

Dear Parent/Guardian,

I am writing on behalf of Wickersley School and Sports College to warmly welcome you and your child to Wickersley Sixth Form. As Year 12 settle into their sixth form study, I am writing to explain some important things here at Wickersley:

1. Our vision for sixth form students

We aim to send every young person into the world able and qualified to play their full role in it.

At Wickersley, we value more than just grades. We're proud of how much we support our students for life beyond our sixth form. We see sixth form as the beginning of a journey which will lead beyond Year 13; to university, further training, or the world of work. Alongside academic study, we provide opportunities for students to develop personal qualities and characteristics that prepare them for further study, work, and adult life. We develop these key characteristics through our **form period, tutorial, assemblies, and enrichment** sessions, and that is why attendance at all these sessions is compulsory.

During their time at Wickersley, we expect our sixth formers to embody the **Wickersley Way** and become **exemplary**. Wickersley Sixth Form students must build on the progress made in the lower school and, with our support, become exemplary scholars, role models, citizens, and progress to exemplary destinations.

2. Before, during and after every lesson

At first, the leap from Year 11 to sixth form study can be difficult for students and parents to manage. To help with this, we have created a clear *blueprint for success*, we call it **Every Lesson**. Every lesson is a list of students' responsibilities before, during and after every sixth form lesson. Throughout the year, teachers will assess students' efforts in each of these categories and share results with students and parents:



The infographic is a dark blue rounded rectangle divided into three main sections: 'Before Every Lesson', 'During Every Lesson', and 'After Every Lesson'. Each section contains a list of student responsibilities. The top right corner features the logos for Wickersley Sixth Form and Wickersley Partnership Trust.

Before Every Lesson	During Every Lesson	After Every Lesson
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> You know your target grade and current grade. You know what you need to do before your next lesson, e.g., wider reading or homework. You understand what knowledge and skills you need to master to reach the next level or grade. You understand your learning journey, e.g., what topic you're studying, and how this fits into what you studied before. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> You embody the subject way. You complete all activities set by your teacher. You tell your teacher if you do not understand the content or how to perform a skill. You volunteer answers to questions rather than waiting to be asked by your teacher. You enter debate with your teachers and peers when appropriate. You communicate with confidence and finesse: verbally, non-verbally and in written work. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> You review your learning after the lesson and address any misunderstanding with your teacher. You organise your time and studies effectively over a long period – you are a project manager. You commit lots of time and effort to your learning by completing many hours of proactive study at home, e.g., past papers. You act on the feedback provided by your teacher and improve your work. Afterwards, you seek additional feedback. You engage in super and extracurricular activities such as reading, podcasts and documentaries.

3. Student support

Our sixth form has a dedicated team to support students with any personal or educational issues. Students are encouraged to come and speak to a member of the sixth form team if they have any questions or worries. Alternatively, students can speak to their class teacher or any other member of staff in the school. We closely monitor students' academic progress and take necessary actions if they fall behind.

We also have [multiple layers of support](#) available for students who are having difficulty with their sixth form studies:

Directed Study	Designed for students who are struggling to organise their time and learning.	To be completed in <i>some</i> of the student's free periods.
Subject Support Plan	Designed for students who are working hard but need subject-specific support to meet their target grade.	Activities to be completed by students independently and then reviewed by their teacher weekly.
Performance Review	Designed for students who need our deepest level of support.	Students will have a meeting with a member of the sixth form team to discuss study strategies, set clear targets, and agree on a review date. Parents may also be invited to be a part of this process.

4. Attendance

Exemplary attendance is important to us. If students are not here, they are not learning. We have an expectation of 95% attendance for all our students. Without a valid reason, students whose subject attendance falls below 92% must pay for their examinations. If students are unable to attend school due to illness or other unavoidable circumstances, please telephone 01709 542147 or e-mail sixthform@wickersley.net as soon as possible. Holidays should not be taken during term time.

5. INSET days for 2023-24

Tuesday 3rd October 2023, Thursday 1st February 2024, Wednesday 1st May 2024, Monday 22nd & Tuesday 23rd July 2024.

6. Mock exams and parents' evenings

The Year 12 assessment week will begin on Monday the 8th of January 2024 and will be sat in students' classrooms. The Year 12 mock exams will begin on Monday 29th of April 2024 and will be sat in exam venues. Parents' Evening will be held on the 22nd of February 2024.

We look forward to working with you in the year ahead to ensure that your child maximises their full potential, if you have any further questions or concerns, please email sixthform@wickersley.net

Yours sincerely,

Mr S. Gaynor
Head of Sixth Form

Mr T. Hardcastle
Headteacher