



Prospectus 2023-24

Education, excellence and innovation in the heart of Cambridge



Wisdom

By advocating the enthusiastic pursuit of knowledge and nurturing the ability to learn, our students develop the wisdom to navigate life with confidence.



Innovation

We look to our history as we innovate our approach to educate the world shapers of tomorrow



Responsibility

With a focus on personal responsibility and global citizenship, we prepare our students to become effective decision makers able to thrive at university and beyond.

CATS Cambridge is an established boarding school for ages 14+ in the heart of Cambridge with over 35 years' of experience in progressing students to top universities.

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At CATS Cambridge, we are unashamedly ambitious. The school is a launch pad to greatness, enabling our students to understand how they can become their preferred version of themselves and, by advocating the enthusiastic pursuit of knowledge, enable them to develop the wisdom needed to navigate life with confidence.

As an international school, we believe that there is much benefit to be drawn from different perspectives, traditions, and cultures; such an appreciation facilitates deeper awareness and learning. We place great emphasis on personal responsibility, so that our students embrace the idea of global citizenship and the need for ethical empathy in their decision making.

It is the energy, enthusiasm and richness in diversity that makes this an exciting school of which I am proud to be Principal.

At CATS Cambridge we aspire to thought leadership in international education. We are innovators, always seeking out ways to help our students learn faster, better and deeper. We aim to provide the best of conditions in which all our students are able develop as highly effective and enthusiastic life-long learners, who know themselves and who are prepared to work hard to become their preferred versions of themselves.

CATS Cambridge is for the best who want to be their very best. It is our mission to deliver an innovative and excellent education. We set our students on a path to realise their aspirations and prepare them for the future so they can navigate all the opportunities and challenges that life casts their way.

- Dominic Tomalin, Principal

"CATS Cambridge is for the best who want to be their very best. It is our mission to deliver an innovative and excellent education."



Why CATS Cambridge?

Where Tradition Meets Innovation

INTERNATIONAL BOARDING IN THE HEART OF CAMBRIDGE

We take great pride in being part of the Cambridge community and have developed our state-of-the-art campus to allow students to surround themselves with academic innovation and inspiration. Cambridge is a world city that attracts the best thinkers and creators, where students are encouraged to learn from the past whilst building the future.

Unlocking Academic Potential

INNOVATING AND IMPROVING STUDENT SUCCESS

The CATS Cambridge approach is designed to provide the best environment in which young people can learn and develop, allowing them to achieve the best academic outcomes. Through using recognised assessment tools and working with leading educational thought leaders, we are constantly refining our education offering and nurturing students to achieve the best grades they can.

Enhanced Higher Education Support

ACHIEVING THE BEST ACADEMIC OUTCOMES

We understand that the wish to attend a top UK university is a dream of many young people. To give our students the best advantage when applying to university, we have developed an enhanced package of application support that ensures students are fully prepared for admissions interviews, produce the best personal statement and feel confident in their application.



The City of Cambridge



Cambridge is home to one of the world's greatest universities, few other destinations can boast such a rich history of innovation and achievement. The city is a thriving metropolitan hub and is home to many pioneering organisations at the forefront of science, engineering and technology sectors. Cambridge is the ideal destination for dedicated students who want to push themselves to the greatest heights of success.

HOME TO THE UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE

The University of Cambridge has hosted more international students who have gone on to win a Nobel Prize than any other UK university – paving the way for international students studying in the UK.

WHERE THE GREATS BEGAN

Studying in Cambridge sees students learning and discovering in the same environment as the likes of Stephen Hawking, Charles Darwin, Isaac Newton, and Sylvia Plath amongst others.

EASY TO GET AROUND

Cambridge is a well-connected city with regular bus routes to and from the local area and most of the city being in walking distance of the school. What's more, trains from Cambridge Station take only 45 minutes to London and 30 minutes to Stansted Airport.

SILICON FEN

Over the past 50 years, Cambridge has become a hub of modern technology with many of the world-leading companies setting up offices in the city – including Amazon, Apple and Samsung.



CAMBRIDGE: A CITY THAT CHANGES THE WORLD

Cambridge is home to some of the world's most prestigious museums and art collections, as well as showcasing contemporary exhibitions. Many of the museums house the University of Cambridge collections and include priceless objects from the age of antiquity through to modern masterpieces. As well as the city's enviable collection of art and artefacts, the city is a thriving hub for new ideas and technologies and students are hard-pressed to not find a group or activity that inspires them academically and creatively.



Best in the world
Home to the University of Cambridge, the no.1 university in the world



Excellent links
Cambridge is only 45 minutes by train to London



Innovation City
Cambridge is the heart of UK tech and the fastest growing economy in the UK



Academically Inspiring
Cambridge is home to more Nobel Prize winners than any other city

Student Experience

At CATS Cambridge we are committed to creating a safe, inclusive and supportive education environment. We understand that studying in the UK may be a very different experience for international students and over our 35-year history have created a school that makes sure all students are prepared to achieve their best.



What Students can expect at CATS Cambridge

IMMERSIVE ENGLISH

All school life is conducted in English, giving every student the opportunity to master the language in both academic and social settings. Our immersive education style nurtures every student to build knowledge, become resilient and achieve the best outcomes in life.

SUPPORTIVE STAFF

Our academic staff team and live-in House Parents are always on hand to provide the highest standard of safety and pastoral care and help students settle into the school by creating a caring and comfortable home.

