



Elthorne Park

Sixth Form Parent Handbook

"Achieving excellence in a learning community"

2015 – 2016

The purpose of this booklet is to provide you with basic information about the Sixth Form. It is designed to help you familiarise yourself with procedures or look things up at a later time.

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Welcome

Dear Parent,

Welcome to our Sixth Form community. Along with our Sixth Form team, I look forward to working with you on the next stage of your son or daughter's journey.

Our aim in the Sixth Form is simple: to be an outstanding place of learning and personal success. We want students to be ambitious about what they can achieve and we will support you in realising those ambitions. Whether you are studying A Levels or BTECs, we want to provide you with the best possible framework for success.

Significant investments have been made in the school in the past few years so students have the best opportunities to be productive. There is a dedicated Sixth Form Centre, a Sixth Form team, comprising the Head of Sixth Form, the Assistant Head of Sixth Form and Sixth Form Personal Tutors. Our teachers, librarians and support staff have been trained to provide the support and guidance that will help students become increasingly independent. All this in addition to the 'flipped learning' model through which students will become increasingly independent.

Our IAG programme (Independent Advice and Guidance) also aims to focus students on the 'bigger picture' and how Sixth Form will act as a stepping stone towards achieving their goals in life.

We operate an 'open door' policy for students and parents. If you have any concerns or worries, please say so immediately. If you have any suggestions or ideas, then we would like to hear them.

I wish you all the very best and look forward to working with your son/daughter to ensure excellence is achieved.

V Wells
Head of Sixth Form

Sixth Form Standards

By way of membership of the Sixth Form your son/daughter is agreeing to meet the following expectations:

1	attendance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All will aim for 100% attendance target attendance for Sixth Form is 96% or better
2	punctuality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> on time for morning/afternoon registration, lessons and other commitments
3	studies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> participation in classes homework and assignments done to a high standard independent study meet target grades Maintain the agreed number of A Level/BTEC/ GCSE courses in Years 12 and 13. You cannot drop subjects without agreement from subject leaders, Head of Sixth Form and parents
4	participation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> involvement in the wider life of the school participation in at least two extra-curricular activities To achieve 50 hours of volunteering each year Remove ear pieces from your ears and switched off your mobile phones and electronic equipment before you leave the Sixth Form area. Use of such equipment is not permitted elsewhere
5	responsibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> being fit for study dealing with problems and issues as they arise taking responsibility for your own learning and progress being a positive contributor to Sixth Form and school life Keep term time employment to a level which comfortably allows you to spend a minimum of 21 hours per week on your studies. Actively show respect to all members of your class, students and staff and mindful of the possible effects, both intended and unintended, of your actions on other people and our school. Being respectful of school resources such as classrooms, equipment and books as well as the Library and the Sixth Form Centre; leave places tidy and pleasant for others in our community to use
6	dress code	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> conforming to the Sixth Form dress code being a role model to younger pupils

In the case of a student failing to honour any of these commitments the school may deem it necessary to not enter a student for a particular examination or withdraw the course entirely.

Enrichment programme

Our enrichment programme is an intrinsic part of our Sixth Form curriculum. All students are expected to take a full part in it. Activities should be creative and/or active and/or of service.

- *Community* is interpreted broadly to include a wide range of activities which contribute to the EPHS community. This includes participation in mentoring schemes or helping with in-school events.
- *Action* can include not only participation in individual and team sports but also taking part in expeditions and in local or international projects.
- *Service* encompasses a host of community and social service activities which are outward-looking. Some examples include helping children with special needs, visiting hospitals and working with refugees or homeless people.

In order to make this time useful, students are encouraged to organise their own volunteering placement to take place during these regular slots. This time could also be used to train in a sports team or play fixtures.

If students fail to do this then they will be asked to support lower school classes in a department that is open to negotiation.

Student and Parent Support and Guidance

In the Sixth Form you are expected to be independent, self-motivated and to organise your time yourself. The transition from GCSEs is not an easy one and you must not be afraid to ask for help.

