



Welcome

Welcome to Backwell Sixth Form. You have made an important decision in choosing to pursue your further education here. This handbook is designed to give you the essential information you will need to adjust to Sixth Form life and start your courses successfully.

In your time as a Sixth Form student you will be supported in all aspects of school by your Head of Year, Form Tutor and the Sixth Form Team. You may work with Mrs Hobbs, our Sixth Form Student Adviser, and Mrs Ball, the Careers Adviser and Coordinator. I oversee the work in the Sixth Form and look forward to following your progress over the next two years.

Being a student in the Sixth Form will be significantly different from your experiences of education up to now. We will help you adjust to the new demands and responsibilities involved. This transition begins with the completion of your summer transition work and continues next term, when we will have a Parents' Information Evening and an early review of your progress.

Your time in the Sixth Form prepares you for future employment and Higher Education. This means that you will be given more independence as learners and encouraged to take on more responsibilities too. This will not be a sudden change, however. We will work with your subject teachers in order to support you in adopting the work habits you will need for success at Backwell Sixth Form and beyond.

As part of Backwell Sixth Form you will have the opportunity to take part in a wide range of hugely valuable experiences alongside your academic work. The Sixth Form plays an important role in the life of Backwell School. Sixth Formers will be encouraged to take on roles of responsibility within the school, often working with younger students. In all aspects of your life in the Sixth Form, you should be aware of your status as role models.

We feel that you have made the right choice by coming to our successful, happy Sixth Form at Backwell. Please read carefully the information in this booklet. If you have any questions or concerns, the Sixth Form Team will be available to deal with them, as they will be throughout your time with us. We're looking forward to working with you!

Rose Haywood
Assistant Headteacher and Head of Sixth Form

Administrative Information

School Address and Telephone Number

Postal address: Backwell School, Backwell, Bristol BS48 3BX
Email address: mailbox@backwellschool.net
Telephone number: (01275) 463371
Email address to report absence: absence@backwellschool.net
Telephone number to report absence: (01275) 464188

Sixth Form Team

Miss Rose Haywood	Assistant Headteacher and Head of Sixth Form
Mr Michael Feven	Head of Year 12
Mr Adam Moore	Head of Year 13
Mrs Isla Hobbs	Sixth Form Student Adviser: Careers and Wellbeing
Mrs Charlotte Ball	Careers Adviser and Coordinator
Mrs Sharon Bangham	Sixth Form Administrator

The Sixth Form Week

Registration takes place at 8.40 am each day in tutor bases. In Year 12 students may only leave the school site at break and lunchtime for Term 1. From term 2 onwards, Year 12 students are entitled to Home Study in the afternoons only if they do not have a lesson. Whole Sixth Form Assemblies and Year 12 Assemblies will take place on alternate weeks and on days when assemblies are not held, PSHE, careers, competitions and admin activities will take place, so tutor time attendance is vital. At least once a week, students should expect to read over notes and discuss their progress and organisation with their tutor.

Holidays

For family holidays, please email your request to Miss Haywood, Assistant Headteacher and Head of Sixth Form, via mailbox@backwellschool.net. However, in line with school policy, holidays during term-time will only be authorised in exceptional circumstances.

References

When a sixth former requires a reference, they should name the Head of Year at the school address. The reference will be compiled in consultation with the student's tutor and subject teachers. Please be aware that we are legally obliged to be truthful when providing a reference. Employers, universities and other institutions will normally wish to know details of academic achievement, personal qualities and reliability, particularly with regards to attendance and punctuality.

Access Control Cards and Lanyards

All students are issued with a lanyard and access control card at the beginning the school year. They must wear both at all times in school for identification and safeguarding purposes. One card is registered to each student as an individual and is their responsibility; it should be kept safe at all times and should not be given to another student or anyone else.

Should a student lose their lanyard or access card, they must report it immediately to Mrs Bangham in the Sixth Form office, to arrange a replacement. Replacement cards are charged at £5 each, payable via www.parentpay.com.

