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Windsor High School  
& Sixth Form

“WINDSOR HIGH SCHOOL IS AN OUTSTANDING SCHOOL”

OFSTED 2008



## WELCOME TO WINDSOR

Making a choice of a secondary school is a really important decision for a parent and I hope that this prospectus will be helpful in providing you with information in addition to our website, Open Evenings and Open Days.

We believe we are able to offer students of all abilities and interests an excellent opportunity to be the best that they can be. Windsor continues to improve in all areas and we are pleased that OFSTED have judged us to be an “outstanding school”.

We have high expectations for our students and a long tradition of working closely with parents to maximise student achievement in all areas of school life. This partnership has helped us to achieve and maintain excellent results confirming our reputation for outstanding academic success.

Windsor is a happy and exciting place for students to learn and develop. We strive to maximise student achievement whilst offering an exceptional range of extra-curricular opportunities especially in the Arts and Sport.

We have a range of specialisms and offer the unique local opportunity of an 11-18 education, where our brand new sixth form building is a fantastic additional facility for all our students.

I do hope that you will be able to visit us and spend time talking to the students and the staff and I look forward to meeting you when you do.

**Keith Sorrell**  
Headteacher

**MISSION STATEMENT**

**AIMS and VALUES**

**The School Motto is "Excellence for All"**

Each student at Windsor brings unique and differing qualities to our school community and we seek to create an environment that allows all abilities and interests to thrive, develop and mature.

We believe in tolerance, empathy and the development of interpersonal and social skills. It is our aim to enable students to gain the very best academic qualifications,

to engage in a range of extra-curricular pursuits and interests and to leave Windsor with good results and with a personality and character we can all be proud of.

We have aspirations for our students and there is an expectation that they will do well. We provide clear moral guidance in our daily expectations of our students and take many opportunities to recognise and praise their achievements.

We hope that students leave Windsor with high self-esteem and confidence, with the ability to make the right choices and the right decisions in all aspects of their lives.



**THE WINDSOR WAY - SHARING SUCCESS**

Windsor High School and Sixth Form has a long tradition of success. Crucial to our success is a core set of values, beliefs, attitudes and behaviours. Our students, teachers, associate staff and parents understand, support and practise these values. Daily interaction between and amongst members of our community is based on these beliefs and has become a natural part of what we do and how we do it.

**Our aim is as follows**

"To nurture a culture within our community that is largely self regulating, based on mutual respect and allows for academic success and personal development. The addition of a sixth form can help to realise this vision before the Olympics take place in London".

**At Windsor we value and practise respect and responsibility**

**RESPONSIBILITY**

- for controlling my own language and behaviour
- for resolving conflicts and disagreements in an open, cooperative and peaceful way
- for completing all work to the best of my ability
- for managing my own time effectively
- for asking for support and help when I need it
- for ensuring my own physical and emotional well-being
- for creating my own success
- for seeking new challenges to extend my knowledge and skills

**RESPECT**

- for myself, other students and all adults, regardless of background, race, age, gender, disability, values, lifestyles, opinions or interests
- for the property of the individual, group and school
- by using language that is not offensive or abusive to others
- by being open, honest, friendly, and accepting of others
- by sharing ideas and opinions openly and thoughtfully
- by not talking at key times and listening actively to the ideas and opinions of others



At Windsor everybody cares. In a large community, caring about the needs of the individual is essential to ensure happiness and success. The ethos of our school is that of a self-regulating community where we look after ourselves and, wherever possible, others as well.

### HEADS OF HOUSE AND PASTORAL MANAGERS

Each House group is the responsibility of the Head of House who works with the KS3/KS4 Directors and the Deputy Headteacher in charge of Student Services in overseeing all aspects of your child's progress at Windsor.

The Head of House leads a team of Form Tutors and they are aided by a Pastoral Manager. At times, students may have difficulties and concerns that require more specialist support. In order to cater for the needs of these students, we liaise with a wide number of external agencies.

Should a parent have any concerns about their child, contact should be made with the Form Tutor or the Head of House.



