

Wanstead High School

Education with Character



Prospective Sixth Form Pupil Induction Booklet 2023



Dear Prospective Sixth Form Pupil,

At Wanstead High School, we work hard to provide an excellent education for our pupils in a safe, inclusive and caring environment. We are extremely proud of our pupil's achievements made possible through the hard work and dedication of our subject specialist teachers and pastoral team.

Pupils are extremely well supported in their efforts to achieve their goals. We offer a broad and balanced curriculum that we deliver with depth and rigour. Departments encourage pupils to research beyond the curriculum to develop breadth and depth of knowledge, interests and skills.

We are committed to continually improving and driving standards to achieve excellence. We remain focused on the quality of teaching and learning to ensure that we offer the right level of challenge to stretch pupils, in addition to the right level of support to make sure they flourish. We offer excellent pastoral care and will give you the emotional support and skills to thrive. We will look after you, support you and believe in you. In return, we will expect nothing less of you than your very best!

We rigorously monitor and track progress throughout the year and offer academic mentoring and coaching to pupils who require additional support. We work closely with parents to ensure that you achieve your full potential and are successful on your chosen pathway. Parents receive regular reports keeping them updated on your progress.

Throughout your time in the Sixth Form, we will also help you move towards becoming self-regulated learners and develop the skills you will need to become successful independent pupils and creative thinkers.

Joining our Sixth Form is not just about academic study; it is also about meeting new friends and becoming actively involved in Sixth Form life. This includes social and sporting opportunities, becoming an active member of the school community and taking part in our social contract scheme whereby all pupils aim to support some aspect of community service.

We are dedicated to developing the whole pupil. By the end of your studies, you will be ready to make a positive contribution to the wider world, successfully moving on to higher education, apprenticeships and the world of work.

We hope that you find this induction pack useful. Please contact us if you have any further questions.

Best wishes

Ms Eleni Bray

Assistant Headteacher & Head of Sixth Form

ENROLMENT DATES 2023

Thursday August 24th and Friday August 25th 2023

**Thursday 24th August - GCSE Results day
and Enrolment Day
9.00am - 3.00pm.**

**Friday 25th August
2nd Enrolment Day 9.00am - 1.00pm.**

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Wanstead High School Sixth Form

We want to liberate the potential of all pupils to aspire, achieve and succeed in their learning. We will provide high quality education with character: inspiring our young people, keeping them safe and preparing them fully for life in the modern world.

At Wanstead High School, we are fully committed to liberate the potential of all pupils to aspire, achieve and succeed in their learning. We will provide high quality education with character: inspiring our young people, keeping them safe, and preparing them fully for life in the modern world, with unrelenting ambition to ensure our disadvantaged pupils achieve success in all these areas in line with other pupils.

We pride ourselves on offering an environment in which all pupils and staff succeed because they have the confidence and resilience to develop their talents, take risks and continually pursue improvement.

Sixth Form Team



Ms E. Bray
Assistant Headteacher
& Head of Sixth Form
Teacher of Psychology



Ms T. van Beers
Head of Year 13
& Teacher of Art and
Photography



Mr M. Hamza
Head of Year 12 &
Teacher of Geography



Ms S. Fullerton
Sixth Form
Administrative Officer



Ms A. Pascu
Sixth Form
Study Supervisor



Ms J. Hollingdale
Sixth Form
Study Supervisor

The School Day

The daily timetable is as follows:

Time	Activity
8.25 am	Gates open
8.35 am	First warning bell
8.40 am	Morning Tutor time / assembly
9.00 am	Period 1
10.00 am	Break for Years 7-9 Period 2 for Years 10-13
10.20 am	Break ends for Years 7-9 Period 2 for Years 7-9
11.00 am	Break for Years 10-13
11.20 am	Break ends for Years 10-13 Period 3 for all
12.20 pm	Lunchtime for Years 7-9 Period 4 for Years 10-13
1.05 pm	Period 5 for Years 7-9
1.20 pm	Lunchtime for Years 10-13
2.05 pm	Period 5 for all
3.05 pm	End of Period 5

The school day starts with registration within tutor groups. Once per fortnight there is Assembly.

The timetable is organised on a fortnightly basis with each day divided into 5 periods of one hour each (50 hours per 2-week period).

Sixth Form pupils are expected on site by 8.35am and ends at 3.05pm. All medical appointments should be made outside of these hours, no employment is authorised to take place during these hours and no activities such as driving lessons should be scheduled during these times. If you have an unavoidable medical appointment then we need to be notified ahead of this and shown evidence.

