

• St John's •  
**inspire**  
programme

# The Inspire Scholars Programme for Years 9, 10 & 11

Ealing, Harrow, Brighton & Hove,  
East Sussex, West Sussex  
and Southampton







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“ Students have thoroughly enjoyed being part of the Inspire Programme and have highlighted that it has had a direct impact on their learning in school.”

Inspire Teacher Lead

# A FREE PIONEERING PROGRAMME

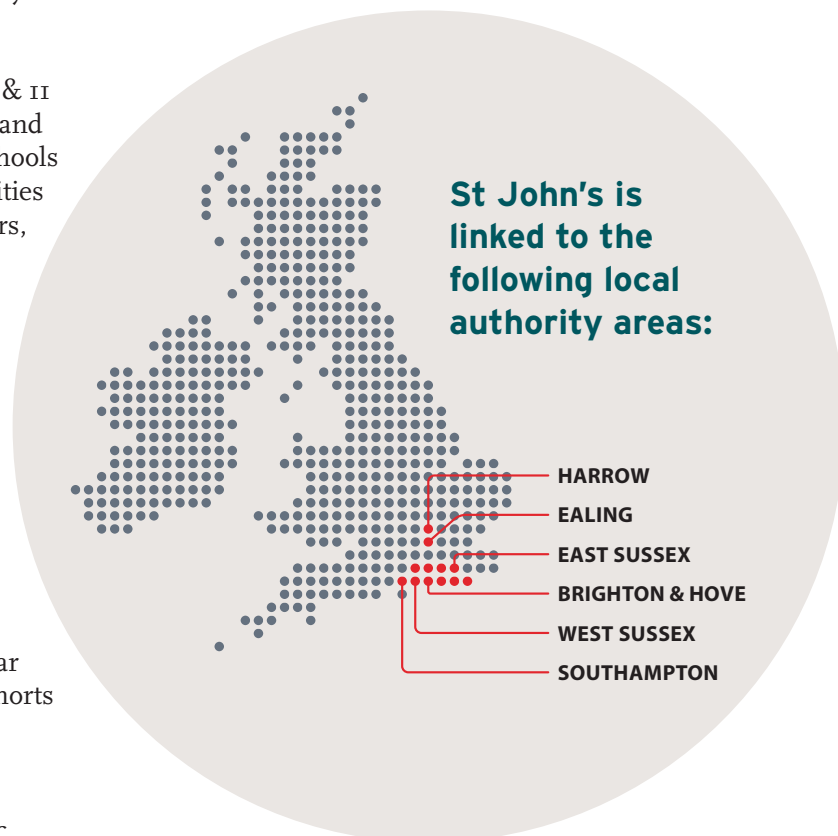
With educational inequalities growing to unprecedented levels, bigger, bolder, and more ambitious university outreach is required in order to address disadvantage and raise aspirations among younger students not usually targeted by university access schemes.

The Inspire Scholars Programme for Years 9, 10 & 11 has been collaboratively developed with teachers and other education professionals in order to offer schools super-curricular and aspiration-raising opportunities for students, career-development roles for teachers, and support for parents & carers.

After a successful three-year pilot programme with 336 students from 24 schools in the London boroughs of Ealing and Harrow, we expanded our Programme to include schools from across our Link Regions of Ealing, Harrow, Brighton & Hove, East Sussex, West Sussex, and Southampton.

Over 550 students joined the Programme in 2022/23 with this number set to double as the Year 9s transition to Year 10, and a new set of Year 9 Inspire Scholars begin the year. New Year 9 cohorts will then be recruited each year.

We have received additional funding for 14 new Partner Schools to enrol in the 2023/24 academic year, with our growth trajectory being set for 2200 Inspire Scholars by 2025.



“ If we are to secure the future prospects of a generation of young people, the twin goals of the education sector as a whole should be to minimise the long term lost learning for those in the school system, and to enable young people to progress to the next stage of their education, training and employment, despite the unparalleled disruption they have faced.”

**The Sutton Trust, 'Learning in Lockdown'  
Research Brief, January 2021**

# WHAT IS THE INSPIRE SCHOLARS PROGRAMME?

Inspire 9, 10 & 11 takes cohorts of Year 9 students (referred to as Inspire Scholars) from each participating non-selective state school through a three-year sustained-contact programme. Students are selected to take part based on a combination of academic and socio-economic criteria, to ensure that the Programme reaches those who will benefit most.

Each school selects a designated Inspire Teacher Lead to co-ordinate all Inspire activities within their school, while a Programme Lead based at St John's College, Oxford is responsible for the overall operation of the Programme.

A complete package of high-quality educational resources, event templates, and administration and communications material for the whole three-year Programme has been developed, ready to be delivered in your school.



# INSPIRE SCHOLARS PROGRAMME: AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

Our comprehensive programme is designed to support your school's community, including its students, teachers, and parents & carers. Our overarching aim is to encourage students to expand their understanding of subjects beyond the curriculum, and to consider their future academic progression.

**In doing so, the Inspire Scholars Programme aims to:**



**Raise the educational aspirations of non-selective state school students**



**Develop Inspire Scholars' academic interests and intellectual curiosity**



**Advance Inspire Scholars' ability to think critically**



**Provide support and career development opportunities for state school educators**



**Provide advice on supporting able students**



"I am delighted to welcome schools from across our link regions to join the Inspire Scholars Programme. As part of this sustained-contact programme, your school's Inspire Scholars will take part in a range of exciting, enriching, and fun opportunities that will help them explore their academic potential, and become more ambitious and confident individuals."