The curriculum at Windsor is broad, balanced, stimulating and engaging and offers personalised opportunities for all students. In addition to a timetabled curriculum following the National Curriculum and a range of Level 1, 2 and 3 courses at KS4, some of the other opportunities for learning include: trips, work experience, school clubs and activities, alternative curriculum days, assemblies and tutor time.

Similarly a range of teaching and engagement strategies are employed throughout the curriculum. Students are grouped to maximise learning. For some subjects students are grouped by ability, in other subjects students are taught in mixed ability groups. The essence of Windsor's curriculum is to develop both pupil knowledge and understanding but also shape and grow the personal and thinking skills which will make students rounded confident individuals and life-long learners, able to apply their study through whatever pathways they choose through life.

Naturally, emphasis is placed on students showing initiative, working together and knowing where and how to prepare and work with others, lead others or work independently. These skills are developed through a range of resources which vary from textbooks and a well stocked learning resource centre to the use of technology to compliment the personalised curriculum. Interactive whiteboards and PC access are standard and learning resources such as online blogs, video mixing and podcasts are used to develop and assess pupil skills. Other tools include the School Virtual Learning Environment (VLE) where access to classroom resources and learning support are available from school and home.

Our curriculum provision is constantly reviewed and our aim is to provide the highest quality learning experience which achieves success for all.

### FACILITIES

- 13 fully equipped Science Laboratories
- 10 IT specialist rooms
- Open Access Library and Learning Resource Centre
- 6 Specialist Technology Rooms
- Full size Sports Hall
- 2 Gymnasia
- 2 fully equipped Fitness Rooms
- Large modern Dance Studio
- Music Suite with 5 specialist practice rooms

### SUBJECTS STUDIED KEY STAGE 3 (YEARS 7 – 9)

All students follow the National Curriculum delivered through lessons in:

- English
- Maths
- Science
- Technology
- History
- Geography
- IT
- Religious Education
- French, German or Spanish
- Music
- Art
- Drama
- PE including Dance

The personal development programme covers a range of aspects including:

- Social and Emotional aspects of learning (SEAL)
- Personal and Social Education
- Citizenship
- Health
- Careers Education and Guidance
- Work Related Learning and Enterprise Education

Delivery of these aspects ranges from discreet lesson time, cross curricular elements through various subjects and in special sessions and dedicated alternative curriculum days.

### KEYSTAGE 4 (YEARS 10 – 11)

All students have curriculum provision in:

- English
- Maths
- Science
- PE
- IT
- Religious Education

In addition students may also choose from the following examination courses:

- Art and Design
- 3D Studies
- Citizenship
- Dance
- Drama
- French
- German
- Geography
- Graphics
- History
- Critical Thinking
- IT
- Health & Social Care
- Religious Studies
- Travel & Tourism
- Music
- BTEC Sport
- BTEC Business
- Food Technology
- Resistant Materials

### EXAMINATIONS

Students are entered for examinations without charge for those examinations relating to courses taught in school. Students are entered for all examinations or other forms of assessment related to each student's personalised learning pathway. Should a pupil not fulfil the requirements for examination entry, parents may be charged the relevant examination fees.

## FUTURE ASPIRATIONS SKILLS AND TRAINING

Windsor High School and Sixth Form is committed to providing our students with a programme of careers education and information, advice and guidance (IAG) for all students in years 7–13.

The Future Aspirations, Skills and Training (FAST) department works with students, not only to ensure a smooth and successful transition from both Year 11 and Year 13 into Further or Higher Education or training for each and every child, but also to provide students in all years with the confidence to strive for their goals and the knowledge to achieve them.

Our young people begin their careers education in Year 7 and work through a careers programme, progressing with set tasks and aims relevant to the needs and requirements of each year. As part of this, there are opportunities to attend a number of visits to other establishments and to hear speakers from different organisations.

At key milestones throughout the students' time at Windsor, FAST will provide support, advice and guidance to ensure realistic and informed decisions are made. Our students are provided with support when choosing options to take at Key Stage 4, Key Stage 5 and beyond and have the opportunity to speak to an advisor whenever they feel it is necessary. Parents are always welcome to attend these meetings.