Tutor support (Personal Tutor)

Tutor time is from 8:40 until 8:55am every morning and 2:05 to 2:10pm every afternoon; students must attend these sessions. If a student has no lessons during period 5 or 6 then they do not have to attend pm registration.

Progress reports

In order to help you assess how well your work is going six progress reviews during the year, the first in October. These will show expected grades. These grades are teacher predictions. Subject teachers will be asked if they consider students to be working adequately. If there are significant concerns about progress or efforts then we will meet with you and your son/daughter to discuss your progress and agree targets to support you. Where the school feels the course is not right for the student, as shown by their level of progress, their course will be withdrawn.

Progress meetings

In addition to the informal communication between the school and parents which takes place during the year, parents will be invited to a subject consultation during the year. This will take place on **27th January 2016**. In addition, following each progress review, meetings between parents, students and the Head of Sixth Form will be set up for those students whose progress is of concern.

Monitoring/Mentoring

Your subject teachers will monitor your academic potential and progress in liaison with your Tutor. Interviews with Tutors are arranged on a regular basis to review your achievement, set targets and offer constructive advice and support. The aim is always to work with you to use your strengths to support you in your weakest areas. Students who under-perform in any of the progress reviews will be placed on an academic report for a three week period during which their suitability for their chosen course will be stringently monitored. Mentoring will usually take place either during a.m registration or after school for 20 minutes. These are compulsory and vital to ensuring progress is made in school.

Independent Learning/Homework

Independent learning/homework may take a number of forms and is designed to ensure students are ready for the upcoming lessons to the very best of their ability, rather than be an 'add on'. To make a success of studies, there is an expectation that all students spend a minimum of 21 hours per week on their studies.

In the unlikely event that a teacher does not set homework, you as the learner are expected to conduct research to consolidate knowledge gained in the lesson or to facilitate learning in future lessons.

At Sixth Form level, there is no such thing as "no work" set. The study room is an area to complete independent learning. The room is quiet in order to allow students to focus on work. The seminar room is available for group work by prior appointment.

'Flipped Learning' at KS5

There is a greater emphasis on preparatory work at KS5. This means that teaching time can be used to effectively target students who need support or challenge higher ability students. To assist with preparation students are issued with iPads to access on-line content as directed by teachers

What do I do if my son or daughter has any problems?

Course or study problems

Please talk these over with subject staff and your Personal Tutor. Staff are always ready and willing to help and it is better to deal with a problem quickly rather than allowing it to escalate. The Head and Assistant Head of Sixth Form are also available for you to consult with (see email addresses on the front cover).

University and Career decisions

Again, students can talk these through with their Tutor or any other member of staff. They can also speak to Ms Barker who can provide careers advice. We run an important programme of careers education (IAG) during PSHCE time; this will involve a variety of visiting speakers, university visits, university application guidance and the higher/further education careers evening.

Personal problems

Depression, stress, loneliness or family difficulties may be affecting students and their work. Sharing a problem is often the best way to start resolving it. We are able to refer students to outside agencies for specific personal issues.

There are a number of people you might want to talk to in the school: your Personal Tutor, the Head of Sixth Form, the Assistant Head of Sixth Form, or our Connexions Advisor. Staff will try to give advice and if a problem can't be solved by members of the school, outside support can be sought.

A-Z Guide

to life in the Sixth Form for students

Student Absence

If you cannot attend school, then you should contact the school directly on **020 8566 1166**. You should do this before 8:30 am. In addition if you know you are going to be absent, perhaps for a university interview or a subject trip, it is your responsibility to inform your teachers and Tutor and ask for appropriate work. You will still need to ring the school on the day itself so that the Office knows to mark you in absent.

Teacher Absence

Teachers will avoid missing your lessons as much as possible. However due to illness or training a teacher may occasionally be absent from a lesson. In these cases, s/he will send or leave cover for that lesson in the classroom. You must remain in the classroom until the end of the lesson to complete the learning activities. To mark your attendance, please report to Susannah (6th form administrator) either in the main office or the Sixth Form office.

