



# the detail

2026/27



ELTHAM COLLEGE  
SIXTH FORM

# The Sixth Form

Eltham College Sixth Form offers students an outstanding education that provides a thorough preparation for higher education and beyond. The essence of the education we provide is centred on academic excellence, a broad co-curriculum and exceptional pastoral care.

## **Our philosophy, aims and practice**

We are committed to academic excellence and place a strong emphasis on integrity, equality, compassion and helping others. By promoting these values, we empower our students to understand their place in the world and make the right choices for their future.

## **Challenge**

Our academic curriculum is both wide-ranging and challenging, inspiring our students to stretch themselves. Throughout their time in the Sixth Form, we encourage students to broaden their horizons and develop their leadership skills. They have the opportunity to go on trips, participate in our extensive programme of co-curricular activities, practise their public speaking skills, carry out a work placement, and take part in mentoring and community projects.

## **Personalised learning**

To a large degree students can personalise their curriculum. They don't have to specialise in the arts or sciences at A Level, but can combine subjects across disciplines under the guidance of their teachers and careers advisors. We also allow time for students to pursue their passions, including Sport, Drama, Art and Music.

## **Expectations**

We set our students high standards both in terms of the nature and pace of work in general and their own individual performance. In parallel, we offer the support they need to ensure they are able to do their very best and meet these standards. Academic excellence is at the heart of what we offer, but we are careful to balance wellbeing and success.

## **Leadership**

The Sixth Form is overseen by a Head of Sixth Form with three deputies who are jointly responsible for students' academic achievement and wellbeing at this important time of their development. Together with specialist careers and university guidance, they also ensure students are thoroughly prepared for the next stages in life.



# 1

## Application process

All prospective candidates must complete the online registration form at [www.eltham-college.org.uk/admissions/entry-at-16/](http://www.eltham-college.org.uk/admissions/entry-at-16/), include all the requested supporting documentation\*, and pay a non-refundable application fee of £234 (incl VAT)\*\*.

All external candidates for the Sixth Form take an entrance examination, sitting a computer adaptive test and a critical thinking paper.

After the written examination, candidates for whom a place is being considered will be invited to interview. We also request a reference from the candidate's current school. All candidates are automatically considered for an Academic Scholarship depending on their performance in the entrance

examination. There are further assessments for candidates who pass the academic threshold and wish to be considered for a Music, Sport, Chess, Drama or Art Scholarship.

Conditional places are allocated shortly after the examination process. Once candidates have accepted an offer from us, they will be invited to an Options Evening where they can meet Heads of Department for advice on which subjects to select for A Level.

\* Supporting information required – a copy of your son/daughter's birth certificate, passport, last two school reports, visa (if applicable) and a copy of your son/daughter's most recent educational psychologist's report (if applicable).

\*\* Acceptance of registration does not constitute an offer of a place.

# 2

## Academic requirements

Academic standards at Eltham College are high. The standard for entry to the Sixth Form is a minimum of six GCSEs at Grade 7, although the majority of candidates will achieve higher than this.

# 3

## GCSE requirements to study an A Level course

Students wishing to study A Levels at Eltham College must achieve a minimum of six grade 7s at GCSE and meet the subject specific criteria for their chosen A Levels given below.

### Subjects that have been studied at GCSE

- > For Mathematics, Computer Science, Biology, Chemistry and Physics a grade 9 or grade 8 at GCSE in the corresponding subject is required to study that subject at A Level.
- > If Combined Science has been studied then a minimum of a grade 8/8 is required to study Biology, Chemistry or Physics.
- > For Further Mathematics a grade 9 is required in Mathematics and, if studied, an 8 or 9 in AQA Further Mathematics, or equivalent.
- > For English a grade 9/8/7 is required in both English Language and English Literature.

# 4

## Subjects that may not have been studied at GCSE

Where a student has not studied the subject at GCSE, the following criteria apply:

- > For Music a grade 9/8/7 in Music GCSE and a minimum of a grade 6 in at least one instrument is also required (grade 5 theory is an advantage but not essential). If you have not studied GCSE Music, then grade 5 Theory and grade 6 practical (ABRSM or TRINITY) is required.
- > At least a grade 9/8/7 is required in Short Course Religious Studies to study Philosophy and Theology at A Level if the full course has not been studied.
- > For Sports Science a grade 7 is required in Biology and students must also meet the required minimum threshold of competing in one sport at County or above and/or 1st Team (U18A) representation as a Year 11 student at the time of choosing Sports Science.
- > For all other subjects, a minimum of a grade 7 in the corresponding subject is required, although we recommend starting subjects where students have achieved a grade 8 or 9.

