



# EUROPEAN PEERS

2021



## EUROPEAN PEER GUIDE

**Here at Cardiff Sixth Form we are very proud of our students from Europe who have all excelled under the College's care and guidance.**

This booklet highlights some of our excellent European pupils and gives some useful statistics and academic information showing why Cardiff Sixth Form College is the top school in the UK.



### **VENTSISLAV BICHAKOV**

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**Former School:**

American College of Sofia

**Subjects studied at A-level:**

Maths, Economics, Government & Politics and History

**Grades at A-level:**

A A A B

**University:**

University of Bath – Economics

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“I loved the Politics classes on a Friday from 5-8pm in my first year at Cardiff. The teachers were always there to help me with my subjects no matter if it was 8am before school or 6pm after school. I loved Economics Club and taking a trip to Krakow with the College was a great experience. Meeting people from different countries and getting familiar with different cultures is something I will take away from my time at the College.”



### **DARIIA PARKHOMENKO**

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**Former School:**

CATS College

**Subjects studied at A-level:**

Biology, Mathematics, Physics

**Grades at A-level:**

A\* A\* A\*

**University of choice:**

University College London – Human Sciences

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“Meeting so many different people at the College has to be my most valued memory. There are people from all over the world here and I have learnt a great deal from them as well as forming many great memories.

The careers team have been particularly helpful in both my AS and A2 year. They helped me redraft my personal statement numerous times until it was of the highest standard and they also organised a wide range of activities to help boost our UCAS applications. For example, they organised lectures from subject experts such as that by Patrick Minford (former advisor to Margaret Thatcher) on Brexit as well as intensive programs designed specifically for applications to top universities such as Oxford and Cambridge.”



# ACADEMIC STATISTICS AND CASE STUDIES 2021

For the past 17 years, Cardiff Sixth Form College students have enjoyed success at the G5 universities – Oxford, Cambridge, Imperial, London School of Economics and University College London - as well as other leading universities in the UK and around the world. Each year our European students gain coveted places to study subjects such as medicine, law and architecture at leading UK and US universities.

Around 160 students join Cardiff each year to complete their GCSE and A Levels before progressing onto university. Over 40 nationalities are represented and the international flavour of the College is highly regarded. What the students have in common is that they are all intelligent, ambitious and career-driven and are looking for the top quality teaching and highly successful super curricular and careers programmes run by the top school in the UK.

## 2021 saw another outstanding year with our results showing

98% of students gaining A\*-A grades

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100% gaining A\*-B grades

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100% gaining A\*-C grades

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86% students gaining three A\*s or more

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100% gaining AAB in facilitating subjects



## MINH-ANH BACH

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### Former School:

Polegiul National Spântul Sava

### Subjects studied at A-level:

Mathematics, Chemistry, Physics, Biology

### Grades at A-level:

A\* A A A\*

### University of choice:

University of St Andrews – Medicine

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“My most memorable moment in the College has been running the Medical Ethics Club. It has been a completely eye-opening experience due to the vitally important decisions that have to be made in medical careers. It also developed my public speaking skills dramatically and was great fun to meet other passionate medicine applicants!

The teachers at the College have been simply phenomenal. Not only do they provide superb teaching for the A-Level syllabus, but they also helped me significantly in drafting my personal statement for university. They are very well acquainted with the subjects that they teach and any relevant examinations for their subject which means that their teaching focuses directly on the specific content that

is needed to pass the exam. I found this particularly helpful in Biology and Chemistry where there is a large amount of information to learn.

Our Biology trip to Scotland was a great adventure! During the day we would enrich ourselves with knowledge of ecosystems and during the evenings we would stroll around and enjoy the view of the beach. The trip struck the perfect balance between furthering our academic studies whilst also having fun with friends.”

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## SUPER CURRICULAR AND CAREERS PROGRAMME

- 100% of students take part in work placement and volunteering opportunities
- International work experience in India, Tanzania, Malaysia and Europe
- Academic societies – Healthcare, Engineering, Natural Sciences, Business, Economics and Finance, Law, Architecture and Art
- Weekly critical thinking lessons
- Award opportunities
- Personal development programme
- Varied extracurricular programme of sports and cultural activities

# OXBRIDGE SUCCESS

Cardiff students are extremely successful at gaining places at Oxford and Cambridge. The College runs specific courses for applicants with extra coaching for university entrance exams, interview coaching and weekly critical thinking classes.

