



**Windsor High School
and Sixth Form**

Part of



Excellence for All

School Prospectus 2024

windsorhighschool.org.uk



@windsor_tweets



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Welcome to Windsor

We are a school committed to delivering the very best education for all of our students.

This can be seen in our school motto “Excellence for All”, that applies equally to our twin objectives of academic success and extra-curricular and enrichment provision.

We are a school built on traditional values. Our ethos and beliefs are evident in “The Windsor Way”. This is a charter committed to by our whole school community and celebrates the twin tenets of respect and responsibility. Our active House system underlines these traits every day.

Our pastoral structure is based on vertical House teams led by a Head of House. As well as allowing healthy competition between students, regular House assemblies focus on raising aspirations, developing physical and mental well-being and spiritual, moral, social and cultural awareness.

We encourage every student at Windsor High School and Sixth Form to ASPIRE in their learning and in their lives. We advocate that there are six character virtues and six learning skills which are crucial to the unlocking of both personal and academic potential.

It is these virtues and skills which will equip all students with the personal and academic attributes required to become happy, safe and successful citizens.

We prioritise the development of our students’ characters and our curriculum provides every student with opportunities to discuss real-world events and issues.

Using the ASPIRE framework, we teach students about the skills needed to become happy, safe and responsible citizens with high aspirations.

I hope after reading this prospectus, you will be inspired to visit Windsor High School and Sixth Form and see what we have to offer.



Mr S R Lanckham
Headteacher



Why Windsor High School and Sixth Form?

There are many reasons for choosing Windsor High School and Sixth Form as your first choice for secondary school. Here are just a few.

Brilliant Facilities

We are incredibly proud of the brilliant facilities that we have to offer students at Windsor High School and Sixth Form; they help to provide an excellent learning environment for our students.

Highlights include a state of the art fitness suite, dance studio, football and rugby pitches, including a new astro turf pitch, and sports hall incorporating four badminton courts; music practice rooms and a music technology room; product design workshops; science laboratories; performance hall with stage and lighting; and iPads for all students.



Inspiring Teaching and Learning

Our fantastic teachers are committed to unlocking every student's academic and personal potential and providing them with the skills they need for their future.

With the use of digital technology, our inspiring teaching and learning helps students develop a love of learning and achieve their full capability.

A Welcoming Environment

We are incredibly proud of the warm and welcoming environment at Windsor High School and Sixth Form.

Built upon a culture of respect, responsibility and shared values, students settle into school life at Windsor easily, form lasting friendships and enjoy studying here.

Unlocking Personal Potential

We focus on much more than just academic potential.

Students have the opportunity to take part in a huge range of extra-curricular activities that allow them to follow their passions, develop new skills and unlock their personal potential.



Recommended by parents and students

Moving to secondary school is a big step in a young person's life and the contribution that Windsor staff have made to this experience for my son is significant.

Year 7 parent



At Windsor we are more than a student body, we are a family, and each new member is encouraged to respect one another, be accountable to each other and value and support their peers.

Year 11 student



I am really pleased with the way that staff have challenged my son in lessons to be the best that he can be academically. He has gone from strength to strength since he started at Windsor and I cannot wait to see what he achieves next.

Year 7 parent



I have found the teachers to be engaging and supportive and they have helped me to develop my interests inside and outside of school.

Year 9 student



The Windsor Way - Building character and sharing success

Windsor Academy Trust's moral purpose is to unlock students' academic and personal potential. We strive for our students to have a love of learning, be successful learners and gain the knowledge, skills and attributes to be successful in the world of work. Equally we endeavour for our students to be good human beings, with a sense of purpose and character enabling them to flourish in life.

Windsor Academy Trust has a record of success. Crucial to our success is a core set of values, beliefs, attitudes and behaviours. Our students, teachers, professional services staff and parents understand, support and practise these values. Daily interaction between and amongst members of our community are based on these beliefs and have become a natural part of what we do and how we do it.

We aim: "to nurture a culture of respect and responsibility for oneself and for others".

Here is how we live together at Windsor Academy Trust; we value and practise respect and responsibility.