Attendance

In order to reach your full potential, it is essential that you aspire towards 100% attendance. The school's basic expectation is that you have a minimum of 96% attendance. Attendance without punctuality is also unproductive. Consequently, you should aim to arrive at school no later than 8.30am for your Tutor session. Attendance at am and pm registration each day is mandatory and being late will result in a detention. Experience has proven that poor attendance and punctuality results in a failure to pass your subjects. Please note, punctuality detentions are conducted before school the following morning

Assemblies

Sixth Form assemblies will take place every Thursday morning in the Hall, starting promptly at 8:40 a.m. The Assemblies are an important focus for our community life and all Sixth Form students are expected to attend without fail. Lateness or non-attendance makes it more difficult for you to be a full member of our community and will result in a sanction. You may also miss out on crucial notices which affect your learning and qualifications.

Break and Lunch Time

At lunch time, as a Sixth Form student, you can go straight to the front of the queue inside the Hall. Please ensure that no plates or cutlery are brought into the Sixth Form area and that any rubbish or left over food or drink is cleared away. Pay attention to how you leave a place and do not make additional work for other people. Those wishing to play football can do so out in the park in those areas out of bounds to lower school students.

Bursary

Some students are eligible for money from the government during their post 16 studies. This scheme replaced what used to be known as EMA. Visit direct.gov.uk or speak to Susannah (6th form administrator) to find out if you qualify. Excellent attendance and punctuality are prerequisites for receiving payments each month. We also have a discretionary bursary fund available to all students. This can be applied for via Mr Evans and we have paid for transport to university open days, revision books, training courses and an alarm clock!

CAS

Sixth Form life is demanding and while we expect you to rise to the challenges set by your teaching staff, we firmly believe that education is not confined to your subjects. In order to enjoy the experience of being a Sixth Form student, you need to fully immerse yourself into extra-curricular activities. As part of our unique community, everyone is expected to get involved. Activities could include: sport, dance, fundraising, catering, public speaking, student support and debating. In addition, there are a number of Sixth Form trips and social events organised to help you enjoy your time at here. However, if you have a great idea yourself, why not put that into action by speaking to a member of the Sixth Form team, including prefects.

Community

Being part of a school is being part of an extensive community. As a specialist Maths and Computing school we are expanding our community links further through music, drama and art. We also have a number of exciting international links which can provide you with fantastic opportunities. However, being part of a community also carries with it responsibilities, to the other members of the community and to yourself. By virtue of your age and position you are role models to our younger students and crucial ambassadors in our local community. We must always bear in mind how our actions, or inactions, may affect others. Seek to have a positive impact on the community.

Distractions

There are a number and range of distractions. The trick is to realise that if you set all of these things aside for two or three hours to study, they will still be there later. Your text messages can wait a few hours, as can your online status and your games. If you try to work and message/play online/check your social media not only will you work more slowly but the quality of your work will be less. Learn how to set aside work time and keep it distinct from social time. The study room is for studying and not engaging in these activities.

Dress Code

The Sixth Form is a place of study and learning and staff and students should be able to make this the primary focus of their time here. Therefore students are expected to come wearing smart but casual dress. In addition Sixth Form students act at all times as the leaders and role models for our younger students, some of whom are impressionable and easily influenced. Therefore we expect them to show a lead in terms of how they carry themselves in and around the school.

- Shorts must be knee length
- No short skirts – judged at the discretion of EPHS staff
- No plunging neck lines, exposed undergarments or bare midriffs
- No flesh on show which may cause offence or embarrassment to others
- No hats, scarves or gloves inside
- No slogans on clothing which cause offence or embarrassment to others
- No torn or frayed clothing
- No mobiles phones/ MP3 /4 players to be worn around the school as these are banned to lower school students
- No visible tattoos
- No piercings except small studs in the earlobes are allowed on health and safety grounds

For formal occasions where you are on duty or representing the school, you may be required to wear a suit or similar formal attire.

In all cases the judgement of the Headteacher, delegated to the Head of Sixth Form, will be final on matters of acceptable dress and presentation. Sixth Formers should consult with the Head of Sixth Form before wearing something about which they are unclear as to its suitability.

