



PRIDE • PARTICIPATION • EMPATHY

An Introduction to Urmston Grammar Sixth Form

For Year 12 Parents and Carers

'Achieve • Enrich • Excel'

SECTION 1

GETTING STARTED

Welcome & Your Sixth Form Team

Meeting the people who will support your child through Year 12 and Year 13

Introductions



**Mrs Mangham-
Dewhurst**

Head of Sixth
Form



Miss A Bamford

Assistant Head of
Sixth Form: Head
of Year 12



Mr J Neale

Assistant Head of
Sixth Form: Head
of Year 13



Mrs L Woodcock

Sixth Form
Support Manager



Miss K Longden

UCAS
Coordinator

Year 12 Form Tutors

Form	Tutor	Room
12U	Mrs C Hunt	M5
12R	Mrs R Chadwick	L1
12M	Mr J Wise	E6
12S	Mr A Uthman	R1
12T	Mr T Arnold	BS3
12N	Mr N Mumford	S9
12G	Mr D Kearns	BS1
12X	Mr R Prastka	S3

Your Year 12 Cohort

186

High-ability students joined
Year 12 this September



A wide range of feeder schools

Our cohort is drawn from a broad range of local schools, bringing together different experiences and friendship groups.



Already making their mark

Students are settling quickly into sixth form routines, expectations and the wider life of the school.



What will the next two years look like?

The rest of this evening covers routines, academic ambition, wellbeing and the support network around your child.

SECTION 2

Academic Results & Destinations

Urmston Grammar A Level Results

2024

A*–C86.6%

A*–B66.8%

A*–A38.8%

A*13.2%

2025

A*–C88%

A*–B76%

A*–A42%

A*10%

2026

A*–C91%

A*–B74%

A*–A44%

A*15%

	A*	A*– A	A*– B	A*– C
UGS	15	44	74	91
National	9.6	28.5	55.8	78.4

Our Most Recent Leavers

174

students progressed to
university study

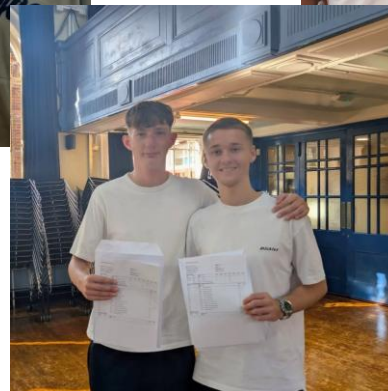
18

gained places to study medicine,
dentistry or veterinary science

3

gained places one level 6 and 7
apprenticeships

Most other students progress onto
apprenticeships with further training,
e.g. banking, marketing, engineering,
accountancy & para-legal.
A small number of students decide to
take a gap year.



A Selection of Recent Destinations

Rank	Destination	No of Students
1	University of Liverpool	31
2	University of Leeds	23
3	University of Manchester	17
4	Lancaster University	12
5	Manchester Metropolitan University	10
6	University of Sheffield	9
7	University of Nottingham	7
= 8	Liverpool John Moores/Newcastle/Salford	5 each
= 9	Durham/Edinburgh/Birmingham/Bristol/Lancashire/Warwick	3 each
= 10	Keele/Aberdeen/Chester/Plymouth/Southampton/York	2 each

Beyond university

- Degree Apprenticeship (L6) with Stantec (& University of Lancashire) – Fire Engineer
- Degree Apprenticeship (L7) with Begbies Traynor (& First Intuition) – Accounting
- Degree Apprenticeship (L7) with Champion Accountants – Audit & Accounts