Respect:

- for myself, other students and all adults, regardless of background, ethnicity, age, gender, ability, values, lifestyles, opinions or interests
- for the property of the individual, group and school
- by using language that is not offensive or abusive to others
- by being open, honest, friendly, and accepting of others
- by sharing ideas and opinions openly and thoughtfully
- by listening actively to the ideas and opinions of others.

Responsibility:

- for controlling my own language and behaviour
- for resolving conflicts and disagreements in a cooperative and peaceful way
- for completing all work to the best of my ability
- for asking for support and help when I need it and helping others when they need it
- for ensuring my own physical and emotional well-being
- for creating my own success and being resilient in the face of challenge
- to approach all I do with a positive attitude
- to see failure as a form of helpful feedback for future growth
- to follow my dreams no matter what challenges I am faced with



ASPIRE framework

At Windsor we encourage our students to have big dreams for their future and ASPIRE high.

Students have been involved in developing the ASPIRE model which is in operation in every classroom to guide students in their learning behaviours.

Our ASPIRE framework develops students' character virtues and learning strategies. We ensure our six character virtues of respect, responsibility, resilience, compassion, collaboration and creativity are 'taught', 'caught' and 'sought' in learning and in life.

At our school, students aspire in every lesson every day to be the best learners and best people that they can be.



A welcoming and supportive environment

Transition Programme

We understand that joining secondary school is a big step for any child. That is why we offer a comprehensive transition programme that enables students to settle in quickly and make the best start to their secondary school career.

Collaboration and co-operation with primary schools is critically important to us. We aim to develop a seamless learning journey for children in our community from the age of two to 19.

As a member of the Halesowen Township Learning Community we work closely with our partner primary schools ensuring numerous opportunities for both staff and children to collaborate, learn together and grow together.

Windsor staff regularly visit a wide range of primary schools in order to learn more about the children who will transfer at the end of Year 6; this information is used to assist with the whole transition process.

In our extensive 'Secondary Ready' programme we deploy Year 7 and Year 10 students from Windsor, throughout the summer term, into the primary school that they attended. Here they work alongside Year 6 children, introducing them to 'The Windsor Way', ASPIRE and to prepare them for life at Windsor.

We also offer a full day of transition for Year 6 pupils, with the opportunity for parents to also attend a transition evening in July. To further support some of the young people who find the transition to secondary school difficult we also have numerous Windsor Sixth Form students who dedicate their Enrichment time on a Wednesday afternoon to mentoring students.

There are numerous other opportunities for children from Windsor and the local primary schools to work alongside each other through a variety of events in curriculum time and an array of extra-curricular activities, festivals and competitions. These activities have dual impact: they provide role models for, raise the aspirations of, and support the learning of the primary children, as well as developing the core leadership skills of our Windsor students.

The early contact we have with our students is one of the reasons our students make such good progress when they come here. We are looking forward to welcoming you as parents/carers to the 'Windsor' family and collaborating to provide the best support possible - we value your engagement, support and collaboration to ensure your child's experience of Windsor is wholly positive.

Heads of House and Pastoral Care

Each House is the responsibility of the Head of House who works with a large team, including the Director of Lower School, Director of Upper School, Assistant Headteacher in charge of Behaviour and SEND, and Deputy Headteacher in charge of Student Services, in overseeing all aspects of your child's progress at Windsor.

The Head of House leads a team of Form Tutors and they are aided by Pastoral Managers. The Form Tutor is a key member of staff and is responsible for establishing a happy, secure and supportive relationship with their tutor group.

Students feel secure in having someone who they can look to for support and guidance. Students meet with their Tutor for 30 minutes every day.

We have five houses: Hanover, Lancaster, Stuart, Tudor and York. Each House has identifiable colours and students in each house wear a tie which reflects the House colour.

At times, students may have difficulties and concerns that require more specialist support. In order to cater for the needs of these students we liaise with a wide number of external agencies.

Should a parent have any concerns about their child, contact should be made initially with the Form Tutor or the Head of House.



Inspiring teaching and learning

Our aim at Windsor is to engage, enthuse and inspire in every lesson, every day.

We are committed to providing the highest quality learning experience. Our curriculum exists to ensure that all students, regardless of background and ability, can ASPIRE to unlock their academic and personal potential. It empowers and equips students with the knowledge, character virtues and learner skills required to thrive in learning and life.

