



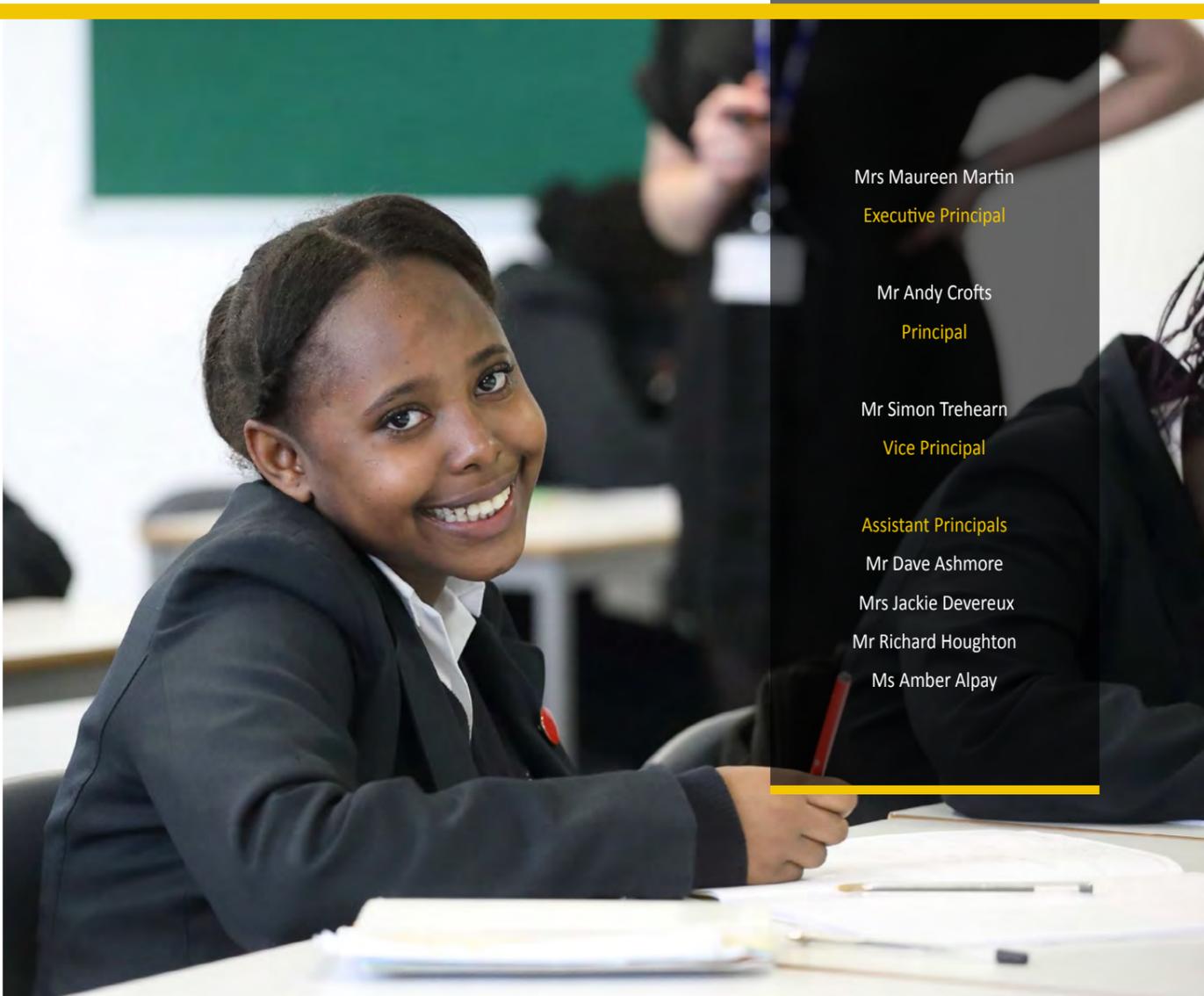
QUEST

A COLOMA ACADEMY

LEARNING CHANGES LIVES



www.thequestacademy.org.uk



Mrs Maureen Martin
Executive Principal

Mr Andy Crofts
Principal

Mr Simon Trehearn
Vice Principal

Assistant Principals

Mr Dave Ashmore

Mrs Jackie Devereux

Mr Richard Houghton

Ms Amber Alpay

ETHOS

Strong moral values underpin the ethos of The Quest Academy - Coloma Trust. We welcome students from a wide range of cultural and faith (or non-faith) backgrounds and expect all families to value and support the moral values at the heart of all aspects of life at The Quest Academy.

We foster understanding, tolerance and mutual respect whilst producing confident, capable and respectful young people. At all times, we aim to create an environment that nurtures and develops:

INTEGRITY	TOLERANCE	GENEROSITY
COMPASSION	KINDNESS	A LIFE-LONG LOVE OF LEARNING
RESPECT	COURAGE	

These values make The Quest Academy a positive and inclusive community in which all students feel safe, valued and part of the family.

BEHAVIOUR

The Quest Academy expects the highest standards of student behaviour. A clear behaviour policy stresses the importance of students acting with maturity and consideration to other members of the school and the wider community.

We provide a secure, happy and harmonious learning environment with excellent teaching. It is the students' responsibility to be well-presented, hard-working and courteous at all times. It is the parents' or carers' responsibility to help children succeed by supporting the behaviour policy and ethos of The Quest Academy.

Our staff work with students to help them understand and appreciate the importance of being considerate to others and behaving in a responsible way. Our behaviour policy embodies our ethos and moral values and emphasises their relevance to every day relationships and scenarios.

We expect our students to wear their uniform with pride, recognising that at all times they are ambassadors of The Quest Academy.



“The education of your child is as important to us as it is to you and we are committed to ensuring that each student succeeds academically and personally.”

Andy Crofts, Principal

**Mrs Maureen Martin,
Executive Principal**