A Selection of University Courses

No.	Course	No.	Course	No.	Course
6	Accounting and Finance	1	Educational Psychology	11	Medicine
2	Aerospace Engineering	3	Electronic and Electrical Engineering	1	Neuroscience
1	Architectural Engineering	2	English Literature (& History)	2	Optometry
1	Arts and Humanities with Foundation Year	1	Finance	1	Paramedic Science BSc
1	Biochemistry with a Modern Language	1	Financial Mathematics	3	Pharmacology
6	Biological Sciences	1	Forensic Science and Criminology	2	Pharmacy
1	Biology	1	French	2	Philosophy (+)
8	Biomedical Science	1	French and German	1	Physical Sciences
2	Business Economics	1	French Studies with Business	2	Physics with Astrophysics
2	Business Management	1	General Engineering	2	Physiotherapy
1	Cancer Sciences	4	Geography (& Int. rel/plan/transp.	2	Politics (+)
1	Cellular and Molecular Medicine	1	Global Development	1	Politics and Modern History
6	Chemical Engineering	1	Healthcare Science (Cardiac Physiology)	1	Primary Education (5-11) with QTS
1	Civil Engineering	5	History (& German/Pol)	7	Psychology
1	Classical Studies	1	Human Geography	1	Rehabilitation and Exercise Science
10	Computer Science	3	International Management	3	Sociology
1	Criminology	13	Law (+)	1	Sport and Exercise Science
1	Criminology with Counselling	1	Linguistics	1	Urban Planning
1	Cyber Security (with Industrial Experience)	1	Linguistics and Japanese	3	Veterinary Medicine and Science
4	Dental Surgery	9	Mathematics (+)	1	Virology and Immunology
7	Economics	4	Mechanical Engineering	1	Zoology
3	Economics & Finance.Politics	1	Mechatronic Engineering		

SECTION 3

Settling Into Sixth Form Life

A Typical Week

 **25 x 1-hour periods**
5 x 1hr lessons in each of three subjects, every week.

 **Fixed weekly slots**
Assembly (Mon P1), PSE (Fri P1), Electives (Wed PM), Study Skills (Thu PM).

 **6 non-contact periods**
Used for directed study, not 'free' periods.

	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
Form	Reg	Reg	Reg	Reg	Reg
P1	Assembly	Directed Study	Biology	Maths	PSE
P2	Business	Biology	Directed Study	Directed Study	Business
Break					
P3	Maths	Business	Maths	Business	Maths
P4	Directed Study	Maths	Business	Biology	Directed Study
Lunch					
P5	Biology	Directed Study	Electives	Study Skills	Biology

Directed Study Periods

How students use their directed study periods plays a huge part in laying the groundwork for success.

They are not 'free' periods.

There are a range of locations students can use to study effectively:

- the LRC
- Newton Hall
- the Sixth Form Hub
- the Science Conservatory
- the cloisters
- the humanities study space

Students should aim to complete a minimum of 5 hours per subject per week — so 15–20 hours of directed study outside lessons.

- A level subject enhancement
- Extended Project Qualification (EPQ)
- Future Learn (MOOC)
- Reading / lectures
- TED Talks / YouTube clips / podcasts
- Revision, even without an upcoming assessment

Y12 Student Handbook To Support Good Routines

The Y12 Student Handbook is given to every student, covering expectations, routines and where to find support.

Includes a study principles guide which covers effective use of study time, avoiding procrastination, and building a weekly planner / to-do list.

Students are encouraged to plan their study time as deliberately as their lessons.



Y12 Student Handbook

Urmston Grammar Sixth Form



Name:

Form:

Pride - Participation - Empathy

Welcome to Urmston Grammar Sixth Form

Dear Student,

Welcome to Urmston Grammar School's Sixth Form, we are delighted to have you join our vibrant and ambitious community. This is the beginning of an exciting new chapter, where you'll be supported to achieve your academic goals, explore your passions, and grow both personally and intellectually. Our Sixth Form is a place where you'll be encouraged to take pride in your work, participate fully in the life of the school, and develop empathy as a thoughtful and responsible young adult.

Over the next two years, you'll find a wealth of opportunities to achieve, enrich, and excel. Whether it's through academic challenge, leadership roles, volunteering, or extracurricular activities, you'll be empowered to stretch yourself and discover what truly inspires you. At Urmston Grammar, we offer a wide range of support, from dedicated subject staff to our experienced pastoral team, all committed to helping you succeed and enjoy your Sixth Form journey to the fullest.

Our community is built on strong relationships, mutual respect, and a shared belief in every student's potential. Our approachable team is here every step of the way, ready to guide and encourage you as you navigate new responsibilities and exciting opportunities. As you settle into Sixth Form life, we hope you embrace all that Urmston Grammar has to offer with pride, participation, and empathy at the heart of everything you do.



Warm regards,
Mrs. A Mangham-Dewhurst
Assistant Headteacher: Head of Sixth Form



Study Principles

01.

Effective Revision is based on retrieval of knowledge

You have learnt about the 'Forgetting Curve' and 'Principles of Learning' during assemblies this year. Make sure that you are actively 'checking' that you can remember knowledge.