**Katie Inwood,  
Inspire 9, 10 & 11 Programme  
Lead**

# WHAT DOES THE INSPIRE SCHOLARS PROGRAMME LOOK LIKE?

Inspire 9, 10 & 11 comprises six component parts that are designed to support Inspire Scholars' academic interests and ambitions, as well as offer career development and leadership opportunities for their teachers, and resources for their parents and carers.

## Inspire Clubs

These fortnightly after-school clubs are led by each school's Inspire Teacher Lead for the students chosen to take part in the Programme: the Inspire Scholars. The Inspire Club classes, which have been designed by academics and teachers, cover a full range of subjects from both STEM and the Arts and Humanities. They are designed to encourage students to engage with subjects in new, creative and stimulating ways that go beyond the school curriculum. New classes are being developed all the time to ensure there is an exciting range. Each club is given an annual grant of £300 to spend on class resources and a further £300 for refreshments.

## Inspire Beyond

Inspire Beyond offers opportunities for Inspire Scholars to experience new educational settings and activities, including:

- A virtual summer school for all participating students
- Residential summer school places offered in Year 9, 10 or 11
- Aspiration Fund application to fund day-trips or in-school activities
- Specialised priority visits to St John's College

## Inspire Critical Thinking

- Interactive online workshops based around a critical thinking question - this year's focus is on 'Crime and Punishment'
- Articles, videos, podcasts and academic challenges.
- Develop critical thinking skills and broaden academic interests.

## Inspire Study Skills Sessions **NEW FOR 2023!**

A new partnership with a leading education workshop provider, Positively You, means that we are able to provide workshops and resources to support pupils preparing for their GCSEs. Titles include 'Exam Busters', 'Super Speedy Study Skills', and 'Resilience', all specifically designed to provide the tools and techniques that students need to excel in exams.

## Inspire Parents & Carers

Inspire Parents and Carers includes a range of digital resources and online sessions to increase confidence in supporting Inspire Scholars' academic ambitions and progression.

## Inspire Teachers

Our Inspire Teacher Leads are a vital part of our programme. We support the career development of our Teacher Leads with:

- An annual Inspire Teacher's Conference
- Digital Hub via Facebook
- Termly Teach Meet to share best-practice and meet like-minded professionals
- Paid opportunities to contribute to the Programme with class designs or academic articles.

# WHAT MAKES THE INSPIRE SCHOLARS PROGRAMME UNIQUE?

Inspire 9, 10 & 11 starts early, engaging with Inspire Scholars from Year 9 (age 13). It is sustained, super curricular, and locally-delivered, taking a cohort of participants through a full, three-year programme. The programme is administered by a dedicated Programme Lead based in Oxford, and delivered in schools by Inspire Teacher Leads, selected by their schools to take on this leadership role.

“It gives me great pride to be a part of the Inspire Programme... Students have developed a wide range of skills and knowledge through the programme, ranging from analytical skills, social skills, exposure to a variety of excellent learning workshops and sessions, and the development of their aspiration to work towards a programme in a top university.”

**Benjamin -  
Inspire Teacher Lead**



‘Thank you very much for this opportunity. I now have a deeper understanding of how universities work and I have hope and determination of going to Oxford’.

**Inspire Scholar**



# WHAT DOES THE INSPIRE SCHOLARS PROGRAMME OFFER MY SCHOOL?

## Students

- Academic support with inspiring super-curricular content and resources for in-depth study
- Stimulating and exciting extra-curricular activities to develop academic and non-academic skills
- Opportunities which raise students' aspirations and develop their academic self-confidence
- In recognition of their involvement, each student will receive an Inspire Scholars lapel badge

## Parents & Carers

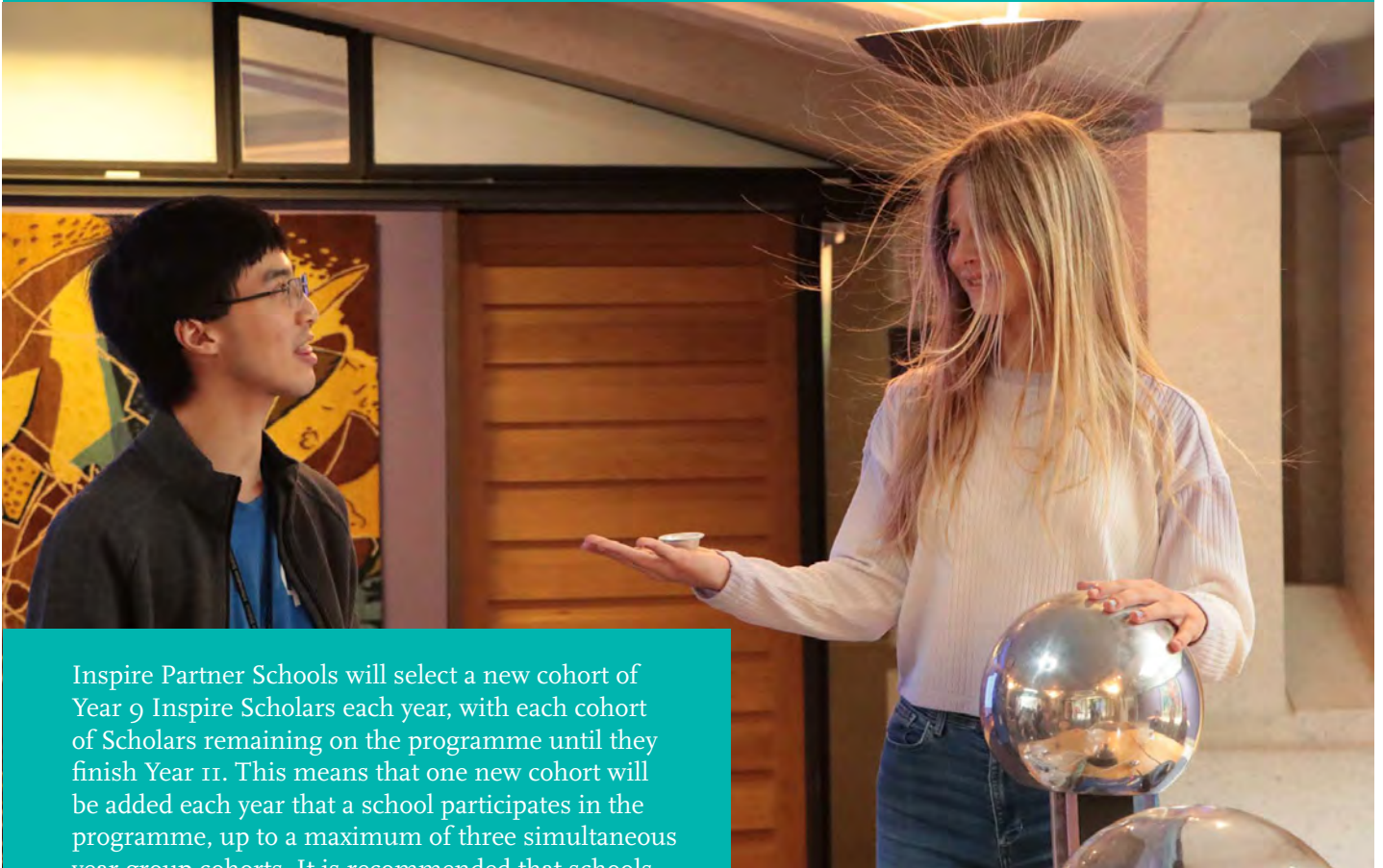
- Awareness of the support and opportunities available
- Confidence in supporting their Inspire Scholars' academic potential