If you become unwell you are not authorised to just walk off site. You must alert one of the Sixth Form team and then go to medical who will contact home.

Entry and Exit from the site

Every morning, you will exit via the gate in the lower playground which leads onto the leisure centre car park.

At the end of each day, you will exit via the gate in the lower playground which leads onto the leisure centre car park.

Those signing in and out for lunch will also do so using the gate in the lower playground which leads onto the leisure centre car park.

Dress Code

At Wanstead High Sixth Form, we follow a professional, office attire dress code, and ask that all pupils who join the Sixth Form adhere to this.

Sixth Form pupil uniform:

Required Items 6th Form	Description
Formal fit suit	- Should be smart and professional, ID badges must be worn at all times.
Formal collared shirt with tie or business style blouse	- Top button must be done up. Shirts can be long or short-sleeved.
Formal fit skirt or dress (professional length) with business style blazer	- Should be smart and professional, ID badges must be worn at all times
Black leather-style shoes	- Formal flat or low-heeled shoes or sensible, practical, flat or low-heeled formal boots can be worn but must be covered under the trousers or no higher than ankle length.
Jewellery	- Jewellery worn to school should be safe and appropriate. Pupils may wear up to two small stud earrings in each ear and one small nose stud may also be worn. Hoop or drop earrings of any size are not permitted. No other body or facial piercings should be displayed. Pupils may wear a watch; smart watches are not permitted in exams or assessments.
Make Up	- Make-up needs to be subtle and nail varnish can be worn. Nails to be of a natural or pale shade
Hair	- Pupils must wear their hair in a natural colour, bright unnatural colours are not permitted. Extreme hair styles or those associated with any kind of anti-social activities or groups are not permitted. These change from time to time and the Headteacher reserves the right to specify what these might be at any point. The patterned shaving of hair or eyebrows is forbidden. - Wanstead High School has adopted the Halo Code. This means our school champions the right of staff and pupils to embrace all Afro-hairstyles. We welcome Afro-textured hair worn in all styles including, but not limited to, afros, locs, twists, braids, cornrows, fades, hair straightened through the application of heat or chemicals, weaves, wigs and headscarves, as long as they are in line with school colours and hair colour guidance. This does not include durags or bonnets which are not appropriate in school.
Religious Headwear	- Religious headwear must be plain and neutral in colour
Hoodies and other non-uniform jumpers or coats	- Hooded sports tops or 'hoodies' are not permitted and will be confiscated.
Hats, Ski Masks, Balaclavas, Face coverings	- It is not permitted for any pupil to wear any form of cap or hat in the school building. A woollen hat can be worn to and from school and at break/lunchtimes when the weather is cold. Ski masks, balaclavas and face coverings should not be worn, to, from or within school.

Mobile Phones

We share a site with children. Therefore, no mobile phones are permitted anywhere around the school site **other than in the Sixth Form block.**

During scheduled study sessions, these must be used for work purposes only and under the instruction of Ms Pascu or Ms Hollingdale.

Failure to adhere to this policy will result in your phone being confiscated until the end of the day and a sanction issued.

Extra-Curricular Opportunities

There are a huge variety of extra-curricular opportunities, clubs and educational visits to enjoy. We expect pupils to put themselves forward for a minimum of one of these to build your skills set and widen your experiences.

- Drama and school productions (acting, production and back stage)
- Duke of Edinburgh
- NCS scheme
- Music groups including jazz band, orchestra, choir, and school bands
- Educational trips
- Visits to conferences, cinema screenings, study days and lectures
- Debate club
- Peer mentoring
- Social contract
- Future Leaders
- Higher Education visits/fairs and taster lectures and seminars.
- Linking with other providers for outreach programmes such as additional lectures and seminars
- Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs)

Social Contract

Year 12 Pupils are required to complete 1 hour of Social Contract per fortnight in terms 1 and 2 of the academic year. This is dedicating your time to support the school community and is great for your personal statements or CVs. This can take place during a study period, lunch time or immediately after school. If appropriate, the contract time can be divided into 2 x 30 minutes. You will have to organise your own social contract within the school setting, for example you may wish to support the Maths department with teaching Maths to younger pupils.

You can also put yourself forward to be part of a group of pupils with leadership responsibilities and be involved in key decision making across areas of the whole school. Open to all Year 13 pupils, is the opportunity to apply for Head Pupils, as well as prefects in Year 13.