02.

Create a clear plan

Use this booklet to create a clear plan for your revision. Make sure that you 'space' out your topics (so you are going over content from across the year) and 'interleaving' different modules.



03.

Check you have understood

Complete practice questions on a topic & self mark it (checking with a teacher if you are stuck) so you can see if you are remembering key details.



Access support

Your teachers are here to support you. Make sure you make use of revision, intervention & drop in sessions.



04.



WEEK A	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Weekend to do list
1 st September						
Period 1	Year 12 Assembly				PSE	☐
Period 2						☐
Period 3						☐
Period 4						☐
Period 5	Study Skills					☐
4-5pm						☐
5-6pm						☐
6-7pm						☐
7-8pm						☐
8-9pm						

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SECTION 4

Creating Ambition

The Value of Qualifications, In Numbers

16.2%

youth (16–24)
unemployment rate, up
from 14.3% a year earlier

4.9%

unemployment rate for the
UK workforce as a whole

262,820

record number of UK 18-
year-olds accepted onto
university/college courses in
2026, up 3% on 2025

87.6%

employment rate for
graduates, vs 68.0% for
non-graduates (DfE, 2024)

The gap is widening, not narrowing.

Median full-time salary for graduates is £42,000, compared with £30,500 for non-graduates and young people without qualifications are consistently the group most exposed to a cooling jobs market. Strong A level grades keep the widest possible range of routes (university, higher apprenticeship, or direct entry) open.

How Do We Set Ambitious Targets?

- Urmston Grammar uses ALPS (a national benchmarking system) to generate Minimum Target Grades (MTGs) for every student.
- ALPS uses national datasets to identify the performance of students in the top 25% of schools and colleges, not simply the national average.
- This means MTGs are genuinely aspirational: students are expected to perform in line with the strongest-performing centres nationally.

Worked example using a mean GCSE score of 6.8

Percentile	ALPS Grade (A2)
25th percentile	AAA/A*AA
50th percentile (median)	AAB
75th percentile	ABB

All students nationally with mean GCSE score of 6.8 are ranked; Urmston Grammar sets MTGs at the top 25% threshold. In this example, estimated grades of ABB are set.

Minimum Target Grades: Students Aim to Beat Them

Mean GCSE: 7.9

MTG: A*A A

Achieved: A*A*A*

Mean GCSE: 6.83

MTG: A B B

Achieved: A A B

Mean GCSE: 6.6

MTG: B B B

Achieved: A*B B

Mean GCSE: 7.0

MTG: A A B

Achieved: A*A*A

Mean GCSE: 6.78

MTG: A B B

Achieved: A*A B

Mean GCSE: 6.23

MTG: B B C

Achieved: A A A

What the Sixth Form Team Will Do

-  **Track progress against MTGs**
Subject teachers and tutors monitor performance against ambitious, ALPS-derived targets throughout the year.
-  **Regular feedback conversations**
Parents' evenings, tutor check-ins and subject reports keep progress visible to families.
-  **Early, proactive intervention**
Where a student is falling behind an MTG, support is put in place quickly, not just at the end of the year.

Enrichment, Mentoring & Guidance

University visiting speakers & super-curricular lectures

Guest sessions from universities have previously included Huddersfield, Leicester, UA92, Durham, Newcastle and MMU.

Sixth Form mentoring

Staff mentors support Year 12 with the transition into sixth form life, study skills, wellbeing and progress.

Subject-specific pathways

Dedicated support for a range of post-18 routes.

Additional pathway support e.g. Oxbridge/MDV

Support with University Admissions Tests, essays, interviews and coaching.
Opportunity to attend Oxbridge Convention and Oxford/Cambridge University visit.

What Else Can Students Take Part In?

Additional enrichment opportunities include:

- Clubs & Societies e.g. Choir, Scholars Society & MedSoc
- An exciting range of trips e.g. Lancaster Visit, London Maths & Prison Visit
- Competitions, such as Debating, Mock Trial or the Lancaster 100 Day Challenge
- In school activities including School Council, Sports and Performing Arts
- Opportunity to apply for our Prefect teams (Senior, House & Year 7)

What We Ask of Students

- Take ownership of their own progress, know their MTGs and how they're tracking against them.
- Use directed study time purposefully, not passively.
- Engage with feedback quickly and ask for help before small gaps become large ones.
- Take advantage of the enrichment, mentoring and subject-specific support on offer.