## Schools & Teachers

- A career-enriching leadership role
- Exciting and creative teaching material in a range of subjects
- A greater understanding of how to best support academically-able students
- Paid opportunities for teachers, creating new Inspire Club classes
- Opportunity to contribute to a joint School-Oxford Programme as part of a partnership that can make a difference
- Ability to network and share best practice within and outside of your region



# HOW ARE INSPIRE SCHOLARS SELECTED?



Inspire Partner Schools will select a new cohort of Year 9 Inspire Scholars each year, with each cohort of Scholars remaining on the programme until they finish Year 11. This means that one new cohort will be added each year that a school participates in the programme, up to a maximum of three simultaneous year-group cohorts. It is recommended that schools select cohorts of around 14 students, although schools may recruit more at their discretion.

Inspire Scholars should be selected on the basis of the following criteria:

- In the top 20% of the year group in KS2 reading and maths results; AND/OR
- In the top 20% of the year group in internal assessments; AND/OR
- At their discretion, schools may select pupils marginally outside this attainment range who have a strong upward academic trajectory.

From the pool of students who meet these criteria, a minimum of one third of the pupils in the cohort should be either PPG-eligible, in receipt of Free School Meals, Looked After OR have a home postcode in the bottom 4 IDACI deciles.

# INSPIRE CLUBS

Inspire Clubs are run in-school, and offer students the opportunity to engage with super-curricular classes that cover both STEM and Arts & Humanities subjects. The classes have been designed by a range of education professionals, and include activities that ask students to debate with one another, work both independently and as part of a team, respond creatively, and take part in practical experiments! We currently have a range of classes that span three school years and we are always keen to add more in response to feedback from the schools.

## WITH CLASSES INCLUDING...

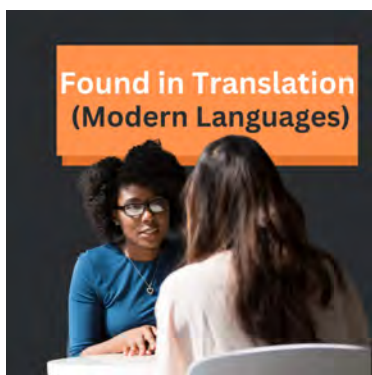


### WORKSHOP ONE: VIKING HISTORY

In the first workshop, students will be introduced to the Vikings, and will question some of the common conceptions (or misconceptions) of Viking history and culture, before learning how to read and write their own messages in Old Norse runes.

### WORKSHOP TWO: VIKING MYTHOLOGY

In the second workshop, students will learn about Viking mythology, - including characters (Loki, Thor) who are familiar from modern popular culture. They will also learn how to use medieval techniques to write poems like a Viking.



### WORKSHOP ONE: EXPLORING ESPERANTO

Students will be introduced to Esperanto, a constructed language invented in the nineteenth century to encourage communication across cultures. In doing so, they will develop their language skills, and come up with strategies for approaching unfamiliar languages and cultures, before debating the question "would it be better if we all spoke the same language?"

### WORKSHOP TWO: FAMILY HOLIDAY

Using the skills developed in the first workshop, students will decode written and spoken passages in a range of new languages from across the world: Croatian, Danish, Icelandic, and Kelabit.



### WORKSHOP ONE: WHAT'S IN A PLASTIC?

Students will learn about the properties of plastics, from the macro to the molecular level, before getting hands-on with plastercine and cocktail sticks to construct their own molecules and discover why it is that plastics are such useful materials for use in modern life.

### WORKSHOP TWO: PLASTICS AND OUR ENVIRONMENT

Having learnt about how and why plastics are so useful, this second sessions looks at the downsides of plastic's permanence in today's society, culminating in a group role-play debate about the merits or otherwise of single-use plastics in schools.