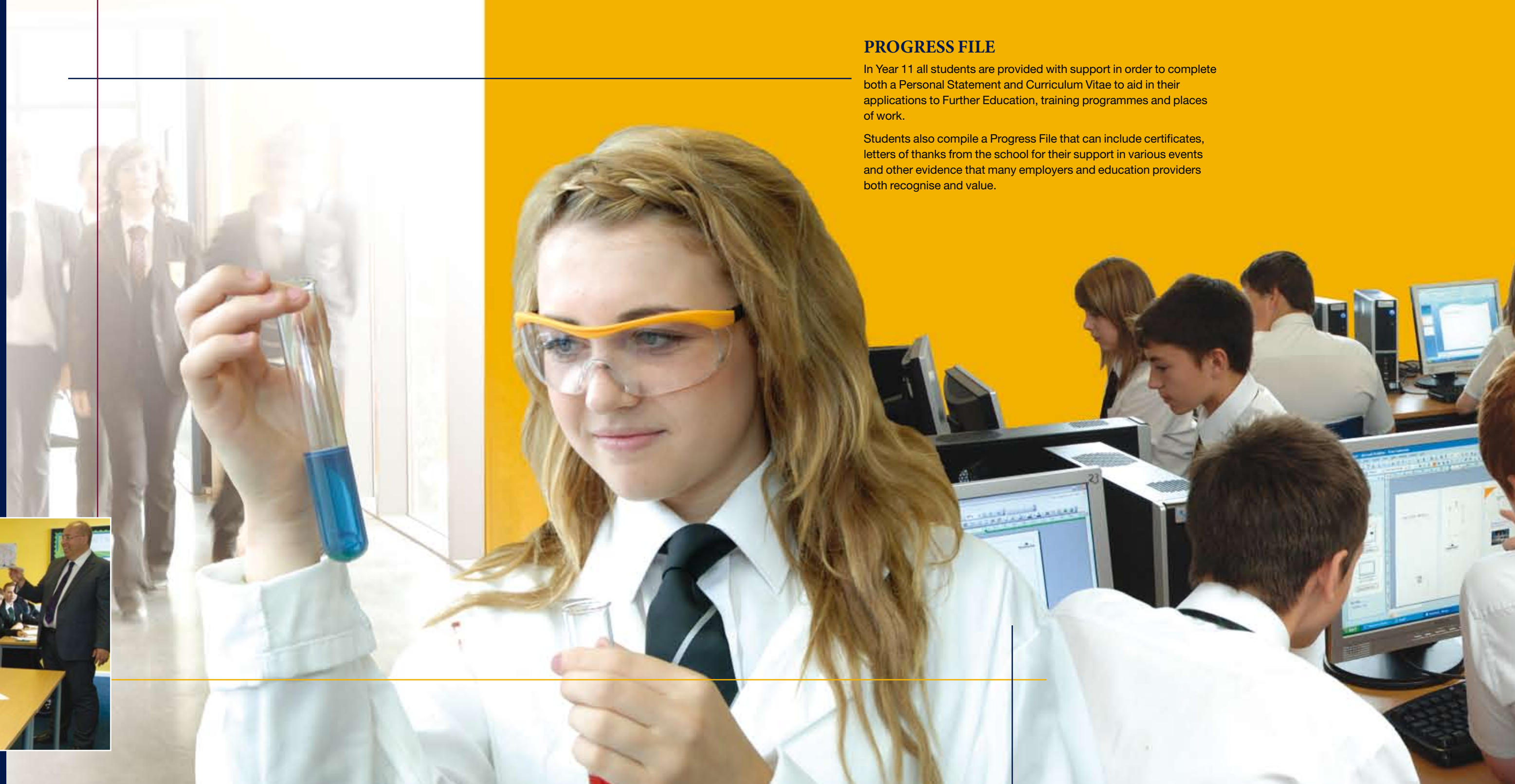
## WORK EXPERIENCE

Every year all students in Year 10 take part in our extremely successful Work Experience Programme. Students are encouraged to find their own placements according to their interests and future career aspirations. However, each year local businesses and organisations kindly guarantee us some placements and we also have a database of placements that our students have used in previous years available.