Dropping Subjects

You may find that at some points you feel like you want to drop a subject or course. Bear in mind it is far better to get the help and support you need from your teachers, Tutors and parents. It is possible to drop subjects but this must be done in a responsible manner through discussions and the agreement of all the people involved, including your parents, teachers, Head of Sixth Form and, where relevant Head of Applied Learning. Avoid acting unilaterally and consider the impact your decision will have on future possibilities and opportunities, particularly entry to Universities courses.

Drugs and Illegal substances

Our school has a very clear drugs policy: it is grounds for permanent exclusion. The school will take the firmest action to protect our school population and our reputation amongst the local community. As such we retain the right to exclude any student who is discovered or suspected of taking drugs either inside or outside of school.

Email

We are trying to reduce the amount of needless paper that is used as a school. Consequently, everyone is asked to check their email on a daily basis to make sure that they have not missed important information such as cover work (should a teacher be absent) and information from staff or students. It is good practice

1. when writing emails to teachers and those not close friends, to start with a brief acknowledgement and welcome (e.g. "Dear, [name]/ I hope all is well with you" or "Hi, [name] / Thanks for your email")
2. for emails to teachers and those not close friends, to end with a brief note of best wishes and farewell followed by your name (e.g. "Thanks again for your email / Best wishes / [your name]" or "Thanks for your time on this matter / Regards/ [your name]" or "Let me know what you think/ Warmest Regards / [your name]")
3. Teachers may ask for your email address to communicate with you during your course. If you decide to use your school email, please check it regularly!

Get organised

Through organisation you will be able to be fully prepared for anything that is asked of you in the Sixth form. Revision, home learning and other activities will be made much easier by organising your notes and folders. If you plan your time well you should be able to spend most of your study time working and have time outside of Sixth Form enjoying yourselves. The secret to being organised is to have a list of the tasks and activities you want to do. Then tick off each task as you finish it. Your 'Home Learning Planner' is a good place to make these lists.

Help... If you need it!

Sixth Form life is very different from 11-16 education. You are given greater independence and freedom. If, for whatever reason, you are in difficulty, speak to your subject teacher, Personal Tutor, Head of Sixth Form or any other member of staff you feel comfortable with. Avoidance of a problem will not make the problem disappear.

Holidays

The dates of school holidays are given in this booklet and in your Planner. Including staff training days, there are at least 12 weeks of the year when you are not expected to be in school. Students are not permitted to take holiday during school time. Absence for university open days, taster days or work experience will be considered by Head of Sixth Form.

Jeopardise

You are in the Sixth Form out of choice. You have chosen to continue your education in the school environment; we are glad to provide you with the teaching and a platform for your success but we are not willing to be understanding in terms of poor behaviour. You are the eldest in the school, and are role models to younger students. Be careful not to jeopardise your position with us. If you need to think twice about something, then it is probably not worth doing.

Life/Work balance

You have been given a fantastic opportunity to learn for the next two years, please make the most of it. Our wish is that you leave us with the best possible grades, skills and most importantly a love of learning. While it is important to find a balance between work and social aspects of Sixth Form life you must remember that your goal should be success so that you can give yourself the best chance of gaining a university place, employment or apprenticeship at the end of Year 13. While it may be useful to have part-time jobs to finance your social life, you must remember your number one priority: academic success.

Leaving the school site

On the school site we have a study room and a common room. We have food available at break and lunchtime. Students are free to leave the premises when you are not in timetabled lessons at the discretion of the Head of Sixth Form. If students are falling behind in their work and/or are not adhering to Sixth form policies this privilege will be withdrawn. You must sign in/out at the Reception when leaving and returning. This is designed purely for fire regulations and is essential for the health and safety of the site. You must be back in time for your next session. Bear in mind that traffic and public transport can take longer than expected, especially around lunch time. We cannot accept problems with transport as an excuse for you not being on time.