### Who takes part in Inspire Clubs?

Inspire Clubs are designed for students in Years 9, 10 & 11. Each Club consists of around 14 students selected by the school, who are referred to as the 'Inspire Scholars'. We initially ask Inspire Partner Schools to join with a cohort of Year 9 Inspire Scholars who will progress through the three-year programme.

### Who runs the Inspire Clubs?

Each Inspire Club requires a Inspire Teacher Lead from each school who is responsible for the running of the programme. This role might suit a teacher who is looking to develop their leadership skills and would relish working with their school's academically able students. Typically, there is one Teacher Lead per year group. The responsibilities of the Inspire Teacher Lead would include selecting the classes for the Club, running the classes themselves or recruiting other staff members to run them, keeping track of attendance, and liaising with the Programme Lead at St John's, who oversees the administration and delivery of the programme.

### What do the classes look like?

Most classes comprise two workshops, each of which are 50-70 minutes in length and run over two weeks. You can see the full range of classes available in our Class Options Booklet, which contains an outline of the content of each class, details regarding the materials that are included as part of the class, and the subjects which the class relates to. More classes are being added to the programme all the time. There will be many more Club Classes added to Inspire Digital, including sessions on ancient number systems and classical Literature from Ancient Rome. We will keep updating this so schools always have something to choose from and we welcome suggestions and contributions from the wider Inspire community.

### When are the Inspire Clubs run?

Schools are welcome to run the Inspire Clubs however they see fit, but we recommend that they are run fortnightly (one class a month, which would mean a workshop every two weeks). Schools may choose to run their classes as before or after-school sessions, or within lunch breaks.



### What do the Inspire Clubs cost?

The majority of classes are free to run, with a few select classes requiring supplementary materials. To cover the cost of these materials, each Inspire Club is awarded a £300 grant to purchase resources for Inspire Club classes (which would meet the cost incurred by taking all classes requiring additional expenditure). In addition, each Inspire Club is awarded a £300 grant for refreshments (for each participating year group).

# INSPIRE BEYOND

**Inspire Beyond covers all of the opportunities for Inspire Scholars that extend beyond their usual educational experiences, including:**

- A Virtual Summer School for all Inspire Scholars
- Residential Summer School places offered in Year 9, 10 or 11
- Priority visits to St John's College
- Opportunity to apply for Aspiration Fund to run day-trips or in-school visits

## What is the Virtual Summer School?

The free Virtual Summer School is available to all Inspire Scholars in Years 9, 10 & 11, and is run during the summer holidays. The Online Summer School is designed so that students can participate from home at their own pace, and includes an exciting schedule of academic taster sessions and activities, virtual tours of St John's, and prize-winning opportunities!



## What is the Aspiration Fund?

The Aspiration Fund is run annually, and offers Inspire Clubs the chance to apply for a limited number of competitive grants of up to £650 to run a trip (for example, to a museum, a play, or site of historical significance) or in-school visit (such as a drama workshop or a special speaker event (for their Inspire Scholars).

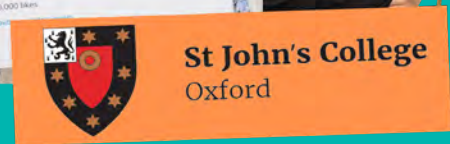
## What is the Residential Summer School?

The Residential Summer School is run at St John's College during the summer holidays. The Residential Summer Schools offer Inspire Scholars the opportunity to experience life as an Oxford student by staying overnight at St John's, taking part in a programme of academic sessions and fun recreational activities like punting and museum trips! These Residential Summer Schools are free for participating Inspire Scholars, and students can also apply for an Inspire Travel Award to cover the cost of their transport to and from the college. Inspire Scholars will have the opportunity to apply in Years 9, 10 or 11.

# VIRTUAL SUMMER SCHOOL

Our week-long Virtual Summer Schools are run every year, and are available to all Inspire Scholars. The Virtual Summer Schools enable Inspire Scholars to explore Oxford and their academic interests remotely and flexibly, and allows them to create their own bespoke programme. The Virtual Summer School provides students with:

- Thought-provoking academic taster sessions from Oxford tutors in both STEM and Arts & Humanities Subjects
- Videos, podcasts, articles and activities from the University of Oxford's GLAM Institutions (Gardens, Libraries and Museums)
- Career interviews from a range of professionals
- The chance to submit work, win prizes and be featured on our website!



# RESIDENTIAL SUMMER SCHOOL

Our Residential Summer Schools are an exciting opportunity to see what student life is like here at St John's College! The Inspire Summer School is all about experiencing what university has to offer, academically and socially. Inspire Scholars will have the chance to live like Oxford University students, explore the beautiful city of Oxford, and take part in some truly extraordinary activities like punting, graffiti workshops, and a formal dinner in the St John's Hall! Inspire Scholars will take part in academic taster sessions focused on either STEM or Arts and Humanities sessions delivered by Oxford tutors, and visit some of the University of Oxford's outstanding galleries, gardens, and museums.

*'I'm so grateful for the experience and lucky to have attended. I enjoyed every single minute of it, and it has motivated me to study at Oxford at some point in my life. I can't think of a single improvement. It was also the perfect balance of experiencing the place and the academic side.'*

## Year 11 Summer School Attendee



## Highlights of the Summer School include:

- Overnight accommodation in St John's College
- Full catering, including an evening garden BBQ and a formal dinner in Hall
- Inspiring academic taster sessions delivered by Oxford tutors
- Meeting Inspire Scholars from across our link regions
- Tours of Oxford city with current students
- Visits to Oxford's world-class museums and galleries
- Punting, croquet, drama activities, graffiti workshops and more!