SUBJECT SUPPORT

Students regularly engage with their teachers to assess their progress. If extra subject specific support is identified, additional sessions outside of usual lesson can be made available.

ADDITIONAL LEARNING SUPPORT

Students are encouraged to highlight any additional learning challenges they may have. Our teachers also monitor for indicators of any challenges a student may have in their own learning.



Every student at CATS Cambridge becomes a member of a House. Throughout the year we hold exciting Inter-House competitions where students compete against other Houses to win House Points.

Some of our competitions include:



Sports Day



Mastermind



Spelling Bee



Chariots of Fire

University Success

Enhanced University Support

We understand that the wish to attend a top UK university is a dream of many young people. To give our students the best advantage when applying to university, we have developed an enhanced package of application support that ensures students are fully prepared for admissions interviews, produce the best personal statement and importantly feel confident in their application.

21

out of 24 Russell Group Universities have accepted CATS Cambridge students

40+

conditional progression agreements with UK universities



Search **CATS Cambridge University Success** to discover more

Enhanced Oxbridge Candidate Support

We offer targeted support for students applying to the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge in the form of extra Higher Education sessions and mock interviews designed to give our candidates an advantage when sitting their selection interview. We feel so passionately about helping students who want to achieve an Oxbridge place that we will refund the fees of any student who goes to the University of Cambridge or the University of Oxford.

Discover **The CATS Cambridge Scholarship of Excellence** on page 38.



Enhanced Application Support

CATS Cambridge students are offered thorough guidance on the university admissions process along with specialist support for applicants to the most competitive elite universities and courses such as Oxford and Cambridge. Throughout years 12 and 13 we offer university applications workshops, classes and mock interviews allowing all students to feel confident that they are submitting the best application they can.

HIGHER EDUCATION OFFICER (HEO)

Our HEOs are dedicated full-time members of staff who offer unlimited university application support from a student's first day at CATS Cambridge. All students have time-tabled Higher Education lessons along with one-to-one meetings.

PERSONAL STATEMENT

Personal Tutors (PTs) have extensive experience of university admissions and know what will make a student's application stand out. PTs dedicate time to getting to know each student and their interests to ensure their personal statement is the best reflection of them as an individual.

UNIVERSITY VISITS

Universities from around the world visit CATS Cambridge throughout the year to present their course offerings and give students the chance to ask any questions they might have.

OPEN DAYS

It is important that students know as much as possible about the universities to which they are applying. We support students to attend open days so they can get the best insight into their chosen university and decide if they feel that it is the right destination for them.

University fairs and events

CATS Cambridge students have access to our exclusive University Fair which is attended by universities including the University of Cambridge, the London School of Economics, Imperial College of London, as well as world-leading US and Canadian universities. This event gives students a valuable opportunity to talk directly to university admissions teams about their degree programmes, campuses and specific entry criteria.

