

SIXTH FORM LIFE IS... SPORTY



CASE STUDY JAMIE BARDEN

For my A Levels I studied History (A*), Politics (A) and Economics (B). I will be starting Nottingham University in September to study Law. Currently I am on a gap year playing for England 7s and living in Twickenham. I made my debut in Vegas in February and have been fortunate enough to play five World Series events this year, including playing at the London 7s in Twickenham stadium and being captain for the Paris leg.

At Cranleigh I was part of the rugby XV, football and athletics teams. I played hockey for three years, was deputy house captain in Cubitt, joined the CCF and played for Harlequins Academy U18s.

Although I haven't gone to university yet, I have been living by myself this year and have survived! This is, I feel, largely due to freedom and responsibility that Cranleigh has given me. Cranleigh is a wonderful school, with a special ethos and atmosphere. It is something that is very hard to describe, but the hardworking, fun atmosphere is something that I miss and treasure.



SIXTH FORM LIFE IS... CREATIVE

Music is right at the heart of Cranleigh and playing in ensembles or singing in choirs is one of the best ways to participate in community life. Cranleigh celebrates all genres and offers many opportunities to perform, as well as chances to enjoy watching and supporting other musicians, or taking a leadership role in groups and events.

Drama offers an amazing way to get involved in something special, whether studying for A Level, writing and performing an EPQ, taking a part in one of our major plays or musicals, or writing and directing a house play. If you're more comfortable behind the stage you can learn production and Theatre Tech with our Theatre Manager.

Our Art studios are inspiring spaces to develop techniques in painting, sculpture, print-making and lens-based art, at A Level or EPQ.

MUSIC

Music in the Sixth Form at Cranleigh is vibrant and challenging. We celebrate and encourage excellence in performance regardless of genre, and foster a spirit of mutual appreciation, support and endeavour. Talent is celebrated, but enthusiastic participation is equally valued.

The core skills of listening, appraising and musical analysis are developed for those studying Music at A Level, alongside a bespoke programme of individual tuition and solo and ensemble performance. Solo performance opportunities are many and varied, and performance skills are taught in dedicated weekly sessions. For the most able there are concerto opportunities with our resident professional orchestra, but for the majority an extensive programme of Performance Workshops, Lunchtime Concerts and Evening Recitals both in School and in the wider community offer the chance to showcase their talents, and to appreciate and enjoy music of all styles. We aim to empower pupils with skills and musical appreciation for life.





DRAMA

At A Level, Drama students have the ability to explore and work independently, creating their own works with our talented in-house team. We're supported at Cranleigh in our aim to put on challenging, meaningful plays that confront the big issues faced by students today and our productions are always exciting and contemporary.

Students have the opportunity to perform in as near to West End quality as school drama can be, and there are lots of opportunities for behind the scenes involvement too. Theatre Tech is really popular and productions are actually led and managed by Sixth Form students. We have a flexible environment that can be used for all kinds of traditional and immersive productions, and amazing facilities including a dedicated smaller theatre and green-screen room.

CASE STUDY HONOR REID

Cranleigh teachers are extremely good at guiding you individually to make the right subject choices and at advising you on which specific ones will be the best and most appealing for you. For A Levels I take Drama, English and am doing two EPQs. The first was a dissertation on 'Is a Director able to produce a high-quality musical production with inexperienced pupils?'. In order to answer this question, I worked as Assistant Director on the *High School Musical* we staged with the juniors.

Outside of lessons, I've enjoyed getting involved in all the different aspects of performing, from plays to singing in the various concerts — lunchtime concerts, Cranleigh Live, Roc Soc, House Music Evenings and Open Mic Nights. I plan to attend a Music or Performing Arts school, as I'd like to become a professional singer.





CASE STUDY JOSHUA ELLIOT

My A Levels are Art, Business and English. I plan to go to Oxford Brookes to study Fine Art, having had an unconditional offer. I have been involved in all sorts of co-curricular activities such as kayaking, rugby, golf as well as being a long-distance running participant. Cranleigh helped massively in my transition between GCSEs and A-Levels. They helped me to see where my skills lay and encouraged me to pursue subjects they thought I would thrive in.





“CRANLEIGH HELPED ME MASSIVELY, WITH INSIGHTFUL AND KNOWLEDGEABLE TEACHERS PREPARING ME FOR THE OXBRIDGE INTERVIEW PROCESS COMBINING WITH THE EXCELLENT PASTORAL CARE IN HOUSE TO PROVIDE A FULFILLING COUPLE OF YEARS AT CRANLEIGH.”
TOM WATES, OC, OXFORD UNIVERSITY

SIXTH FORM LIFE IS... SUPPORTIVE

Sixth Form offers the perfect transition between school and university, fostering the independence that young people need as they move on to the next stage of their lives.

