



**Windsor
Sixth Form**

Part of



Windsor
Academy Trust

Pride in Excellence

Sixth Form Prospectus 2024

windsorsixthform.org.uk



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Welcome to Windsor Sixth Form

Windsor Sixth Form is open to current students as well as to students from other establishments.

Every September, we are delighted to welcome our own Year 11 students and students from surrounding areas into Windsor Sixth Form. We have a reputation for academic excellence that is very much a part of our Sixth Form ethos. We begin each year with a bespoke induction programme where our focus is on maximum academic achievement and personal potential with a wide range of extra-curricular, leadership and social activities.

The Sixth Form facilities are first class and have impressed all who have seen them. Current students are delighted, reflecting on the “university atmosphere”. These facilities are backed up by excellent teachers and subject specialists who are totally committed to ensuring that they get the best from their students. Most importantly, we have small class sizes to allow for a personal approach and individualised learning. This allows each student to get to know their teachers extremely well and helps to build quality learning relationships.

Life at Windsor Sixth Form is not just about academic success; it is also about developing as a person. Extra-curricular activities and leadership roles, alongside a broad tutorial and extensive enrichment programme offering volunteering, work experience, Duke of Edinburgh Gold and a wide variety of competitive and non-competitive sports enables our students to become confident individuals.

A key feature of our Sixth Form is the extension of our collaboration between student, parent and school, which we know is the foundation for success. Our assessment and reporting schedule is designed to keep parents fully informed and in touch with all aspects of student progress.

We pride ourselves on the support we offer to each individual to maximise their potential, as well as develop their self-confidence and belief. The majority of our students aspire to study at university. Their chosen degree courses are wide ranging including areas such as law, sciences and the performing arts. Students are also supported to secure positions in employment or higher apprenticeships.

We are proud of what we have to offer and believe that the quality environment and teaching will ensure a fantastic Sixth Form experience for students.



Mr S R Lanckham
Headteacher



Mr J Leathem-Pugh
Deputy Headteacher and
Academic Director of Sixth Form

Why Windsor Sixth Form?

There are many reasons for choosing Windsor Sixth Form as your first choice for Post-16 education. Here are just a few.

Brilliant facilities

We are incredibly proud of the facilities that we have to offer students at Windsor 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; sports hall incorporating four badminton courts; music practice rooms and a music technology room; product design workshops; science laboratories and performance hall with stage and lighting.

You can have a look at some of the facilities on offer by scanning the QR code below to take a virtual tour of the school.



Virtual Tour



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.

Dedicated Sixth Form Centre

The Sixth Form has dedicated classrooms for lessons. There is a quiet study room which Sixth Form students can utilise throughout the day for independent learning, which has access to PCs and laptops. The Sixth Form team are based here and are always on hand to support students with any aspects of sixth form life. There is a Sixth Form common room style café, called TwentyTen, where students are able to socialise and purchase hot and cold snacks and drinks throughout the day.



The excellent support has really encouraged me. I am now aspiring to attend a top Russell group university.

Sylvie, studied at Windsor High School and Sixth Form



Progression and careers

We offer an extensive programme of careers education, information, advice and guidance (CEIAG) regarding the UCAS process and applying for employment.

All students have the opportunity to participate in a week's Work Experience which allows them to gain a valuable insight into the world of work.

We have a variety of links providing students with reliable work placements, giving them the edge for competitive higher education courses.

A range of external speakers and visits to university open/taster days are arranged from the start of Year 12 to ensure students are given maximum opportunity to consider their options.

We host an on-site HE and Careers Fair where students will be able to meet exhibitors from universities, apprenticeship providers and other institutions to gather advice on what to do after Sixth Form. Students also have access to Unifrog, an online one-stop shop for careers and higher education advice.

All students are given individual support by the Academic Director of Sixth Form, Assistant Headteacher, Heads of Year 12 and 13, the school Careers Co-ordinator, Form Tutors and the Sixth Form Student Manager to ensure any decisions and applications they make are of the highest possible standard and reflect their full potential. Students also have access to the Connexions Careers Service.



Elite Athlete Pathways

Students who are identified on Elite Athlete Pathways by their awarding bodies will be given a bespoke programme of support.

Included in this will be an individual mentor, support to attend training and training camps to allow students to achieve their academic and personal potential.

