

DISCOVER THE COMPLETE YOU,
DISCOVER YOUR FUTURE



WOLLASTON SCHOOL
SIXTH FORM
OPEN EVENING

7TH NOVEMBER 2024

Welcome from the Heads of Years

Whether you are completing your seven-year journey or joining us to unlock your next pathway, Wollaston Sixth Form is the choice for you. Not only do we celebrate great outcomes, but we also pride ourselves on the personalised journey of development we offer students and the destinations they go on to secure. Every student who has applied for university over the past three years has secured a place, with other pathways leading to exciting apprenticeships and employment opportunities.

We pride ourselves on being a Sixth Form that helps all students develop, whatever your interests or areas of expertise. As a result, it is not only A level results that are impressive but the vocational grades too. In 2024, 18% of A level grades were graded A*- A, with vocational grades being an average of Distinction. Consequently, we are happy to offer an extremely broad range of subjects knowing that we have the expertise to help students achieve to their highest possible standards; whether it be history, English language or core maths, health and social care or media studies, we know that we can help guide you to ultimate success.

Our Sixth Form continues to be a varied, exciting and aspirational community: events include an annual Careers Fair with over thirty local, national and international employers, universities and training providers. Visits to universities and the Midlands' UCAS Higher Education Convention; the Wellingborough inter-school Sixth Form Olympics. Students have enjoyed events ranging from visits to Italy and Poland, West End theatre productions and Duke of Edinburgh expeditions.

As a student, your Sixth Form years offer greater freedom and opportunity, but along with this freedom comes more responsibility. It is a time for you to take control of your own destiny; an exciting time when you will make big decisions as you prepare for higher education, employment and your future career.

Our Study Centre provides an ideal place to work and is the hub of our activities. With dedicated and experienced staff there to help with every aspect of Sixth Form life, this resource is open until 5.00pm, meaning you can take advantage of the resources beyond the normal school day. A Sixth Form Café now operates throughout the school day for our students helping you to develop greater independence in the way you structure your day. In addition, students will be given opportunities to develop personal skills through our leadership programme. With positions that range from Head Students and charity organisers to leaders of the Social committee and Media representatives, there will be positions available that will help you flourish in your chosen field.

Everything is in place at Wollaston School to help you make these adjustments. We are not a Sixth Form College and our smaller size allows us to retain a genuine sense of community and for teaching staff to offer focused individual support. Our dedicated and experienced team offers advice that will guide you through your Sixth Form studies.

Yes, there will be high expectations, but we want you to leave Wollaston School believing that everything you strive for is possible. You will explore exciting and extensive opportunities, be encouraged to be inquisitive and to innovate, to face challenges, take responsibility and show leadership, and to be a force for good in the school community.

Welcome to our Sixth Form. We are sure you will enjoy your time here.

Mrs D Alston and Mr S Braham-Nicoll

Your Sixth Form Team



**Mrs Jo
Melia**

**Sixth Form
Centre Manager**



**Mr Sam
Braham-Nicoll**

**Head of
Year 12**



**Mrs Dani
Alston**

**Head of
Year 13**



**Mr Jonny
Bodicoat**

**Co-head of
Year 13**



**Mr Edd
Stevenson**

**Assistant
Headteacher**

Student Leadership

“Sixth Form students are excellent ambassadors for the school” Ofsted 2023



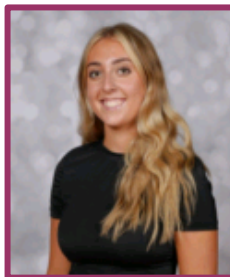
**Will
Davies**

Head Boy



**Freya
Garlick**

Head Girl



**Becca
Ward**

Deputy Head Girl



**Ben
Monk**

Deputy Head Boy



**Chester
Thorneycroft**

Deputy Head Boy

We believe in providing students with the opportunity to develop **leadership, maturity** and **commitment** during their time in the Sixth Form. Our students play a vital role in improving, not only the Sixth Form, but also the wider school. There are a wide range of ways in which they do this; Senior students have a major role within the Sixth Form; they present the views of the Sixth Form to staff, represent the school at official events, eg Open Evenings, as well as organising Sixth Form events such as Rag Week, Sixth Form socials and the Summer Ball.

The Senior Students are a selected group of Sixth Form students who each have a role within our community. Each have their own area of responsibility of Sport, Social, Teaching and Learning, Charity and School Community.

