

Adams College Prospectus







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“Adams College is a jewel in the school crown! It is a thriving and growing Sixth Form community with a family ethos. Students receive individual attention and personalised mentoring from passionate staff, who ensure that students aim high and work hard towards meeting their goals.”

College Governor

“Teaching at Adams College allows both me and the students to fully realise our potential.”

A Level Art and Design Teacher

“Supporting and guiding students with special educational needs through the transition from GCSE to A level is something that Adams College prides itself on.”

Co-ordinator of SEN support



Welcome to Adams College



As Headteacher, I am very proud of the opportunities that Adams College offers our students: a broad and challenging academic curriculum delivered by staff with a wealth of experience and a caring environment which offers excellent pastoral care.

Mark Cooper mc@thomasadams.net



I am Assistant Headteacher at Thomas Adams, with responsibility for Adams College. Starting your sixth form experience is the first real step on the path to your future - you've narrowed down your subjects of interest and are now focusing on just a few areas to really put your effort into. A Levels are demanding and, over the next two years, you will need to be highly conscientious and develop your independent study skills in order to fulfil your potential. However, I am confident that you will find the specialist staff at Adams College very supportive and approachable if you need any help. I wish you every success over the next two years and look forward to meeting you.

Spencer Radford sjr@thomasadams.net



As Key Stage 5 Manager, I am proud to say that we offer a supportive environment in which our students are able to play to their strengths. Our strong pastoral guidance and advice is complementary to the academic rigour of the teaching, allowing students to be supported fully in their journey with us. The atmosphere at college is one of encouragement and we work together to realise our students' potential.

As a school sixth form, we offer a perfect balance between university and school; freedom such as no school uniform and independent study periods make it feel like a college, whilst the caring ethos, as well as close monitoring of attendance and progress, give parents the reassurance that we will take action promptly if concerned.

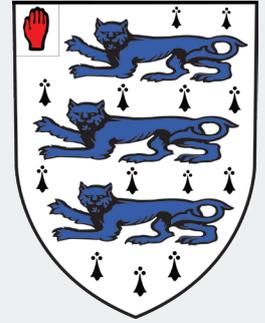
Julie Squire jes@thomasadams.net



I am the Senior Tutor at Adams College, and also the lead teacher of Level 3 BTEC Sport. In my role as Senior Tutor, I will work to ensure that your time at Adams College is a positive one, preparing you for your next steps into higher education, apprenticeships or employment. My responsibilities include providing students with relevant information regarding UCAS applications and events, providing a clear link to universities. Alongside this, I help students to explore careers, apprenticeships and scholarship opportunities. My other major role is helping to ensure every student at Adams College has an enjoyable, informed and successful time here with us, both personally and academically.

Liam Allen lja@thomasadams.net

Subjects taught at Adams College



Whilst we will endeavour to run all of the courses offered, they will only be viable if sufficient numbers of students elect to study them.

Art
Biology
BTEC Sport
Business Studies
Chemistry
Computer Science
Drama and
Theatre Studies
English Combined
GCSE English
English Language
English Literature
Film Studies
Food Science
French
Further Mathematics

GCSE Mathematics
Geography
Graphic Communication
BTEC Health and
Social Care
History
BTEC ICT
Mathematics
Music
Physics
Politics
Product Design
Psychology
Philosophy, Theology
and Ethics
Sociology
Textiles

Guidance & Support

At Adams College, students will meet with their tutor every morning. The tutor will quickly become each student's point of contact for both academic and personal goals.

As well as daily contact in registration, the tutor will meet with students regularly, on a one-to-one basis, to discuss how their studies are progressing. Students' tutors will play a very important role in helping make decisions about the future, be that university, employment, apprenticeship or a gap year.

Tutors are available for informal discussions at any time, but formal mentoring sessions are arranged termly so that students feel wholly supported along their journey with us.



Student Involvement

In order to enhance our excellent teaching, we have our College Committee, a group of representatives from every form group in Year 12 and Year 13.

This group of students are crucial in organising fundraising opportunities and planning social events. We meet regularly to discuss ways of improving college life and to explore new initiatives in education.

Another group we couldn't do without are our volunteer Student Ambassadors. This team of willing students represent us at our College Open Evenings, Taster Days and Applicant Open Day, offering prospective students (and parents) an overview of life at Adams College.



Open Days, Evenings and Visits

We believe that a personal visit to Adams College is invaluable. We hold Open Days and Evenings. These events include tours of the school facilities and Headteacher talks. Staff are on hand to answer questions regarding subject choices, talk about the extra-curricular activities on offer and the transport enrichment opportunities available.

For further information on Open Days and Evenings please contact college@thomasadams.net or phone 01939 237000

We are also very happy to welcome prospective parents and students for individual, personal visits, with the opportunity to meet our college leadership team, staff and pupils. If you would like to arrange a personal visit, then please do not hesitate to contact us.

Do you need financial support?