# INSPIRE PRIORITY VISITS

"Please may I again thank you for an unforgettable day yesterday. The students were over the moon. From the experience of seeing St John's to the debate on AI and the tour of the Natural History Museum (creepy-crawlies notwithstanding) we all loved it. This sort of aspirational trip changes futures. Many of them will now see themselves as viable Oxbridge candidates and this will fuel their GCSE focus"

**Inspire Teacher Lead**

## What does a priority visit to St John's look like?

Schools are welcome to bring their Inspire Scholars to explore St John's College and hear more about university study and life. Visits to the college can be catered to suit your Inspire Scholars, and can include academic taster sessions, information and activity sessions (such as 'Oxford Explained', and 'Critical Thinking'), a tour of St John's College, a museum visit, and the chance to eat lunch in hall. As an Inspire Partner school, you would have priority booking for these visits.

A typical Priority Visit includes:

- A welcome from our Programme Lead, including refreshments and goody bags
- An Oxford Explained session, introducing what university is with a focus on Oxford
- A Critical Thinking workshop, which encourages scholars to engage in discussion and debate or an academic taster session
- Lunch in Hall
- A College Tour
- A guided visit to one of Oxford's many museums
- A Q&A session with current undergraduate students.

Visits to St John's are free, but schools will have to cover the cost of travel to St John's.





# ASPIRATION FUND



The Aspiration Fund is run annually, and offers Inspire Scholars and Teachers the chance to apply for a limited number of competitive grants of up to £650 to run a trip (for example, to a museum, a play, or site of historical significance) or in-school visit (such as a drama workshop or a special speaker event) for Inspire Scholars. A number of grants are available each year.

The activities supported by the Aspiration Fund offer Inspire Scholars the opportunity to learn new skills and experience new educational settings. Planned trips can be linked to specific subjects, or simply provide a chance for Inspire Scholars to build lasting friendships, explore their interests, and have fun!

## Examples of previous Aspiration Fund experiences include:

- A Space Spectacular Day at the Royal Observatory.
- Workshop on British History at the Tower of London.
- Trip to the Natural History Museum, Science Museum and a trip to the theatre.
- A visit to the Oxford Centre for Hindu Studies.
- A team-building adventure at Moors Valley Country Park .



"I would highly recommend this trip to other teachers"

**Inspire Teacher Lead**

"Visiting Oxford was an eye-opening experience, which made the idea of going to university more tangible for me. I got to picture a possible future for myself, and it took the fear of the 'unreachable' Oxford away. Also, I loved getting a tour of the town, especially the amazing architecture."

**Inspire Scholar**

**Applications will open once per term**

# INSPIRE CRITICAL THINKING

Inspire Critical Thinking is a digital programme students can engage with outside school, or learn from through their fortnightly Inspire Clubs, the content easily incorporated into these sessions. It is a set of 4 interactive workshops that approach a central critical question. The theme for this year is Crime and Punishment, the question being 'Does all crime deserve punishment?'. The content is created by St John's academics and students, as well as our Inspire Teacher Leads. It includes articles, opportunities for further reading and discussion, videos, podcasts and intellectually stretching tasks. Students are able to hone their ability to critically think, and are introduced to current debates, encouraged to expand their intellectual horizons. The Programme is designed to help students develop the skills they need to consider and question the world around them through a range of subjects, from art history, to engineering, modern languages to biomedical sciences. Students also have the opportunity to submit work in response to the class content for the chance to win prizes! The theme of Inspire Critical Thinking changes every year, and so is always exciting, relevant, and full of cutting-edge research!

## A typical Workshop will contain:

- Academic articles approaching the topic from individual subject viewpoints
- A Critical Thinking Skills Focus covering how to approach and dissect academic arguments
- A University Spotlight section comprising a look at exhibits from the many museums of Oxford, information on the University of Oxford itself, or a 'Day in the Life' video from one of the student ambassadors
- Introductory videos and interactive materials
- Multiple challenges linked to the academic content encouraging students to apply what they have learned.

'I have thoroughly enjoyed this course and I hope to access this again next year! Thank you for improving the way I study and revise while introducing me to a range of informative and topical subjects!'

**Inspire Scholar**

NEW FOR 2023!

# INSPIRE STUDY SKILLS SESSIONS

A new partnership with a leading education workshop provider, Positively You, means that we are able to bring you workshops and resources to support students preparing for their GCSEs. Pupils and teachers will be given exclusive access to this site which contains interactive video content and high-quality printable study and revision resources. Titles include:

- Exam Busters
- Super Speedy Study Skills
- Resilience

All are specifically designed to provide the tools and techniques that students need to excel in exams, with added teacher-training content to aid professional development.

**Positively  
you**

Online Resources Hub



# INSPIRE TEACHER LEADS - UNDERSTANDING THE ROLE

## What is an Inspire Teacher Lead responsible for?

Inspire Teacher Leads are selected by Inspire Partner Schools, and we recommend each Inspire Club year group has its own Teacher Lead. The Inspire Teacher Leads are responsible for the following:

- Being the main point of communication for the Inspire Programme Lead
- Delivering Inspire Club classes
- Recruitment of fellow teachers to deliver certain classes if required
- Taking registers of Inspire Club class attendance
- Communicating important information to Inspire Scholars and their parents & guardians
- Attending termly Teacher Hub meetings to network and share best practice
- Completing evaluation forms, and ensuring Inspire Scholar evaluations are distributed
- Collecting and submitting attainment data for Inspire Scholars

## What opportunities are available for Inspire Teacher Leads?

Inspire Teacher Leads are an integral part of the Inspire Scholars Programme. We offer our Inspire Teacher Leads:

