Fellow Matthew Williams on 'The Politics of Language'. Upcoming lectures in the new term are being



held in Health and Social Care, Sport and Sociology.

It has also been fantastic to see so many sixth form students' sign up to the Duke of Edinburgh Silver Award this year. Starting the Silver award in September and embarking on the expeditions in May/July will be a great test to the character and resilience of our students. We have had some great success and adventures with our students completing awards over the past couple of years.



With all commitment to hard work it is also important to come tighter and unwind. We have a number of trips this year such as Fright Night at Thorpe Park in October, Hyde Park Winterwonderland at Christmas and our big trip to New York in February. We had nearly 40 students go earlier this year with some visiting a Broadway show. It was truly a life changed trip for many who went.



This year has again seen the number of enrichment opportunities grow substantially. Our students can choose from being a leader in

any subject, sports and dance clubs, comic book club, art portfolio club or everyday Spanish. Additional, as part of our Great North Trust with Rosendale Primary School, we will have some student helping with numeracy and literacy lessons next term. This will include students becoming Reading Buddies for Year 3 and 4 students.

The introduction of the new Sixth Form Elmgreen Tickets has been met with excellent enthusiasm from our sixth form students. They are being rewarded for their volunteering endeavours and the contribution they have across the school and in their lessons. The tickets will all go towards a grand school prize draw.

**Kevin Welsh**

**Pastoral and Ethos Leader**

### SL6 Partnership

The SL6 vision is 'Sharing Excellence'. Being part of the SL6 means that we can provide access to the widest possible range of subject choices and enrichment opportunities for our students. The three campuses are – The Elmgreen School, Dunraven School, City Heights E-Act Academy and St Martin-in-the Fields. This gives students access to widest variety of expertise and academic breadth, without losing the friendly atmosphere of the smaller Sixth Form. We know that new students settle in quickly and become valued members of our school communities.

### Complete list of subjects offered across the SL6 partnership:

Art and Design  
Biology  
Chemistry  
Computing  
Creative Writing  
Dance

Design and Technology  
Drama and Theatre Studies  
Economics  
English Language and Literature  
English Literature  
Extended Project Qualification  
French  
Geography  
Government and Politics  
Graphics  
History  
ICT/Applied ICT  
Mathematics  
Mathematics Core  
Mathematics Further  
Media Studies  
Music  
Philosophy  
Photography  
Physics  
Portuguese  
Product Design  
Psychology  
Religion Studies  
Sociology  
Spanish  
Textiles  
Theology  
BTEC Business Studies  
BTEC Health and Social Care  
BTEC ICT  
BTEC Performing Arts  
BTEC Science  
BTEC Sport - Diploma  
BTEC Travel and Tourism  
GCSE English  
GCSE Mathematics

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**@Elmgreen6**