The curriculum at Windsor is broad, balanced, stimulating and engaging, offering personalised opportunities for all students. Our Threshold Curriculum builds on the learning experiences at primary school and is anchored in high challenge for all and then works towards the mastery of skills, knowledge and understanding that prepares students for their examination courses. There is an emphasis on the richness of vocabulary, retrieval of knowledge and dedicated review and reflection time. We aim to foster a love of learning, stimulate curiosity, develop creativity and enthuse and engage so our students become lifelong learners.

A range of teaching and engagement strategies are employed throughout the curriculum. Naturally, emphasis is also placed on students developing their character by demonstrating resilience, showing initiative, organisation skills and becoming self-regulated learners. Our feedback approach allows students to maximise their learning by having the opportunity to revisit learning, correct misunderstandings and be challenged further with the content learned.

Our curriculum is powered up by digital technology to provide a modern and innovative learning experience. This maximises progress and provides students with the essential digital skills they need for their future. Our digitally rich environment includes computer suites, digital planners, interactive whiteboards, visualisers and iPads.

Unlocking personal and academic potential through digital innovation

At Windsor our vision is Excellence for All. We strive to achieve this through unlocking the personal and academic potential of all our learners through highly effective digital innovation. We believe that technology, if used correctly and at the right times, can have a profound effect on learning. Our mission is to create a digitally rich environment that empowers all learners to thrive in today's world and to shape tomorrow's. All students and teaching staff have their own iPads which play a critical role in increasing engagement in learning and encouraging creativity, collaboration and critical thinking. This provides students with essential digital skills and maximises their achievement and future success.



Extraordinary opportunities

At Windsor High School and Sixth Form, students have access to extraordinary opportunities that will support their development.

The WAT Pledge

We endeavor to stretch, challenge and develop students academically, socially and personally.

Therefore we pledge to offer and expose all students to the following opportunities in order for them to become more successful in life.



The WAT Pledge

**Expanding learning beyond the classroom
and unlocking academic and personal potential.**

We endeavour to stretch, challenge and develop students academically, socially and personally. To enable students to succeed, we pledge to offer and expose our students to 12 opportunities.

We promise that students will achieve the following
12 experiences/accomplishments before leaving our school.



Become a first aider



Take part/perform in a musical or sporting event



Raise money for charity



Sleep under the stars



Visit the sea



Take part in a Duke of Edinburgh style expedition



Take part in a residential



Visit a historical landmark



Visit a theatre/museum



Visit a higher education establishment



Present to more than 30 people



Take part in work-based experience



Extra-curricular

At Windsor High School and Sixth Form students will have the chance to experience and take part in a wide range of extra-curricular and enrichment activities.

There are over 100 enrichment opportunities per week that occur before school, at lunchtime and after school. Aspiring to be a part of this provision will allow students to develop important life skills such as time management, resilience and commitment.

Our evidence shows that this commitment to extra-curricular provision leads to increased self-esteem and supports our students to develop relationships and prepares them for their next steps in life.



House activities

The House system also provides students with the opportunity to participate collectively in a wide range of activities. We are able to offer students a whole range of competitions, which include sports, subject competitions, quizzes and many more.

The PE Faculty hold termly inter-house events themed by the sports they have been practising each term. This wide selection has ensured that every student in Year 7 represents their House in one way or another and offers them new opportunities that they might pursue in the future. All of the competitions count towards identifying the "House of the Year". Throughout the school year we take the opportunity to celebrate the many successes and triumphs.

Student leadership

We believe that student leadership is integral to student success. Engaged students are more likely to succeed in school and beyond and to develop the character and competencies that will help them as they progress through life.

In leading others, students learn to be active citizens, think about their learning, develop relationships with staff and students, improve their interpersonal and communication skills and help staff to improve the school continually. Every student has the opportunity to develop their leadership skills as a subject or a pastoral ambassador, and each role has three levels that students can work through to develop their skills.

The Student Senate is a group of students from all year groups who are voted for by all of the students in school. These students show how they wish to represent the student body by working together on whole school projects to improve the school for all students.