Our students attend a wide range of placements including local primary schools, vets practices, theatre companies, solicitors and hospitals.

## CAREERS LIBRARY

There is a comprehensive careers library situated in the main library where students are encouraged to come along and browse the publications, ask for support or use one of the computers to explore the many online careers resources available. There is also an extensive virtual careers library on the school website.



## PROGRESS FILE

In Year 11 all students are provided with support in order to complete both a Personal Statement and Curriculum Vitae to aid in their applications to Further Education, training programmes and places of work.

Students also compile a Progress File that can include certificates, letters of thanks from the school for their support in various events and other evidence that many employers and education providers both recognise and value.



**Windsor is a Specialist Sports College; as such Physical Education and School Sport are of paramount importance.**

### AWARDS

In addition to our Specialist status we have also attained two additional awards. Windsor has held the Sportsmark Award for a number of years. This recognises the quality of Physical Education provision and school sport offered to students; the FA Charter Standard is awarded by the FA to reward schools who demonstrate excellent practice with regard to football.

### GIFTED AND TALENTED

Windsor has strong support for our gifted and talented students. Elite athletes in a range of sports benefit from mentor support to assist them in balancing their sporting commitments with school life. Groups of students who demonstrate excellence in sport and dance are offered support via regular meetings and workshops.



### OUT OF HOURS LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

All students participate in Physical Education lessons during curriculum time and an extensive out of hours learning programme of over 50 opportunities a week is offered before school, at lunchtime and after school to compliment this. The House System is an integral part of the programme, offering a range of intra – school competitions during the year, including key events such as Sports Day and the Swimming Gala.

**School teams are offered in a range of sports including:**

- Football
- Basketball
- Hockey
- Rugby
- Netball
- Rounders
- Cricket
- Tennis
- Athletics
- Gymnastics
- Golf

These allow students to participate in a competitive arena and, although not the main reason for entering teams into competitions, Windsor teams regularly win a variety of leagues and cups.

### CURRICULUM

The school seeks to provide a relevant Physical Education curriculum which offers a breadth of opportunity, a quality learning experience and a healthy competitive atmosphere. In year 9, students follow a specialised pathway within the curriculum allowing them to further develop their skills and knowledge. Dance plays an important role within the curriculum and is housed in a purpose built state of the art studio. A wide range of qualifications are offered in Full and Short Course GCSE PE, GCSE Dance, BTEC Sport, BTEC Dance and A-Level Physical Education.

**We have excellent sporting facilities for the delivery of the curriculum including:**

- A brand new Sports Hall (4 badminton courts)
- A brand new fitness suite
- 2 gymnasias
- 2 tennis courts
- A full size Astro turf
- School playing fields housing a football pitch and rugby pitch
- All weather cricket wicket
- A state of the art Dance Studio



### SCHOOL SPORTS PARTNERSHIP

Windsor is the hub-site of a School Sports Partnership encapsulating 7 secondary schools, 1 special school, 28 primary schools, 2 Further Education Colleges and a Sixth Form College from the Halesowen and Stourbridge area. The focus of this network is to increase the provision and opportunity for students to engage in Physical Education and School Sport. These opportunities include the employment of local coaches to support provision offered by schools, competitive opportunities including intra and inter school competition, gifted and talented programmes and opportunities for leadership and volunteering.

### LEADERSHIP

Windsor considers the all round benefit that sport can bring and consequently offers a range of leadership opportunities. These allow students to gain valuable communication and organisational skills that can be used in a variety of different settings.

During Physical Education lessons all students gain experience of organising and leading others. From this platform a range of opportunities are offered for students to further develop their skills including House Seniors, Sports Leaders, Primary Festival Organisers and Step Into Sport. Students utilise their skills in assisting staff in a wide variety of projects with younger students, primary school students and in local club situations.