Maintenance

There are a number of brand new facilities available to you as a member of the Sixth Form and we ask that you take care of these facilities. Any damages must be financed by the individual(s) concerned and may mean that the whole of the Sixth Form's privilege to use is removed. It is not a very good or appropriate attitude to expect others to clear up after you or sort out any damage you cause, accidental or otherwise. Also bear in mind that over-exuberance or high-spirited 'play' can lead to accidental damage. If this happens, you will have to make good the damage, even if you did not mean to harm anything.

Mobile Phones and Electronic Equipment

As Sixth Form students, you are allowed to bring mobile phones or electronic equipment to school, indeed, you are issued iPads! These can be extremely useful for many things, such as concentrating during independent study time, taking a quick photo of class notes on the board or managing your time productively. However, mobile phones must be switched off or on silent during lessons and not used around the site.

Non-smoking site

Our school is a completely non-smoking site. This applies to staff as well as students. As Sixth Form students your image is very important. Smoking anywhere near the site will not be tolerated. You have a significant role in the school; younger students will be influenced by you and members of the public will make assumptions about Elthorne Park based on what they see or hear. Students who are found smoking on site, around the school or in view of any lower school pupils will be subject to a formal warning.

Open door

If you are unhappy with anything in the Sixth Form you must tell us. You are entitled to a first class education and if you feel we could improve in some way you must let us know. Please ask to speak to the Head of Sixth Form or your Personal Tutor; if they do not have the time to speak with you immediately, they will set aside a time when they can.

Paid Work

Success at Sixth Form will be your primary focus. There will be significant demands on your time in terms of your subjects, home learning, CAS, university application, school events, shows and performances as well as socialising. You also need some time to relax. However having paid employment can be a significant benefit in terms of the long-term skills, attitudes and values you develop as well as in monetary reward. It should not be allowed to get in the way of your school work and responsibilities. The same should be said of work experience relating to career paths you are interested in pursuing. There is plenty of time once you leave school for paid work and jobs; however you will only have one shot at Sixth Form. Universities like to see a little bit of work experience on your CV but they will always prefer the candidate with better grades.

Passes

All staff, Sixth Form students and visitors must wear school issued passes. This is compulsory and vital for the security of the school. Persistent failure to wear your pass will result in serious sanctions. If you forget your pass you will be told to return home to retrieve it. Replacement passes are available at a cost of £5. The school canteen cannot take cash so Sixth Formers use their passes to purchase food at Lunch time. Please keep an eye on how much money you have on your card and top it up as required.

Parking

Elthorne Park High School is an over subscribed school. With over a hundred staff there is no room for students to park their vehicles on site. We strongly recommend that you use public transport to ease congestion. However, if students choose to drive to school we insist that they park on the public roads away from the school entrance.

Planners

You are all provided with a Planner in which you should note the home learning that needs to be completed and a plan of how you intend to use your time to do it. These are issued annually. Tasks which look like they will take a couple of hours to complete should be broken down into smaller chunks and completed over a number of days. You may wish to use your iPad or an app to organise yourself. That is fine, however, you must use your planner to record half termly targets with your mentor.

Private study

Since you will be studying fewer subjects than in previous years, “blanks” will appear several times on your timetable. This does not mean you have nothing to do and this is not to be considered ‘free’ time. These are the times when you should be engaged in independent study. This can take place in the working atmosphere of the Library or the Study Area in the Sixth Form Centre. Some of you will be given the opportunity to attend extra tutorials with your subject teachers in these periods. The Study room in the Sixth Form is there to facilitate private, individual study. No disruption will be tolerated. If students fail to use the building effectively, this facility will be withdrawn and this could be to the detriment of your success in your chosen course. There is no such thing as “I have no work” at Sixth Form level.

Progress Checks/Reports

Your teachers will let you know every term how well they think you are doing so far in terms of classwork, independent learning/homework and likelihood of meeting your grade. They will also give you a current grade. We shall ask you to use this information to set your own targets to improve on the areas you think you need to.