Applying to University

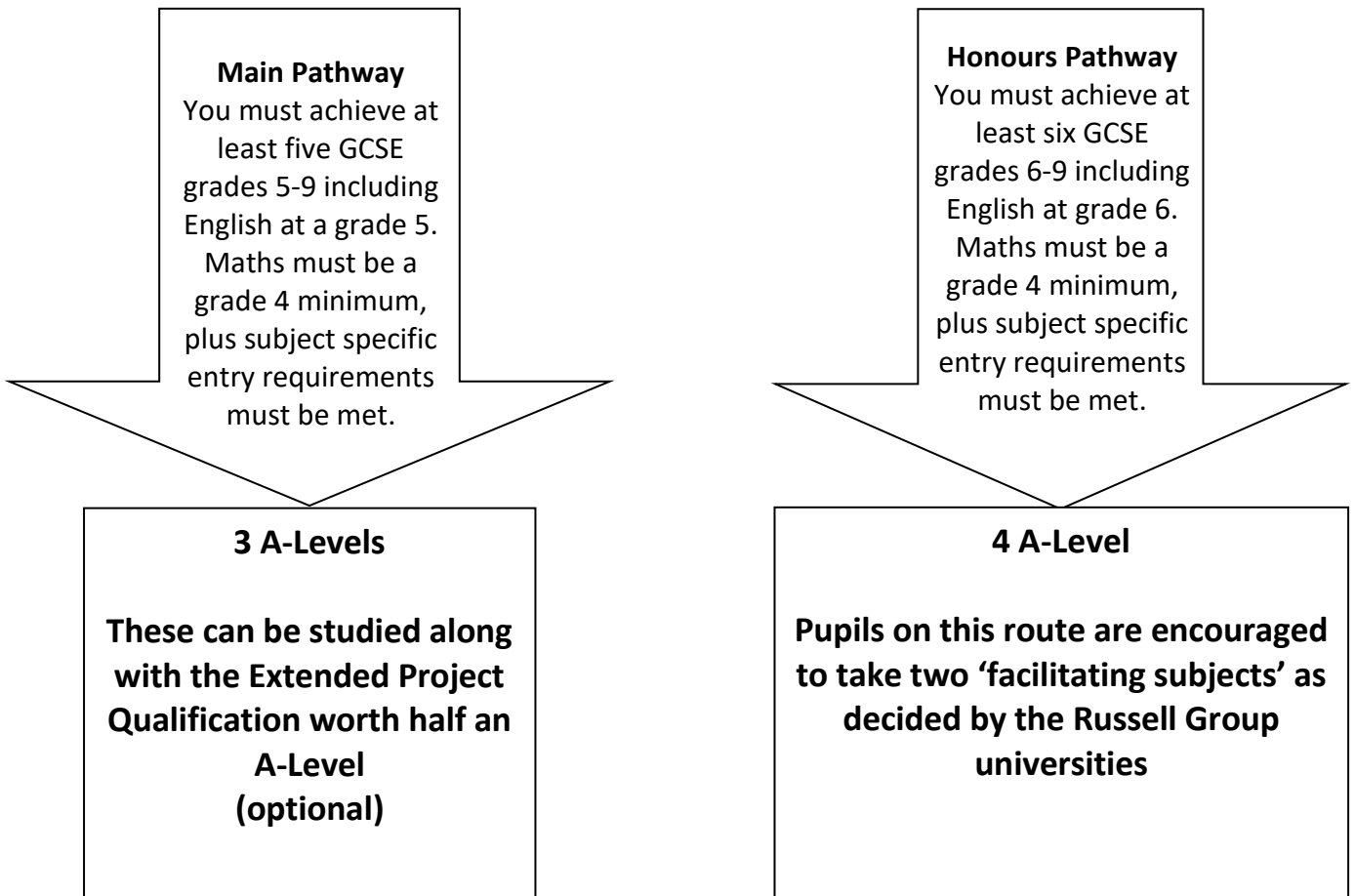
We will guide and support you through the careers and UCAS process from start to finish. We will mentor you in deciding the most appropriate choice of course and university. Each year we are very proud to have a number of applicants to Oxbridge and the Russell Group universities. Each year we are delighted to see our Sixth Form pupils gain the qualifications they need to either go on to additional study in further or higher education, apprenticeships or to start work in their chosen career path.