Students will also be able to utilise the range of facilities we have across the Sixth Form to aid their development.

Some of the Elite Athlete Pathways students have taken at Windsor Sixth Form are in golf, dance and football.

Helping students achieve their ambitions

Our aim is to create a learning environment in which students are given every opportunity to flourish academically, develop socially and above all enjoy their experience.

We ask each student to commit to the Sixth Form learning agreement and also to set individual goals. In return, we commit to the following to allow each student the opportunity to succeed:

- ✓ Have high expectations of all involved which will help raise achievement and attainment.
- ✓ Provide a curriculum which is broad and balanced and matches the needs of the individual.
- ✓ Provide a comprehensive student support system.
- ✓ Recognise that students learn in different ways and encourage them to find their most effective and enjoyable way of learning.
- ✓ Encourage independent learning within a creative Sixth Form culture, allowing students to deepen and broaden their knowledge in all areas of interest.
- ✓ Encourage students to have confidence in their abilities.
- ✓ Recognise that there are different types of intelligence and help students to make the most of their strengths through a varied enrichment and leadership programme.
- ✓ Create an environment which is conducive to study, where Sixth Form students have access to digital technologies and are motivated by their surroundings.



Supporting your studies



Tutor programme

The Tutorial system plays a key role in the support of students' pastoral and academic progress. Students will be placed in a tutor group, led by one of our specialist tutor teams. Tutors work with students every morning to monitor progress, assist with applications and help to solve any problems or difficulties that may be encountered.

Personal, Social, Health and Economic Education (PSHE) is delivered during tutor time as well as bespoke character development days which are tailored to suit students' needs. A key part of this will be developing the understanding of life in modern Britain.



Parental contact

The three-way partnership between the Sixth Form staff, students and parents through regular and planned contact with home has been crucial in our success. Reports on student progress and our parents' evenings help provide feedback on how students are progressing.

Parents can also request a private meeting with a tutor or subject teacher at any time throughout the academic year. There is always a point of contact for students, teachers and parents, encouraging excellent communication at all times. We also have a Sixth Form Bulletin which is emailed to parents and students to help to keep you informed of key events and to celebrate student success.



Student support and wellbeing

Whatever you study at Windsor Sixth Form, you will have access to one to one advice, guidance and support from experienced staff throughout the course.

This will include Tutor support, study skills sessions, revision sessions, career planning, UCAS conference, financial advice and health and welfare support – everything you need to ensure you succeed in the Sixth Form and help the transition into employment or university.

The Tutorial system plays a key role in the support of students' pastoral and academic progress. Tutor groups meet throughout the week and you will have individual interviews to monitor progress and help solve any problems or difficulties that may be encountered.



Windsor Sixth Form has given me many opportunities to go beyond the syllabus and take part in extra-curricular activities.

Leah, studied at Windsor High School and Sixth Form



Life at our Sixth Form

Joining our Sixth Form is about personal development as well as academic achievement. All Sixth Form students are encouraged to join the various sports clubs and teams, enjoy the range of visits planned, join us on university visits and open days and contribute to the growing international links that the school has established.

Student leadership

The Sixth Form Student Union provides a voice for students keen to take part in decision making processes across a range of issues of direct concern to Sixth Form students. This group consists of members elected by the students, meeting regularly to take a key role in the development of student facilities, social and charity events and enrichment activities across the Sixth Form.



Student Ambassadors

The Student Ambassador role within Sixth Form allows students to enhance and develop a range of skills and leadership qualities. Student Ambassadors are representatives of the Sixth Form who work closely with Sixth Form staff in a variety of ways. Setting up, managing and delivering projects in the community, volunteering at events and promoting the Sixth Form with parents and students are key aspects of their work. Uniquely, Student Ambassadors help to shape their own role within Sixth Form making this an excellent opportunity for students.

Community and volunteering work

All students have the opportunity to develop their contribution to community and leadership skills while studying at the Sixth Form. Students may lead extra-curricular clubs, mentor younger students in the main school, support teaching of the younger year groups or help out at our Trust schools. An extensive volunteering partnership is also in place with local organisations, as well as through the Duke of Edinburgh award scheme.

Students' contribution and engagement is recorded and this helps students in their applications to university or employment.



I came to Windsor Sixth Form as an external student and I have thoroughly enjoyed my experience. I feel supported whilst maintaining my independence.