Punctuality

In order to maximise each lesson it is important that you are prompt to lessons. This will ensure that the course is delivered in the time-frame available to allow you to revise for the important examinations. Being late does not help the teacher or your fellow students, means you will feel more rushed and playing “catch-up” and does not get you into the kind of habits which you need. Lateness fall under the whole school punctuality policy; Sixth Form students who are late are subject to the similar sanctions (Tutor, YLM and SLT detentions) as lower school, students, however, they take place in the morning!

Questioning

Life as a Sixth Form student is very different from main school in that you are challenged to engage with your peers and subject teachers. Be confident to challenge any ideas but remember to do so in an appropriate manner. Always ask questions if you are uncertain. Alternatively, you can email your question to your teacher. Bear in mind email etiquette and try not to come across as though you are attacking the person. You will get much further with please and thank you’s.

Rewards

Where students have harmed the community, they will be asked to make reparations in some form. We shall also ask to speak to you and/or your parents where we have concerns and, with you, work out strategies and targets to help you improve. If you are getting behind on your work and your teachers are concerned about you not achieving your best, then we shall ask you to attend study sessions outside of your usual lesson time. In the end we want to put in place the support and motivation to make your time here a great success. If, then, we feel that you would be better of at some other Sixth Form or college, we shall ask you to leave.

- **Super Sixth Former:** Each half-term Sixth Form teachers will choose a student who they consider to be the most ‘super’. Possible features of a super Sixth Former would be contributing to the whole school life considerably, working hard in lessons, coping with academic pressures or helping younger students in the school etc. The winner will get a certificate, a Superman t-shirt and either cinema or book vouchers.
- **Easter Egg-cellence Awards:** To celebrate the best of you, at the end of Spring Term Sixth Form students will vote for students in a number of categories, based on the EPHS Learner profile, such as “Best Thinker”, “Best Communicator”, “Most Caring”, “Most Inquisitive” etc. The winners will receive awards at a special Assembly at the end of the Spring Term.
- **Jack Petchey Award:** Each month the Sixth Form Team will nominate one Sixth Form student who has achieved either inside and/or outside of school. This student will join the lower school nominees and all students and staff will have at least seven days to vote for the winner, using the VLE. The winner will receive a badge, certificate and £200 to be spent on a school project, activity or equipment which will benefit a large number of student (e.g. Sixth Form or whole school)
- **End of term certificates:** In the final assembly of each term, certificates will be given out to those students who have exhibited the positive characteristics.

Reading around the subject

To reach the best possible grade you must be prepared to read up on the subject(s) you are following. Ask your teachers for suggestions; take time to look around our Library: there are many great magazines, books and newspapers there. The student who reads well succeeds. It could be that you re-read through notes made in class. It might be that you are reading a chapter ahead so that you have a basic understanding prior to lessons. This all helps you in the long run and it is strongly encouraged.

Sixth Form Centre

The Common Room and Study Area are for different and distinct purposes. The Common Room is for you to relax and socialise in during break, lunch time and before and after school. Food and drink can be consumed there as long as you do not bring in any trays, plates or cutlery and clear up afterwards, put all rubbish away. The Study Area is a place for you to focus on your independent study. Food, sweets and drinks are not allowed there and noise should be kept to a minimum, even if no one else is in there apart from you, so that others feel it is a place they can work in peace.

Sixth Form Council

This body acts on behalf of the Sixth Form and main school to 'act as a voice' on matters of school improvement. Applications will take place at the end of the first half of Spring Term. The Council will meet twice a term with agenda items called for a week in advance. Students should speak to their Council members (Prefects) if they wish specific items to be discussed at these meetings.

School Internet and VLE

Elthorne Park High School website contains information such as the prospectus, mission statement and contact information. Use it for key dates and information. The school uses **frog** as its Virtual Learning Environment (VLE). Teachers will put resources and activities here which you should make full use of. In addition we have a Sixth Form website (accessible through the school website) and a Twitter page, both of which you should keep an eye on; @EPHS_Sixthform.

