



# Student Spotlights

Year 13 students share their sixth form experience, top tips and advice!

## Savannah

Savannah is studying Geography, Philosophy and Ethics and Sociology.

I chose to attend HFS 6th as I was familiar with my surroundings and I knew that I wouldn't have to worry about knowing my way round as well as worrying about starting my A levels as it was something I hadn't experienced. I also enjoyed my experience when I had the taster day in year 11, which played a part for me going to Holy Family 6th.

Over the summer I looked at possible components for each subject and made sure I wanted to study them so I'd give it my all and also take the lessons seriously as each lesson is important.

I chose subjects I enjoyed learning about when I was in year 11, and I also knew what I wanted to do when I left 6th form so I looked at what A levels I needed in order to carry out the career I wanted. I tried not to choose the same subjects as my friends as I knew I may have gotten distracted in lessons.

Top tips I have for the first term;

- If you want to be there show it.
- Try and settle in as soon as you can.
- Be organised.
- Be ready to start learning
- Lastly, enjoy yourself!





## Ibrahim

Ibrahim is studying Maths, Chemistry and Biology.

I chose HFS as I was already comfortable with the teachers which I felt was really important for learning more efficiently as I'd feel more comfortable in class and more encouraged to ask questions.



I had picked Biology, Chemistry and Maths as I already had a career path in mind and so these subjects were necessary. As a contingency, I knew that I would want to pursue a career in science and so I picked Biology and Chemistry as they'd open doors to other routes if my primary option was no longer ideal. However, a lot of people may still not have any career path in mind and so my tip would be to pick a subject that one enjoys learning and can perform well in.

The best thing to do in order to survive and thrive is to stay on top of everything from the get-go and not to let anything to pile on or else it'll have snowball effect for the rest of the term. Create a set routine and timetable that is realistic and one that you know you'll be able to stick to, leaving enough time for sleep, meals, leisure, play, exercise and other essential hobbies.

As I mentioned before, creating a realistic resolute routine and sticking to it is important. If you feel that the one you may make isn't working, it's fine to change it and adapt it to your day to day life.

### Useful tips!

Mastering exam techniques is the main thing for doing well in A levels so the best thing to do is to start getting adjusted to exam questions from the start.

In my opinion, practising questions is or important than just revising content. Don't be afraid of getting those question wrong when practising as it'll be easier to remember what you did wrong than everything you've done right. After revising a topic, try some questions based on the topic you've just revised and then see where you did well and your areas for improvement and then target your weak areas. After revising for topics, make sure to review that topic after every few days (e.g. once a week) so you can convert your knowledge from short term to long term memory. Assuming everything will go back to normal (hopefully), utilise your free periods for time for getting ahead of classwork or for reviewing what you've just learnt in class.

Use websites such as:

The Student Room

PMAT

Chemrevise (chemistry)

## Emma

Emma is studying Health and Social Care, Sociology and Psychology.

I chose HF6 as I wanted to go to sixth form but stay somewhere I felt comfortable as I knew most of the teachers and the place. Whilst jumping to A-Levels from GCSE's I didn't want to have to get used to a new environment whilst taking in challenging subjects.

I wasn't sure of what subjects to choose and it took me a few weeks to finalise my choices. I decided to choose subjects I thought would be interesting and I would enjoy learning about. One good thing was that although I wasn't certain of my initial choices, we had two weeks to swap between classes to decide what we wanted to do, which was less pressuring.

I think in the first term, it's important to settle in especially if it's a new environment you're entering. You're given a lot more freedom but it's up to you when it comes to your learning.

Managing the jump to A Levels, I just tried to stay on top of any extra work we were told to do, taking notes in class and if I had spare time during LRC periods to make revision cards, so that I was prepared for any random tests/essays. I enjoy being at this sixth form, as I think the teachers will do anything they can to help you. Sixth form students also have their own space, the LRC for any studying they need to do, which is helpful.



## Connor

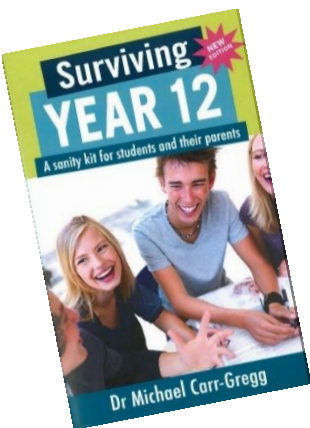
Connor is studying Philosophy and Ethics, Geography and Business.

There are three main reasons why I chose HF6 to study further education; the people, the place, and the teachers. Before A-levels I studied at Holy Family and during that time I developed friendships and felt settled at the school, therefore I knew staying here would help my transition from GCSE to A-levels. Knowing the teachers really helped me settle in as I felt more comfortable in class and I was able to ask for help when I needed it.

I already knew going into results day what I wanted to study as I chose three of my favourite lessons which link into the career path I want to go into at university. The main thing here is to pick subjects you are going to enjoy, because if you enjoy your chosen subjects you are going to be more motivated to do well and it will make things much more enjoyable in the future. Another thing you need to think about is the general area of study you would like to do at university as some courses at university require specific A-levels.

Top tips for surviving the first term:

- Keep on top of your work.
- Utilise your LRC periods.
- Begin revision earlier rather than later.
- Teachers are happy to help- if struggling ask.
- Do homework on the night set.
- Don't get distracted by friends!





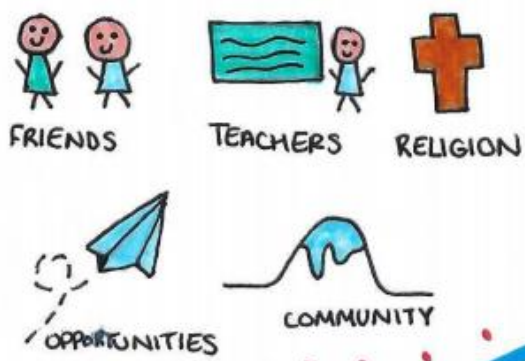
**Erin**

Erin is studying Philosophy and Ethics, English Literature and History.

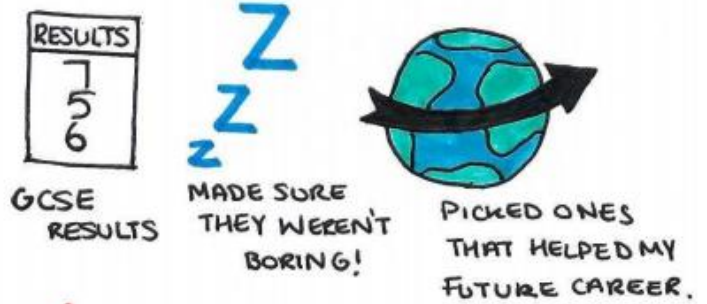
- AWAKENING MINDS !
- ACHIEVING DREAMS !
- SERVING OTHERS !

# WHY HFS SIXTH?

## WHY I CHOSE HFS SIXTH?



## HOW I CHOSE MY SUBJECTS?



## TOP TIPS FOR

### Surviving Year 12

- Keep up to date with work.
- Use **LOTS** of colours
- Always** ask for help where needed
- Your teacher is probably **right!**
- Don't** feel bad if you're struggling
- Set out your work how **you** feel helps most!
- Take **advantage** of LRC's and your free periods!
- Hand in work **on time**