- > For Computer Science (if not studied at GCSE) a grade 9 is required in Mathematics and a portfolio of coding should be available to be viewed.
- > For Economics (if not studied at GCSE) a grade 9/8/7 is required in Mathematics and English Literature.
- > For Psychology a grade 9/8 is required in Biology.
- > For Politics a grade 9/8/7 is required in History (if studied) and English Literature.

# Joining

Step-by-step guide to joining the Sixth Form including the GCSE requirements to study A Level courses at Eltham College.



# Key dates

All prospective students are encouraged to come and visit us before registering to sit an entrance examination. Below are all the key dates for 2027 entry.

**2026**

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**19/09**

Open Event

**1/10**

16+ Open Evening

**15/10**

16+ Registration  
Deadline

**07/11**

16+ Entrance Exams

**04/12**

16+ Offers Sent

**2027**

>>

**07/01**

16+ Acceptance Deadline

Find Eltham College term dates online at  
[eltham-college.org.uk/term-dates](https://eltham-college.org.uk/term-dates)



## Scholarships

A number of scholarships are available for Sixth Form candidates who fulfil the normal academic requirements for entry into the College.

Scholarships are awarded at the Headmaster's discretion, following an appropriate assessment and interview, on the basis of merit to the most able or to those who show considerable potential. Scholarships are usually maintained throughout a student's time at Eltham College.

At Sixth Form, Academic, Music, Chess, Art, Drama and Sport Scholarships are available to both current Eltham College students and external applicants.

The awarding of a scholarship is the first step. Once a Scholar arrives at Eltham College, he or she will be supported to reach their potential and expected to play an active role across all areas of school life.

## Bursaries

Means-tested bursaries may be awarded to Sixth Form parents who need financial assistance in order to pay the school fees. The value of a bursary as a proportion of fees is dependent on the financial circumstances of parents and will take into account their combined income and net assets.

Applicants for bursaries will be considered on the basis of their performance in the College entrance examinations and at interview. Bursaries are given at the Headmaster's discretion.

If a bursary is awarded, its value will be reviewed annually. Students applying for bursaries may also qualify for scholarships.

If you wish to apply for a bursary, you must indicate this at the time of registration. You will be asked to complete a separate application, provide documentary evidence of your financial circumstances, and accommodate a home visit / phone meeting during which an independent assessor will validate your application with you.

# Scholarships and bursaries

Academic, Sport, Music, Chess, Art and Drama Scholarships are available for Sixth Form entry as well as means-tested bursaries.

# Our Curriculum

We help students to choose A Level subjects carefully, encouraging them to pick subjects that spark their interest, make them want to know more, and in which they are likely to succeed.

## A3-plus curriculum

In addition to their choice of three core A Levels, we also help students to prepare for the most competitive universities with an extended curriculum and a comprehensive Oxbridge Programme – this is the ‘Plus’ side of academic life at Eltham College. Last year we added two more options to this programme, increasing our provision to provide a curriculum with a greater breadth that provides students with the skill, knowledge and experiences they need for university and beyond, and the curriculum continues to evolve.

Students must therefore choose from one of the six options below, as well as actively engage with our Career Learning Programme:

- > An accelerated Further Maths fourth A Level on a reduced timetable
- > The Extended Project Qualification (see below)
- > Core Maths (see below)
- > AS Music Technology (see below)
- > The Enrichment Programme (see below)

## Extended Project Qualification

The EPQ allows students to learn and develop the independent learning and research skills that are recognised and valued by universities. This is a process-based qualification where students plan, research, write up and present their project to staff and peers. It is an ideal opportunity for researching a topic outside, or an extension of, their A Level choices. Students have chosen subjects including:

- > Has the increased use of technology been positive for the sport of Rugby Union?

- > Are we treating our women’s prison population appropriately?
- > How did the GDR ideology influence language in East Germany from 1949 – 89?

## Core Maths

Core Maths is also accepted by some universities instead of EPQ and is particularly useful for those who would benefit from demonstrating mathematical ability but don’t necessarily need it as a full A Level. We recommend that you look carefully at the entry requirements for courses at different universities though.

## AS Music Technology

AS Music Technology is highly regarded as a qualification due to its combination of applied practical skills, creativity and academic rigour. It is a superb qualification for those who are interested in creating popular and contemporary music or recording and producing rather than having performance as their musical focus. Indeed, there are no performance requirements in this course. Music Technology is suitable for students who have some experience with a DAW, and Logic Pro is the software at the heart of the course.