Time Management

There are hundreds of books and courses you can buy to teach you about time management. Your teachers will tell you for free some of the so-called 'secrets' of time management. Here are some to get you started:

- 1st secret: have a list of the work you need to do (e.g. in your Planner) and keep on adding items as they come in and ticking off items as they get done
- 2nd secret: do **some** work **every** evening
- 3rd secret: break large pieces of work down into small chunks
- 4th secret: when things feel overwhelming, write out a new list to get a grip on what needs to be done, then do two of the tasks which only take 10 minutes or less (to make yourself feel better) and then make a start on one of the big projects (to make yourself feel like you are making progress)

UCAS (University & College Admissions Service)

UCAS is the body that administers the process for applying to university. From the start of Year 12 you should be thinking about and researching university courses and grade requirements. Towards the end of Year 12 and throughout Year 13 you will be given advice and support on your university applications. Use our Connexions adviser as well as your teachers, for their advice and ideas, and the events we run. To make the best decision in the future, start researching universities and courses from the start of Year 12. It is a very good idea to visit a university for one of their Open Days. Although better to do so, it will not harm your UCAS application if you do not attend the Open Day for the university you eventually hold as your first choice.

Visitors

While it is natural that you have friends who attend other Sixth Forms or Colleges, please be aware that that they are not members of our school community and should not be on our school site. This is also true for former students who have left. If they do wish to visit us, then they must follow the same procedures as all our other visitors: they should go to Reception and sign in and then wait for a member of staff to meet them. It is a matter of safeguarding that all our visitors are accompanied by a member of staff at all times, unless they have had a CRB (Criminal Records Bureau) check.

What you should not bring to school

The Sixth Form is a place of study and learning where all students should feel secure and safe. It is a place where students from different backgrounds and cultures mix and develop confident that any issues which arise will be dealt with in a way which respects them as individuals and as members of the Sixth Form community. You must not bring any knives, guns, weapons or pornographic material into school, nor should you bring in classified drugs or drug paraphernalia. If you feel you need to bring any of these items into school, then we shall have failed in our duty of care to you and your peers. Students who are found with any such items on them may be asked to leave the Sixth Form and/or undertake a related training course. Please also note what has been said above about students discovered or suspected of taking drugs, even if this takes place outside of school.

You and your image

As a Sixth Form student you will be expected to act in a leadership role. This means that you have an enormous responsibility to conduct yourself in an appropriate manner around the main school. Students in the main school follow your example and you need to bear this in mind at all times.

“ZZZZ”

Finally, if we are to make the most of all these fantastic opportunities we must ensure that we are well rested. Make time to relax and try to get a good night's sleep. What time do you have to go to bed if you're going to rise refreshed in order to get to school for 8:30? Burning the candle at both ends will leave you with a very short fuse and mean that you cannot make the most of your time in school.

Key Dates for Sixth Form

Date	Event
23 rd September 2015	Year 12 and Year 13 – Year Ahead
2 nd October 2015	UCAS deadline for Oxbridge and Medicine
4 th December 2015	Internal UCAS deadline for all other applications
7th – 18th December 2015	A Level Mock Exams
4th -12th January 2016	AS Level Mock Exams
27 th January 2016	Year 12 & 13 Parents Meeting
16 th May-13 th June (tbc) 2016	AS/A Level Exams
July 2016 (tbc)	UCAS opens for Year 12
4 th & 5 th July 2016	Sixth Form Induction Days- No Y12 & 13 in school

tbc: (Date) to be confirmed.

Academic Honesty

Researching and writing essays, reports and projects is a very satisfying part of your studies. Using your own words, ideas, diagrams, maps and photographs to produce work which embodies your own conclusions can be a source of personal pride, and the production of such work is an important academic skill. Most academic work in school, college, university and in the wider world will involve using the words of others to support your own arguments and conclusions, and these, properly acknowledged, are an integral part of such assignments. It is important that you acknowledge such sources in an academically honest way. Works of literature, art and music are protected by law through copyright; this includes work taken from electronic sources.

Your teachers will explain how to paraphrase and adapt source material in an acceptable way, and show you how to acknowledge the work and ideas of others in your writing and speech. Teachers are available to give you further advice and guidance so that you can always present authentic work. What follows is a short guide to use as a reminder.