“Students in the Sixth Form are fully involved in the life of the school. They are positive role models”

Ofsted 2023

The Sixth Form Curriculum

The majority of our Sixth Form students complete 3 or 4 A level courses chosen from a range of over 20 subjects, but vocational courses are also popular, including BTEC courses in subjects such as Uniformed Protective Services and Health and Social Care. It is possible to study a mix of both A levels and BTEC subjects and, increasingly, this is becoming more common as students can create a package to suit their specific career plans. Detailed subject information for all subjects is available on our website.

Entry Requirements

Our concern is for students to succeed. Entry thresholds are set at a level which ensures that students who are accepted into our Sixth Form have the necessary academic qualifications to achieve well in their chosen courses. Evidence suggests that students who do not meet these requirements generally do not succeed on A level (or equivalent Level 3) courses.

Entry to the Sixth Form: Average of your best 8 GCSE grades of at least a grade 4 is required for entry into the Sixth Form.

Entry to A levels

It is required that you secure at least a grade 5 in the subjects you wish to study. If you chose subjects at A level that you have never studied before, then we would expect you to secure at least an average of a grade 5 in your GCSEs.

For some subjects there are slightly higher requirements based on previous performance of students across the country. For example, it would be expected that you would secure at least a grade 6 in order to study Languages, Mathematics, Computer Science or one of the Sciences. Please do carefully study each of the subject specific requirements.

Entry to study 4 A level subjects: Average of at least a grade 5.5 is required.

Entry to BTEC/OCR technical courses

It is required that you secure at least a grade 4, or equivalent, in the subject you wish to study. If you chose BTEC/OCR subjects that you have never studied before, then we would expect you to secure at least an average of a grade 4 in your GCSEs.

If you wish to study a subject but fall below our normal requirements in that subject, then we will take a decision based on your GCSE grades, a discussion with your specific Year 11 class teacher and an interview with you and your parents/ carers.

Entry Requirements

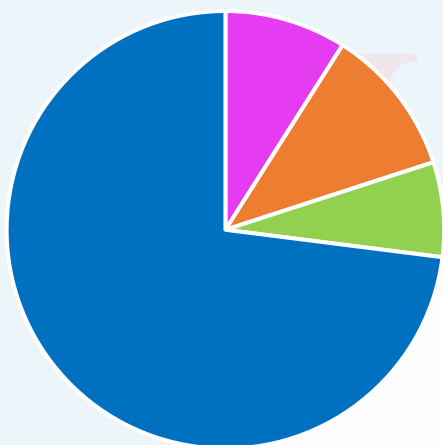
Subject	Entry Requirements
Art	GCSE Grade 5 or above
Biology	GCSE Grade 6 or above
Business	Sixth Form Entry Requirements
Chemistry	GCSE Grade 6 or above
Computer Science	GCSE Grade 5 or above
Dance	GCSE Grade 5 or above
Design Technology	GCSE Grade 4 or above
Drama	GCSE Grade 5 or above
Economics	GCSE English and Maths Grade 5 or above
English Language	GCSE Grade 5 or above
English Literature	GCSE Grade 5 or above
French	GCSE Grade 6 or above
Geography	GCSE Grade 5 or above
German	GCSE Grade 6 or above
Health & Social Care (BTEC)	Sixth Form Entry Requirements
History	GCSE Grade 5 or above
Maths	GCSE Grade 6 or above *
Media	GCSE English Grade 5 or above
Food Science & Nutrition	GCSE Grade 5 or above, or equivalent
Further Maths	GCSE Maths Grade 8 or above
Music	GCSE Grade 6 or above
PE	GCSE Grade 5 or above
Philosophy	GCSE English Grade 5 or above
Physics	GCSE Grade 6 or above
Psychology	GCSE Biology and GCSE Maths Grade 5 or above
Sociology	GCSE English Language Grade 5 or above
Sport	GCSE Grade 5 or above
Uniformed Protective Services	Sixth Form Entry Requirements

If you chose subjects at A Level that you have never studied before, then we would expect you to secure at least an average of a grade 5 in your GCSEs

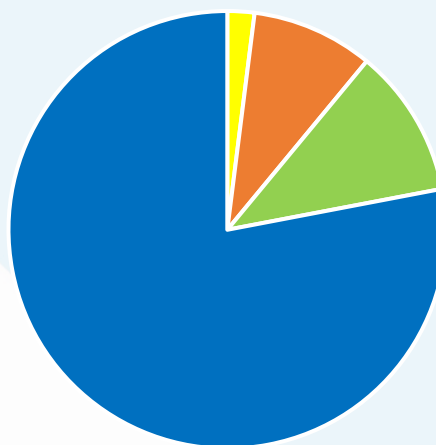
*All students who opt to study maths will complete an initial algebra assessment during the July inductions days, or during September teacher training day for late entries. A grade 6 student will not be admitted to the course if not successful in this assessment.