## Enrichment Programme

The Sixth Form Enrichment programme is designed to contribute to two of our key aims: instilling a love of learning, and meaningfully preparing students for the world beyond A Levels. It is centred around a series of short courses undertaken in the Michaelmas and Lent terms of Year 12. Harnessing the expertise, interests and specialisms of our teaching staff, the diverse range of courses on offer

comprises everything from the ethics around virtual reality, to relativity, the culture of the 1960s, the psychology of the workplace, and diversity in mathematics. Crucially, the courses provide opportunities for students to push themselves intellectually, to take their interest in a particular subject deeper, or to think in cross-disciplinary ways. Taught in small groups, many of our Enrichment courses give students a flavour of the hard thinking and seminar-style environment of undergraduate study. Given the importance of students being able to concretely demonstrate their skills, knowledge and passion for their chosen subject(s) in their university applications, all courses also work towards meaningful outcome activities that showcase participants’ learning.



# Results

A\*-B Grades  
2022– 2024

92%  
2022

94%  
2023

91%  
2024

A Level  
Results  
2025

68%  
A\*-A

92%  
A\*-B

100%

A\*-B

Art, Design & Technology, Drama, English, French, Geology, German, Music, Philosophy & Theology and Spanish.

## University Destinations

Leading Russell Group universities including Oxbridge, plus specialist arts colleges, music conservatories and overseas universities.

## Top Degree Courses

Architecture, Drama, Engineering, Geography, History, Law, Medicine, Natural Sciences, Politics, Psychology.

Summer 2025

# Student support

The Sixth Form is an important time of transition as students prepare for university and life beyond Eltham College. We believe that students will only achieve their potential if they feel happy and supported, so we have established a comprehensive pastoral care programme that combines specialist oversight with personal attention.

The first point of support for Sixth Form students is their Form Tutor, who is responsible for a group of around 14 Upper and Lower Sixth students. Form Tutors are on hand to deal with any issues as they arise and either provide help themselves or put students in touch with further sources of support. Each year group is overseen by a Head of Year who works with students throughout their time in the Sixth Form.

In addition to Form Tutors, Heads of Year, and the Head of Sixth Form, the wider pastoral team includes our school nurses, the school Chaplain, the Head of Wellbeing, our school counsellors, our Learning Support department, and our safeguarding leads. These members of staff are dedicated to looking after the emotional, spiritual and pastoral needs of all our students and are on hand as matter may arise, providing care and

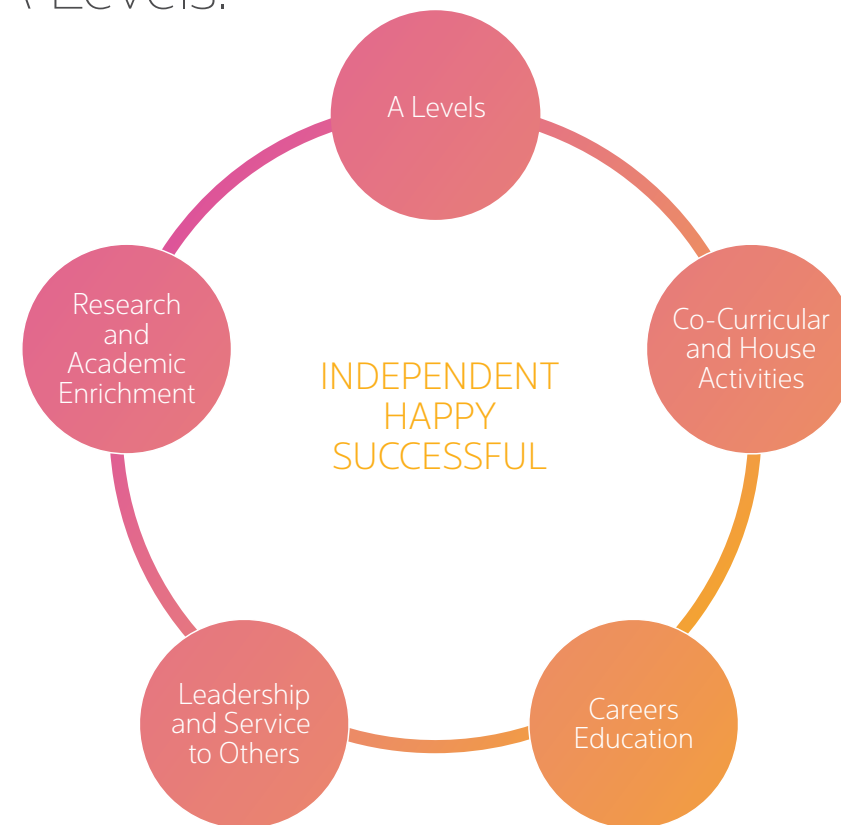
ongoing support as our students mature and develop into outstanding young people.

