

WOODRUSH HIGH SCHOOL



2023 PROSPECTUS

EMPOWER

ENRICH

ACHIEVE

Welcome to Woodrush Sixth

We are delighted that you are considering Woodrush Sixth for your post-16 journey.

We are proud to be more than just an education provider. It is a thriving place of learning and development at the heart of our local community. It is the final chapter of educational excellence at Woodrush High School – fostered through passionate teaching, ambitious study, enriching experiences and a unique sense of cooperative learning.



Decisions you make between 16 and 19 are some of the most important and exciting decisions you will make as a young person and Woodrush Sixth can provide you with unique opportunities that distinguish you from others. No two students are treated the same as personalisation is central to our approach: from our nurturing tutor support and pastoral support to our bespoke timetables, careers advice and personal development enrichment programme.

Woodrush Sixth is about a passion for learning, the pursuit of teaching excellence, motivating academic support and a relentless commitment to maintaining the highest belief in your ability to achieve outstanding results.

Woodrush teachers will ensure high quality, interactive lessons and seminars and design illuminating curriculum and extra-curricular experiences. All of which will blend high challenge with the forging of life skills whilst developing character and personal resilience which will prepare you for your next steps into your future.

Students who join our sixth form are treated as mature members of our community, with freedoms and privileges that young adults have more than earned. Relationships shift to a learning partnership with your tutors, specialist teachers, and vitally, your fellow students.

We orientate our offer on you becoming leaders, young ambassadors, active citizens within our community with opportunities to build up your CV and personal statement with experiences that set you apart from the crowd.

The transition from Year 11 to young adulthood is a significant one, so nurturing and supporting your holistic wellness and wellbeing is an explicit dimension of life at Woodrush Sixth and you will have access to our strong team of specialists from day one.

Woodrush works around you and we can offer you a uniquely personalised post-16 experience that enables you to fulfil your academic ambitions, raise your personal aspirations and assist you in forging your own future beyond Woodrush Sixth.

*I hope the information contained within this prospectus, enables you to see how you could **make Woodrush Sixth work for you.***

Mr Barber, Headteacher

Vision & Values



We have a clear aim here at Woodrush Sixth:

“To EMPOWER, to ENRICH and to ACHIEVE”

These three principles underpin everything we do as a sixth form.

We will **EMPOWER** you as an individual so you can experience incredible personal growth and sustained academic development, from a 16 year old that has just completed their GCSE's into a young adult that is prepared for University, an apprenticeship or employment.



We will **ENRICH** the curriculum so that you learn more than just the knowledge and skills outlined in your courses. We want you to leave Woodrush Sixth with memorable learning experiences both inside and beyond the classroom that you will remember years after you have left us. We want you to leave us enriched with the knowledge, skills and experiences that will prepare you to follow your dreams and to make positive changes to our society in the future.



We will support you to **ACHIEVE** and maximise your potential. We will never place a limit on what you can achieve and we will be relentless in making sure that you perform to your optimal personal best, so that you gain the qualifications, confidence and develop personal aspirations you need to carve a future for yourself.

‘Woodrush Sixth Form is a vibrant, purposeful, and welcoming academic community where there is a relentless drive for excellence.’ - Ofsted

We EMPOWER

We have a dedicated sixth form team of staff who provide pastoral support to empower each student in their post-16 studies.

- SLT Assistant Headteacher – Mr Roche
- Head of Woodrush Sixth – Mrs Kaur
- Assistant Head of Year for Woodrush Sixth – Mr James
- CEIAG Co-ordinator – Mr Cooper
- Pastoral Support Leaders – Mrs Ashman and Mrs Robinson



These staff are all based in our Post-16 block and provide the support and nurture that students need and to challenge students to be their best selves. We pride ourselves on the care that we provide and the team work tirelessly to help students emotionally, mentally and academically. Their aim is to empower students so that they become independent and resilient learners who are ready for University, apprenticeships or employment.

Student views at Woodrush Sixth:

“At Woodrush Sixth I feel like I have been massively empowered. When I started the sixth form I never thought I'd have the confidence to join the student leadership team and be able to represent my fellow students and their views. The thing that interested me most about Woodrush Sixth is the subject interest and tailored support that is given to each student. Teachers at Woodrush are experts in each of their subjects and they pass on a genuine love for their subjects onto their students.”