Onward destinations of our students

2023 Destinations



2024 Destinations



- University
- Employment / apprenticeship
- Gap year
- Services
- US Scholarship

It is of great importance to us that our students make progress throughout their school life. When students go on to other destinations at age 18, we make sure that they have the skills to take into the workplace or on to higher education destinations.

We carefully support all of our students' decision making about future career paths, whilst most students opt for a university pathway, degree apprenticeships are becoming more popular, and more exciting employment opportunities are becoming available each year.

In the autumn term we follow up students who have not found a place in employment, training or further education and provide them with careers advice.

“Teachers have strong subject knowledge and provide supportive feedback”

Ofsted 2023

Extra Curriculum

Wollaston Sixth Form is about much more than lessons and academic study. We offer a wide range of extra curriculum opportunities designed to enhance student experience, support applications to university and develop personal qualities of leadership, maturity and independence. All students will be expected to take part in some form of enrichment such as:

- Student support e.g. acting as a Buddy reader or Number buddy
- Supporting in lower school lessons
- Running/supporting school clubs
- Mentoring a Year 11 student
- Representing the school through evening events
- Support in school departments
- Support in the wider community

Trips and Non-Curriculum events

At Wollaston Sixth Form we believe in delivering a wide range of non-curriculum events to enhance your growth into young adulthood, these include our annual Rag Week which includes such delights as Strictly Come Dancing, Bushtucker Trials and a Talent Show (staff as well as students taking part makes an interesting watch) We raise a considerable amount during this week for both local and national charities, last year we raised £3266.

We also hold many Charity Days including Children in Need, Wear Pink for Breast Cancer Research, Wear Yellow for Mental Health Awareness as well as organising a Christmas present donation through the Salvation Army for those less fortunate than ourselves.

We run a number of trips in Sixth Form, including the UCAS Convention at the University of Bedford, an annual Christmas Shopping Reward Trip which is usually to Birmingham, our annual Sixth Form Auschwitz trip, a trip to Italy which includes Rome, the Amalfi Coast and Pompeii.

We hold a Summer Ball each July as a formal send off to departing Year 13 students as well as a fun packed Leavers Day and a formal Presentation Evening to distribute exam certificates and trophies for excellence.

“Students enjoy their Sixth Form experience”

Ofsted 2023

Sixth Form Pastoral System

Mentoring

The pastoral and emotional well-being of all our students is of paramount importance to us. The cornerstone to success in the Sixth Form is the mentor. Mentors see students on a daily basis during registration, but in addition to this, they will meet with each student at least once per half term to discuss their academic progress. The purpose of this meeting is to focus on the student's academic progress and to identify the student's strengths and weaknesses, as well as any barriers to achievement. The mentor will agree targets with the student and ensure they understand how to achieve them. Morning registration provides an opportunity to check on the progress of these targets in an informal way.

For a parent the mentor should be the first point of contact with the school, they will liaise with subject staff and, through their regular mentor meetings, will be best placed to support their mentees in school.

We have an established mentor programme with themes delivered on a weekly basis to support students' personal, social and emotional (not to mention academic) development.

Each week the students meet for an assembly with a framework of themes based on academic, community values and personal learning. Awards assemblies are held once a term to celebrate the success of the year group. We believe this creates a positive community spirit, a strong sense of belonging, where individual success can be recognised, rewarded and enjoyed.

Personal, emotional or social concerns

We are fully aware that life can be very complex for young adults in the 21st century; the changing nature of their friendships, work-life balance, online communications, future plans, exams, changing family arrangements – all these, and more, can have an impact on student happiness. The Sixth Form operates an 'open door' policy for all students; students may, and do, speak with the Sixth Form Centre Manager or the Heads of Year, for advice, support and guidance and we will do our utmost to help students solve any problems they may have. We have a strong team of pastoral staff across the wider school, and we also have good relationships with a range of outside agencies and do work with parents and students to access such support where necessary.

“Students enjoy positive relationships with their teachers”
Ofsted 2023

Student Experiences

The External Student

Joining any new sixth form can be overwhelming, but not here at Wollaston.

Out of all the sixth forms I had visited I was so impressed with the difference in quality Wollaston presented, and that quality carried on to when I became a student here. Every teacher I met was there with one main goal and that was to help their students, where any questions or problems I had I was always met with assistance, whether that be from my subject teachers or the brilliant Sixth Form Team who are always available to help. All resources required or wanted for your A Level studies are easily provided to ensure students get the best out of their time here at Wollaston Sixth Form.