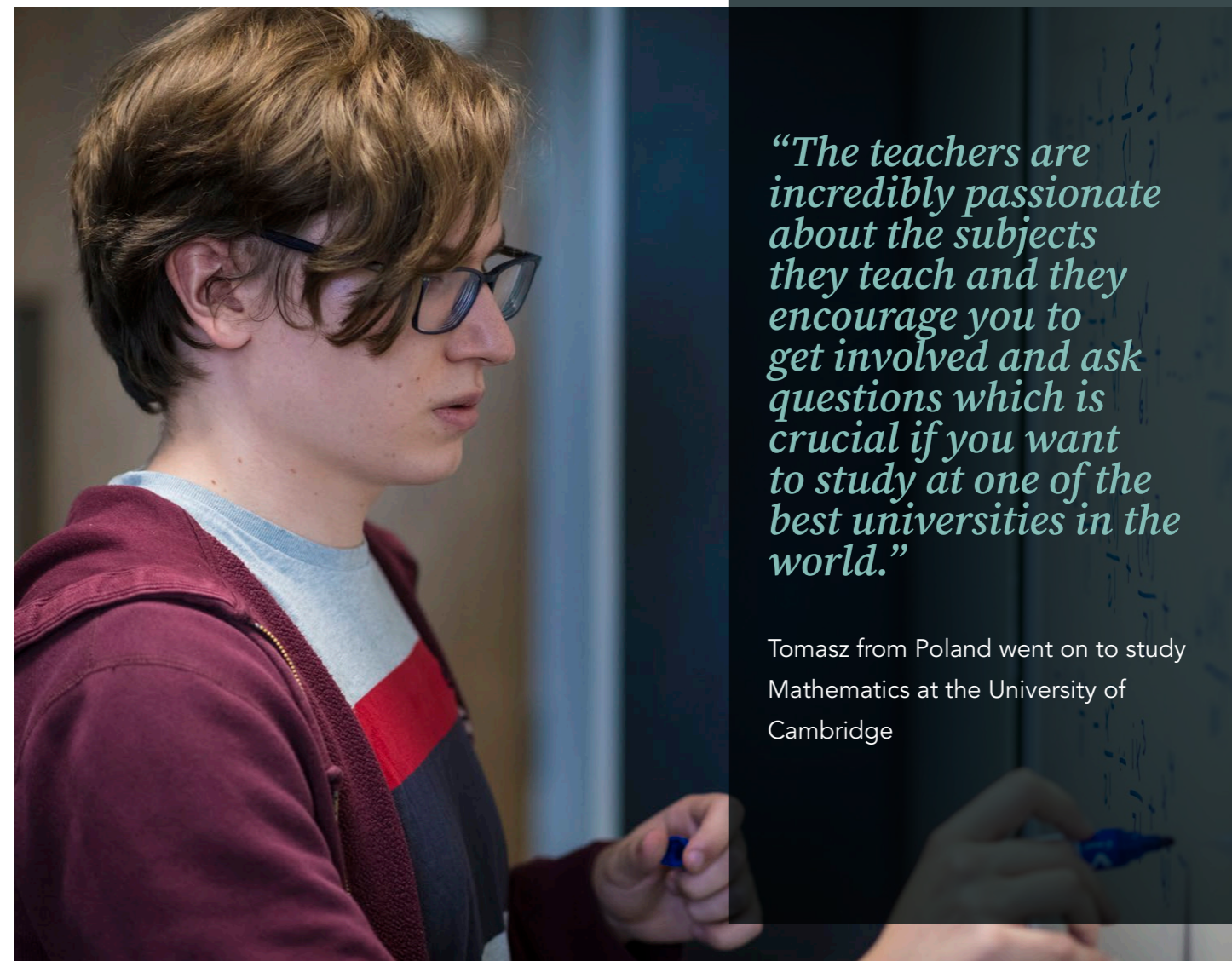
Key Professions Programme

For students wishing to pursue a degree in a competitive field such as Law, Finance, Medicine, Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Maths (STEAM), or apply to Oxbridge or other elite universities, we offer additional tailored support through our Key Professions Programme (KPP).

This programme is tailored to the ambitions of each student and includes activities and support throughout the application process.

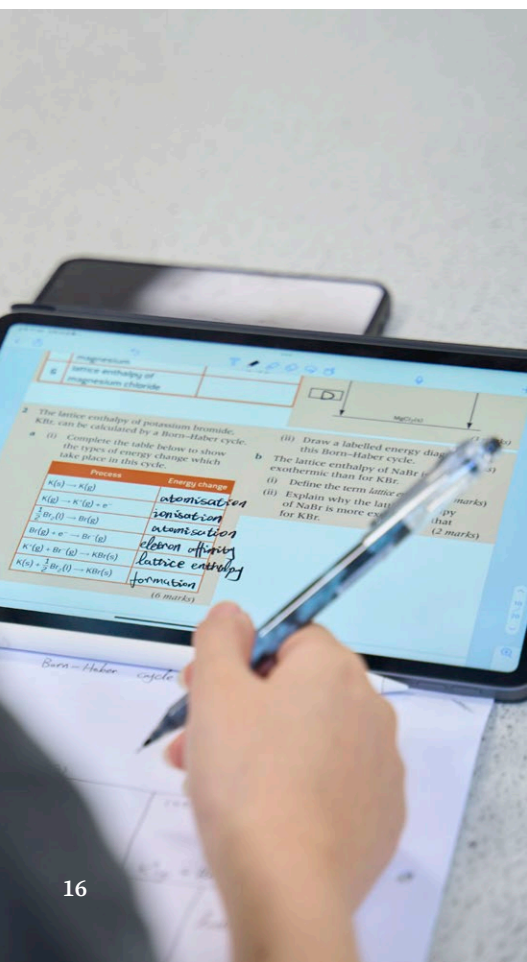
The Key Professions programme includes:

- University level presentations
- The Extended Project
- Work Experience and Volunteering
- Admissions Test Preparation
- Practice Interviews
- Key Professions Programme Tutors
- BMAT and UCAT support
- Oxbridge Interview Practice and Coaching



“The teachers are incredibly passionate about the subjects they teach and they encourage you to get involved and ask questions which is crucial if you want to study at one of the best universities in the world.”

Tomasz from Poland went on to study Mathematics at the University of Cambridge



Extra-curricular activities

We offer a range of different extra-curricular opportunities designed to stretch student knowledge and enhance their personal statement when applying to highly competitive courses.

Some of our extra-curricular opportunities have included:



Science Olympiads



Mathematics Challenge



Business Days

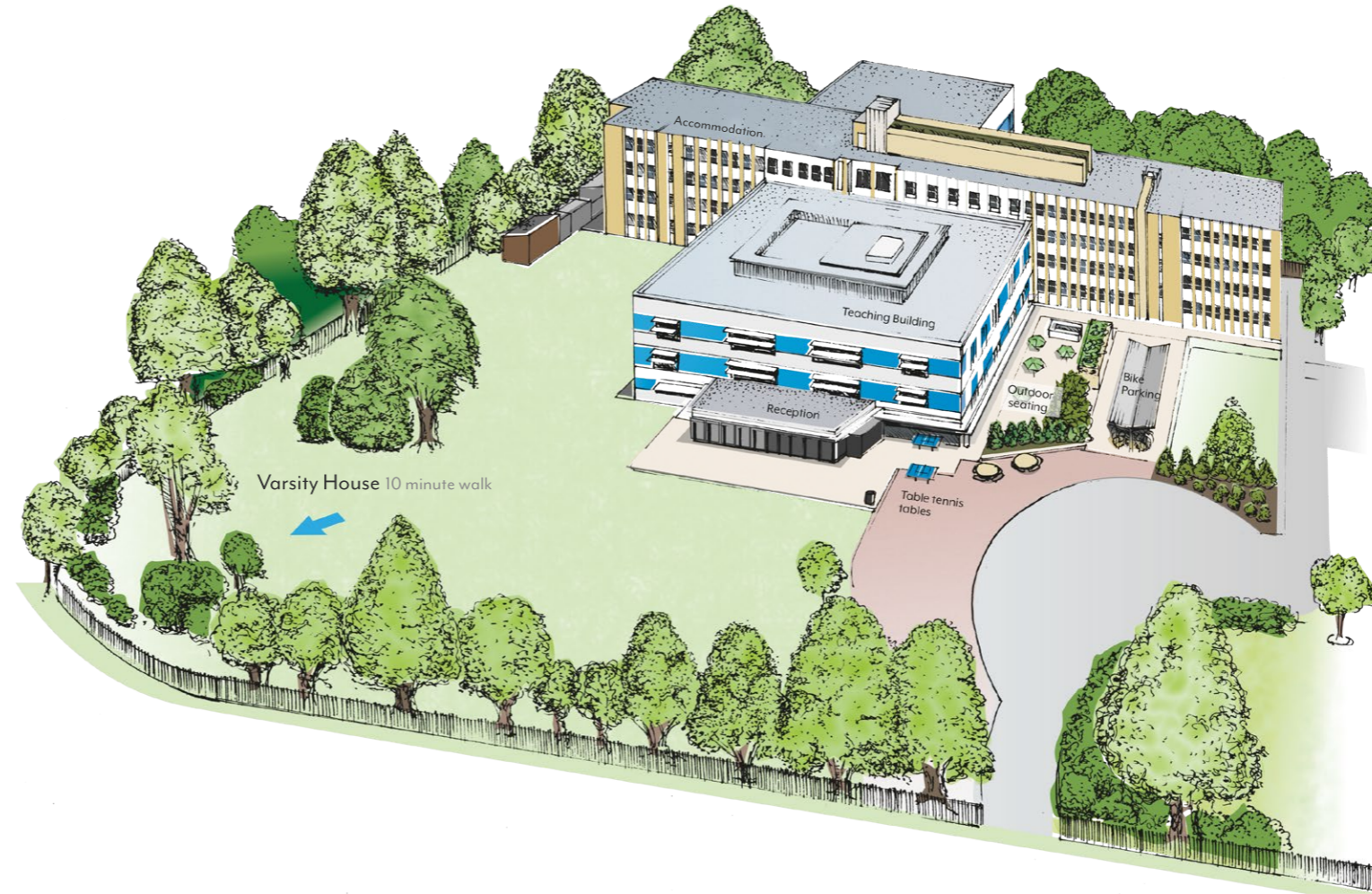


Cambridge Chemistry Challenge

CATS Cambridge

A CAMPUS DESIGNED FOR SUCCESS

The CATS Cambridge campus is located near the city centre, close to the prestigious University of Cambridge. The school building sits in front of the refurbished residence, creating a single campus designed to give students the best environment for both studying and living.



En-suite boarding

Our boarding facilities provide you with a home-from-home, with over 400 single en-suite rooms ensuring that you are comfortable, safe and secure.



Great Location

The specially designed CATS Cambridge campus is a 15 minute walk from the historic centre of Cambridge.



Safe campus

Our campus buildings are located in a quiet part of the city, allowing you to settle in quickly and get used to exploring the local area.



On-campus boarding houses with 24hr Supervision



Boarding

We offer two accommodation options to cater for whatever students need from their boarding experience. Elizabeth House is attached to the school building offering single en-suite rooms for ages 14-17. Varsity House is just a short walk from the school and offers single en-suite rooms for ages 16+. Both boarding houses are supervised 24 hours a day.

Accommodation

Our boarding houses offers everything a student needs.

- Single rooms with private ensuite bathroom
- Shared social spaces
- House Parents, together with 24 hour security
- We also offer catered or self-catered accommodation for over 18s, a short walk from campus.

CATS Cambridge is regularly inspected by the UK Independent Schools Inspectorate, and achieves outstanding results.

Dining

All meals are served on campus for catered students, cooked by our team of onsite Chefs. Recent menus include: braised beef, stir-fried noodles, roast chicken, steamed cod, roast beef with Yorkshire pudding, and borsch.



Search **CATS Cambridge Boarding** to discover more



Supportive House Parents

We pride ourselves on our happy school community. Our team of live-in House Parents are always on hand to provide the highest standard of safety and pastoral care and help students settle into their residences by creating a home away from home. House Parents also make teachers aware of issues that happen outside of the classroom such as homesickness or trouble with homework, so every student is fully supported.

Elizabeth House

Elizabeth House is purpose-built for CATS students and is attached to the main building – providing you with a centrally located, single-site campus.

All rooms are single en-suite and offer shared social and common room spaces to make you feel at home. House Parents offer the highest standard of care, welfare and supervision for all of our students. One of the team of House Parents is awake 24 hours a day to provide help whenever needed, which is particularly helpful for our younger students.



Varsity House

Varsity House is a fully supervised residence with single en-suite rooms.

Students are split into eight different Halls of Residence and rooms are designed in small clusters of six rooms – each cluster has its own communal kitchen and lounge/dining area where you can make snacks.

The courtyard offers seating and outdoor table tennis, and there is a common room on site.

The residence is close to local cafés and convenience shops, as well as being only a 5 minute bicycle ride to the teaching building.



Single rooms with private en-suite bathroom



Within walking distance of the city



Full catering for students aged 14+



Monitored Wireless internet access



Shared Social Spaces



Laundry facilities available on-site



House Parents, together with 24-hour security



Cleaning service provided

Activities

We run over 20 different activities each week – from sports clubs to academic and self-development activities, all of which look great on a university application. Every student has different goals and we work with each individual to help them find activities they enjoy. We can also help students access additional clubs in the local area or offer support to start their own club or society at the school.