## MUSIC, ART, DANCE & DRAMA

We want our students to have a broad and balanced view of Expressive Arts. Students' arts education should stimulate a lasting enjoyment and interest in the arts, and a perception of the relevance of the arts in their lives.

### Aims

- To foster aesthetic awareness
- To develop creativity in individuals
- To celebrate and share achievements in the Expressive Arts subjects
- To build self esteem and self expression
- To work with our local community in promoting the arts
- To increase understanding of diverse cultural traditions
- To encourage collaborative and cooperative working methods

### EXPRESSIVE ARTS IN THE COMMUNITY

Windsor's dancers, musicians, artists and actors provide entertainment each year for:

- Birmingham Artsfest
- Himley Festival
- Windsor's Senior Citizens Christmas Party
- Concerts with local choirs
- Rock the Castle
- Battle of the Bands
- Concerts and competitions with Dudley Performing Arts

### Recent performances / events include:

- 'Westside Story'
- 'Fame'
- 'Grease'
- Easter Celebration of Dance
- The Dance Production
- The Art Exhibition
- The Carol Concert
- Halesowen Music Festival
- Expressive Arts Goes Street
- Birmingham Artsfest
- A Christmas Carol

Along with extra-curricular opportunities and performances, regular evening visits to the theatre give our students the opportunity to see a range of performances. There are also opportunities for our students to attend trips, residentials and exchanges as part of our extensive Expressive Arts programme.



## EXPRESSIVE ARTS OPPORTUNITIES MUSIC, DANCE, ART & DRAMA

- Advanced Choir
- Guitar Club
- Samba Band
- STOMP
- Band Surgery
- Advanced Orchestra
- Training Orchestra
- Beginners Choir
- Recorder Groups
- Champagne Flutes
- Piano clubs
- Keyboard Club
- GCSE music support club
- Windsor's Dance Companies
- PRIDE Company (*Providing Support & Resources for Individuals with Dance Excellence*)
- Tap Club
- Ballet Club
- Fusion Club
- Jazz Dance Club
- Boys Break Dance Club
- Dance Leaders Award
- Street Dance Company
- KS3 Drama Club
- KS4 Drama Club
- KS3 Art Club
- KS4 Art Club
- Fine Art Club
- Talented Artists Club



The Library and Resource Centre is an attractive place to study and offers a wealth of information. It is managed by Librarians with support from students.

It is open from 8.15am-4.30pm Monday to Thursday and 8.15am-4.00pm on Fridays.

**The resources available include:**

- large selection of fiction and non fiction books
- encyclopaedias
- daily newspapers
- 30 computers
- leaflets
- magazines
- stationery shop
- educational board games

Students access these resources, guided by the Librarian if needed, to research for projects and to develop their ability to learn independently.

The Library is available for students to use before and after school and during breaks and lunchtimes. Year 7 have exclusive access throughout their lunch.

Many competitions involving students, such as the Secondary Schools Book Quiz and the Times Spelling Bee are run by the Library. 'Literally Windsor' is an annual event where students have the opportunity to meet authors and join in various workshops, such as the popular Murder Mystery.

A student Reading Group meets every month to share their love of books. This is open to all year groups.

The Library is a major strength of the school and plays an invaluable role in promoting students' research skills and independent learning.



## MUSIC

- Symphonic Wind Orchestra
- Training Orchestra
- Choirs
- Flute Ensemble
- Keyboard Club
- Recorder Group
- Samba Band
- Rock Groups

## DANCE

- Rhythmic Gymnastics
- Tap
- Street
- Ballet
- Jazz
- Junior, Senior & Gifted and Talented Dance Companies
- Boys Break Dance

Windsor offers an extensive extra-curricular programme before and after school and during the lunch hour to enhance the opportunities we offer students. Each year brings new activities as interests and staff expertise change.

