



# The Cornerstone Academy

The best in everyone™

Part of United Learning

10<sup>th</sup> January 2025

Dear Parents/Carers

## Grammar Stream 2025

We are writing to invite current Year 6 children to apply for The Cornerstone Academy Grammar Stream for entry in September 2025 into the Class of 2030.

Grammar Stream is a group of approximately 30 students, who are academically highly able. They are taught a more challenging and in-depth curriculum from Year 7 onwards, as well as having access to a programme of extracurricular opportunities that will put them on the path to the world's best universities.

Our aims:

- To ensure that high-attaining students in primary school make excellent academic progress in secondary school
- To develop our students' culture and character to stand out from their peers
- To inspire our students to enrich the world

We expect all our Grammar Stream students to leave with the highest grades at GCSE across the board. In addition to leaving with excellent grades, we want them to become fully rounded and fulfilled individuals, achieving mastery and success on the sports field, in the dance studios, the theatre, the concert hall, or whichever discipline they aspire to. We work with students to perform at the highest level in their chosen fields, inspiring them to become future leaders and innovators.

At each assessment point (mid-year and end of year), there will be opportunities to enter or leave the Grammar Stream. We see this flexibility as positive for all our students. For children who begin Year 7 in the Grammar Stream, their situations may change, such that it is no longer the best option for them. Similarly, children who were not ready for the rigour of the Grammar Stream at age 11, or perhaps for reasons beyond their control were not in a position to perform well, may, later on, become ready for it – often, we have found that some students discover their 'true' academic ability, as well as their intellectual passions and aspirations, later in their school career.

Our Grammar Stream students have attended workshops with the University of Southampton; created their own political parties with Dorset Council; visited the University of Oxford; accessed Sparx Reader Gold; taken weekly Spanish classes, Maths sessions with Bournemouth University, and Latin classes; completed the NaNoWriMo challenge, alongside many more activities and opportunities. This stimulating and varied programme is growing year on year.

We invite you to apply for your child to take the Grammar Stream entrance exams on the morning of **Saturday, 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2025**, by completing this form: <https://forms.office.com/e/eCwgVw3WS9>. The assessment is based on the NGRT (a standardisation test which measures reading skills) and MidYis testing (which measures aptitude, potential and progress). Please note our closing date for testing applications: **Wednesday, 19<sup>th</sup> March 2025**.

Additionally, we warmly invite you to attend one of our Coffee and Q&A Tours; please book for **Thursday, 30<sup>th</sup> January** or **Friday, 14<sup>th</sup> March** via our school office. After an academy tour, you will meet both myself and our Principal, Mr Phillips, for a Q&A about Grammar Stream and life at TCA. If you would like to get in touch sooner, please do not hesitate to contact me: [Hinks-SleepV@cornerstoneacademy.org.uk](mailto:Hinks-SleepV@cornerstoneacademy.org.uk).

Yours faithfully

Victoria Hinks-Sleep  
Grammar Stream Coordinator

Principal: Mr C Phillips BSc (Hons)

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