As Cambridge is a university town, there is always a lot to do – particularly popular with our students are the Cambridge Science Festival and the Cambridge Festival of Ideas which are run annually by the University of Cambridge.

Adobe
Badminton
Basketball
Cryptography
Debating
Dramatic arts
Duke of Edinburgh
Economics

Fine art
Football
Jewellery Making
Knitting
Maths
Model UN
Parkrun
Robotics

Running
Stock market
Student council
Tennis
Typing
Yoga
Young Enterprises



Trips and Visits

We encourage our students to take part in a range of trips, allowing them to explore new locations and embrace another country's history and culture. Some of our currently planned trips include:

- Iceland and the Northern Lights
- Skiing in Europe
- The Canary Islands: Tenerife
- Berlin



Activities and trips offered may change as we try to accommodate student requests

An Innovative Education

We empower every student to achieve their best academic outcome. Our range of internationally recognised qualifications has been developed to give students opportunities that suit their individual needs and aspirations and reach their university goals.



UK SCHOOL YEAR	YEAR 10	YEAR 11
US GRADE EQUIVALENT	9th Grade	10th Grade
QUALIFICATION	GCSE (2 years)	Pre-A level
	GCSE is a qualification that enables progression to a pre-university programme such as A level or UFP. Students will need 8+ years of schooling. Ages 14+	Language and subject preparation for a pre-university programme – A level or University Foundation Programme. Ages 15+

YEAR 12	YEAR 13
11th Grade	12th Grade
A level (2 years)	University Foundation Programme
A higher level qualification recognised by universities around the world. Choose 3+ subjects to focus on over the two-year programme. Ages 15.5+	A programme designed for international students to bridge high school in their own country to university in the UK. Choose 3+ English subjects to focus on. Ages 16.5+

Higher Education

Progress to top universities

CATS Cambridge students receive one-to-one impartial guidance on applying to the best university for them. We also have guaranteed offer agreements with over 40 UK universities to give students the confidence that they can progress to a leading institution upon successfully meeting the entry requirements. Students applying to CATS Cambridge receive conditional offers from:

UK High School Term (1,2 or 3 term)

UK High School Term allows students to take classes in the British education system before returning to their studies at home or continuing to study in the UK.

Ages 15+



Search **CATS Cambridge University Partnerships** to discover more

A levels

Key Facts

Age

15.5+

Entry requirements

At least 10 years of schooling and a good school record

Language requirements

IELTS 5.0+ (or equivalent)

Average class size

11

Hours per week

22+

Course duration

6 terms
(September and January start)

A levels are the classic British path into higher education and offer an excellent route to study at high ranking UK universities. A levels are a highly regarded qualification, and can open the widest choice of UK universities. At CATS Cambridge students can join Year 12 in both September and January to study for the A level qualification.

OVERVIEW

A levels are a focussed qualification of three subjects and English studied over two years, with examinations in the second year.

At CATS Cambridge our A level delivery is specifically designed for motivated international students, with additional English language support to help them excel in their studies. We offer a wide range of subjects we work with each student to choose the best combination to achieve their university goals.

Why study A levels at CATS Cambridge?

71%

of students achieved an A*/A Grade in 2021

91%

of confirmed offers are to a top 50 UK University

21

out of 24 Russell Group universities have accepted a CATS Cambridge student



Search CATS Cambridge A level to discover more



“CATS Cambridge staff are all very approachable. Whenever I talk to them, they always give me constructive feedback on my studies and my progression towards university.”

Jag from the Philippines progressed to study Film Production at the University for the Creative Arts



A level qualification in a wide choice of subjects, including Sciences, Humanities, and the Arts



Develop desirable study skills, such as critical thinking, essay/report writing and solution-based thinking



Unlock progressing to a UK or international university



Get exposure to the style of assessment and teaching in the UK



Complete challenging research and homework tasks



Prepare for an English qualification recognised by international universities



Unlock progressing to a UK or international university



Develop skills needed to succeed at university with a focus on improved capability to learn with confidence and independence