Textbooks

Students may be required to buy their own copies and/or other equipment for certain courses so please check the course booklet for details of any subject specific costs and textbook requirements. If you have any difficulty acquiring the required equipment, please speak to your tutor or a member of the Sixth Form Team and if you are entitled to financial support, please retain receipts so that you can claim back the costs.

Health Problems

It is most important that parents/carers inform the school by email or letter of any health problems. This is particularly true of students joining the school for the first time, who will find a relevant section to complete on the form in which they supplied personal details. If a health or wellbeing issue arises at any time during the school year, parents/carers should contact tutors and the Head of Year as soon as possible so that support can be put in place.

Financial Support

The 16-19 Bursary Fund is allocated to the school by the Education Schools Funding Agency and is available to Post-16 students who are in receipt of Free School Meals or whose parents/carers receive Child Tax Credit. The Fund is designed to support such students with the financial challenges of their continuing education. If you think you may be eligible, please collect a Backwell School 16-19 Bursary Fund Application Form from the Sixth Form office from September.

Contact with Parents/Carers

Parents/carers are welcome to contact the school to discuss a student's progress or plans at any time of the year. The first point of contact is usually the student's tutor and then the Head of Year (Mr Feven).

Parents/carers will have an opportunity to follow their child's progress through reports and at parents' evenings, when they will be able to talk to their child's subject teachers.

Sources of Support

If you are having difficulties of a personal or academic nature, or if you need guidance, there is an extensive support structure in place. In our experience, successful students seek support early and do not “bottle up” their concerns; teachers are generally more understanding than students expect, provided students are honest about their problems from the start. In addition to your tutor and the Sixth Form Team, there is support available from Mrs Hobbs (the Sixth Form Student Adviser) and the possibility of being referred to the School Counsellors.

The member of staff who is designated with responsibility for child protection at Backwell School is Mr Sills (Assistant Headteacher).

Transport to School

North Somerset does not provide transport beyond the compulsory age of 16, except for those with special needs. There is a concessionary travel scheme whereby a student not entitled to transport *may* be able to take up a spare seat on a hired vehicle. Please contact North Somerset Council’s Home to School Transport team, on 01934 634715.

The school runs a paying out of catchment coach service covering South Bristol and Long Ashton. Sixth Form students are also welcome to apply for a place on one of these buses. Places are limited and offered on a first come first served basis. Please see the Travel to School page of the Backwell School website for more information and how to apply.

Public bus: Most students travelling by bus from Bristol or Weston obtain a First student bus pass. These can be bought via the First Group website, <https://www.firstbus.co.uk/buy-tickets/ways-pay/students>

Students in full time education can obtain up to 20% discount on all tickets across the West of England (Bristol, Bath, Weston-super-Mare and Wells). Students must show a form of valid photo ID to the driver on every journey to receive the discount, e.g., a valid NUS card. For further information, visit <https://www.firstbus.co.uk/bristol-bath-and-west/tickets/ticket-types/young-person-16-21-students>

Train: For students wishing to travel by train, substantial savings can be made on the cost of travel. Students aged 16 and 17 are eligible for the 16-17 Saver for £30 per year, which will allow them 50% discount off standard Anytime, Off-Peak, Advance and Season tickets. It is valid for one year or until their 18th birthday, whichever comes first. They must keep it with them when they travel (on their phone or wallet). For further information and to apply for a 16-17 Saver, visit <https://www.16-17saver.co.uk/>

GWR offer a Scholar Season ticket for 16 to 17 year olds who are in full-time study. The Scholar Season ticket is valid for a specific, regular journey to and from school/college on Monday to Friday only, and can be bought either termly, or as a block of three terms (Term 1 is from September to December; Term 2 is from January to Easter and Term 3 is from Easter to July). It must be purchased before the student’s 18th birthday and offers a substantial saving on the

price of an equivalent standard Adult Season ticket. If you are interested in purchasing a GWR Scholar Season ticket, you will need to call GWR direct on 0345 766 0228 (Option 2). This line is available between 8.00 am and 6.00 pm, from Monday to Friday. Alternatively, you can apply by email to business.direct@gwr.com, stating both your departure and destination station. Payment can be made by credit or debit card. Generally, to enjoy the best discount on the cost of a Scholar Season ticket, it is worth purchasing the 16-17 Saver. If you buy a Scholar Season ticket before your 16-17 Saver expires, you can keep using the season ticket for up to four months after the expiry.