Taylor Cowling – Head Student

“Coming into Woodrush Sixth as an external student, I immediately felt very welcomed by the great sense of community which enabled me to integrate into the sixth form. Throughout my time here at Woodrush, I have found that staff have always made an effort to help me achieve the best possible outcomes, both in and out of the classroom which has played a major role in my choice to run for Head student. Moreover, I have particularly enjoyed the endless amount of opportunities offered to students, whether this may be trips to university open days or recreational trips such as laser tag.”

Zarin Khan – Head Student

“Sixth Form has allowed us to enrich our own learning and contribute in positions of student leadership. We've been able to communicate with teachers and work one to one with them to improve our own understanding of the subjects. They are easy to contact and the self-directed hours of learning work well for students to organise independent study around.”

Rosemary Harfield – Deputy Head Student

Facilities

In addition to the shared facilities around the school, the Sixth Form Centre is a space reserved for use by post-16 students at Woodrush Sixth. It creates a purposeful learning environment and acts as a hub for developing a positive and enthusiastic culture in the sixth form.

Our facilities include:

- Dedicated ICT rooms used only for sixth form study
- Independent study room for students to study by themselves in a calm and focused environment
- Group study / common room – we have a large group study room which is used for students to work together which helps create a vibrant learning ethos. At break, lunch and after school it acts as a common room in which sixth form students can relax, socialise and build relationships with their peers and staff members.
- Public Library / Woodrush School Library in the Community Hub. This is a modern study space which can be used by our students so they can access the widest possible range of resources.
- Costa Café located in the Community Hub with reduced offers exclusive to Sixth Form students.
- Gym located in the Community Hub with reduced rate memberships.
- Conference room used as a study space and for Sixth Form Council meetings.

We are proud to work in partnership with the Community Hub, Worcestershire Library, and the Woodrush Training Consortium to create additional opportunities for our students such as work experience, volunteering, charity work and part time employment.



Careers Education, Information, Advice & Guidance (CEIAG)

Mr Cooper is our CEIAG co-ordinator and he has a wealth of experience in mentoring students through their transition from A-Level students to university, apprenticeships or employment. His passion is evident in the time spent giving personalised support to empower students so they can realise their ambitions.

This includes:

- Training on completing the UCAS forms
- Delivering the careers ready programme
- Mentoring students on writing powerful personal statements
- Trips to Higher Education conferences
- Visits to Universities to raise aspirations and broaden horizons
- Guiding students to make ambitious and informed choices about their chosen course and Universities they would like to attend
- Supporting students who may need to go through clearing following results
- Bespoke support to students who are applying to Oxbridge or are applying for courses such as Medicine

'Students leave Woodrush Sixth Form confident and well-equipped to succeed in their chosen destinations.' Ofsted

Student Leadership

To further empower our students, we have an active student council, this consists of democratically elected Head Students and a team of students who choose to be on the council. The student council meet regularly to discuss ways to improve the sixth form experience and to plan events such as Macmillan Coffee Mornings and other fundraising events.

They also help plan and organise social events and reward trips, which have previously involved attending the theatre, going out for meals and attending Winter Wonderland in London.

At Woodrush we believe students should be given a voice and the sixth form council feedback to the post 16 team and we always listen and respond to their voice.

We regularly survey student opinion to ensure that all students have an opportunity to further develop the positive culture we have in sixth form.



We ENRICH



The Woodrush Sixth curriculum offer is designed to be broad, balanced and enriching. Our curriculum is designed to empower students to become independent learners, to enrich their knowledge and skills and enable them to achieve so they can progress onto one of these future pathways:

- University
- Apprenticeship
- Employment

When a student joins Woodrush they will choose 3 A-Levels or Vocational Qualifications. In a small number of cases, students may choose 4 A-Levels and reduce this to 3 A-Levels in year 13.

Provisional option blocks for the academic year 2022-23 can be seen in the table below.

Students can choose 1 subject from each option block and will be enrolled in our enrichment programme and either the Extended Project Qualification or extra-credit modules.