- An Annual Teacher's Conference with specialist speakers and networking opportunities
- Paid opportunities to develop Inspire Club classes, or Critical Thinking articles
- Termly Teacher Hub meetings to develop connections with link-minded education professionals
- A meaningful career-development leadership role

## What support does an Inspire Teacher Lead receive to run the Programme in their own school?

Inspire 9, 10 & 11 is administered by a full-time Programme Lead, Katie Inwood, who is based at St John's College. The Programme Lead will manage the delivery of the programme, communicate important information or updates, and will be the point of contact for Inspire Teacher Leads. The Programme Lead will also run the Inspire Digital Teacher's Hub to establish and grow connections between Inspire Teacher Leads across our Partner Schools. It will be a place to share updates, ideas and queries, through this forum we can ensure teachers feel well supported, well informed and involved in the development of Inspire 9, 10 & 11.



# INSPIRE TEACHERS - OPPORTUNITIES

Inspire Teacher Leads are an integral and valued part of the Inspire Scholars Programme. As such, we offer our Inspire Teacher Leads:

- An Annual Teachers' Conference with specialist speakers and networking opportunities
- Paid opportunities to develop Inspire Club classes, or Critical Thinking articles
- Termly Teach Meets to develop connections with like-minded education professionals
- Access the Inspire Teacher's Hub on Facebook to develop connections with like-minded education professionals and exchange ideas
- A stay-cation in St John's College, Oxford to both increase familiarity with the College and University and as a thank you for their Programme contribution
- A meaningful career development leadership role

# INSPIRE PARENTS & CARERS

Inspire Parents & Carers includes a range of digital resources and online sessions to increase confidence in supporting Inspire Scholars' academic ambitions and progression. This includes live information sessions, delivered once a term in the evening and followed by a Q&A, on subjects such as:

- What does university study look like now?
- Applying to university: what should I expect?
- Going to university: what does it cost?
- How do I support my academically-able Inspire Scholar?

After the live session, the recording will be posted online for parents and carers to access in their own time.



# INSPIRE TEACHER LEADS CONFERENCE

To promote career development and build a community of like-minded professionals, the Inspire Teacher Leads Conference is an annual event hosted at St John's College.

"I would like to thank the team for organising such a fantastic day. It was so informative, and so much care went into the day! Thank you!"

**The 2022/23 Conference hosted in early April had a packed timetable that included the following:**

- A fascinating lecture on her life's work from the President of St John's - Professor Dame Sue Black
- A session delivered by an Oxford University Career's specialist Callum Buchanan on teaching development and advancement
- A Teaching with Objects masterclass and tour from the Teaching Curator at the Ashmolean Museum
- Plus lunch and refreshments, Q&A session with our student ambassadors, and time to network with other Inspire Teacher Leads and St John's Fellows.

"It was very purposeful and gave us the opportunity to meet other teacher leads and share first hand experiences and ideas about the Programme."





## INSPIRE TEACHERS 2-NIGHT STAYCATION

A new addition for 2023/24, the Inspire Teachers 2-Night Staycation will be an invitation to stay at St John's College, Oxford during the summer months. Accommodation and breakfast will be free of charge, and travel grants of up to £100 dependent on distance will be provided.

Using the vacated student rooms, which are ensuite single occupancy, every Inspire Teacher Lead and one guest will be able to book a date to stay. During their stay they will have access to the Alumni House Common Room for refreshments, the modern gym and study centre, and the traditional Dining Hall for cooked breakfasts made by St John's chefs.

This is an opportunity to experience what life is like at Oxford University and explore the historical city. Teachers are invited to select one complimentary cultural activity that can be booked for them before their arrival. Examples to choose from include punting, botanic gardens, Oxford Playhouse, or College Tours, the cost of which would be covered by the Inspire Programme.

Upon arrival, teachers would also be given useful suggestions of where to go and what to visit during their stay, such as museums, natural sites, cafes, and restaurants. We hope this will increase familiarity with the University and City and ensure Oxford feels as welcoming to teachers on the Programme as it does to students.