For students aged 18 and over, it may be worth considering purchasing an Adult Season ticket to save substantially on the cost of a regular train journey. For further information, visit <https://www.gwr.com/your-tickets/choosing-your-ticket/season-tickets>

Students may also wish to consider buying a 16-25 Railcard, which will give 1/3 off standard rail tickets (but not season tickets); this costs £30 for a year. However, we would point out that this discount does not apply for journeys before 10.00 am (a minimum fare of £12 is payable), so it is therefore not very useful for school travel. For more information and details on how to apply, please visit <https://www.16-25railcard.co.uk/>

Driving to school: Students may only park a car or motorcycle in school with a valid permit, obtained from the Sixth Form Office. Please be aware that parking space is extremely limited and in practice permits are only issued to students in Year 13 who are unable to use public transport. Priority is always given to students with a greater distance to travel, and we encourage lift sharing. Due to the obvious health and safety implications, there are rules concerning driving on the school site that are discussed upon issue of the permit. Failure to adhere to these rules will see the permit withdrawn.

Please be aware that there is no vehicle access via the Leisure Centre car park. This car park is the private property of the Leisure Centre and is reserved for the use of their customers only. If you park offsite, please do so sensibly and give consideration to Backwell residents.

Sixth Form Policy for Study Periods

It is expected that students should spend their study periods consolidating their work and doing further reading. *This is in addition to homework tasks set by subjects.* We reserve the right to insist that students falling behind in their work spend study periods in the Library or working with a member of the Sixth Form Team in our Sixth Form study room (SF4). Successful students complete an average of around 15-20 hours of independent study per week, though where and when this is done varies by student. Students will receive department guidance on independent study in September. Every year the Year 13 advice to Year 12 students is to use study periods effectively!

Use of Study Periods in Year 12

Most students will have a fifth of their time as study periods. Year 12 students should work in the Library or in one of the rooms listed on the 'free rooms' sheets. Students may choose to spend some single lesson study periods in the Sixth Form Common Room (6CR).

Home Study in Year 12/13

As of term 2, Year 12 students who do not have lessons in the afternoon are entitled to study at home. The vast majority of students will be granted further Home Study privileges in Year 13, which means that they are able to come in late and leave early on days where they have study periods. This gradual increase in flexibility is designed to help students develop their independent study skills. This privilege is dependent on attendance, punctuality and performance in Year 12 and will only be granted to students who have demonstrated during Year 12 that they can manage their workload and use study periods effectively. We reserve the right to remove Home Study privileges and require students to be in school all day where progress and/or attendance are a concern.

Conduct when out of school during the day

When you are offsite during the school day, please remember that you are an ambassador for the school. Please also consider the local residents. For example, while a large gathering of students outside a shop may be perfectly innocent, many people find such groups intimidating.

Some tips for managing your study time:

- Allocate your study time in advance (timetabled periods at school or set hours at home) so that it becomes *"This is when I study"* and not *"I'll study when I've got work to do"*.
- Agree to study at the same times as someone else. Not letting them down means you won't let yourself down either.
- If you put something off, you will still have to do it. Look ahead – if you don't do it now, you may have to miss football/some TV tomorrow to get it done.
- Try to do or review a task the day it is set – this gives you the chance to notice if you need assistance to get started and time to seek help well before the deadline (teachers are always keen to help proactive students).

Rooms Frequently Used by Sixth Formers

The Sixth Form Common Room (6CR)

This is your common room and it is not supervised directly by staff. It is the responsibility of Sixth Form students to keep the room tidy and respect all fellow users. Failure to do this will result in restrictions on access to the room.

Please familiarise yourself with the various noticeboards, which are used to promote opportunities such as extra-curricular committees and activities, as well as courses to support applications for higher education and apprenticeships. There is also an LCD screen displaying current notices and you should aim to check this every day.