	Option Blocks				Enrichment	
	Block A	Block B	Block C	Block D		
Sciences	A-Level Maths	A-Level Biology	A-Level Chemistry	A-Level Physics	EPQ or Extra Credit Modules HSK4/5 Mandarin (for those students who have studied GCSE Mandarin)	Enrichment Rotations Sports Leadership Debating Volunteering P16 Leadership Masterclasses Mandarin HSK1
Languages	A-Level English Language	A-Level Film	A-level Spanish	A-level English Literature		
Humanities	A-Level Geography	A-Level Sociology	A-Level History	A-Level Psychology		
Creative	A-Level Art	A-Level Business	A-level Drama	A-Level Product Design		
Applied	Cambridge National Health and Social Care	BTEC Applied Science	BTEC Sport	BTEC ICT		

NB. These are provisional option blocks and may be subject to change based on uptake.

Mandarin

We are excited to offer the highly regarded HSK Level 5 qualification for those students who have studied Mandarin GCSE which can be taken as an extra qualification in addition to their 3 A-Level choices. This is not offered in many schools and the HSK Level 5 develops students' proficiency in Mandarin so that they are able to read to the level of Chinese newspapers and magazines, enjoy Chinese films and give a full-length speech in Mandarin. Students who have not studied Mandarin, may be given the opportunity to study Mandarin HSK level 1 in enrichment.



Entry Requirements

Woodrush Sixth is an inclusive sixth form and our entry requirements are designed to be as broad as possible whilst ensuring students have the right level of prior attainment to be successful on their chosen courses.

Subject	Entry Requirements*
A-Level Maths	Grade 7 in Maths and Grade 6-6 in Combined Science or a 6 in Chemistry and Grade 6 in Physics (separate science)
A-Level Biology	Grade 6-6 in Combined Science or Grade 6 in Biology (separate science) and Grade 6 in Maths
A-Level Chemistry	Grade 6-6 in Combined Science or Grade 6 in Chemistry (separate science) and Grade 6 in Maths
A-Level Physics	Grade 6-6 in Combined Science or Grade 6 in Physics (separate science) and Grade 6 in Maths.
A-Level English Literature	Grade 6 in English Literature and English Language
A-Level English Language	Grade 6 in English Literature or English Language
A-Level Film	Grade 5 in English Literature and English Language
A-Level Spanish	Grade 7 in Spanish
A-Level Geography	Grade 6 in Geography and Grade 5 in English Language and Maths
A-level History	Grade 6 in History and Grade 5 in English Literature and Language
A-Level Sociology	Grade 5 in English Literature and English Language
A-Level Psychology	Grade 5 in English Language and Grade 5 in Maths
A-Level Art	Grade 5 in Art
A-Level Business	Grade 5 in Business or Grade 5 in English Literature and Language
A-Level Drama	Grade 5 in Drama
A-Level Product Design	Grade 5 in Product Design
Cambridge National Health and Social	Grade 5-5 in Combined Science, Grade 5 in Biology (separate science) or a Merit in BTEC Health and Social Care
BTEC Applied Science	Grade 5-5 in Combined Science or Grade 5 in two separate sciences
BTEC Sport	Grade 5 in PE or Merit in BTEC Sport
BTEC ICT	Grade 5 in English or Grade 4 or Level 2 Pass in a computing-based subject

***These are provisional subjects on offer and this may change slightly.**

Options choices by students are finalised after GCSE results day prior to the start of the new academic year. It is important to note that if you do not achieve a GCSE Grade 4 in English and/or Maths – you will need to resit these at Woodrush while studying for your post-16 qualifications.

Woodrush Sixth Teaching & Learning



We pride ourselves of the strength of our teaching and strong student-teacher relationships.

Our last Ofsted inspection recognised how:

- *'The quality of teaching is strong and in many subjects it is outstanding.'*
- *'Teachers have excellent subject knowledge and share their enthusiasm for their subjects with students who are keen learners.'*
- *'Teachers routinely plan lessons which engage and motivate students and relationships are excellent.'*



At Woodrush Sixth we ensure that every lesson is focused, purposeful and actively engaging. Lessons are delivered by subject specialists engaging in the latest educational research, pedagogy and subject knowledge to enrich learning.

As a training consortium school, our teachers benefit from nationally recognised teaching, leadership and behaviour qualifications.



- 1 Begin a lesson with a short review of previous learning.
- 2 Present new material in small steps with student practice after each step.
- 3 Ask a large number of questions and check the responses of all students.
- 4 Provide models.
- 5 Guide student practice.
- 6 Check for student understanding.
- 7 Obtain a high success rate.
- 8 Provide scaffolds for difficult tasks.
- 9 Require and monitor independent practice.
- 10 Engage students in weekly and monthly review.