In addition, as part of Dukes Education which runs Oxbridge Applications, Cardiff students receive tutorials and presentations as well as advice from current Oxbridge students studying the subjects they are applying for.

## SUBJECTS STUDIED AT OXBRIDGE IN 2021

Law

Medicine

Chemical Engineering

Economics

Natural Sciences

Mathematics

5%

of Cardiff students  
gained Oxbridge  
places in 2021





# UNIVERSITY PROGRESSION

The top five destinations for students from Cardiff Sixth Form College are the G5 universities: Oxford, Cambridge, LSE, UCL and Imperial.

Admissions tutors from leading universities are invited to visit Cardiff on a regular basis to advise students on making the right degree choice and how to prepare an effective personal statement.

### COMPLETE UNIVERSITY GUIDE 2021

1. Cambridge
2. Oxford
3. St Andrews
4. London School of Economics
5. Imperial College
6. Loughborough
7. Durham
8. Lancaster
9. Bath
10. University College London

*(Ranked on entry standards, student satisfaction, research quality and graduate prospects).*

### GUARDIAN UNIVERSITY RANKINGS 2021

1. Oxford
2. St Andrews
3. Cambridge
4. Durham
5. London School of Economics
6. Bath
7. Loughborough
8. Warwick
9. Imperial College
10. Lancaster

*(Student focused and ranked by student benefit, student ratings by university, subject and job prospects).*





## ECE HASDEMIR

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**Former School:** Millfield School

**Subjects studied at A-level:**

Economics, English Literature, Mathematics, Psychology

**Grades at A-level:**

A\* A\* A\* A\*

**University:**

Columbia University – Economics

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“Discovering my passions over my AS year in Cardiff Sixth Form College, I couldn’t have been more delighted to be made prefect in my final year. I always felt like all my ideas were listened to and all the attention I put into the school reciprocated. As such, being able to represent my cohort has been one of my proudest achievements. From the safety videos we created to the early morning meetings we had, I can honestly say the challenges we faced as a prefect team have been as exciting as the triumphs.

My first impression of this school was definitely not that it had a heavily established musical theatre club! However, first impressions can be deceiving; one day into Cardiff Sixth Form College and people will start asking you whether you will audition for the upcoming show. Glee has been an amazing opportunity to do something completely different after a long day of school. At times the singing and dancing

abilities of your peers may scare you, but there is a place for everyone in Glee (even if you may not be the most theatrically talented). Take it from me, someone who played the \*absolutely\* crucial role of Silly Girl #2 in Beauty and the Beast (!)

While I had always been attracted to the idea of going to university in the US, the top universities always seemed “too tough to crack”. I will never be able to thank the Careers team and especially Miss Bendle enough for her help in submitting my applications to the US. Not only did she support me through the technical elements, but also her emotional support has been pivotal in keeping me sane through the undeniably anxious months spent waiting for my university decisions! From being available almost all the time to their calming approach to applications, I cannot imagine going through this process with another team.”

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## TOP SUBJECT CHOICES IN 2021

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students studying  
Medicine,  
Veterinary Medicine  
and Dentistry

41

students studying  
Engineering, Maths,  
Computer Science,  
and Architecture

25

students studying  
Economics,  
Business, Finance  
and Management

11

students  
studying  
Law

14

students  
studying  
Natural Sciences



## MARGARITA SOLODOUNIKOFF

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### Former School:

English International College

### Subjects studied at A-level:

Biology, Chemistry, Maths

### Grades at A-level:

A A A\*

### University of choice:

Imperial College London – Medical  
Biosciences with Management

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“My most memorable moments from the College have been all of the fun trips and events I have been on with friends. Whether it is a big event like the Eisteddfod or if it is just a small gathering in the accommodation block for a birthday, the people at the College are so fun to be around.

The staff at the College have been so helpful in helping me pursue my academic goals. There are drop in slots at regular intervals throughout the day if you need extra support with a particular topic. These helped me so much with difficult subjects like Chemistry where there is a lot of complex information to understand. The careers department were also brilliant in helping me prepare my UCAS application. They ran a two week

UCAS program where we had one-to-one support in writing personal statements, practicing interview technique and preparing for university entrance exams.

The Medical Ethics club at the College really helped me explore medicine beyond the content taught at A-Level in Biology. Discussing current medical affairs with others who were also fascinated by medicine really helped me to discover new interests and be challenged on my own opinions. This really helped prepare me for medicine interviews at top universities.”