At Break and Lunchtime

The school caterers, Aspens, sell a variety of hot and cold food. The servery is open from about 8.30 am through to 2.30 pm. The school operates a cashless catering system, using a biometric reader whereby students hold an individual account and use their thumb or finger as a means of identification.

Music can be played at this time – bear in mind that the Sixth Form Team have a master volume control and can also override inappropriate choices with their own music. We expect our respective tastes to vary significantly!

During Lesson Time

There is no music allowed during lesson times. The Sixth Form Common Room is not a room for silent study but noise must be at a minimum so that those wishing to study can do so without being disturbed.

Dos and Don'ts for the use of the Sixth Form Common Room and Classrooms during Lunchtime

Do use the litter and **recycling** bins

Do return plates, cutlery, cups, etc to the table by the canteen – Don't leave them on the tables

Do leave rooms tidy

Do leave furniture where you found it and stay away from teachers' desks and cables

Do report damage

Do keep an eye on the screens for important messages

Do seek permission to use any classroom across the school at breaks or lunchtimes – talk to the relevant department

Do only use the free rooms indicated during lesson times

Don't ruin any facilities with graffiti

Don't play ball games or the equivalent – Do stick to the directed areas of the courts/fields and during breaks and lunchtimes only

The Library

The Library welcomes you to a positive and work-orientated environment, for all students and staff at Backwell School. The Librarian Mr Brooks is there to help you find books for wider reading around your subjects, as well as offering assistance finding material for extended projects (such as NEA and EPQ) and advice on referencing. The Library also has two Library Assistants, Mrs Hicken and Ms Rundle, to help you during your time in the Library. All Sixth Form students are encouraged to use the facilities throughout the day for quiet study.

Opening Times

Monday to Thursday	8.00 am to 4.30 pm
Friday	8.00 am to 3.30 pm

Resources and Facilities

The Library has a large collection of Fiction, Non-Fiction, and DVDs, as well as online resources accessed via the Library Frog pages. There is a dedicated Sixth Form Library which is a collection of titles collected by the librarians for you. These books are especially useful for Sixth Form students to do essential reading outside your classes.

Along with curriculum based reading, we also encourage you to read for pleasure, entertainment, and wellbeing. Sixth Formers are welcome to borrow Fiction from the Reading Room in LB1 and the Guides to Life section contains titles on study skills, careers, identity and mental health. While Sixth Form students are welcome to bring in their own devices, school laptops are available to borrow within the Library.

Loans

You can borrow six books or DVDs for two weeks.

Printing and photocopying

Students can print their work and also photocopy pages from textbooks free of charge.

Study

The main study area is reserved for Sixth Form students for private study during lesson times. Sixth Form students are expected to set a good example with a high standard of self-discipline by working silently and independently whilst in the Library.

Break Time

At break and lunchtime the Library is open to all, from Years 7 to 13. The Library is relaxed during these times and is therefore not quiet – the perfect time to take a break from studying!

Free Rooms

A number of free rooms are available each period. This is to allow for collaborative work not suited to the silent atmosphere of the Library. Please see the lists displayed in the Library and on the Sixth Form noticeboard. If you find a free room locked, please ask staff in the department to open it for you and inform them when you leave.

Please appreciate that this system relies on the co-operation of staff, so rooms should always be left in good condition.

In addition to this, students taking a practical subject are often encouraged to spend private study time in department rooms in order to make use of the facilities.

In addition to the laptops in the Library there are several computer rooms around the school, which may be available for use by students to work, with the permission of a member of the Sixth Form Team.

SF4

Upstairs in the Sixth Form building is a classroom that is used for supervised private study. At certain times it can be used for meetings, including those by clubs and societies. If you would like to book this room for a meeting or activity, please discuss your ideas with the Sixth Form Team, starting with Mrs Bangham.

IT Facilities

A formal policy has been developed by the school IT working group on students' use of IT. You will be asked to sign an agreement when you start in September and continued access to the internet and the School Network is dependent on conformance to the terms of this agreement.

School work can be printed free of charge, up to a sensible limit. There is a photocopier available in the Library for schoolwork. Please ask staff for assistance.

School laptops are available to borrow and use within the Library. They are stored in the cabinet in the Library. When using a school laptop, please plug it in to recharge inside the cabinet on return.