# INSPIRE TEACHERS NETWORK

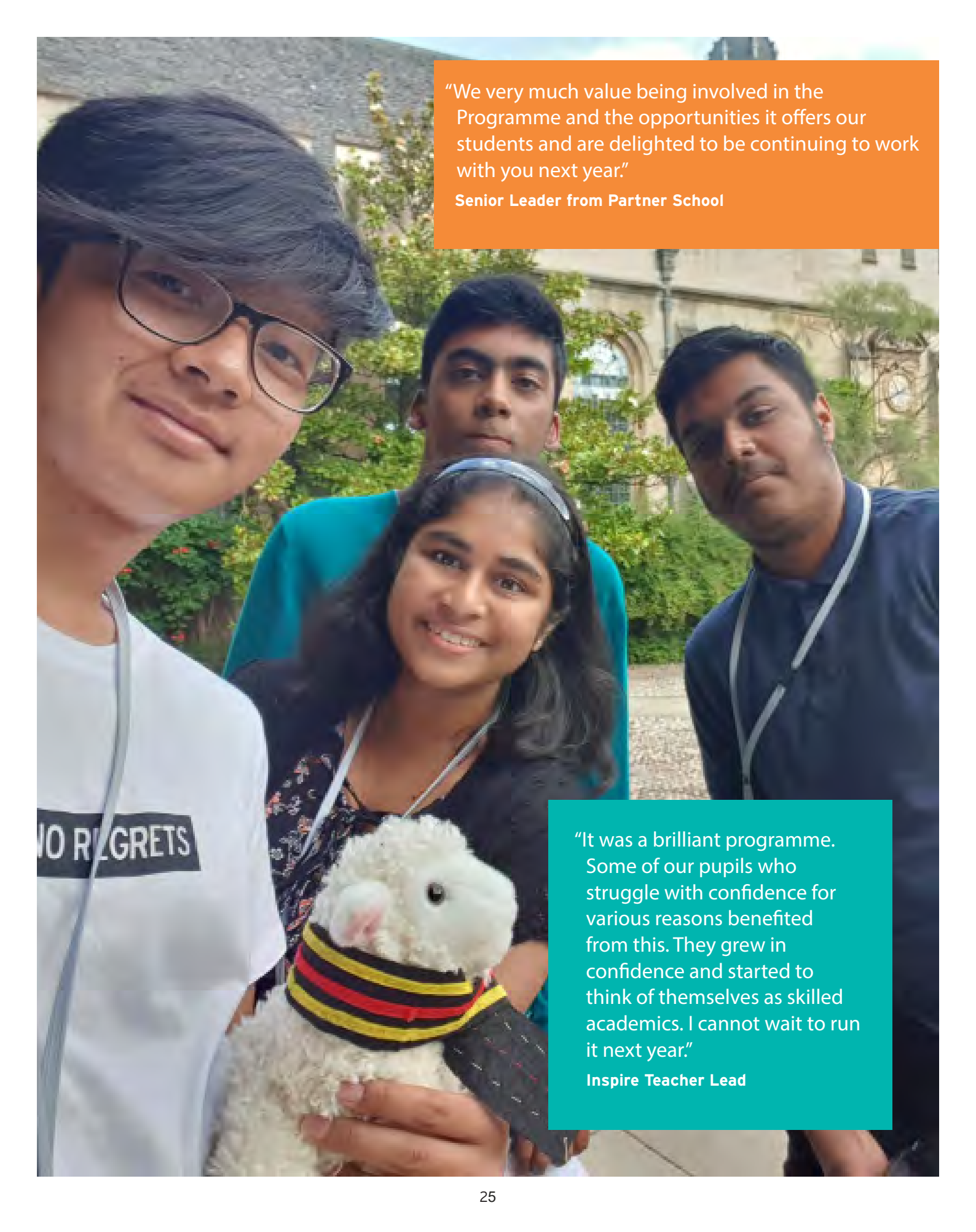
We value the importance of sharing best practice across our link regions to ensure that provision for academically-able students is effective and consistent. We will be hosting virtual Teach Meets where Teacher Leads, and their colleagues, are invited to present an idea or resource that they use to stretch and challenge their students' thinking in their subject areas.

COLLABORATION  
EVENTS  
DATES  
FUNDING  
AVAILABILITY  
LATEST INFO

The Hub has been created based on feedback from our established Inspire Teacher Leads, who are looking forward to having the chance to collaborate further, become more involved in the Inspire Programme, and create networks with their fellow Teacher Leads. It is an online platform run on Facebook for the exchange of ideas between teachers and the Inspire Team. It is a quick way to keep up to date with new releases on the Programme such as new class availability, release of Aspiration Grant funding, events taking place, key dates, photographs from the summer schools or scholars visits, or any changes to the Programme.







“We very much value being involved in the Programme and the opportunities it offers our students and are delighted to be continuing to work with you next year.”

**Senior Leader from Partner School**

“It was a brilliant programme. Some of our pupils who struggle with confidence for various reasons benefited from this. They grew in confidence and started to think of themselves as skilled academics. I cannot wait to run it next year.”

**Inspire Teacher Lead**

# WHAT HAVE PEOPLE SAID ABOUT US?

"It's been fantastic. I've been very lucky with my 14 pupils – they are superb and engaged. That's partly down to them but also to do with how enjoyable the course has been."

**Inspire Teacher Lead**

"I feel this programme really helps to give us all that extra push so that we can extend to the best of our abilities because we are all capable. This just gives us more knowledge which helps to make us understand a variety of subjects."

**Inspire Scholar**

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What do our partner schools think?

**100%**

of teachers either agreed or strongly agreed that their pupils learned a lot from the after school clubs

**95%**

of students either agreed or strongly agreed that they enjoyed the Inspire Clubs

**86%**

of students remained on the course for the duration of the three-year pilot

**100%**

of schools remained on the three-year pilot programme

\*Data from our 3-year pilot programme

# MEET OUR INSPIRE TEACHER LEADS

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“ I am passionate about increasing opportunities in higher education for disadvantaged students who are intellectually bright. Coming from a disadvantaged background myself, I am too familiar with the struggles students from disadvantaged backgrounds face when accessing higher education... The students have thoroughly enjoyed being part of the Inspire Programme and have highlighted that it has had a direct impact on their learning in school.”

**Davinder**  
**Inspire Teacher Lead**

“ I have been involved in the programme for the last two years and am pleased to say it has become a great success within school and especially with the students involved. The students really enjoy the fortnightly sessions and were especially keen to get back following lockdown.”

**Rebecca**  
**Inspire Teacher Lead**

“ The Students have really enjoyed being part of the Inspire programme. The Aspiration Days were a huge success and all the students involved came back into school with stories about what they had seen and done, as well as the different students from other schools that they had met.

The in-school and online sessions have also given them a much broader understanding about the world around them and opened their eyes to potential paths they could go down at sixth form and university. The enthusiasm and engagement the students have shown has highlighted to me just how important programmes like this are for the students.”

**Phoebe**  
**Inspire Teacher Lead**

# HOW DO I ENROL MY SCHOOL?

**The Inspire Scholars Programme is open to all non-selective secondary state schools in Ealing, Harrow, Brighton & Hove, East Sussex, West Sussex and Southampton. Funding is currently limited to 50 schools.**

## How much does it cost?

The programme is free of charge.