A WARM WELCOME TO THE QUEST ACADEMY

Our motto, 'Learning Changes Lives', reflects our belief in the importance of our work. We are committed to making sure that every student makes outstanding progress. We have high expectations of every student, offer the best quality teaching and insist on the highest standards of behaviour and respect.

The Quest is a positive, rich and innovative learning environment where every student can achieve excellence in all that they do, in the classroom and beyond it.

We offer a wide range of enrichment activities to extend learning in a range of contexts and promote leadership, teamwork, reflection, confidence and high self-esteem.

This prospectus gives you a brief insight into our ethos and our work. Further information can be found on our website: www.thequestacademy.org.uk

I look forward to welcoming your daughter or son to The Quest Academy.

Mr Andy Crofts, Principal

THE SPONSORS

Our strength comes from strong partnerships: with our parents, the community we serve and the close links that we have with Coloma Trust and Coloma Convent Girls' School. Together we have extensive experience and expertise.

The Coloma Trust, through the R.C. Religious Congregation of the Daughters of Mary and Joseph, has been providing education in England for over 147 years. Coloma has been judged 'Outstanding' in all four Ofsted inspections. Mrs Martin, the Executive Principal of The Quest Academy has been Headteacher of Coloma since 1996. Coloma consistently has had one of the highest GCSE and A level exam success rates of all comprehensive schools in the country.



“ Students, including those in the sixth form, typically have positive attitudes to learning and, increasingly, enjoy their education. ”

Ofsted, 2015

LEARNING AT THE QUEST ACADEMY

At The Quest Academy, we combine our passion for success with high expectations of our students, who will leave well equipped to lead a fulfilling and happy life.

Students are inspired and helped to focus on personal strengths and make the most of their academic learning. Pupils benefit from the highest quality teaching, mentoring and support to raise aspiration, develop ambition and improve their attainment.