Extra-Curricular Activities

It is expected that all students will engage in some form of extra-curricular activity. This is a good way to enhance a CV and an application for a job or further/higher education. It will also add to your enjoyment of school, and in all likelihood this will benefit your academic progress (provided you don't do too much!). Many students continue hobbies started at school into later life and this is a great opportunity to try something new, often for free.

Volunteering

We expect every Year 12 student to undertake some form of volunteering. There are two main options for 'Volunteering':

- a) Volunteering at Backwell School: This can take a number of forms, but the most popular is supporting younger students in the classroom or in clubs and activities. The attendance and performance of the Sixth Form student is monitored by the member of staff. At the end of the year, there is a report on the student's work, which can be a valuable addition to CV and reference.
- b) Volunteering outside Backwell School: Students arrange voluntary placements during the school day, working in the wider community. The most popular form of volunteering has been in local infant and primary schools. Students have also worked with the elderly or supporting those with disabilities.

Other Extra-Curricular Opportunities

In addition to volunteering, students are encouraged to participate in other activities, many of which take place at lunchtime or after school.

These opportunities include:

- Sporting activities: Represent the school in a variety of teams, take part in house matches or run the gruelling Paarlauf.
- Committees: Represent your tutor group, control a large budget and help to organise social events as part of the Sixth Form Committee. You can also get involved in our Charity, Diversity, Environment and Sport & Wellbeing Committees.
- Drama/music: Join one of the many choirs or orchestras or take part in the annual Sixth Form Production, which is organised entirely by Sixth Formers.
- World Challenge: A demanding expedition that takes place every two years. Previous locations include Borneo, Mongolia, Costa Rica, Nepal, Malaysia and Indonesia.
- Debating Club: Argue and battle with opponents in school and further afield.
- University Challenge quiz competition: An annual inter-tutor group competition.
- Vocational Societies: In the past, students have set up groups to share tips and experiences to help with applications for courses such as Medicine and Law.

- The Croak: Backwell School's online newspaper – a must for any budding journalist.
- Peer Mentoring: Undertake training to teach Mental Health Awareness to Year 7 tutor groups and to support them as a team of mentors.

Information about all these opportunities will be provided in the first few weeks of term. We strongly advise that you make sure you have settled into your subject courses before taking on extra things.

Many clubs and societies have originated as a result of suggestions from students. If you have a new idea for a club or society, please discuss it with the Sixth Form Team.

Backwell Sixth Form Committee

Backwell Sixth Form Committee consists of tutor group representatives and meetings take place on a regular basis.

The main roles of the Sixth Form Committee are to represent the views of Sixth Formers, look after the common room and to provide social events for the Sixth Form. We organise regular social functions, themed non-uniform days and, the highlight of the Sixth Form's social calendar, the Leavers Ball.

We donate money to various charities and also try to help our own students if they need sponsoring for activities. In addition, we play a large part in supporting the annual Sixth Form Production. We can liaise with teachers on behalf of students when this seems appropriate, and invite a member of the Sixth Form Team to our meetings when necessary.

Elections for the new Year 12 representatives take place in November. They hold their positions for 16 months, "going it alone" from Term 5 of Year 12 and helping to organise the Leavers Ball. Until they are elected, students are welcome to attend any meetings and approach the existing committee members if they have any questions or problems, or would simply like to know how the Sixth Form Committee runs.

We also have four further committees at Backwell Sixth Form: Charity, Diversity, Environment and Sport & Wellbeing. Further details about these committees and how to join will be shared in September.

Enrolment for September 2024

Please share this important information with your parent(s)/carer(s)

Enrolment:

If you are a new student to Backwell, please contact us on **Thursday 22 August 2024** regarding your GCSE results and provide a scanned copy of your statement of results to sbangham@backwellschool.net.

All students who intend to join Backwell Sixth Form in September 2024 will need to enrol and secure their place by completing the online registration form between **Thursday 22 August and Thursday 29 August 2024** (the link will be emailed to you).