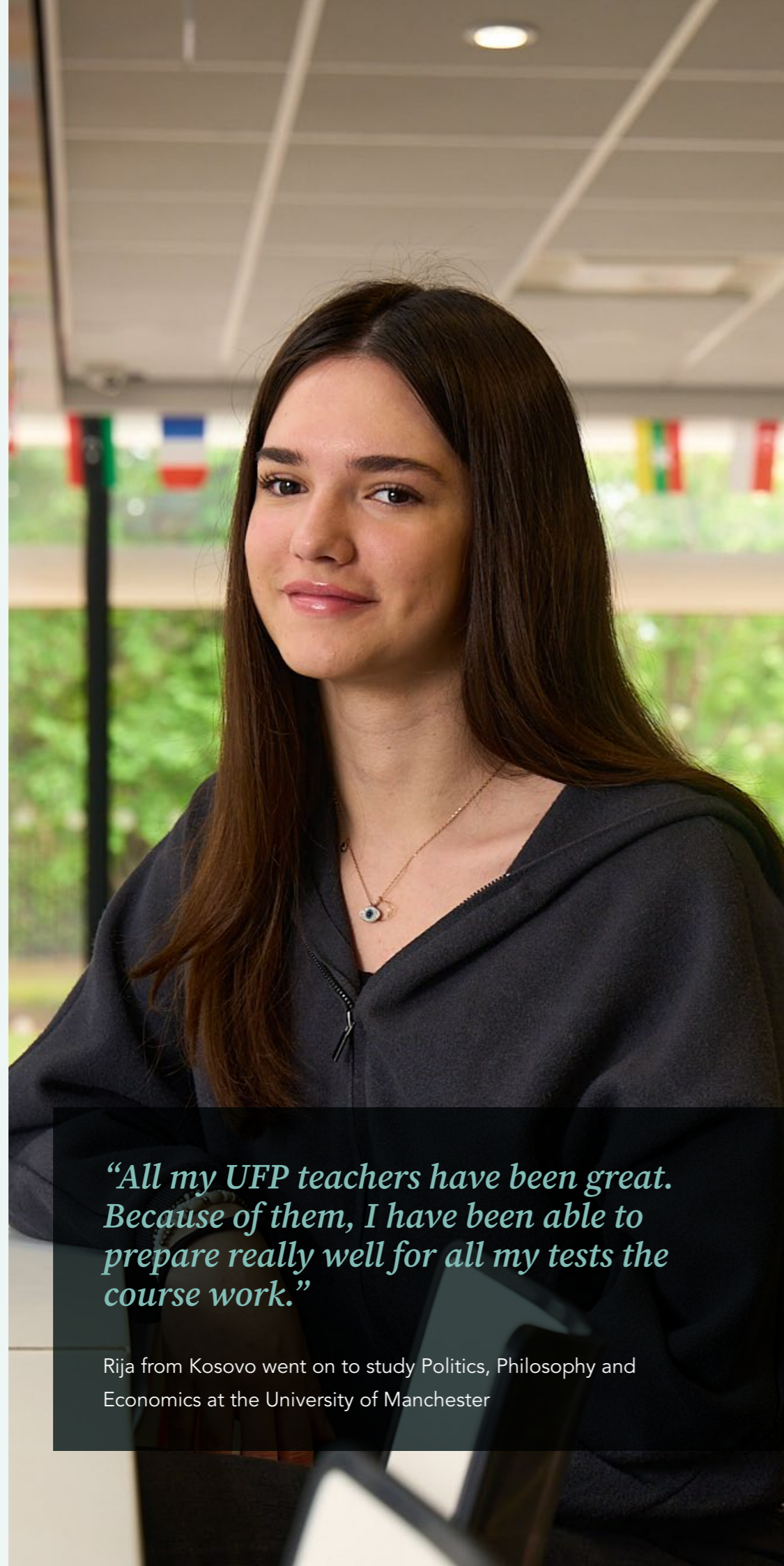
Improve English language fluency and proficiency



Develop the foundation knowledge needed to study a specific subject at undergraduate level



Experience life at an international school and prepare for life at a UK university



“All my UFP teachers have been great. Because of them, I have been able to prepare really well for all my tests the course work.”

Rija from Kosovo went on to study Politics, Philosophy and Economics at the University of Manchester

University Foundation Programme

Key Facts

Age

September start: 16.5+ years
January start: 17+ years

Entry requirements

At least 11 years of schooling and a good school record

Language requirements

IELTS 4.5+ (or equivalent)

Average class size

11

Hours per week

20+

Course duration

3 terms
(September and January start)

Designed specifically for high achieving international students, the CATS University Foundation Programme (UFP) acts as a bridge from students' high school education in their own country to university in the UK. At CATS Cambridge we offer a UFP programme starting in both September and January.

OVERVIEW

The UFP recognises the specific academic challenges that International students face and uses assessment strategies that offer the best opportunities to demonstrate a student's academic level and potential. Students each choose three academic subjects with exams at the end of the qualification. In addition, all students attend academic English classes designed to develop their English skills for university.

Final UFP grades are determined by exams as well as a significant amount of coursework which simulates the structure of most UK university courses.

Choosing a subject combination is important as universities look for students that have good grades in the right subjects. We work intensively with each student choose the best combination to help achieve their university and career aspirations.

Why study University Foundation Programme at CATS Cambridge?

1985

CATS Global Schools are the original pioneers of the University Foundation programme, developing the qualification in 1985

95

Our UFP is accepted by 95 of the 100 top UK universities

58%

of students achieved an A* or A in 2022



Search CATS Cambridge UFP to discover more

Pre-A level

Key Facts

Age

15+ years

Entry requirements

At least 9 years of schooling with a good school record

Language requirements

IELTS 4.0+ (or equivalent)

Average class size

11

Hours per week

30+

Course duration

3 terms (September start)

2 terms (January start)

Pre-A level is designed as an introduction to the UK Further Education system and follows a similar approach to GCSE, but with a duration of one year or less. Students experience a wide range of subjects which prepares them to progress to study A level, although this programme is also suitable for students wishing to progress to study UFP if they are of the appropriate age.

Pre-A level offers students the opportunity to improve their English prior to moving to more advanced study and students should expect to take external exams in English and Maths. At CATS Cambridge, we offer both September and January starting points for Pre-A level.