The Quest Academy is for boys and girls aged 11-18. Students study a broad range of subjects with a very strong emphasis on English, Mathematics and Science, which take up half of all curriculum time. We are very ambitious for all our students. Our staff are committed to making sure that all students travel as far as they can in their learning, gaining the skills and qualifications to succeed in further and higher education, at work and in their personal lives.

Students will find learning at The Quest Academy exciting, challenging and enjoyable. The curriculum is matched to each student so they are motivated and inspired to succeed. Where appropriate, subjects are taught in single-sex classes.

At The Quest Academy, every student has rich and varied opportunities to discover and develop their talents through the curriculum and through an imaginative and varied programme of enrichment activities.

The Quest has an extended day which provides opportunities for help with learning and a time in which students will complete most of their homework before going home. We offer extensive enrichment and extra-curricular opportunities whilst ensuring that students receive the support and guidance that they need.

We believe that times of transition, such as moving to The Quest and moving on to the next stage of a student's journey, are vitally important. We recognise and place the highest value on the importance of an effective relationship between The Quest and parents, staff and pupils.



The Quest Academy is in the top 20% of schools nationally for 'Value Added' at GCSE.

The excellent resources of The Quest Academy's new state-of-the-art building are available for community use. Our new, cutting-edge facilities benefit everybody. Students are actively encouraged to get involved in community initiatives.

WORKING WITH PARENTS AND THE COMMUNITY

At The Quest Academy we value and actively nurture parents' engagement with their children's education, building on the relationship that often exists between parents and primary school. We believe that your child will achieve their greatest success when staff, students and parents work together.

We will meet with you regularly to keep in touch about your child's progress. We will provide information electronically so you can keep track of your child's attendance, behaviour and achievements.

- We invite parents to 'keeping up with your children' workshops.
- We have high expectations of you in the same way that you will have high expectations of us.
- We believe that your positive contribution is the most important factor in ensuring that your child succeeds.
- The Quest Academy fosters a spirit of cooperation between students and the community.



“Consistently good and improving...a culture where success is expected from students of all abilities.”

Ofsted, 2015

ENRICHMENT PROGRAMME



The academy provides a wide-range of enrichment activities to develop personal responsibility, support healthy lifestyles and promote participation in local community projects and activities.

We focus on providing opportunities to help students discover their interests, aptitudes and talents whilst developing the characteristics necessary to lead a successful and fulfilled adult life. These include sport, music, debating, art, drama, leadership, enterprise and cultural activities.

Students are encouraged to join schemes such as The Edge and Duke of Edinburgh which are designed to support growth and development of competent and capable young people.

The Quest Academy provides leadership opportunities for all students in every year. They are encouraged to take responsibility for specific events, to act as mentors to other students and to provide support to their peers. An active Student Council is involved in all aspects of the Academy's development to understand and respond to students' suggestions. We are developing a full programme of residential educational visits and team-building activities for students to develop their leadership skills.

CARE, GUIDANCE AND SUPPORT

Success in learning is achieved when students have the care, guidance and support to focus on learning matched to their needs.

Your child will have an Individual Learning Plan and learning targets, which will be reviewed regularly by their personal tutor who will organise additional support if needed. Students in each year group have their own Achievement Co-ordinator to track their progress and to remove any barriers to learning. The Pastoral Manager works with families, students and other agencies to secure the well-being of students facing challenging circumstances.

Each student is a member of a House along with students from other year groups. House members work together to compete in sporting and other competitions, providing opportunities for students to take on new responsibilities, share experiences and offer practical support to each other.