We offer 16-19 bursary funds for students who may have difficulties attending or completing courses due to financial constraints.

The Bursary has two elements:

Guaranteed Bursary:

Young people in care, care leavers, young people in receipt of Income Support or Universal Credit and disabled young people in receipt of both Disability Living Allowance (or Personal Independent Allowance) and Employment Support Allowance will be eligible to receive a guaranteed bursary of £1,200 a year.

Discretionary Bursary

We can use our discretion to make awards in ways that best fit your needs and circumstances.

Discretionary bursaries are targeted towards those facing financial barriers to participation, such as the cost of transport, books and equipment.

On arrival at college in September, we will ask you to fill in an application form. Soon after this is submitted, students will be interviewed individually to determine eligibility and how the money can best be used according to each student's circumstances and needs.

Further information will be available early in September.



How will YOU travel to college?

The map shows the areas from which there is easy transport into Wem.

If students live out of the catchment area, Adams College provides private buses from the following areas:

- Shrewsbury, Harlescott, Bomere Heath, Baschurch, Burlton, Myddle and Harmer Hill
- Whitchurch and Tilstock
- Higher Heath and Prees
- Oswestry, Whittington, Gobowen, St Martins, Dudleston Heath, Ellesmere, Cockshutt and Welshhampton

- Market Drayton, Tern Hill and Bletchley
- Wollerton, Hodnet and Marchamley

When a student reaches Year 12 and 13, they can request financial assistance for transport via Shropshire Council's Post-16 Contribution Scheme. There is a charge for transport unless the family is in receipt of certain benefits.

For more information, please contact Corrine Brown, Finance Officer, on 01939 237000 or email her on cmb@thomasadams.net



Our students' destinations

Our mentoring programme encourages students to complete thorough research to ensure they choose the best career path for them, be it university or work-related.

Our ex-students help enormously when students need up-to-date advice on researching future choices.

We have created an education page on LinkedIn to enable current students to network with ex-students all over the world - just search for Thomas Adams School and Sixth Form Centre on LinkedIn.com.



Hannah - Studied English Literature, English Language and Graphic Communication



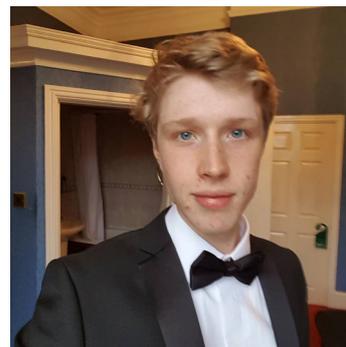
“Since leaving college, I’ve been on a pretty exciting gap year, travelling on my own through South East Asia, first Indonesia, then Thailand. I visited Cambodia, before visiting Vietnam and then Laos! It was such a life-changing experience and without the help of Adams

College I would never have had the confidence or sense of independence needed for such a big trip. When I’m home, I have a place at Leeds University studying Graphic Design, and I’m so grateful to the teachers I had for giving me the motivation I needed to achieve the grades needed to be accepted.

Sean - Studied English Literature, History and Philosophy, Theology and Ethics

“Adams College’s greatest strength, and the reason I look back on my time there with such gratitude, is its remarkable staff, who consistently went to astonishing lengths to support and challenge me, be it academically,

or during the process of applying to higher education. The incredible care and understanding provided by the pastoral system in place at Adams is further enhanced by the close-knit community which the college naturally fosters, and I can personally attest to the delicacy and kindness with which the pastoral staff supported a friend of mine in need, during a particularly stressful period. I consider choosing Adams College to be one of the best decisions I’ve made concerning my education and I feel immensely fortunate to have spent time there.



We continue to support students long after they have flown the nest; many get in touch to ask for references or help with their research for doctorates! We are always happy to help.



Adams House

A home away from home!

Step into Adams House and you'll instantly feel at home. Catering for boys and girls between 11 and 19, and with a capacity of up to 65 boarders, we've been welcoming students from the UK and across the world for many years.

We are a state boarding house, which means that parents only pay for the accommodation and supervision of their children, with educational costs met by the Local Authority.

A Caring Environment

We know how daunting it can be to move away from home, and sometimes to a different country, and we have an experienced team on hand to help with the transition.

Our students tell us how happy, safe and secure they feel at Adams House and we are proud to have built a caring, multicultural community where there is genuine respect amongst boarders for the values and beliefs of their fellow students.

Students are actively encouraged to have a genuine say in how the boarding house is run and we have elected prefects to ensure that the voices of all boarders are heard.

For parents, we know what a big step it is to entrust your children into our care, and we promise to keep lines of communication open so that parents remain active partners in their child's education and development.

By the time our boarders leave us, we aim to have nurtured well-rounded individuals with a positive outlook on the world.

What our boarders say;

"I met some great people and had some amazing experiences; I will never forget this boarding house"

"My time at Adams House has been a very unique journey that has developed me as an individual. It's an experience I find myself not wanting to end"

Application Dates

September Applications open

Students can apply by completing the form on our website or, if preferred, by paper copy (available from college). We accept applications throughout the year but early applications will ensure a place on popular courses. We will email students upon receipt of their application.