The boarding model is a gentle one in which many boarders will go home on Saturday after matches, before returning on Sunday evening. Parental involvement is still strongly encouraged and parents feel actively involved in the community, something that's really important to us at Cranleigh.

One of the most impressive things about Cranleighans is that they often shine in multiple areas of school life. We deliberately do not timetable activities against one another, so pupils are not pigeonholed as academic, sporty, or musical – they can often be all of these things, and even

if they are not superstars in any of these areas, they can still be involved in them, simply because they enjoy taking part. The length of the day means that activities often take place well into the evening and this enables boarders, in particular, to make the most of all that is on offer, and to see how far they can push themselves in those endeavours. So many Cranleighans have found something that has become a life-long passion, after experiencing that activity for the first time at school.

Highlights of boarding as listed by our Sixth Formers include: better relationships with their parents; quality family time at weekends; the value of being part of a community and of learning the importance of routines and structure; the chances to develop leadership skills; and the fact that they

make friends for life. One particularly insightful observation was that as part of a community bigger than themselves, they had to face problems head on, as they couldn't run away, and that this taught them so much about navigating difficult situations.

In a world that increasingly values soft skills alongside academic achievement, this list would suggest that pupils who have boarded at Cranleigh, leave school fully equipped to take on any of the challenges that will face them in the workplace and beyond, and that is probably the most important gift we can bestow on any child as they enter adulthood.

DR ANDREA SAXEL, DEPUTY HEAD (PASTORAL)

SIXTH FORM LIFE IS ... SOCIABLE



Everyone at Cranleigh is part of something special, in the boarding house, with our paired houses, in sports teams, classes and societies. There are always events to watch and everyone loves cheering on friends in house competitions. Butts is our Sixth Form social space for movie nights and catch-ups and there are groups like Cranleigh Alliance and Cranleigh Being that bring together students in an inclusive and supportive environment.

All of the majority and minority sports have a House competition during the year for juniors and seniors and as far as possible the houses compete together as one affiliated house boy/girl team. This enhances the strong affiliated house bonds as well as the overall co-educational culture of Cranleigh sport. The house matches always generate tremendous house spirit and passionate support and are played in a fun but also competitive manner!



DEBATING AT CRANLEIGH SCHOOL

The annual house debating competitions are fiercely contested, with boys' and girls' houses combining to go head-to-head in the Oxford Union debate format. There's also an annual competition 'Dangerous Minds'. This is a public speaking contest, based on the Ted Talk format, where contestants have eight minutes to persuade the audience and judges of their ideas for changing the world. Speeches from finalists this year included: 'Why we should abolish public schools', 'How to end the culture of toxic masculinity' and 'a plan to end all nationalities'. Keen debaters also have the chance to attend the Gordon's School festival of public speaking.



CASE STUDY

ELLA JOB

I am studying four A Level subjects: Chemistry, Biology, Maths and Latin.

I am hoping to go to Oxford University or UCL to study medicine, as I would love to become a surgeon; however, I also find the idea of neurological research incredibly interesting. Therefore, I am looking to attend Universities with medical courses that are not solely focused on practical skills.

I joined Cranleigh when I was 7, during the Lent term of the very first year at Cranleigh Prep School, over the road; however, over my time at Cranleigh I have come to realise that it does not matter how long you have been at the school, it feels as if everyone has been a part of the community since the very first day.

Although a lot of the time my main focus

is my academic work, I receive a lot of support to be able to manage my time to become heavily involved in other areas of school life. I have thoroughly enjoyed playing sport, ranging from National Fives competitions, to indoor cricket but my favourite sport at Cranleigh is hockey.

When I began my A levels I did find the work load to be quite surprising, but I was

able to learn to manage my time with the help of my tutor, and the step up in work is helped by the ability to attend frequent clinics, have one on one tutor sessions with a teacher or through various websites and library resources that the school has to offer.



CASE STUDY JORDAN CORBETT

My A Level subjects were Geography, Economics and Maths, where I received A*, A* and D1 respectively.

I also did an EPQ and Short Course Further Maths, where I received an A* and an M1 respectively. I am going to Cambridge University to study Geography. I've spent the last year working as a Gap Student at Cranleigh Abu Dhabi and I want to spend the next year doing a combination of working and travelling.

At Cranleigh I took part in a lot of house events for Loveday and played in rugby, hockey, football and cricket teams. I tried to get involved in as much as possible but on reflection I would have loved to have got involved in even more co-curricular activities. Cranleigh made me more confident in my abilities, as a person, as well as giving me confidence to express my own opinions and stand my own ground when appropriate.