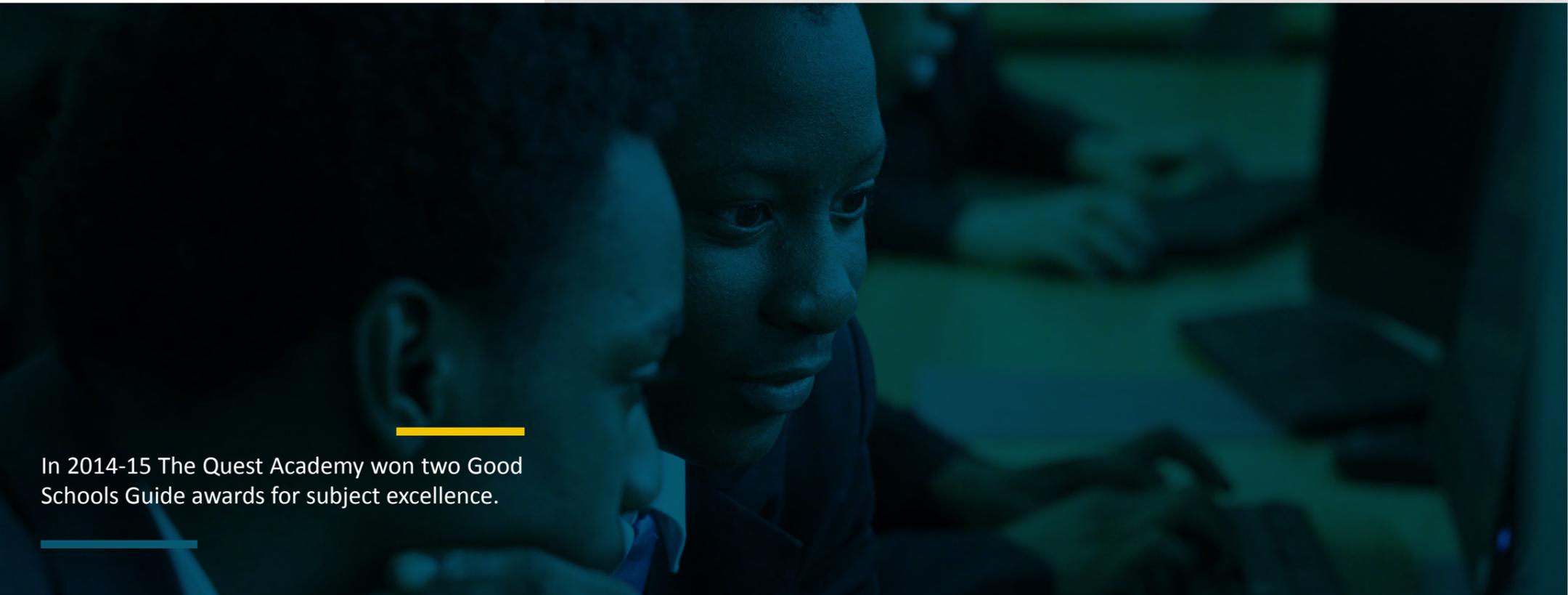
Special Educational Needs

The Quest Academy works within the framework of Croydon Local Authority policies for young people with special educational needs to offer an inclusive education for students. We make sure that every child with special needs receives the right level of support and expertise to help them catch up and keep up with other students.

Gifted & Talented Students

At The Quest Academy, every child has the opportunity to succeed through the curriculum and enrichment programme. Students who exhibit abilities significantly ahead of their year group are identified early and provided with activities, challenges and opportunities that stretch them so that they can develop their gifts and talents even further. Where appropriate, Gifted and Talented students learn in more advanced teaching groups. All students have an Individual Learning Plan matched to their needs.





In 2014-15 The Quest Academy won two Good Schools Guide awards for subject excellence.

THE LEARNING ENVIRONMENT

Since September 2014, students of The Quest Academy have had the advantage of the best educational facilities in South London.

Large learning spaces that accommodate a range of lesson formats complement traditional classrooms. Areas for smaller groups to gather and learn alongside individual learning spaces are included. A Learning Resource Centre accommodating extensive computer resources enables and encourages students to work independently. Areas for socialising and eating are spacious, safe and modern.

Central to the design of the new building are the cutting-edge ICT facilities, which play an increasingly important role in supporting learning. They offer options for learning resources to be made available beyond the school day as part of a personalised 'anywhere-anytime' approach to learning.



