

Mission Statement “To be an outstanding sixth form college where students enjoy learning in a supportive and stimulating environment, which develops their potential and independence.”

Shrewsbury Sixth Form College is a popular and successful college in the heart of Shrewsbury town centre. Shrewsbury has a population of about 95,000 and is the natural geographic centre as well as the administrative centre of Shropshire. The College was set up in 1981 to provide a general post-16 education for students in the Shrewsbury area. It has established a strong local reputation and this is reflected in student recruitment. At present there are 1370 full time students on roll.

The College’s emphasis is on the students’ achievement and enjoyment. Each student is a member of a mixed single year tutorial group of over twenty students drawn from different schools and following different courses. All students take part in a programme of general education, including General Studies or Critical Thinking AS Level and development of IT skills. Students have the opportunity to pursue an extended project in their second year. The College is also committed to improving the whole learner’s experience through participation in sport and recreation, music and drama, work experience in the community, and a wide range of extra curricular activities. These aspects of the College’s work underline its commitment to broadening the educational experience of all students as well as the achievement of success in their examined work.

The OFSTED’s inspection report of May 2008 reported that the overall effectiveness of the college was good and the college was graded Good in all areas with the exception of Key Question 4 (Guidance and Support) and the ECM Enjoying and Achieving which were graded Outstanding. The College has had an excellent record of examination achievements and success rates over the last 3 years. Examination results in 2009 were the best in the college’s history as shown below. The college offers 45 different A and AS level courses and prides itself on giving the students the combination of courses that they want.

Overall results for A-Level, AS level and GCSE

Level and Year	Entries	A-B	A-C	A-E
A 2006	1726	54.5%	80.3%	99%
A 2007	1759	53%	76.5%	97.8%
A 2008	1861	53.7%	77.7%	98.8%
A 2009	2012	57.1%	79.1%	98.7%
A 2010	1894	56%	78.3%	98.5%

Level and Year	Entries	A-B	A-C	A-E
AS 2006	2971	39.6%	63.5%	93.4%
AS 2007	3243	37.6%	61.4%	92.1%
AS 2008	3482	42.5%	64.1%	91.9%
AS 2009	3177	43.9%	66.5%	94.6%
AS 2010	3489	38.5%	61.5%	90%

Level and Year	Entries	A*-C	A-E
GCSE 2006	78	56.4	100.0
GCSE 2007	73	78.1	100.0
GCSE 2008	63	79.3	100.0
GCSE 2009	59	74.0	100.0
GCSE 2010	68	72.0	100.00

The college has a strong track record of working collaboratively for the benefits of learners. The college has been involved the West Midlands Collaboration Project (which involved 11 sixth form colleges) and has led the Modern Foreign Language group. The College is a partner in the Shrewsbury Partnership for Education and Training (SPET) in which the two Colleges in Shrewsbury combine with seven local 11-16 schools to share information and develop the 14-19 Curriculum. The College is also a partner in the 14-19 Shropshire Learning Network County Forum and in curriculum development in the area forum. It is a key player in the Gateway process for 14-19 developments and has had successful submissions for Business Administration and Finance and Society Health and Development.

The premises consist of a wide range of accommodation. The main site includes a principle teaching block built in 1910, and Priory House, a large 18th century house, containing the main staff room and staff work areas, management and administrative offices. There is a laboratory block dating from the 1950's which adjoins a performing arts suite for Drama and Music. In addition there are some demountables and a teaching block providing accommodation for Geography, Psychology and Design, completed in 1991.

Since Incorporation in 1993 there have been ambitious plans to improve the accommodation for students and staff. In September 1995 we moved into newly acquired premises providing students with a modern Library, Business and Information Centre. This facility was extended into the new Shrewsbury Learning Centre which opened in September 1999 and is equipped with facilities for student based learning, supported by information and communications technology, and provides improved facilities for Student Services and Careers. From September 2003, the College expanded into new accommodation, Cirrus House, with modern facilities available for the teaching of Modern Languages and Media Studies.

In 2009 the college took out a lease on Priory Lodge and 5/6 St Austin's Street to provide teaching space for Performance Studies, more staff work areas, and to provide a larger social area for students – The White House.

The Admissions Policy for full time 16-19 students is clearly defined with an expectation that students are genuinely committed to continuing their education on a full-time basis. The main area of the College curriculum is the delivery of the Advanced programme which consists of AS and A levels. We also have a small intermediate programme consisting of GCSE courses. Over 1350 students are currently taking these courses, the great majority of whom continue into Higher Education when they leave the College.

The college currently employs 150 employees (96 teaching staff and 54 support staff).

The Governing body consists of 17 members, of whom 3 are staff members and there are 2 students representatives.