In general you must not

- Copy work from another student in class, during classwork, homework or in your coursework (unless you are catching up on classwork missed, in which case you should acknowledge whose work you have copied)
- Copy and paste from the internet or books without properly acknowledging it
- Give another student your work to copy or do homework for another student
- Submit work done by a parent, older student or friend
- Pretend that any work/thoughts/writing of someone else are your own.

Doing any of the above is not being academically honest.

Coursework and Internal Assessments

An authentic piece of coursework is one that is based on your individual and original ideas, with the ideas and work of others fully acknowledged. All work, written or oral, completed for assessment must wholly and authentically use your own language and expression. Sources which are used or referred to, whether in the form of direct quotation or paraphrase, must be fully and appropriately acknowledged.

Before starting to write, ask your teacher what kinds of external help are permissible. Always use your own words as much as possible. If you want to quote the words of others, you must reference them correctly. In the same way photographs, illustrations, maps, graphs, charts, audiovisual material and software must be acknowledged if they are not your own work. For some assignments, you must include a bibliography at the end of your work which lists the full details of the publications you have used. You will need to refer to many sources to produce a well-researched piece of coursework but you must list all the resources that you use, whether they be books, journals, internet sites, CD ROMs, TV programmes etc.

If you have worked as part of a group on a project, even if the data is the same, your introduction, account or description and conclusions must be your own. If they are not, you will be considered to have colluded and be guilty of malpractice.

Do not be tempted to use essays or parts of essays from the internet. Teachers are very experienced in marking students work and quickly pick up a change of style or vocabulary. For Internal Assessments which will make up part of your exam grade, you must also submit a copy of the report from turnitin.com along with the internal assessment or extended essay. You will have to sign a declaration that any internal assessments or extended essays are your own authentic work.

Take care of your work and keep it safe. If it is stored on a computer, keep your password safe. Do not leave spare copies lying around. Destroy those which you do not need.

In internal and mock exams, you must not:

- Distract another student or try to contact them
- Copy the work of another student
- Disrupt the exam by any behaviour
- Have out any notes unless they are allowed
- Bring an unauthorised calculator or have on you any electronic device or mobile phone

There are additional regulations for the conduct of external exams, which you must know about and follow.

Key Definitions

Malpractice: Any behaviour that results in, or may result in, yourself or any other student gaining an unfair advantage in one or more assessment components. Plagiarism, collusion and duplication of work are examples of malpractice, as are making untruthful claims in UCAS applications or bringing in unauthorised materials into an exam.

Plagiarism: Passing off the work, thoughts or ideas of another person as your own. This is a serious academic offence and the School will take it seriously.

Collusion: Allowing someone else to copy from your work or submit it for assessment as if it were his or her own. Collusion is the act of supporting the malpractice of another person.

Duplication of work: Presenting the same work for different assessment components for the same exam board.

Sanctions

Level	Types of Malpractice	Consequences for Students
Level 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • copying homework or parts of homework without appropriate acknowledgement from the internet, books or another student • (in a test or quiz which is not part of the formal assessment for the exam qualification) looking on another's test or quiz, letting another student look on a test or a quiz, using other secretive methods of receiving or giving answers on a test or quiz • working with others on an assignment that was meant to be done by individuals 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a zero on the suspect assignment and • a subject detention • letter to parents
Level 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Two level one violations in the same subject in the same year • Three level one violations in more than one subject in the same year • Persistent low level malpractice of any other form 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a zero on the suspect assignments and • a Senior Leaders' detention • phone call and letter to parents • copy to your student's file
Level 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • malpractice in coursework or internal assessments • taking papers from other students • taking any part of a test to use or give to others • submitting a computer program that has been developed by another <p>These violations will be considered theft.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a formal interview with your parents • a series of detentions after school to repeat the work • a written apology to the Subject Leader and parents • copy of letter and apology to your student's file • If plagiarism has occurred, you must still meet the minimum requirements of the course by rewriting the assignment
Level 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stealing examinations • Altering grades on a computer database 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sanctions would include but are not be limited to removal from the curriculum program and/or permanent exclusion from the school.