25th October Open Day and Evening

This is a great opportunity to talk to subject tutors, students and senior staff about what we have to offer at Adams College. Our Student Ambassadors will be available all day to give tours, answer questions and provide an insight into A Level study.

16th November Taster day

Students will sign up for taster lessons in advance of this day, with an opportunity to try out five subjects, thus providing another opportunity to ask questions and make informed decisions. Taster Day forms will be available at our Open Evening and other recruitment events.

January to February Main interview period

Interviews are held at Adams College or in the student's current school. This informal consultation will help to fine-tune subject choices and to ensure that the programme of study chosen is the right path for you. A conditional offer is usually made at the interview. Please see subject details for specific recommendations/requirements.

27th June Applicant Open Day

Our popular Applicant Open Day allows students to enjoy a day with us, experiencing a typical day with their new fellow students. Timed to coincide with the end of the GCSE examinations, students will be given transition work for the summer, they will meet their subject teachers and they will be able to meet the other students in the class of 2021!

August GCSE results published

Students should contact college to confirm their programme of study.

23rd August Admissions Day

A senior member of staff will be available to meet with targeted students to finalise their programme of study or advise on alternative post-16 options, should GCSE grades not be as anticipated. We will contact Thomas Adams students to make appointments. External applicants should ring on GCSE results day to make an appointment.

September Start your courses!

Choosing your courses

Unlike many colleges, in Year 12 we offer five hours per subject per week for most subjects, ensuring valuable contact time with academic experts. We expect all students to select three subjects to study over a two-year period. Students are also required to spend one lesson a day in our study Hub, working independently, either on homework, revision or consolidation, overseen by a teacher.

Which subjects?

We think students should play to their strengths as they will perform better in subjects they enjoy. Which subjects are strongest at GCSE level? Which give most satisfaction?

Do some research

For many students, it is important to keep options open at this stage. Unless you know you want to be a doctor, vet or a dentist, requiring Biology and Chemistry, you really can choose a range. Careers in Engineering demand Maths and Further Maths, whilst Architecture needs a mix of Art/Graphics, Maths and Science and a portfolio. The UCAS website is a good place to start - www.ucas.com. Above all, look at the course content and talk to teachers and students at our open evening and taster days to explore all your options. After leaving Adams College, many students go on to study courses they didn't dream existed at the beginning of their A Levels; we have opened their minds to the wealth of fascinating courses and careers that are possible.

Talk to current teachers

Teachers at your school will be able to give you sound advice about whether you will cope with the demands of A level study in their subject, but rest assured, we will discuss this at our consultation and try to tailor your course of study to ensure success.





What students say...

“Adams College has enabled me to stay focused and also helped me realise what I want to do in the future - something which I was struggling to decide on.”

“Adams College has a great community feel, with lots of support from the teachers and other students.”

“I really enjoy college. The teachers are fun and you feel like an equal.”

“I feel that I’m listened to and that teachers really understand me.”

“You’re given loads of advice about finding a job or an apprenticeship.”

“The teachers are passionate about their subjects.”

What parents say...

“Adams College supported our son to reach his full potential both academically & personally.”

“An excellent college with support given at a high level academically and on the pastoral front. Extremely pleased with student support and would highly recommend Adams.”

“I was impressed with the University Information Evening and the help given throughout the UCAS application process. Students are supported every step of the way.”

“Many thanks for your extremely informative evenings. We are grateful for the effort put into helping us address issues/choices our children face.”

“Our children, each with their own diverse needs, interests and academic abilities are coming away from Adams College with high self-esteem and excited about their future.”





What Ofsted said...



Our Ofsted report, 2017, recognised numerous strengths in our sixth form. It was recognised that, **“school leaders and pastoral teams know their pupils well”** and Ofsted also observed that **“personalised support is available for those most in need”**. Our senior team at college were commended for being **“tenacious in their actions”**.

What staff say...

A Level teacher of Philosophy, Theology and Ethics - **“Staff at all levels share a tremendous pride in working for the college.”**

Student Services Officer - **“It gives me great job satisfaction to see students grow into confident and happy individuals during their two years with us.”**

A Level teacher of Physics - **“It is a fantastic privilege to play a small part in helping young people begin to realise their ambitions.”**

A Level teacher of English Literature - **“The open and supportive nature of the college community allows students to explore, safely and openly, a whole range of ideas and experiences.”**

A Level teacher of Mathematics - **“The close relationship between the school and college offers fantastic opportunities for college students to work alongside pupils in the main school.”**

A Level teacher of Sociology - **“All students enjoy learning at college and the atmosphere is one of learning.”**



Adams College



Get in touch:



For more information call **01939 237000**
visit thomasadams.net
or find us on **Facebook**
www.facebook.com/adamscollegewem