SECTION 5

Expectations & Conduct

Attendance & Punctuality

-  **All students in school by 8:30am**
Every day, for form room registration.
-  **Students remain in school through Periods 1–2**
Regardless of whether they have a directed study period or not.
-  **Signing out is only for later directed study**
Students with a directed study after break may sign out to study off-site, however they must be back in school in time for their next lesson.
-  **Absence is followed up**
Form tutors and the Sixth Form Team follow up quickly on unexplained absence or persistent lateness.

EXPECTATIONS

Attendance & Punctuality



Urmston Grammar

Newton Road, Urmston, Manchester M41 5UG
Telephone: 0161 748 2875 www.urmstongrammar.org.uk
Fax: 0161 747 2504
email: office@ugssc.com

NAME: _____ FORM: _____

From: _____ until: _____ Date: _____

Medical/Dentist/Open Day/Personal/Interview (delete those which do not apply)

SIGNED: _____ Headteacher/Deputy Head/Pastoral Head

This 'PERMISSION SLIP' must be accompanied by an appointment card or a letter signed by a parent.
Signed slips must be handed in to the School Office before leaving.

1 lesson/half a day: Permission slip. Signed by SFT, handed into office.

Newton Road
Urmston
Manchester
M41 5UG



Email: office@urmstongrammar.org.uk
Website: www.urmstongrammar.org.uk
Headteacher: Mr T Kennedy-Fowler

Urmston Grammar School

Request for Leave of Absence under exceptional circumstances
Please complete the details below so that a fair judgement might be supported when deciding whether to authorise the absence. This form will be returned to you via your son/daughter who will receive it from his/her Form Tutor.

- Authorised absences are recorded and reported along with certified illness.
- Unauthorised absences are regarded as unacceptable absence and would be interpreted negatively by prospective future employers.

Name of student:	
From:	
Date:	
Nature of absence:	
Justification for absence in exceptional circumstance:	
Date of first day of leave of absence:	
Date of return to full time education:	
Total number of school days will be missed:	
Total number of school days missed due to leave this year:	
Attendance % to date	

Signed: _____ (Parent/Guardian)

Leave of absence for _____ is granted/not granted

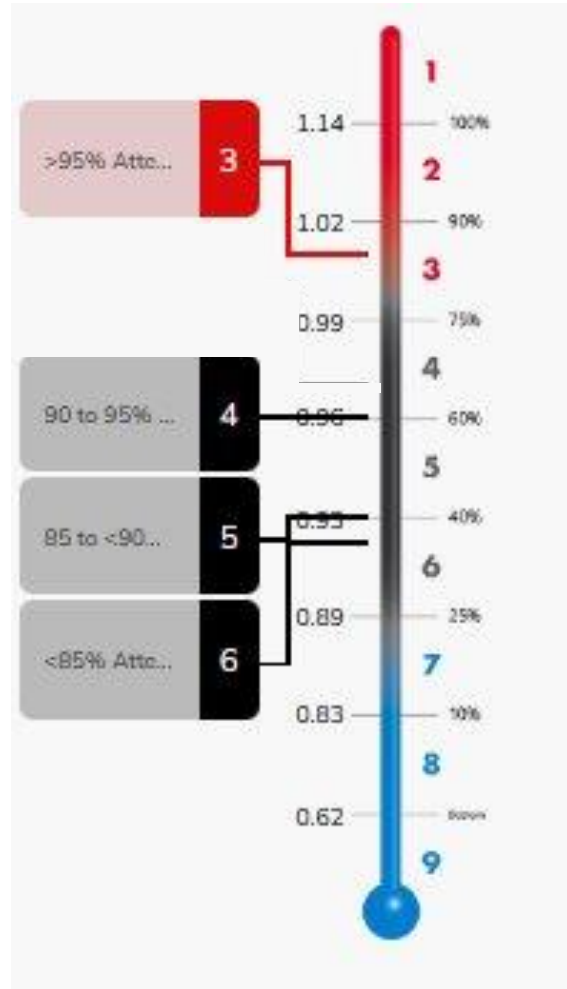
Signed: _____

Mr T Kennedy-Fowler: Headteacher

Pride, Participation, Empathy

Full day – LA1 form. Completed by parent/carer. Authorised by Mr Kennedy-Fowler

Attendance & Punctuality



There is a clear link between **attendance** and **A Level Outcomes**.