We also provide opportunities for students to take on roles where they mentor and support each other. As a result, students who join us for the Sixth Form typically find their feet quickly, supported by new friends, their Form Tutor, and the pastoral team.



# Student life

Sixth Form life at Eltham College is distinctive for its richness and variety. It goes far beyond studying A Levels.



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To enhance their A Level studies, students take part in field trips, research visits, cultural experiences and exchanges. For example, linguists travel to France, Spain, Germany and China; physicists visit CERN; and politics students explore institutions such as the High Court and Parliament. Students can also engage in a wide range of drama, music, sport and art, as well as academic enrichment courses spanning topics from French cinema to gene technology.

Sixth Form students also add valuable volunteering experience to their CVs through our community service programme. This may include supporting local primary schools, where students help younger pupils develop key skills in reading and mathematics.

Further afield, students have contributed to projects such as building safe water systems in Uganda for the International Needs charity.

In parallel, students can develop their leadership skills by setting up a club, directing a play, leading an ensemble or running house activities. We also run a thriving Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme.

The hub of Sixth Form life at Eltham College is the David Robins Sixth Form Centre, located in the award-winning Turberville building. This provides a spacious social area and café for students to relax, alongside the Sixth Form Study Centre, which offers a dedicated environment for focused independent study. Careers provision is based in the Science Block.



# Careers guidance and university preparation



The majority of our students go on to higher education, many to Oxbridge or Russell Group universities, as well as to US and other global elite educational institutions. There is also an increasing interest in Higher and Degree Apprenticeships.

## Career learning and excellence programmes

Our Career Learning Programme is designed to prepare students for the world beyond Eltham College. It develops important career management skills, including a positive and resilient mindset, as well as the ability to make informed decisions and network effectively. Through engagement with universities, apprenticeship providers and employers, students are empowered to build their own knowledge about careers, while gaining a better understanding of themselves. An important aspect of the programme is a period of meaningful work experience during the Summer Term in Lower Sixth. Students can source a suitable placement themselves or take advantage of the many opportunities provided by the school.

The Excellence Programme provides a structured range of activities designed to challenge and support our most able students on their journey towards an application to Oxford, Cambridge and

other elite institutions. From university visits and conferences, to workshops, admissions test practice and interview preparation, students benefit from high levels of advice and guidance every step of the way.

## Alumni engagement and mentoring

The Elthamians Network is an invaluable resource, providing the Sixth Form with access to hundreds of alumni who have offered their time and expertise to help students achieve their future ambitions. This help could be in relation to advice about a particular university or degree course, suggested further reading for an Oxbridge application, feedback on a CV, the offer of work experience, or acting as a mentor. However our students choose to engage with the network, it is a unique tool that will serve them well throughout their career.

# Fees 2026/27

All fees and sundry charges are payable by Direct Debit with payment falling due on the first day of each term; in September, January and April. Alternatively, parents can opt to pay tuition fees and sundries in monthly repayments through School Fee Plan. The level of fees is reviewed each year in March.