THE LEARNING DAY

Our students' learning is our top priority. We ensure that each and every lesson accommodates a range of learning styles and we vary the lessons according to students' needs. All lessons are carefully planned so that they are challenging and interesting.

The Academy day starts at 8:20am with curriculum-based lessons ending at 2.40pm. The school is open from 7:45am when students may have breakfast, use the Learning Resource Centre and have access to their lockers and form areas.

Students are expected to stay at The Quest after 2.40pm for one extra 50-minute enrichment lesson called 'period 7' on three days each week. This extra time allows for a broad and varied programme of activities including sports (training and competitive), design and technology projects, drama, additional exam preparation, health and well-being lessons and other possibilities ranging from animal husbandry to community projects. Supervised independent learning is included in this time enabling students to complete most of their homework assignments before leaving The Quest. Wednesdays are for competitive sport and 1:1 tutoring sessions, which each student has once a term.



FACILITIES

The new £16 million state-of-the-art building was purpose-built for students of The Quest Academy in order that everybody can reach excellence.

Facilities include a 215-capacity Sixth Form with seminar style classrooms, a dedicated Sixth Form Library and social areas. A state-of-the-art athletics track with auditorium and landscaped green space has now replaced the area formerly occupied by the old school. A large theatre-style performance hall, science labs with cutting-edge kit, dedicated music rooms and an art suite with outdoor art studio ensure that everybody's academic focus and talents are catered for.

Advanced, forward-looking technology has been installed throughout the building so that students at The Quest Academy can take full advantage of the educational opportunities now available through technology.



TRANSITIONS

We work to ensure successful transitions from primary school to The Quest Academy and the The Quest to University, further education, life and work and from childhood to adolescence and adult life. A student who is comfortable and confident in a new environment will be able to gain the most benefits from learning.

Year 7 students are housed in their own 'Learning Suite' in small teaching groups. This ensures that your child gets the best possible start to their secondary education and is able to take advantage of the wealth of academic and enrichment opportunities offered at The Quest. A range of team-building activities helps students get to know each other and make friends.

We recognise that when a student starts at The Quest Academy, there may be a degree of sadness about leaving behind old friends and familiar surroundings coupled with excitement about the new, fresh possibilities and potential for new friendships. We will ensure that new students adapt quickly and easily to the culture of The Quest so that they settle in and work on their learning.

We spend time with new students and their parents or carers to find out about interests, hopes and any challenging circumstances. We have a 'buddy' system, which helps new students feel comfortable in their new environment whilst imparting a sense of responsibility on the 'buddy'. In the Personal, Social, Health, Citizenship Education (PHSCE) area of the curriculum, students explore friendships and other areas relating to emotional health and well-being.

**Planned
organised
transitions
enable
learners to
maintain
momentum
whilst taking
on new
challenges**

QUEST6

Quest's Sixth Form, Quest6, opened in September 2012. It offers an academic curriculum including a range of A Level subjects and BTEC qualifications. Classes are taught in small seminar-style groups and each student has a personal mentor. Students of Quest6 have the opportunity to participate in enrichment activities and take positions of responsibility, equipping them for the next stage of their life, be it university or the world of work.