Students who had >95% attendance made **progress in line with the top 25% of Sixth Forms Nationally**.

That doesn't just mean students all targeted A/A*. This is students who outperformed their target grades.

What Your Child's Form Tutor Does Each Day

 <u>Y12 & Y13 Form Tasks</u>	
Daily Tasks	Daily Activity
- Check form pigeonhole - Welcome students - Register students in SIMs - Read messages on Intranet message board - Read additional email messages for students - Check school dress code, including lanyards.	Mon Admin time & post-weekend check in
	Tue Take Care Tuesday (Wellbeing)
	Wed Workforce Wednesday (Careers)
	Thu Neale's News (Current Affairs)
	Fri Mohamed's Mindbenders & PSE
Other Routine Tasks	
- Review house points - Review consequences received - Complete Record of Reflection	
- Check in with students on daily or punctuality report	

Dress Code

**Smart & Professional,
Every Day**



Smart, professional dress

Sixth form students represent the school and are expected to dress smartly and professionally, as if for the workplace.



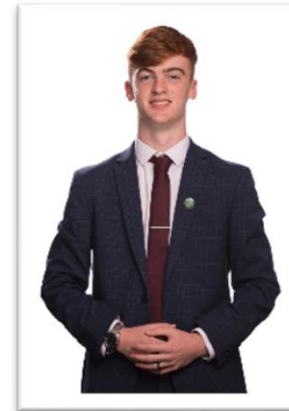
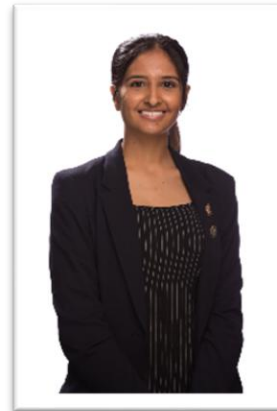
Consistent, everyday standard

This is a daily expectation, not just for special occasions. It helps establish a professional mindset ahead of university or the workplace.



Full guidance in the Student Handbook

Please refer to the Year 12 Student Handbook and website for the full dress code policy.



EXPECTATIONS

Sixth Form Privileges



Dedicated Sixth Form Hub

A social and study spaces for sixth formers only.



Independent study periods

Directed study can be used flexibly, including off-site once expectations are established.



Enrichment & leadership opportunities

Mentoring younger students, subject ambassador roles, and wider enrichment activities.

Privileges are maintained through meeting the expectations covered in this evening's presentation. If privileges are removed directed study periods will be allocated to the LRC where students must sign in for supervised study.

Part-Time Employment

12 hrs

recommended maximum
during term time

- A small amount of part-time work can build valuable experience and independence.
- It should never come at the expense of study, attendance or punctuality.
- Part-time employment should not be scheduled in school hours (8:30-15:15). We recommend no more than one evening a week and a weekend day.
- Please speak to your child's form tutor if a work commitment is affecting their studies.

SECTION 6

Enrichment & Wellbeing

Supporting Ambition Beyond the Curriculum



Extended Project Qualification (EPQ)

An independent research project, valued by universities and employers alike.



Wednesday afternoon Electives

A wide choice of enrichment activities running alongside the academic timetable.



Work experience

A structured placement giving students first-hand experience of the workplace.

Wednesday Afternoon Electives

Mock Trial (After School) Miss Lowe	Summer Sports (10 weeks) Mr Bradshaw
Electronics scheme (10 weeks) Mr Leech	Fitness Suite (10 weeks) Mr Bradshaw
First Aid (10 weeks) Mrs Evans	Duke of Edinburgh (10 weeks) Dr McPartland
Muay Thai Kick Boxing (10 Weeks) Mr Panter	Debating (10 Weeks) Mr Warnes
Peer Mentoring (20 Weeks) Mrs Glen/Mrs Bourne	Cooking (10 Weeks) Mrs McDermott
Perspectives editorial team (10 Weeks) Mrs McNally	Sign Language (10 weeks) Miss Sheldon
Sewing for medics (10 weeks) Mrs Unwin	Climbing/Bouldering (10 Weeks) Mr Murray
Football (20 weeks) Mr Hines	Engineering Challenge (10 Weeks) Mr Murray
Teamwork and leadership (10 weeks) Mr Regan	Science Communication (10 Weeks) Miss Downing
	Work experience (Potentially whole year) Mr Mumford
Primary School Work Experience (10 weeks) Mr Mumford	Nursing Home Placement (10 Weeks) Mr Mumford

Extended Project Qualification (EPQ)

Completing the project will allow students to:

- Develop and apply decision making, problem-solving skills, initiative and enterprise
- Enhance their planning, research, critical thinking, analytical, synthesis, evaluation and presentation skills

Students chose a topic. They plan, execute and report the work.