Schools participating in the programme also receive £300 to spend on supplementary class materials, and £300 to spend on refreshments.



## Who can I talk to about the Inspire Scholars Programme?

We would be delighted to talk to you online or in-person about Inspire 9, 10 and 11. We offer slots between 4:00-5:00pm on Tuesdays and Thursdays for short presentations and additional information. To arrange a meeting with a member of our team, email [inspire@sjc.ox.ac.uk](mailto:inspire@sjc.ox.ac.uk).

## How do I apply?

After discussing the programme with us, email us to let us know if you wish to formally apply for the programme and we will send you the Memorandum of Understanding. You do not need to select Inspire Teacher Leaders or Scholars and this stage. If you are a teacher applying on behalf of your school then you must receive permission for your school's Senior Leadership Team, as they will be required to sign the Memorandum of Understanding.

**To contact our Programme Lead please email**  
Katie Inwood [katie.inwood@sjc.ox.ac.uk](mailto:katie.inwood@sjc.ox.ac.uk)

**For general enquiries**  
[inspire@sjc.ox.ac.uk](mailto:inspire@sjc.ox.ac.uk)

# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

## **What is the value of Inspire 9, 10 & 11 for my school?**

Inspire 9, 10 & 11 is a comprehensive, sustained-contact programme designed to offer students exciting super-curricular experiences, give teachers meaningful leadership roles, and provide schools with a reputation-enhancing, tangible commitment to Higher Education progression.

## **How much does Inspire 9, 10 & 11 cost my school?**

Inspire 9, 10 & 11 is free for participating schools. Grants are provided to cover the costs of Inspire Club classes that require supplementary materials (these are clearly indicated in the Class Options Booklet).

Grants do not cover the time of the Inspire Teacher Leads, or the cost of travel to St John's College if visiting with your Inspire Scholars.

## **When does the Inspire Scholars Programme start?**

We ask schools to start the programme in October of each new academic year. This allows you time to settle into the new term, recruit and register new cohorts, receive grants needed for the programme, and familiarise yourself with the Programme. An updated Teacher Leads handbook will be provided at the start of term with key dates and useful information to help you run the programme successfully in your school. The Inspire Critical Thinking programme starts in January of each academic year.

## **Can I bring students to visit St John's?**

Absolutely! We give priority booking to schools enrolled on the Inspire Scholars Programme and can provide a visit day tailored to your students' needs and interests, which take place on Tuesdays. If you'd like to book a visit, please email [inspire@sjc.oc.ac.uk](mailto:inspire@sjc.oc.ac.uk)

## **Can I run Inspire Clubs for more than 14 Inspire Scholars per year?**

Our classes have been tested and evaluated with groups of 14 students, so we cannot guarantee that the classes will run to time or as successfully with larger class sizes. However, we do encourage our Inspire Teacher Leads to adapt our resources to suit particular teaching-styles and goals.

## **What are the CPD opportunities?**

Teacher Leads will be invited to teach meets across the academic year, with opportunities to present and share best practice. The annual Teachers' Conference will also feature keynote presentations, talks from academics on pedagogical practice and career-development sessions. Throughout the year, discussions and forums will be held on the SJC Teacher Leads Facebook page. There are also paid opportunities for Teacher Leads and their colleagues to design materials for the Inspire Classes and Inspire Critical Thinking. Email us if you are interested in finding out about these.

## **How much time do I need to dedicate as a Teacher Lead?**

We know how limited time is for teachers. We provide all of the resources for you, or a colleague, to run the Inspire Classes, which can take place at a time that best suits you within school. All of the resources are provided electronically on our Inspire Digital page. Many elements of the programme, such as the Inspire Critical Thinking, are student-led. We outline key dates at the start of each term, being mindful of busy periods in the school calendar and provide written communication for you to share with students and parents/carers. Any administration tasks such as data collection, evaluation and registers are spread across the year with plenty of notice.

**To contact our Programme Lead please email**  
Katie Inwood - [inspire@sjc.ox.ac.uk](mailto:inspire@sjc.ox.ac.uk)



### Here is a list of our current Partner Schools:

- Avanti House Secondary School
- Beacon Academy
- Bentley Wood High School
- Brentside High School
- Canons High School
- Claverham Community College
- Dormers Wells High School
- Drayton Manor High School
- Ealing Fields High School
- Featherstone High School
- Felpham Community College
- Greenford High School
- Harrow High School
- Hatch End High School
- King's Academy Ringmer
- King's School Hove
- Northolt High School
- Pinner High School
- Ratton School Academy Trust
- Rooks Heath College
- St Catherine's College
- Testwood School
- The Cardinal Wiseman Roman Catholic School
- The Ellen Wilkinson School for Girls
- The Weald Community School and Sixth Form
- Twyford CofE High School
- Villiers High School
- Whitefriars High School
- Whitmore High School
- William Perkin CofE High School



- St John's College website • [www.sjc.ox.ac.uk](http://www.sjc.ox.ac.uk)
- Inspire Programme website • [www.sjcinspire.com](http://www.sjcinspire.com)
- Phone • 01865 277300
- Instagram • [sjc\\_access](https://www.instagram.com/sjc_access)
- Twitter • [@sjc\\_access](https://twitter.com/sjc_access)

**Contact us:**  
**For enquiries, please contact:**  
Programme Lead Katie Inwood [katie.inwood@sjc.ox.ac.uk](mailto:katie.inwood@sjc.ox.ac.uk)

**For general enquiries**  
[inspire@sjc.ox.ac.uk](mailto:inspire@sjc.ox.ac.uk)