Registration Day:

All Year 12 students will be expected in school at 8.40 am on **Wednesday 4 September 2024**. Please assemble in the **Sixth Form Common Room** before 8.40 am.

If you are new to the school, please bring the original of your full GCSE results on Registration Day, so that we can take a photocopy for our records.

All students will be issued with a tutor group and timetable on arrival. **Please check that your timetable shows the subjects you are expecting.** The most likely reasons why a timetable might be incorrect are:

- You have changed your mind about your chosen subjects
- You have not met the entry requirements for certain subjects

You should have at least three subjects on your timetable. Unless you are taking a fourth subject at AS or A Level or the Extended Project Qualification, you will be expected to complete the Employability Award. The Sixth Form Team may also recommend that you join a Supervised Study class to help you develop study routines.

You will have the opportunity during the day to discuss any problems or necessary changes to your programme of study.

Lessons will not start on Wednesday 4 September 2024. However, please bring your completed summer work with you for all your subjects and any folders, etc, you have prepared.

Start of Term:

Lessons will start on **Thursday 5 September 2024**. Please report to your tutor base by 8.45 am.

Year 12 Information Evening:

Early in Year 12 we hold an information evening to inform parents and carers about Sixth Form procedures. The *provisional* date for this evening is Wednesday 11 September 2024. A letter will be sent home at the start of term confirming these arrangements. In addition, there will be a Parents' Evening later in the year to discuss progress and we will also hold a Post-18 Information Evening, the provisional date for which is Monday 23 June 2025.

Sixth Form Home – School Agreement

Successful education is based on a good partnership between students, parents or carers, and the school. All partners must recognise their responsibilities and seek to carry them out to the best of their abilities. When you start Year 12 in September, we will ask both you and your parents/carers to sign this agreement.

The responsibilities of students

I will:

- take responsibility for my own learning;
- be punctual to registration and all lessons;
- complete work on time and to the best of my ability;
- work quietly and independently in private study areas;
- comply with the rules in relation to the use of the school's computer system;
- comply with the rules for quick return of library books, so that all students have fair access;
- treat the Common Room with respect;
- dress in a way that is tidy and smart and appropriate for a school/work environment;
- wear my sixth form lanyard at all times on the school site;
- sign in and out of school when arriving late or leaving the premises early, and only at approved times;
- show respect for the needs of all other students and staff, regardless of their race, gender, sexuality, religion or other personal circumstances.

I understand that if I do not keep to the terms of this contract, I may have to pay the entry fee for my exams and/or I may be asked to leave the Sixth Form.

The responsibilities of parents and carers

I/We will:

- ensure that my/our child attends school punctually and complies with the dress code, including wearing a sixth form lanyard;
- support my/our child in their studies and other opportunities for learning;
- support the authority of the school in its expectations of hard work, good behaviour, respect for others and care of school equipment and premises;
- respond quickly to enquiries about my/our child's education and welfare and make every effort to attend meetings and report evenings affecting their progress;
- make the school aware of any concerns or problems that might affect my/our child's work or behaviour.

The responsibilities of the school

The school will:

- aim for the highest standards of work and behaviour through good teaching and pastoral care;
- report regularly on your child's progress and keep you informed of any concerns;
- respond quickly to all enquiries about your child's education and welfare;
- provide information and offer opportunities for you to know more about and be involved in the daily life of the school.

Teachers will:

- set, mark and monitor work;
- take account of the individual circumstances of students;
- be firm and fair in their dealings with students.