Introduces a student to UK teaching and prepares them for further study



Improved subject knowledge for university preparation programmes



English fluency and proficiency ready for university preparation programmes



Enhanced study skills required to excel in a chosen university preparation programme



Build personal confidence and independence



Improved collaborative skills

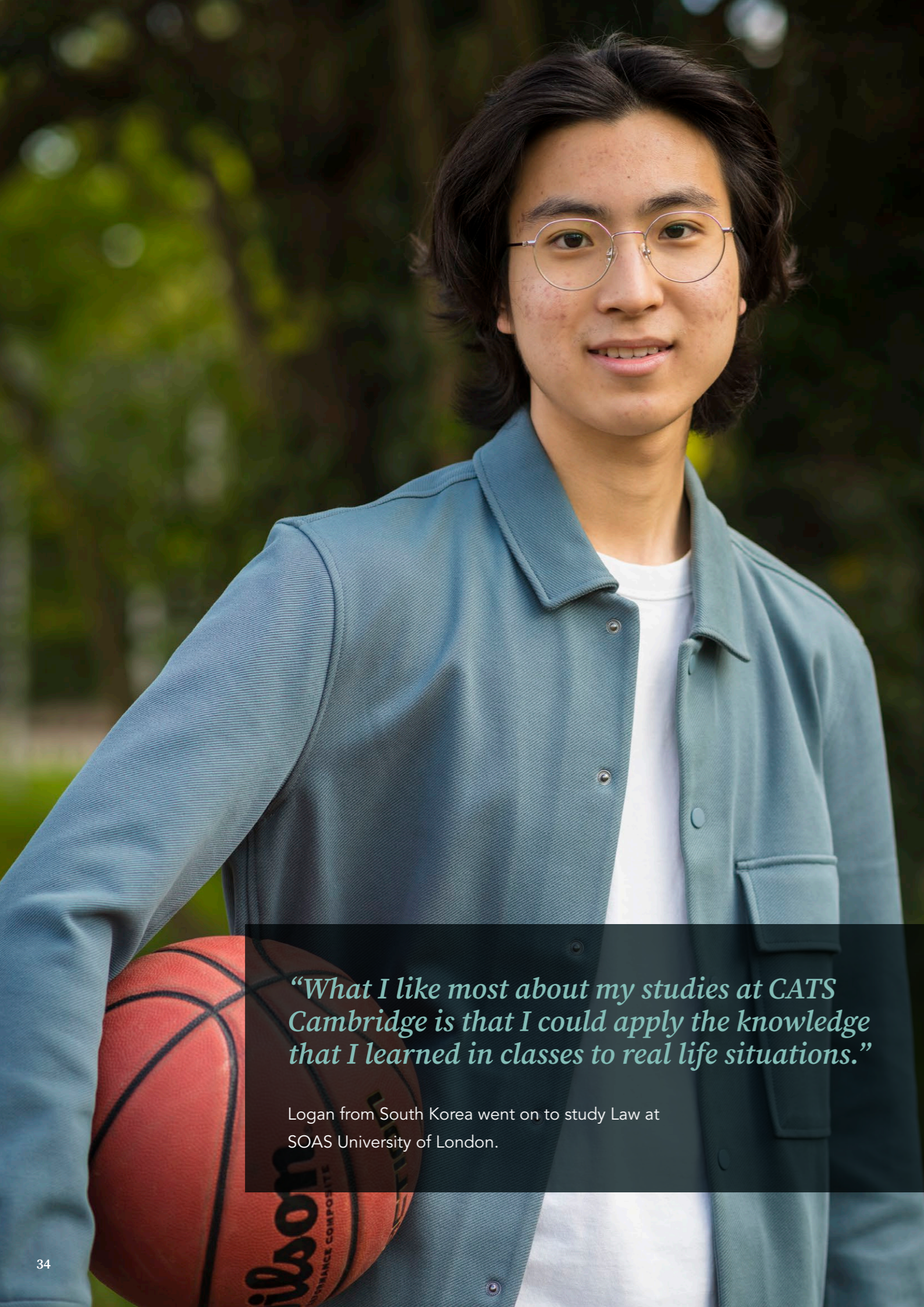


Search CATS Cambridge Pre-A level to discover more



“The style of teaching at CATS Cambridge is inclusive and engaging. After lessons, I feel like I have learned everything I need and when it is time to revise later I can figure out answers for myself.”

Misturat from Ireland went on to study Law at the University of Exeter.



“What I like most about my studies at CATS Cambridge is that I could apply the knowledge that I learned in classes to real life situations.”

Logan from South Korea went on to study Law at SOAS University of London.

GCSE

Key Facts

Age

14+ years

Entry requirements

At least 8 years of schooling with a good school record

Language requirements

IELTS 4.0+ (or equivalent)

Average class size

11

Hours per week

30+

Course duration

6 terms (September start)
5 terms (January start)

The General Certificate of Secondary Education (GCSE) provides students with a high-quality secondary education foundation which offers progression to A level or UFP. At CATS Cambridge students can join Year 10 in both September and January to study our GCSE qualification.

OVERVIEW

Classes are taught by subject specialists who are trained in how to teach students who have English as a second language. The qualification encourages students to explore their academic potential and discover where their interests lie. The qualification is internationally recognised and is normally obtained after two years study.



GCSE qualifications in a wide choice of subjects



Improved subject knowledge for university preparation programmes



English fluency and proficiency ready for university preparation programmes



Enhanced study skills required to excel in a chosen university preparation programme



Build personal confidence and independence



Improved collaborative skills



Search CATS Cambridge GCSE to discover more

UK High School Term

Key Facts

Age

September start: 15+

Entry requirements

A good school report

Language requirements

4.0+ for Pre-A level or A level

4.5+ for UFP
(or equivalent)

Course duration

1, 2 or 3 terms

The UK High School Term gives students an insight into British education and culture. Students are enrolled in classes depending on their schooling level in their home country and English level. Our aim is to ensure that students are placed in a suitably challenging education environment where they will soon reach the level of their peers and be able to flourish.