## SPORT (FOR BOYS & GIRLS)

- Hockey
- Tennis
- Football
- Rugby
- Basketball
- Cricket
- Athletics
- Volleyball
- Badminton
- Fitness
- Trampolining
- Golf Academy

## OTHER

- Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme
- Young Enterprise Scheme
- Chess
- STEM Club (Science, Technology, Engineering & Maths government funded clubs)
- Junior and Senior Drama Club
- Reading Group
- Art and Craft Clubs
- Theatre trips
- House Competitions



## WELCOME TO WINDSOR SIXTH FORM

Our Sixth Form opened in September 2010 and is a brand new facility built with a grant of over six million pounds.

The design aimed to create a 'University atmosphere' and we are really pleased that so much of our feedback has confirmed this. In addition to six tutorial rooms the large Common Room contains a servery with a full time chef and assistant. Next door the spacious Study Area provides an excellent area for independent study as well as advice from the Student Support Manager.

Two science labs and a lecture theatre complete the academic provision for the Sixth form which will accommodate around 300 students in the next couple of years.



For whole school use the Sports Hall and superb Fitness Suite will enable many more activities to be done as well as supporting the highest level of training and academic analysis.

Windsor Sixth Form is open to our existing students as well as students from other establishments. We have had a number of students join from other schools in the area as well as some from Europe. As always, our focus will be on maximum academic achievement combined with a range of extra-curricular activities, social and Leadership activities.

Should you have any questions about the Sixth Form please contact the Director of Sixth Form.





## STUDENT LEADERSHIP

Windsor High School and Sixth Form provides an extensive range of opportunities for its students both within and outside the curriculum.

The opportunities available in the field of student leadership are outstanding, covering an extensive range of subject areas and pastoral aspects of school life. Students are offered opportunities to develop their leadership skills. In doing so, they learn how to communicate effectively with a range of people; adults, peers and younger students. Students develop organisational skills and demonstrate increases in self confidence and self esteem.

### Examples of some of the opportunities for student leadership are listed below:

- Prefect
- Librarian
- Peer Mentor
- Sports Leader
- Music Leaders and Technicians
- House Seniors – Sports and Pastoral
- Student Council Representatives
- Art Leaders
- Dance Leaders



## THE WINDSOR HOUSE SYSTEM

Every student is allocated to a tutor group. There are ten tutor groups in each year. Each group is led by a Form Tutor who will usually remain with the tutor group for five years until Year 11. The Form Tutor is a key member of staff and is responsible for establishing a happy secure and supportive relationship with his/her tutor group. Students in turn feel secure in having someone to whom they can look for support and guidance. Students meet with their tutor every morning and afternoon.

We have five Houses; Hanover, Lancaster, Stuart, Tudor and York. Each House has identifiable colours and students in a particular House wear a tie that contains the House colour. A House Head leads each individual House.

## HOUSE ACTIVITIES

The House System also provides students with the opportunity to participate collectively in a wide range of activities. We are able to offer students a whole range of competitions, which include sport, quizzes, board games, talent competitions and many more. The programme of events is ever changing, catering for the varied interests of our students. It has proved to be a valuable addition to our extra-curricular programme of events.

Selected students from Year 10 have been appointed as House Seniors and in Year 11 there are Prefects attached to each House. These students play a vital role in organising the various events.

All of the competitions will count towards identifying the "House of the Year". Throughout the school year we take the opportunity to celebrate the many successes and triumphs. We celebrate in House assemblies, via the weekly "Newsletter" and by participating and supporting various activities.

The response from our students to the Windsor House System has been outstanding and we continue to build on the standards and achievements of previous years.

## PASTORAL WELFARE AND ACADEMIC PROGRESS

At Windsor we have a traditional House system. Each House will have two tutor groups in each year group.

The Head of House will be responsible for the pastoral and academic progress of all students; we believe that behaviour, attendance, pastoral welfare and academic progress are all inter-linked and that while they fall within the remit of the Head of House, everyone working at Windsor High School and Sixth Form has a contribution to make in one or more of these areas.

The Head of House will be supported by a Pastoral Manager. Their role will include dealing with the concerns of, and support for, both students and parents. At leadership level and senior teacher level there are Key Stage Directors for Years 7-9 and Years 10-11. There is also a senior member of staff with specific responsibilities for pupil well-being. All of these staff report to the Deputy Headteacher for Student Services.