Further Guidance on Expectations

- Prompt attendance is required to registration, all lessons, tutorials and assemblies. See later guidance on the use of study periods. **Please note that morning tutorials form part of our statutory provision and are therefore compulsory.**
- If you are absent from school for any reason, e.g., illness, medical appointment, etc., your parent/carer needs to inform us and to authorise your absence by contacting Student Absence, via email to absence@backwellschool.net or phone to 01275 464188.
- If you need to leave school during the day, e.g., for an appointment or if you feel ill, you must sign out in Student Services (not in the Sixth Form) and your parent/carer also needs to authorise this by contacting Student Absence.
- If you know that you will be absent from a lesson, e.g., for a university open day, driving test, etc., you should obtain permission from the teacher and your parent/carer. Do this by completing a form, available from the Sixth Form Office. **Teachers will expect you to have caught up with work before the next lesson.**
- You should check your school email on a daily basis, and respond promptly to requests.
- In our experience, successful sixth form students do not regularly socialise on weeknights or on more than one night of the weekend. Part-time work might be important for some Sixth Form students, but should be carefully limited in terms of hours. As a full-time student you should not exceed 15 hours per week in paid work, and we would recommend significantly less than this.
- You will be expected to dress in a way that is suitable for the working day. Some examples of what this means are as follows:
 - No clothes with offensive slogans or pictures
 - No clothing that is too revealing (e.g. exposed waists, low tops, shorts that reveal the majority of the thigh)
 - No extreme hairstyles
 - No 'beachwear' such as surf shorts or flip-flops
 - No caps, hats or earphones in lessons or assemblies
 - Piercings should be limited to those which would be generally acceptable in the workplace: this would mean no 'spacers'.In all cases, your tutor and/or the Sixth Form Team have the final say on what is appropriate. You may be asked to go home and change if you do not dress reasonably.
- Mobile phones/headphones should not be used when walking around the school site, and should only be used in lessons when given explicit permission by the teacher.
- Please be aware at all times that you are a role model to younger students.

Subject Entry Qualifications

To study Level 3 Courses (A Levels or equivalent): You will need to obtain five GCSEs at grade 9 to 4 including English Language. If a student has not studied a subject at GCSE this does not preclude them from studying it at A Level. Students who do not meet the minimum requirements to study in the Sixth Form or who do not meet subject specific requirements will still be considered in light of their suitability to study their chosen options.

Entry profile for specific subjects

Subject	Grade in subject at GCSE	Additional grade in Core Subjects
Biology	66 in Science or 6 in Biology and 6 in another science	5 in Mathematics
Chemistry	66 in Science or 6 in Chemistry and 6 in another science	6 in Mathematics
Physics	66 in Science or 6 in Physics and 6 in another science	6 in Mathematics
Physical Education*	5 in GCSE PE or Merit in Sports Science qualification	66 in Science or 6 in Biology and 6 in another science
Mathematics	6	
Further Mathematics	8 (7 for AS level only)	
Core Mathematics	4	
Computer Science*	6	6 in Mathematics
English Language	5	
English Literature	5	
Media	5 in English	
Geography*	5	
History*	5	
Philosophy and Ethics*	5 in Philosophy and Religion	5 in English Language
Modern Foreign Languages	6 in the corresponding language	
Business Studies CTEC		4 in Mathematics
Economics		5 in Maths and 5 in English Language
Sociology*	5 (or 5 in English Language if not studied at GCSE)	
Psychology		5 in Maths and 5 in English Language
Health and Social Care CTEC	General entry requirements	
Music**	5 and Grade 5 or equivalent in an instrument or voice	
Music Technology**	4 in Music	
Drama and Theatre Studies**	4 or Merit in Performing Arts qualification or Grade 5 in English	
Art courses**	4	
DT**	4	

* Where this subject has not been studied at GCSE students will be considered based on their overall academic profile.

** If not studied at GCSE a task to assess a candidate's suitability will be set.

Year 12 Timetable Grid September 2024

Line A	Line B	Line C	Line D	Line E
Biology	Art	Computer Science	Biology	Chemistry
Economics	Business Studies	English Language	Business Studies	Core Mathematics
English Literature	Chemistry	EPQ	Core Mathematics	Drama & Theatre Studies
Further Mathematics*	Core Mathematics	French	DT Product Design	English Language
History	EPQ	Media Studies	Further Mathematics*	EPQ
Mathematics A Level	Mathematics A Level	Physical Education	Geography	History
Media Studies	Music Technology	Textiles	Health & Social Care	Physics
Photography	Religious Studies		Music	Psychology
Psychology	Sociology			
Spanish				
Employability Award	Employability Award	Employability Award	Employability Award	Employability Award

*Students studying A Level or AS Level Further Mathematics will study a combination of Mathematics and Further Mathematics on Lines A and D.