# UNIVERSITY DESTINATIONS BY DEGREE SUBJECT 2021

(e.g. in alphabetical order A)

**Cardiff University** – Medicine, Psychology with Professional Placement

**Chinese University of Hong Kong** – Medicine

**City, University of London** – Finance with Actuarial Science

**Columbia University** – Economics

**Durham University** – Computer Science, Business and Management, Law

**Griffith University** – Medicine

**Imperial College London** – Biochemistry, Materials Science and Engineering, Electrical and Electronic Engineering, Physics with Theoretical Physics, Mechanical Engineering, Electronic and Information Engineering, Computing, Aeronautical Engineering

**King's College London** – Law, Economics, Economics and Management, Accounting and Finance, Philosophy, Politics and Economics, Medicine, Mathematics with Management and Finance

**Lancaster University** – Electronic and Electrical Engineering

**London School of Economics and Political Science** – Economics, Finance, Politics and History, Law, Accounting and Finance, Management

**Mahidol University** – Medicine

**New York University** – Economics

**Queen Mary University of London** – Medicine, Business Management

**Queen's University Belfast** – Medicine

**St George's, University of London** – Medicine

**University College Dublin** – Medicine

**University College London** – Arts and Sciences, Economics, Applied Medical Sciences, Medical Sciences and Engineering, Mathematics, Computer Science, Law, Medicine, Biochemistry, Biomedical Sciences, Economics and Geography, Neuroscience, Comparative Literature, Engineering

(Chemical), Engineering (Electronic and Electrical), Engineering (Biomedical), Mathematics with Economics, Statistics, Economics and Finance, Engineering (Mechanical with Business Finance)

**University of Aberdeen** – Medicine

**University of Birmingham** – Medicine, Chemical Engineering

**University of Bristol** – Medicine, Aerospace Engineering, Mechanical Engineering

**University of California, Berkeley** – Civil Engineering

**University of Cambridge** – Chemical Engineering (via Natural Sciences), Economics, Mathematics

**University of Central Lancashire** – Medicine

**University of East Anglia** – Biomedicine

**University of Exeter** – Psychology

**University of Glasgow** – Aeronautical Engineering

**University of Hong Kong** – Medicine, Science, Law, International Business and Global Management, Dental Surgery, International Business and Global Management

**University of Manchester** – Mechanical Engineering, Materials Science and Engineering, Medicine, Civil Engineering

**University of Nottingham** – Electrical and Electronic Engineering

**University of Oxford** – Philosophy, Politics and Economics, Law, Medicine

**University of Queensland** – Physiotherapy

**University of Sheffield** – Medicine, Aerospace Engineering (Private Pilot Instruction), Architecture

**University of St Andrews** – Medicine, English

**University of Warwick** – Computer Science, Modern Languages and Economics, Economics, Psychology

## DAVID SUAREZ GARCIA

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**Former School:** El Plantio International School of Valencia

**Subjects studied at A-level:**

Biology, Chemistry, Mathematics, Physics

**Grades at A-level:**

A\* A\* A\* A\*

**University:**

University of Oxford – Medicine

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“I started Cardiff Sixth Form College as a one-year GCSE student after attending the academic summer school programme. My three years at Cardiff have been the best of my life and Cardiff Sixth Form College has given me the opportunity to discover a range of subjects as well as encouraging me to look into different areas of study via workshops, lectures etc. The careers department and my Head of House helped me to discover my true passion and supported me when I changed my career choice from pure maths to medicine, I am truly grateful and now am studying medicine at University of Oxford.

My favourite memories from life at Cardiff will be the time spent with friends. I've met people from all over the world and some of the friendships I have made over the past three years, with students and staff, I am sure will last a lifetime. There are always activities and events for us to take part in and I was a member of the medical ethics club, NASA club and made good use out of the gym membership offered by the school.”

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## PROGRESSION BY DISCIPLINE

13% Law, Humanities and Social Sciences

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41% Healthcare (Med, Dent, Vet, Bio Sciences)

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29% STEM (Computer Science, Mathematics, Engineering and Architecture)

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18% Business, Finance and Economics

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75% of Cardiff students go onto Russell Group Universities

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89% of Cardiff students go onto QS Top 100

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42% go onto G5 Universities

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- Average class size - 7 Students
- A Level students receive more than 25 hours of tuition per subject per week
- One and two year GCSE and two year A-Level courses for students typically aged 14-19 years
- High quality boarding options of single en-suite cluster rooms and apartments





CARDIFF  
SIXTH FORM  
COLLEGE

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For further information contact  
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