The opportunities at Wollaston are endless. Not only do many subjects provide the chance at out-of-school trips, the Sixth Form offers the chance at achieving the Duke of Edinburgh Gold award, something I greatly enjoyed and would recommend to anyone, especially as it helped me to make friends with others in my year. Students also get the opportunity to take on senior leadership responsibility with formal applications and interviews being held towards the end of Year 12, providing students with a chance at being involved in representing the Sixth Form. As an external, I worried about even applying for such a task, but encouragement from the Sixth Form Team was so heartwarming that I gave it a go, and was awarded with Head Boy of the School, so don't let being an external student put you off pushing for taking the opportunity to have senior role! Work experience is also offered at the end of Year 12, allowing students to gain early insight to possible future career aspirations.

Making friends was barely a struggle, as the students here have very welcoming & inclusive values. As an external I knew absolutely no-one, and two years later I have made some of the most amazing friends whom I have made very fun memories with that I will remember for a lifetime. Wollaston Sixth Form provides its students with confidence to push for the best version of themselves, so that you gain not only academic qualifications, but the life skills needed as you transition from teens to adults.

I couldn't imagine a better place to take this next step in life.

Will Baldry

“Sixth Form students are proud of their school and would recommend the Sixth Form to others”

Ofsted 2023

Student Experiences

The Degree Apprenticeship Student

Coming into Year 12 I knew I didn't want to go to university. It just didn't seem like the right next step for me, I no longer wanted to be in full-time education but still wanted a qualification, such as a degree.

Over the course of my two years at Wollaston Sixth Form I became more and more certain I wanted to do a degree apprenticeship. We had a range of speakers come in and discuss apprenticeships, whilst not many of them piqued my interest personally, it made the prospects of an apprenticeship sound better.

After my week of work experience at the end of Year 12 I knew I was ready to go into the working world and not go to university.

The Sixth Form Team helped and supported me through my application process. It was really nice to have that support offered for the apprenticeship route, giving us loads of information to help us decide our future.

Georgina Copley-Taylor

Russell Group University

I look back on my time at Wollaston Sixth Form with fond memories. Having been at Wollaston school from Year 7 and despite greatly considering moving to a different sixth form when it came to the end of Year 12, I can honestly say I am so glad I chose to stay.

The Sixth Form itself provided many opportunities, both in terms of academic, through the private study Sixth Form Centre, of which I utilised until 5pm most days, and the supportive Sixth Form Team and staff, providing help whenever needed. As well as socially, through fun activities like our charity RAG week, a student-led fundraiser where we host games and challenges for the whole school as well as dress up in fun themed outfits, extracurricular sporting activity, quiz Fridays and our Sixth Form annual Summer Balls!

I believe that the facilities, supportive teachers and the jovial atmosphere of the Sixth Form allowed me to flourish in my A level exams and motivated me to continue further study at university. Overall, I would highly recommend Wollaston Sixth Form as a place of further study!

Hannah Tyler

Useful Information

Dress Code

Unlike the rest of the school, the Sixth Form does not have a formal uniform, however, there is a dress code, reviewed regularly by both staff and the student body, and we expect all students to adhere to this.

Dress should be of a smart 'office' standard. In addition, a 'modesty' rule applies. Skirts must be of a reasonable length and tops should have appropriate necklines and be of an appropriate length to ensure modesty.

'Dress Down Friday' takes place every week to allow students to wear their more casual clothes. It should be noted that the modesty rule still applies. Full details may be found on our website.

All Sixth Form students are issued with a lanyard which they are expected to wear at all times when on the school site due to safeguarding requirements.

Communication

Developing and maintaining good communication between home and school is crucial in ensuring students do the best they can. Parents will always be kept informed of both successes and concerns, in a variety of ways:

- E-mail contact with your son/daughter's mentor
- Reports on academic progress, three times yearly
- Parents evenings
- Letters, e-mails, postcards or phone calls from teachers
- Whole Sixth Form letters or newsletters

We always discuss progress directly with students and use the opportunity of regular Mentor meetings to both praise and challenge students. We also try, where possible, to give students the opportunity to make improvements before calling home about any academic concerns.

Bursary

The 16 to 19 Bursary Fund supports the most financially disadvantaged 16 to 19 year olds and those young people who most need help with the cost of staying in education.

We provide application information for parents and students in July as part of the Induction process, although further information may be found here:

<https://www.gov.uk/16-to-19-education-financial-support-for-students>