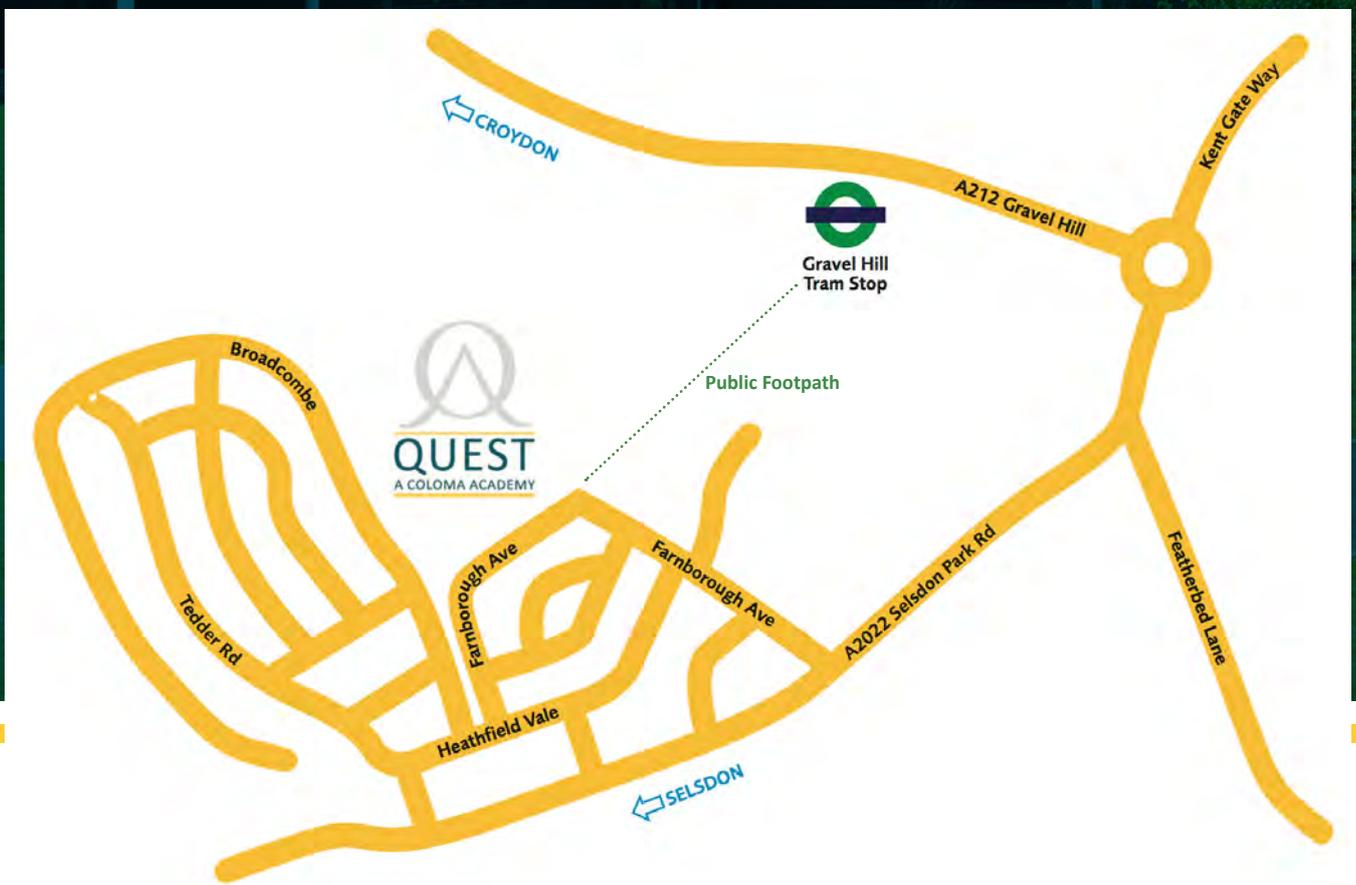
Quest6 students achieved a 100% pass rate at A-level in 2016, for the second year running, with 55% of grades A*-B and 32% A or A*. Every one of those students has now gone on to study at University. We are committed to ensuring that Quest's Sixth Form provision builds on these fantastic results and becomes the Sixth Form of choice for local students.

Further details of Quest6 are available at: www.thequestacademy.org.uk/quest6



The Quest Academy is in the top 12% of A-level providers in England for 'Value Added'. Quest6 students attained a 100% pass rate at A-level in 2016, with 32% of all grades achieved being A* or A.





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DFE No. 306/6910 Applications: To apply for a place at The Quest Academy, you will need to include the academy in your preferences on the Common Application Form provided by Croydon Council, or your home local authority if you do not live in Croydon. The Quest Academy - Coloma Trust is a company limited by guarantee and registered in England and Wales No. 07278887