Staff appoint other leadership roles, for example, the Heads of House choose the Prefects and Senior Prefects. Prefects are Year 11 students that have demonstrated leadership qualities throughout their time at our school. These students play a significant part in the day to day running of the school and are highly respected by staff and students.

Sports Leadership is well developed at our school, and students have the opportunity to gain experience of organising and leading others within physical education lessons. A range of roles are offered to students as they progress through the school to develop their leadership skills further. These include organising House events, coaching younger students and leading events for primary school students.

We are committed to academic excellence and extra-curricular opportunity and believe that the vehicle of leadership is important in nurturing values that create well rounded citizens proficient in the skills needed in the world of work, alongside their academic qualifications.

Duke of Edinburgh

We have delivered the nationally recognised Duke of Edinburgh's Award (DofE) scheme for many years. It perfectly illustrates the school's commitment to providing high quality extra-curricular activities to complement excellent academic attainment.

We offer the Bronze, Silver and Gold Awards to students from years 9 to 13 who volunteer to take on the challenges posed by the different aspects of this award:

- ✓ **Volunteering: undertaking service to individuals or the community.**
- ✓ **Physical: improving in an area of sport, dance or fitness activities.**
- ✓ **Skills: developing practical and social skills and personal interests.**
- ✓ **Expedition: planning, training for and completion of an adventurous journey in the UK or abroad.**

For the Gold Award, students must complete five sections, with the additional activity being a residential. The residential requires students to complete a shared activity by working and staying away from home.



Preparing students for their next step

Windsor High School and Sixth Form is committed to providing a programme of careers education and information, advice and guidance (CEIAG) for all students in Years 7 to 13 to help every student be successful in their next stage of education, training and employment.

Our students begin their careers education in Year 7 and work through a careers programme. Enterprise and employability skills are developed through the ASPIRE tutor programme, and character development days which are embedded within the academic year to enable students the time for meaningful careers lessons and interactions. This helps students learn about and reflect on the world of work.

We stress the importance of informed choice and provide impartial CEIAG throughout a student's time at Windsor. We inform students about the different career pathways available and help them make sound, informed choices throughout their time at school.

Programme

At Windsor, there are opportunities to visit employers or attend employer talks from different organisations focusing on particular careers, skills and attributes required.

Students have a schedule of compulsory provider and employer interactions in addition to opt-in experiences based on their personal career goals.

Students have access to 'Unifrog', an online tool which provides students with a personalised experience to enable them to explore careers pathways, create a personality profile, prepare applications and compare educational courses. Students can discover the relevant labour market information of careers that they might like or are suited to and discover where their favourite subjects could take them.

We also host an annual Higher Education and Careers Fair which is open to all students and parents in Year 9 and above. This is a popular event where students can speak directly to universities and employers and find out more about courses, career paths and apprenticeships.

Our partners

We work closely with our local partner organisations that provide impartial advice to all our students. Students may participate in a careers interview to provide guidance on their future, to inform and to support in the application process.

Work experience

Work experience is compulsory in Year 12 as part of an extensive Key Stage 5 CEIAG programme, and we also encourage our students at Key Stage 4 to participate in work experience placements, whether this be during school holidays or as part of our Activities Week in July.

As a school we take a blended approach to work experience, supporting both traditional placements, virtual placements and trips to workplaces.

Enterprise

The Windsor Enterprise Journey runs within the CEIAG programme from Year 7. In Key Stage 3, students take part in an enterprise project based in their Tutor groups each academic year, focusing on solving problems, such as improving sustainability. Furthermore, each year group from Year 7-13 receive dedicated lessons on financial capability.

Enterprise challenges take place across a wide range of settings including the school, Windsor Academy Trust, local businesses and universities, which prepares students for success in the world of work in the future.





Windsor Sixth Form

Our Sixth Form facilities are excellent. The teaching, study and social areas are university standard and provide the perfect learning environment for the large numbers of Windsor students who continue on to Sixth Form, as well as those who join us from other local schools in Year 12.

In addition to these teaching facilities, there is a spacious study area well equipped with computers, laptops and iPads for students to use to engage in their guided study. Sixth Form reception is housed in the study area; students have access to the Student Manager at all times for pastoral support, advice and guidance.

