



Sixth Form Parent FAQs

Who are the Sixth Form Team, and what are their roles?

Ms Petch is the Head of Sixth Form, who has overall responsibility for students within the sixth form, including academic monitoring alongside pastoral support.

Aaron Rowswell is our Sixth Form Coordinator. He is always the first port of call for students and parents with questions and concerns, and ensures students are attending study sessions, their lessons with staff, and keeping standards high.

Mr Marshall is our Sixth Form Next Steps Coordinator. He is responsible for coordinating university applications through UCAS, and supporting students with apprenticeship and job applications.

What are the different pathways that students in year 12 can access?

Students will be on one of three main pathways:

The Bridging Pathway – This is a one year pathway for students who have not yet secured English and Maths at a Level 4 pass. They completed these alongside a Level 2 Business qualification and other enrichment opportunities.

The Catch Up pathway – This is a two year pathway for students who have not secured either a 4 in English OR Maths. They have lessons in this GCSE, alongside three other Level 3 qualifications.

The Main pathway – This is a two year pathway for students who are studying 3 or 4 A-level or Vocational qualifications.

What is the school day like for a sixth former?

Students in year 12 are in school from 8.30 until 3 every day. It is not permitted for students to leave site in the school day, including for driving lessons. These should be scheduled around the timings of the school day.

Students start the day with their tutor, and then have a 5 period day. Students can move around the building on their own, but must adhere to the one-way system. We are currently on 'alternative' timings of the school day, due to adjustments made for Covid 19. These are outlined below:

Tutor: 8:30 - 8:55

Period 1: 9:05 - 10:00

Period 2: 10:10 - 11:05

Break: 11:05 - 11:25 - No Catering

Period 3: 11:25 - 12:20

Period 4: 12:25 - 13:55

Period 5: 14:05 - 15:00



What do students do when they are not in a time-tabled lesson?

Whenever students aren't in a lesson they will use the sixth form centre to complete study tasks. There are areas where students can work silently/independently, and areas where students can work collaboratively. All students should be directed towards study tasks by their teachers.

How do students know what is expected of them?

Students have all been given to read, and asked to sign, the sixth form code of conduct. This is available on the school website to view, and covers behaviour, dress code, and academic expectations.

How are students assessed in the sixth form?

Students are assessed regularly in a variety of ways throughout their time in the sixth form. This can take the form of in-class assessments, homework's, timed essays, and for vocational subjects, formal assignments. Teachers report home to parents via reports three times a year. Students in year 12 will sit their first set of progress exams in March, and again in the December of year 13. It is very important that these are treated seriously, and students prepare for them in the same ways they would prepare for their 'real' externally assessed exams.

How are students supported with University and Apprenticeship applications?

Throughout their time in year 12 students are encouraged to start to think about their next steps, and gather experience to support any applications. In term 2 of year 12 students embark on a 'next steps' programme, to support them to apply for University and apprenticeships from term 1 of year 13. Students are supported throughout the whole UCAS process by a dedicated member of the sixth form team.

Can students use their own car to drive to school?

Yes they can, but they must register their car details with Aaron before they start to park on the school site. At the current time students need to check government guidelines with respect to sharing cars. Students should park their cars in the top car park near the sixth form centre.

How do students access work at home?

All students have access to Microsoft Teams, where teachers will post work, resources and lesson PowerPoints. If a student is absent they should use this platform to access any work that they might have missed.

Homework may also be placed on the edulink platform.

How do I report absence?

Call the school absence line on 01268 474500, stating the students name, year group and reason for absence.

If a student fails to register for school without us having been notified of absence by parents, we will send a text message to alert you.

Is there any financial help available towards study costs?



Students in the sixth form are able to access the sixth form bursary, if they meet a set of criteria. This information is available on the school website, and students will have an assembly advertising the bursary and its criteria in the first half term.