

WOODBRIDGE
HIGH SCHOOL

SIXTH FORM

WELCOME

Dear Parents,

A very warm welcome to Woodbridge High School. Woodbridge is a modern, caring, multi-cultural comprehensive school. The students are a credit to themselves and the school. They are smart, hardworking, respectful and upbeat. There is a real flavour of ambition and enjoyment here.

The Sixth Form is extremely popular and oversubscribed, catering for a broad spectrum of abilities and interests. The vast majority of students stay on after their GCSE examinations and are joined by an ever increasing number of external applicants choosing to study at Woodbridge.

Woodbridge is a high-achieving school with students performing beyond expectations. Examination results are excellent, demonstrating that students make outstanding progress. You have every reason to be confident about the school for the next stage of your education. There is a wide range of subjects. Each year, very many of our students progress to universities, including Oxbridge and those in the Russell Group. Your teachers are talented, experienced and completely committed to helping you. We work with you to track your progress carefully and provide extra support for you at times when you need it. Facilities are excellent. You have your own common room and private study areas. You have use of the latest technology.

Our students have many opportunities and responsibilities. Our enrichment programme is diverse and stimulating. You will meet a number of very interesting speakers and have chance to connect with university tutors and business representatives.

The views of the sixth form are very important. You are represented by the head girl and head boy, as well as form and student council representatives. You will be able to take the lead on a variety of activities across the school, including supporting younger pupils, enterprise activities, charity work and service within the local community.

We look forward to working with you and your parents.



Andrew Beaumont
Headteacher





THE SIXTH FORM CURRICULUM

Woodbridge Sixth Form offers a modern and diverse curriculum. At post-16 level we are committed to providing the most relevant courses that best suit the needs of our students. A broad spectrum of courses is on offer, from Level 2 and 3 applied general courses through to traditional A Level subjects.

Students are guided towards a programme of study that best reflects their academic strengths and learning styles. The vast majority of our students undertake one of the following programmes:

- A combination of 3 or 4 A Levels
- A full applied general level 3 programme – equivalent to 3 A Levels
- A Foundation Programme – a Level 2 subject and Maths / English GCSE

The Sixth Form offers real flexibility with opportunities to specialise. Our objective is to help students achieve their potential, and to prepare successfully for transition to university or their chosen career.

ACADEMIC MONITORING AND INTERVENTION

The academic progress of all students is our priority. We are committed to ensuring that we review students' progress regularly and provide feedback to both students and parents.

At the beginning of the year we use students' GCSE performance data to assess their potential at post-16 level. We will issue each student with a target grade based on their prior attainment. This grade is the minimum grade which students should be achieving at A Level. It represents the minimum academic standard towards which students should be working.

During the year, we will be assessing student progress at regular intervals and comparing it to their target grade. All students will receive a current predicted grade and an effort grade for their current level of work. The predicted grade is the grade which staff predict students will achieve at the end of the course if they carry on with their current level of effort and application.

We also use a system of fine grades (sub-grades) to accurately assess student's progress. Using a system of fine grades allows us to target those students who may be in need of extra support, guidance and intervention so that they can be confident of achieving the grades they are predicted.

Our intervention policy allows us to target those students who may not be achieving their potential and meeting the minimum academic standards expected of them in one or more subjects. We use focus groups to allow us to offer specific guidance and support to individual students where necessary.



THE TUTORIAL PROGRAMME

Students in the Sixth Form follow a personalised individual tutorial programme. This involves them attending a one-to-one session with their tutor once a fortnight. Each session will focus on a particular theme, such as transition to post-16, independent study skills, academic review, UCAS and university applications and pathways beyond the Sixth Form.

Interview times are arranged with tutors at the start of each term and students are expected to make this a regular commitment. This programme has been designed specifically with the students' needs in mind. Every tutorial will provide the opportunity to focus on the theme in question, but will also allow for individual discussion and the raising of any concerns that the student may have.

TRANSITION

Studying at Key Stage 5 is rather different from Key Stage 4. There are high expectations of students in terms of independence and quantity of work, as well as the acquisition of new study skills. Students will have a series of workshops at the start of Year 12 to assist them with the transition process.

The sessions will cover a variety of skills which students will be encouraged to utilise throughout their studies in the Sixth Form.

VOLUNTEER WORK AND COMMUNITY SERVICE

All students should be given the opportunity to demonstrate leadership skills in a variety of situations. Students are encouraged to participate in volunteer work programmes and other community service activities. These positions of responsibility allow students to interact with a range of people, develop leadership and interpersonal skills, by contributing to the whole school community. The students present themselves as positive role models to both the school and wider community.

Students in Year 12 are encouraged to sign up and complete the Duke of Edinburgh Gold Award which can be accomplished by students irrespective of whether or not they have gained other Duke of Edinburgh awards.

SENIOR PREFECTS

Senior Prefects are chosen to represent the student body and to provide support to the school.


They undergo a rigorous selection process and must demonstrate that they have the appropriate attributes to manage a high level of responsibility. Senior Prefects work closely with staff and younger students in a range of activities, including assistance with key events, mentoring and student voice.





COMMUNICATION IN THE SIXTH FORM

There are no daily registration sessions for Sixth Form students and we therefore use alternative forms of communication with students. We use email to communicate with individual students and a weekly briefing is emailed to parents and students every week, this will include regular updates on specific events, dates and deadlines. There are three information screens in the Sixth Form area for students to view. These will be updated regularly to show key dates / deadlines and other important whole-school information.



ATTENDANCE AND PUNCTUALITY

The expectation is that all students achieve at least 95% attendance to all their lessons. This will be reviewed regularly through the tutorial programme by tutors. Subject staff will also review and monitor attendance according to the Sixth Form intervention policy. Our experience shows that good records of attendance lead to an increase in attainment. Attendance to every assembly and tutorial is compulsory.

WOODBIDGE ALUMNI

Woodbridge has a long and proud tradition of students progressing to Russell Group and Oxbridge universities. Other students take their first steps towards fulfilling and successful careers. A common theme among all our alumni is how well they speak about their time at Woodbridge. It is clear that the school has had a tremendous impact on their development. Each and every student that joins our Sixth Form should aspire to the very best universities and careers. Woodbridge is a school where these aspirations become reality.



Lydia Watkins,
History at Cambridge University



Aileen Sartor,
Natural Sciences at Cambridge University



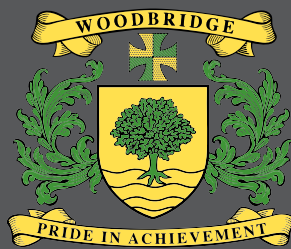
Mirade Abiola, Biochemical Engineering
at University College London



Caroline Cook, Midwife at
Princess Alexandra Hospital



Rachel Banks, HR Manager
at the Savoy Hotel, London



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