To support our pupils further, we use Unifrog, the worlds biggest data base of Post-16 and Post-18 opportunities, helping pupils compare every university course, every apprenticeship and Higher Education courses to enable them to apply successfully.

In addition, we host an annual 'Higher Education, Careers and Futures Month' in the summer term of Year 12. This includes workshops focused on registering and applying, how to write effective personal statements and CVs, and managing money and pupil finance. Guest speakers from a variety of options such as HE, gap years, apprenticeship schemes, employment and voluntary organisations are invited to ensure all options at 18+ years are presented and explored. Our HE month also includes visits to universities and a HE Fair. Pupils are further supported through individual tutorials with their tutors and access to an independent careers officer.

Pathways

We offer a wide range of A-Level courses and have a strong record of success.



Subject Specific Entry Requirements

Disclaimer: We reserve the right not to run courses if there is insufficient demand.

A-Level Course	Main Pathway Entry Requirement as a minimum You must achieve at least five GCSE grades 5-9 including English at a grade 5. Maths must be a grade 4 minimum, plus subject specific entry requirements must be met.
Art & Design	Grade 5 in Art or Graphics
Art Photography	Grade 5 in English
Biology	At least a grade 6 in two sciences, including a 6 in Biology and a 6 in Maths
Chemistry	At least a grade 6 in two sciences, including a 6 in Chemistry and a 6 in Maths
Classical Civilisation	Grade 5 in History or a 5 in English
Computer Science	Grade 6 in Computer Science and 6 in Maths
Dance	Grade 5 in Dance if studied or evidence of a commitment to Dance
Drama & Theatre	Grade 5 in Drama if studied or a 5 in English
Economics	Grade 6 in Maths and 6 in English
English Language & Lit. Combined	Grade 6 and 5 in English Language and English Literature (either way around).
English Literature	Grade 6 in English Literature and 5 in English Language
French	Grade 5 in French
Geography	Grade 5 in Geography and a 5 in English
History	Grade 5 in History if studied or a 5 in English
Maths	Grade 7 in Maths
Further Maths	Grade 8 in Maths and must take A-Level Maths
Media Studies	Grade 5 in Media Studies if studied or a 5 in English
Music	Grade 5 in Music or Grade 5 practical examination or equivalent
Music Technology	Grade 5 in Music or pass in Level 2 Music BTEC or equivalent.
Religious Studies (Philosophy & Ethics)	Grade 5 in Religious Studies if studied or 5 in English
Physical Education	Grade 6 in PE if studied or a 5 in English and 6 in Biology (or 6 and 6 in combined)
Physics	At least a grade 6 in two sciences, including a 6 in Physics and a 6 in Maths
Politics	Grade 5 in English
Psychology	Grade 6 in Biology (or 6 and 6 in Combined), 5 in Maths and 5 in English
Sociology	Grade 5 in Sociology if studied or a 5 in English
Spanish	Grade 5 in Spanish
Extended Project Qualification	Available to all Year 12 pupils (worth half an A-Level)

Disclaimer: We reserve the right not to run courses if there is insufficient demand or recruitment difficulties means that courses are not viable. In this situation we would contact you individually and ensure other options are explored.

A-Level Programme Structure

Main Pathway

We offer a very broad and exciting range of A-Level courses for those pupils who meet our main pathway entry requirements as a minimum - You must achieve at least five GCSE grades 5-9 including English at a grade 5. Maths must be a grade 4 minimum, plus subject specific entry requirements must also be met. All courses will have entry requirements specific to the course.

All courses offered will convert to UCAS points and are recognised for entry to university degree programmes. A-Level courses are increasingly based on exams and the coursework element has reduced in recent years.

Honours Pathways

Pupils who are eligible to follow the honours pathway – You must achieve at least six GCSE grades 6-9 including English at grade 6. Maths must be a grade 4 minimum, plus subject specific entry requirements must also be met. Please note, four A-Levels are not a requirement for even the most competitive universities so pupils should consider this wisely. On this pathway, you may choose to select four subjects for two years. Pupils are strongly encouraged to select 'facilitating subjects' as defined by the Russell Group universities- a group of 24 of the best universities. These include: English Literature, History, Physics, Biology, Chemistry, Maths, Further Maths, Geography, French and Spanish.

In addition to A-Level choice, all pupils have the option of taking the Extended Project Qualification (EPQ) - an independent research project on any subject of the pupil's choosing. It is equivalent to half an A-Level and is highly valued by universities and employers.