Moreover, the EPQ will prove invaluable because:

- Students will know one topic in detail for university applications and interviews – it's also worth 28 UCAS points (1/2 an A level)
- Universities may reduce the level of an offer and give an application preference over a candidate without this qualification.
- Provide a focus for personal statements or CV's that students need to write.

Work Experience

1 week

28/06 – 02/07

- Students arrange a placement relevant to their interests and future goals, with support from our careers team.
- It's a valuable opportunity to build workplace skills, professional references, and material for personal statements.
- Full details and deadlines will be shared with students well in advance.

PSHE: Our Wider Curriculum

The aim of PSHE is to support and encourage student development so that they can take their place in society, with a clear emphasis on Personal, Social & Health Education. These lessons are compulsory.

Year 12	Year 12	Year 12	Year 12	Year 12	Year 12
Health & Wellbeing	Relationships & Sex Education	Addiction & substance abuse	Diversity	Safety & Health	Careers
Year 13	Year 13	Year 13	Year 13	SUMMER EXAM SEASON	
Personal Finance	Relationships & Sex Education	Careers	Revision & Stress Management		

Support for Wellbeing



Trusted staff & pastoral support

Form tutors, Heads of Year and the Sixth Form Support Manager are all first points of contact.



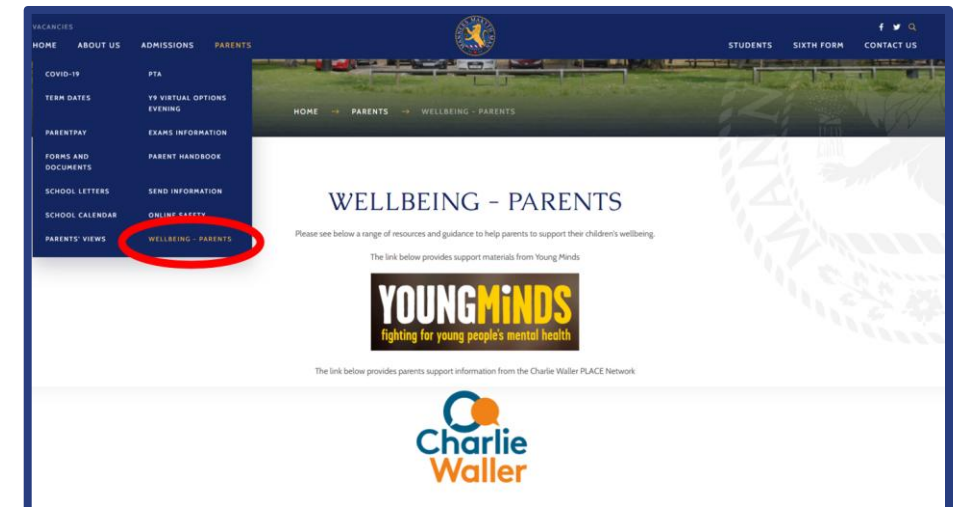
In-school counselling

Confidential, professional support available for students who need it.



Kooth & external wellbeing services

Free, anonymous online support signposted to all students.



SECTION 7

Support & Finance

SEND

- If you haven't done so already, please submit any paperwork/evidence of Exam Access Arrangements/ Medical history to the SEND department.
- This will include Form 8/9 which should have been provided by your previous centre.
- Please contact SEND@urmstongrammar.org.uk with any details.
- If you are accessing external support e.g. counselling, private therapists, please keep us informed.
- We encourage students to self-advocate.



The 16–19 Bursary Fund



Support with the cost of sixth form

Can help towards travel, equipment, trips and other costs of studying.



Age eligibility

The student must be 16, 17 or 18 on the 31st of August 2026.



More information

For more information, please see our 16-19 Bursary Fund Policy sent out with your enrolment information.

The Network Around Your Child





Thank you for your time

If you have any questions, please contact the Sixth Form Team.

'Achieve • Enrich • Excel'