

Dear Parent/Guardian,

As Year 13 settle into their final year of sixth form study, I am writing to explain some important things here at Wickersley. Year 13 is a life-defining year; decisions will be made this year that will affect students for years to come. Put simply, hard work and determination pay; students who knuckle-down this year and make the most of the support that is offered in school will reap the rewards.

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.

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 Year 12 and, with our support, become exemplary scholars, role models, citizens, and progress to exemplary destinations. In Year 13, it's crucial to start the year off on the right foot. I encourage all students to work diligently in their own time, maintain a strong sense of determination towards their goals, and remain optimistic even when things don't go according to plan – nothing less than **exemplary effort** will do.

2. Before, during and after every lesson

The leap from Year 12 to Year 13 can be difficult for students and parents to manage. To help with this, in the past year, 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' effort in each of these categories and share results with students and parents:



W **SIXTH FORM** **WICKERSLEY PARTNERSHIP TRUST.**

During Every Lesson

- 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.

Before Every Lesson

- 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 for each 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.

After Every Lesson

- 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 13 assessment week will begin on Monday the 30th of October 2023 and will be sat in students' classrooms. The Year 13 mock exams will begin on Monday 19th of February 2024 and will be sat in exam venues. Parents' Evening will be held on the 14th of December 2023.

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