Pupils have 9 hours of classes for each subject per fortnight (we are looking to increase this to 10 hours over the next few years), apart from the EPQ for which the class contact time is 1 hour per fortnight. Study sessions are usually based in the Sixth Form study block where pupils are timetabled to work individually on assignments or in small groups with others in the subject group. However, pupils can also use their scheduled study time for work in the school library or on practical elements in specialist rooms such as Art, Science, Music or Media.

Pupils in Year 12 are timetabled 1 hour per fortnight to develop study skills and help them to understand how to learn and revise effectively. This is specifically designed to help support their independence, meet the demands of their courses and support their progress in their subjects.

A typical breakdown for an **A-Level** pupil might be:

3 or 4 A-Level subjects 9 – 10 hours per subject per fortnight

The remaining hours are timetabled study periods in our Private Study computer suite, Library or Open Study areas where pupils spend time developing skills of independent learning and research and completing set tasks. Pupils also have opportunities to develop extra-curricular activities and volunteer within the school community as part of this time. Pupils in Year 12 are timetabled for 1 hour per fortnight to develop study skills and help them to understand how to learn and revise effectively. This is specifically designed to help support their independence, meet the demands of their courses and support their progress in their subjects.

From the second term onwards, pupils in Year 12, provided they are achieving well and have a record of excellent attendance, will be able to study at home for any period 5 session that is not a scheduled lesson. Pupils in Year 13, provided they are achieving well and have a record of excellent attendance, are awarded the full home study privilege and can study at home for part of their non-timetabled lesson time.

Timetables and Home Study

Year 12 have 9 hours per subject per fortnight.

The remainder of your timetable will consist of supervised study sessions and one Learning to Learn session.

Home Study is a privilege only awarded to pupils in Year 12 after Christmas for any period 5 study session, and only awarded to those who have achieved 95% attendance, excellent punctuality and behaviour and who are on track to achieving their target grades.

Full home study privilege is awarded to Year 13 pupils who have achieved 95% attendance, excellent punctuality and behaviour and who are on track to achieving their target grades.

Attendance Expectations

Good school attendance is extremely important to academic progress and success. We expect a minimum of 95% attendance to ensure our pupils can reach their full academic potential.

Persistent absence from school without a valid reason can result in a parental meeting with your child being put on an attendance agreement and a scheduled meeting with the Education Welfare Officer. We can reserve the right to not support the exam entries of pupils whose attendance is persistently below 85%. We can also seek to withdraw a pupil from some or all of their exams and their place at school may be withdrawn if unacceptable attendance continues.

Behaviour Policy in brief

All pupils must cooperate fully with the school rules and behaviour expectations. All pupils must treat everyone with respect, staff and pupils. We will not tolerate the use or distribution of banned items or substances.

Persistent behaviour issues can result in a parental meeting with your child being put on a behaviour agreement. We can reserve the right not to support the exam entries of pupils whose behaviour is not in adherence to the schools expectations. We can also seek to withdraw a pupil from some or all of their exams and their place at school may be withdrawn if unacceptable behaviour continues or behaviour becomes unmanageable.

Term Dates 2023 - 2024

Autumn Term 2023-24 School Term and Holiday Dates

Starts from Monday 4th September 2023 to Wednesday 20th December 2023

(*All pupils return back to school on Wednesday 6th September 2023).

INSET 1 Monday 4th September

INSET 2 Tuesday 5th September

Half term break – Monday 23rd October 2023 to Friday 27th October 2023

INSET 3 Friday 24th November

Christmas break – Thursday 21st December 2023 to Wednesday 3rd January 2024

SPRING 2024 SCHOOL TERM AND HOLIDAY DATES

Thursday 4th January 2024 to Thursday 28th March 2024

Half term break – Monday 19th February 2024 – Friday 23rd February 2024

Easter break: Friday 29th March 2024 to Friday 12th April 2024

SUMMER 2024 SCHOOL TERM AND HOLIDAY DATES

Monday 15th April 2024 to Friday 19th July 2024

Half term break – Monday 27th May 2024 to Friday 31st May 2024

Last Day of Summer Term Friday 19th July

BANK HOLIDAYS IN 2024

Please note the following is a Bank Holiday not included in school holidays above:

Monday 6th May 2024

WHOLE SCHOOL TRAINING DAYS FOR 2023/2024 (SCHOOL CLOSED FOR STUDENTS)

INSET 1 Monday 4th September
INSET 2 Tuesday 5th September
INSET 3 Friday 24th November