The Sixth Form boasts a spacious common room that accommodates our very own “Twenty Ten” café. This vibrant café operates throughout the day, offering an extensive selection of food and drink in a relaxed environment. The school’s exceptional sports hall and state-of-the-art fitness suite offer outstanding facilities for all students to engage in. These facilities are available for the entire school community to utilise and benefit from.

Windsor Sixth Form actively encourages students to participate in the wide range of enrichment opportunities on offer to them. These opportunities are designed to allow students to develop skills and qualities in addition to their academic achievement. There are numerous leadership opportunities for the students including: Student Union, Student Ambassadors, Paired Readers and Sports Leaders. We aim to offer a range of social, leadership and academic enhancement opportunities through our Enrichment Programme.

Students also have the opportunity to be involved in one of our sports academies: Windsor Golf Academy which is run in conjunction with Hagley Golf Club, Windsor Football, Netball and Basketball Academy, as well as Windsor Dance Academy.

The majority of Year 13 leavers successfully gain places at Russell Group universities, as well as a number of local universities. Students are well prepared to make their next step and continue their academic studies in a wide range of subject areas. For those that do not want to continue to university, there is a range of guidance and support on alternatives including apprenticeships and work-based training.

Alumni

We have a popular and active alumni network that is open to all former students of the school and the Sixth Form. The alumni network allows former students to connect with old friends, take part in events and activities and inspire the next generation of students.





How to apply to Windsor High School and Sixth Form

Secondary school admissions to Windsor High School and Sixth Form are handled by Dudley Metropolitan Borough Council.

You will be contacted directly by the council to apply for a place in Year 7 and can apply online or by completing a paper application form. Dudley Council will then contact you in March to inform you which school your child has been allocated to. The timeline shows the key stages of the application process.



1st September 2023

Applications Open - apply online or by completing a paper application form.



25th and 27th September 2023, 6:00pm to 8:30pm

Visit our Open Evenings - Gain a real experience of our school and find out if it is right for your child.



26th and 28th September 2023, 9:30am to 10:30am

Visit our Open Mornings - If you are unable to make our Open Evenings, you are welcome to attend an Open Morning to find out more about the school.



31st October 2023

Applications close - Make sure you get your application in before this date!



1st March 2024

Offers sent to parents - The Council will contact you to let you know which school your child has been allocated to.

Visit our school

There is no better way to experience Windsor High School and Sixth Form than by visiting us. Meeting teachers and seeing the facilities will enable you to find out if this is the right school for your child.

Our open evenings and open mornings provide the ideal opportunity to visit our school, and they take place at the following times:

Open Mornings

26th and 28th September 2023,
9:30am to 10.30am

Open Evenings

25th and 27th September 2023,
6:00pm to 8:30pm



Windsor Academy Trust

Windsor Academy Trust (WAT) family - a community deeply committed to the principle of unlocking the academic and personal potential of every student.

Our Trust Dividend - the value derived from our shared moral purpose and the collective responsibility we uphold, amplifies our capabilities to create an exceptional educational environment for our students. Being a part of the WAT family doesn't just mean belonging to a school; it means joining a purpose-driven community dedicated to nurturing both academic and personal growth.

Our shared 'why' is firmly rooted in the belief that every student can succeed academically and personally, regardless of their background, and that schools play a vital role in unveiling this potential. The WAT family stands as a testament to this belief, demonstrating how we strive to balance both aspects of student development, thus reinforcing the value of inclusivity and community.

As a significant civic actor and a contributor to the education system, the WAT family goes beyond seeing schools as individual units. We recognise the transformational power of education and advocate that it can be better unleashed through schools in families, as opposed to stand-alone schools.

By choosing a WAT family school, you are joining us on a journey towards unlocking potential, fostering dreams, and creating a brighter future. We look forward to welcoming you into our thriving community.



Dawn Haywood
CEO, Windsor Academy Trust



Windsor High School and Sixth Form is proud to be the founding school of the Windsor Academy Trust family. We are privileged to be part of the Trust and be able to work with the schools within it.

Staffordshire



12 SCHOOLS



7,500
CHILDREN



1,100
STAFF

The number of children who have *unlocked their potential* in the past 12 years

47,327



Notes

[illegible]

[illegible]



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Part of