**£2,500**

Commitment payment is payable when you accept a place at Eltham College

## Term Fees

Fees are effective from Sept 2026 and are inclusive of VAT >>

**£10,389**

Sixth Form fees per term

**£8,526**

Core fees

**£1,705**

20% VAT paid to Government

**£158**

Books etc

## Extras

>>

**£7.56** Isle of Dogs

**£6.86** All other routes

Single fare for School Coach per day

**£2,511.22** Isle of Dogs

**£2,276.66** All other routes

Return journey for School Coach per term

**£435**

Lunch per term

**£26.80**

Per lesson for a 30 minute individual music lesson

**£26.80**

LAMDA Solo

**£20.30**

LAMDA Duo

**£14.30**

LAMDA Group

Find Eltham College fees online at

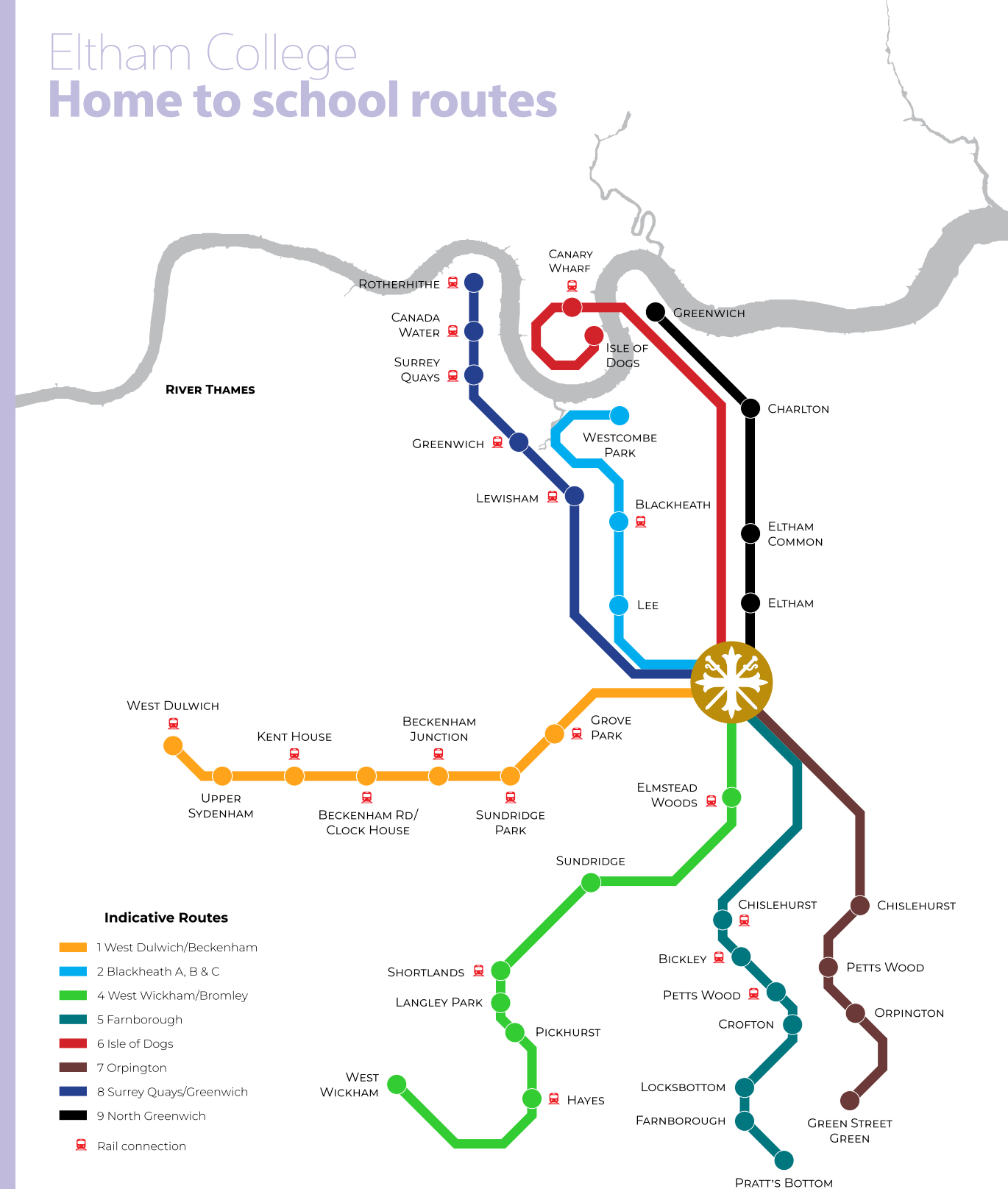
[eltham-college.org.uk/admissions/fees](https://eltham-college.org.uk/admissions/fees)

We offer a comprehensive school coach service, including a late service for most passengers. Coaches arrive at school between 08.10–08.20 approximately and return journeys start at 16.05 from the College. The transport map is indicative of the coach routes supplied by Eltham College, which may be varied due to the location of the students using it. For detailed information about school coach pick up times please see

[www.eltham-college.org.uk/parent-portal/transport-services](http://www.eltham-college.org.uk/parent-portal/transport-services)

# Transport

## Eltham College Home to school routes



This map is intended as a guide only and does not include every stop. For exact stop information, please view the timetables.

 **“London Independent Secondary School  
of the Year 2024”** *The Sunday Times*

If you have any questions with regards to the College or the application process, please contact:

**Admissions**

Eltham College  
Grove Park Road  
Mottingham  
London  
SE9 4QF

**020 8857 1455**  
**[admissions@eltham-college.org.uk](mailto:admissions@eltham-college.org.uk)**

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ELTHAM  
COLLEGE