This programme is ideal for students looking for an international experience without disrupting their academic studies at home. Classes are designed to complement a student's current studies and a notarised report can be produced showing the individual progress and achievements of the student.



Experience studying in a British education system



Enjoy a range of activities and trips around the UK



Study with peers from over 70 countries and gain a global perspective



Earn study credentials in your home country



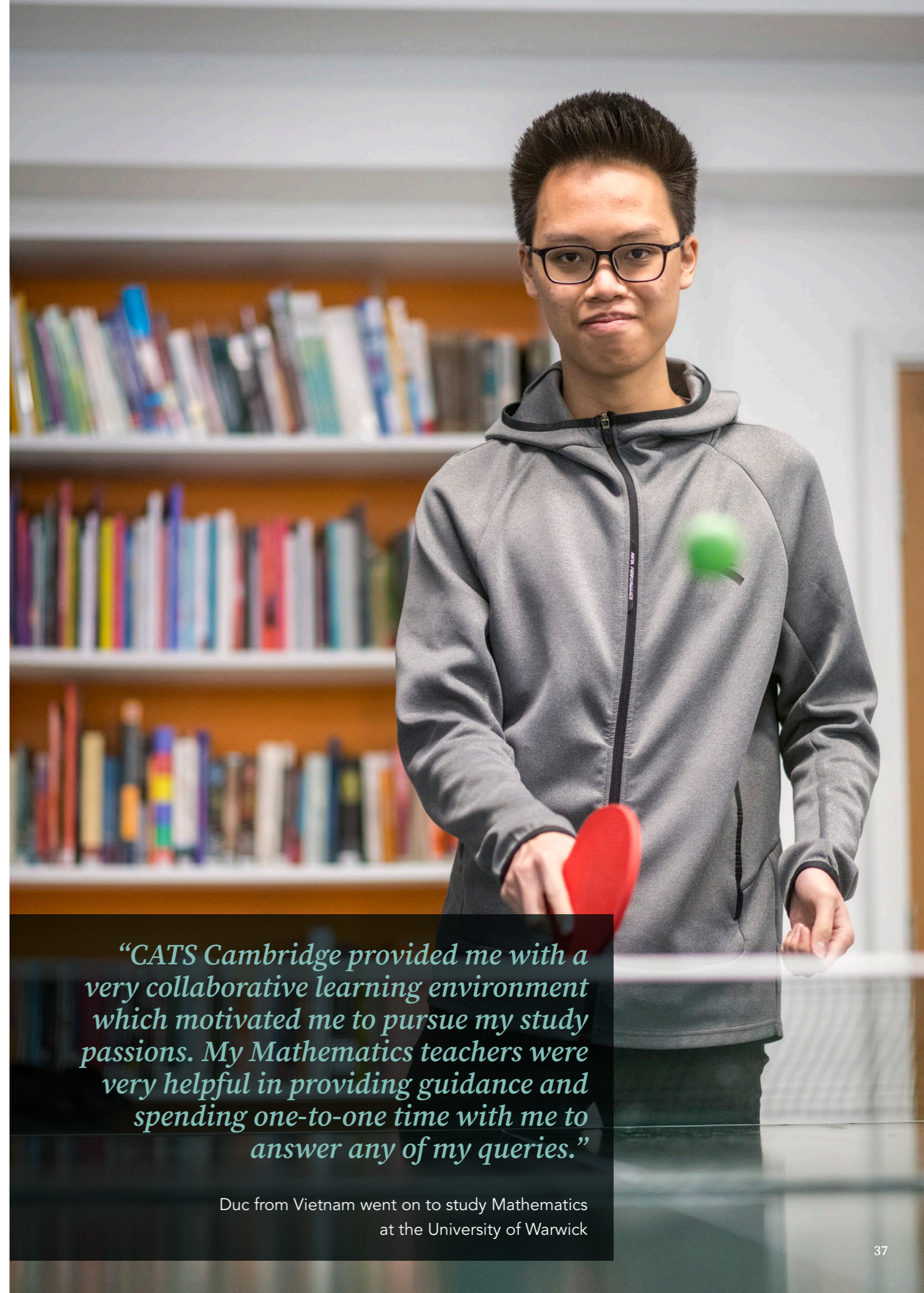
Build personal confidence and independence



Improve your English language skills



Search **CATS Cambridge High School Term** to discover more



“CATS Cambridge provided me with a very collaborative learning environment which motivated me to pursue my study passions. My Mathematics teachers were very helpful in providing guidance and spending one-to-one time with me to answer any of my queries.”

Duc from Vietnam went on to study Mathematics at the University of Warwick



Scholarship of Excellence

The Scholarship of Excellence is awarded to exceptional students of any nationality who make a successful application to, and then go on to attend, the University of Oxford or the University of Cambridge.

Students joining or continuing their A level studies at CATS Cambridge are eligible for the scholarship. Winners of the scholarship will have the final two years of their course and accommodation fees reimbursed upon proof of acceptance and attendance of the first semester of the University of Oxford or the University of Cambridge. Students will also be asked to engage in marketing activity, events and provide a testimonial for promotional use. Students can notify the Principal of their eligibility.



Search **CATS Cambridge Scholarships** to discover more



Admissions

Please visit our online application to make an application to CATS Canterbury for your student. Applying online is quick and easy and is the fastest way for our admissions team to process your application.

All current fees and dates are available on our website.



www.catscambridge.com/admissions
www.catscambridge.com/applications



Search **CATS Cambridge admissions**
for our fees, dates and how to apply

Contact our Admissions Team

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