## PRIMARY LINKS

Windsor High School and Sixth Form is committed to continually improving the transition between Year 6 and Year 7. The whole process of children moving from primary school to 'big school' can be quite emotional for the entire family. We endeavour to assist in that process by making the school familiar to primary pupils by inviting them to visit, by making faces at the 'big school' familiar through key staff leading in a wide range of projects that are delivered both at Windsor and the individual primary schools and by making the whole experience enjoyable and engaging.

Windsor staff also visit a range of primary schools in order to learn more about the youngsters who will transfer at the end of Year 6 and that information is used to assist with the creation of our tutor groups.

Windsor High School and Sixth Form enjoys strong links with a large number of primary schools. These links connect with many curricular and extra-curricular areas.

As a Sports College, Windsor provides support using the professional experience and guidance of teaching staff but also utilises 'Sports Leaders' (chosen from the student body). The use of these Sports Leaders has a twin impact: it provides role models for, and raises the aspirations of, the primary pupils as well as developing the core leadership skills of the Windsor Sports Leaders.

Windsor's second specialism, Science, provides the inspiration for Project Galileo that is based at Windsor, runs during the summer term and links with a number of local primary schools. An expansion of outreach in other areas has also been well received: Samba band workshops, an extensive range of dance workshops and projects in Art and Music have all been provided and add a different dimension to the ongoing liaison work with primary schools across the core subjects.

Windsor High School and Sixth Form is part of the Halesowen Development Group that meets regularly and brings together key staff from both the primary and the secondary schools across the township. This group provides a strategic oversight to the work carried out in the transition from Key Stage 2 to Key Stage 3.



## SCHOOL UNIFORM

**All students must adhere to the following uniform rules:**

- Full uniform, including blazers, are to be worn in school at all times.
- Blazers may be removed in classrooms at the discretion of the class teacher. They should be worn when exiting the classroom and in corridors at all times.
- Ties fully visible and worn to a suitable length, i.e. not tucked into shirts.
- Year 11 students wear a black school tie with two diagonal stripes in their House colour. The Windsor badge should be visible.
- Shirts should be tucked in both back and front.
- Official 'Sports College' sweaters are allowed.
- Hoodies/cardigans/denim/leather jackets should not be worn in school.
- Blazers may be removed at lunchtime when students are involved in activities. However, the blazer will be required to be worn when entering the dining hall for lunch.
- Trainers should be worn when using the Astro Turf during break and lunchtime.
- Plain V-necked sweaters or cardigans (black or grey) may be worn, but not as a replacement for the blazer. No sports/logo type sweatshirts should be worn.
- Plain black shoes.

- One small sleeper/stud may be worn in each ear.
- Eyebrow studs/rings, nose studs and tongue studs are not allowed.
- A maximum of one ring per hand.
- Skirts should be worn to a length no shorter than just above the knee.

### Mobile Phones & Music Players

If mobile phones are seen or heard during the school day then they are confiscated and arrangements made for their return at the end of the school day. However, if a pupil has a phone confiscated three times (or more) then their Head of House will contact home and make arrangements for a parent to come into school and collect the phone.

MP3/music players are not allowed in school and will be confiscated. Arrangements for their return should be made at the discretion of the member of staff. Please note that these items may not be returned at the end of the school day in which they have been confiscated.





#### OFSTED QUOTES 2008

"Governors, staff, parents and pupils are unanimous that the school provides a high quality education and an excellent breadth of opportunities for pupils of all ages and abilities to succeed academically and thrive personally"

"The school meets the academic and personal development needs of individual pupils outstandingly well"

"Excellent attention is given to all aspects of pastoral guidance and care, which are firmly rooted in the well-established house system and ensure that pupils feel safe"

"Parents are overwhelmingly positive in their support for the school. Many parents expressed appreciation of the wide range of opportunities provided by the school and paid tribute to the commitment of staff"