Iqra, studied at Pedmore High School



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.

In Sixth Form we offer the Gold DofE Award. Sixth Form students volunteer to take on the challenges posed by the different aspects of this award. Students achieve the award by completing a personal programme of activities broken down into five sections:

- ✓ **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.**
- ✓ **Residential: students to complete a shared activity by working and staying away from home.**

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.

The Sixth Form has enabled me to build strong relationships with students and staff. It feels very much like a family.

Imogen, studied at St Michael's CE High School



Extraordinary opportunities

We believe it is vital to offer our students a wide range of enrichment opportunities to complement their studies. The enrichment options enhance the student's individual development and support their future aspirations.

There are many enrichment opportunities available to students such as photography, fitness, English Speaking Board exam, MOOCS, sign language, Aspiring Educators, to name but a few. There are a variety of physical activities, both recreational and competitive, available for students, designed to offer new opportunities and support a healthy lifestyle. Our Sixth Form teams in football, netball and golf compete in local, regional and national competitions during this time.

Students are also able to participate in a range of competitive and recreational sporting activities such as our Sixth Form Football Team. We are lucky enough to have the support of Hagley Golf Club to deliver our Golf Academy Programme. Students are also able to participate in dance with our Windsor Dance Academy, where they have the chance to develop their skills further as well as take part in productions within school and local theatres.

Students also take part in a range of trips during their time in Sixth Form. A few examples of the trips that have taken place in Sixth Form include visiting universities, Dorset, zoological trips and revision booster sessions. Students also have the opportunity to take part in many trips abroad, such as visiting Baltimore in the USA with our Dance department, Iceland with our Geography department, Auschwitz with our RE department, Cern with our Science department and a cultural trip to Rome.





Members of staff are supportive and are easy to approach when seeking guidance. Similarly, students are kind and respectful to one another which made settling in very easy.

Moiz, studied at Pedmore High School



Courses and entry requirements

The Level 3 courses available will ensure students have access to subjects that interest them, offer a personal pathway from Key Stage 4 and allow the required combinations to achieve their selected path Post-18.

Each type of course offers something different to the student. It is important that these differences are taken into consideration when making option choices.

Advanced Level (A Level) courses

These courses are studied over two years and examined at the end of Year 13. The structure of advanced courses differs per subject. Students achieving a strong set of GCSE results will be expected to take three A Level courses. There is also an opportunity for students to study four if they wish. Certain subjects have additional minimum grade requirements at GCSE; these are indicated on the website.

BTECs / CTECs

These courses are also studied over two years; there are a range of subjects on offer. National Certificates are equivalent to one A Level, National Diplomas are equivalent to two A Levels in Dance and Sport and you may study a National Extended Diploma equivalent to three A Levels. Consisting mostly of coursework assignments, a BTEC / CTEC course would suit those students who prefer a different assessment process to examinations. Like all Level 3 courses, good independent study skills are vital.

EPQ (Extended Project Qualification)

This prestigious research based qualification, attracting UCAS points and highly valued by universities, is offered as an option in Sixth Form.

Mathematics Enhancement (Known as Core Maths)

We offer enhancement opportunities for students who are not studying A Level Mathematics but need to develop their mathematical skills required for other subjects. The aim is to support mathematical knowledge across a range of A Levels and hence improve achievement.

Entry requirements

The entry requirements to study A Levels at Windsor Sixth Form is five subjects at grade 4 or above, with English and Maths (included) at grade 4 or above. In some cases the entry requirements for specific courses may be higher than this due to the demands of the course.

Where students are choosing a subject where a related GCSE has not been taken, the performance in the core subjects will be used as an indicator of suitability.



View Courses

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.

A map of Staffordshire and its surrounding regions: Cheshire to the northwest, Herefordshire & Worcestershire to the southwest, and Birmingham to the southeast. The map is filled with a dark purple color. Numerous school logos are placed on the map, each with a yellow speech bubble pointing to its location. The logos include Greenways, a shield with a book and puzzle pieces, Cheslyn May Academy, Great Wyley Academy, Windsor Academy (two locations), Rivers Primary Academy, Sandwell, Manor Way, Dudley, and Tenterfields Primary Academy. The city names are labeled on the map: Cheshire, Staffordshire, Wolverhampton, Walsall, Sandwell, Dudley, Birmingham, and Herefordshire & Worcestershire.

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



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