We are funded by the Department for Education to deliver an exciting programme specialising in effective feedback. This means you know that the teaching practice at Woodrush Sixth is informed by the latest educational evidence which means better teaching to drive learning forward.

Teachers are encouraged to structure their teaching using our 10 whole school principles of instruction and to also inspire curiosity, creativity and exploratory discussions.

Courses at Woodrush Sixth are dynamically led by passionate and dedicated subject specialists.

Core learning takes place in the classroom but will be complemented by the use of Microsoft Teams to deliver an integrated online curriculum so learners can access lesson resources independently.

Enrichment Programme

We have an enrichment programme and ethos that will make students' knowledge-rich, enhanced through real-life learning experiences. The programme is delivered in form time and on selected afternoons.

1. Form Time Enrichment

Each day sixth formers will be in mixed Year 12 and Year 13 forms so they can build relationships with students in another year.

Time is used productively to enrich students and set themselves up for a day of learning and to make them think about issues in the world around them.



- *Monday* – Weekly notices, discussion and self-directed study
- *Tuesday* – PSHCE – Personal, Social, Health and Citizenship Education
- *Wednesday* – Assemblies – following the whole school theme of the week
- *Thursday* – Current affairs and debates
- *Friday* – Quiz / Competitions / Teambuilding

2. Wednesday Afternoon Enrichment

Every Wednesday the sixth form comes together as a whole for enrichment. Some of these sessions will be focused upon the following important topics for example; study skills, UCAS advice, student finance, apprenticeships and PSHCE. The majority of Wednesday sessions will be enrichment options, in which students choose from the following

- **Masterclasses** – led by external speakers or masterclasses from staff within school
- **Volunteering** – opportunities to volunteer in the community or within lessons
- **Sport and sports leadership** – take part in sports and gain a sports leadership qualification
- Debating Society – learn how to formally debate the big questions that face society today
- **Sixth Form Leadership** – get actively involved in improving the sixth form experience
- Mandarin experience – students can study for HSK level 1 / 2 qualification in Mandarin

3. EPQ or Extra Credit Modules.

Students will complete either the Extended Project Qualification in which students independently research a topic of their own choice, or they will study online qualifications which will broaden their learning and develop study skills which will prepare them for the next steps in their education, and which look fantastic on UCAS applications.

You ACHIEVE



Through empowering and enriching our learners we want every learner to realise their potential and to achieve fantastic A-Level results so they can attend University, begin an apprenticeship or enter into employment. We treat each student as the individual that they are and celebrate personal growth, development and success. Typically, around 75% of our sixth formers go on to university and around 25% of our students go onto higher level apprenticeships or employment. We have a proud history of success at Woodrush Sixth and this is built around a culture of achievement and high expectations.

Student expectations

This prospectus outlines what you can expect from Woodrush, and we expect a lot from our sixth form students so that they buy into our vision.

We expect:

- Outstanding attendance – above 96%
- Punctuality to school and lessons
- Sixth formers to be role models for students in lower years
- Resilience, independence and determination
- Politeness and positivity



These expectations are the foundation upon which we build, grow and achieve and we are relentless in upholding these expectations, so that students can realise their dreams.

Self-directed time

We expect that for every timetabled lesson a student should do at least 1 hour of study outside of lessons to enable them to reach their potential. To develop independence, we allow students to self-direct and schedule their own independent study, group study and wellbeing periods.

All students in Year 12 have the following sessions each fortnight:

- **Study 3 course.** Each course has 7 lessons over a 2 week timetable.
- **2 periods** in which students study for their extended project qualification or extra-credit modules.
- **Enrichment periods**
- **6 Independent study periods**
- **6 group study periods** for self-directed study in the sixth form area or ICT rooms
- **2 wellbeing periods**

Assessment

All students are given personalised target grades for each subject that they study. These targets are based upon national statistics and a student's average points score in their GCSE's.



These targets are ambitious and challenging, yet achievable for each student and we always push to ensure that students meet and exceed these targets. We never limit a student's ambition and encourage them to always aim higher.

Through empowering students to be determined, resilient and independent learners, and through enriching the curriculum we aim for the highest levels of achievement and want every child to be their best possible self.

Assessment is used to measure progress and we believe in frequent formative and summative assessment with targeted and personalised feedback used to drive a child's learning forwards. We believe that to be successful, post 16 students must follow what we call the 4R's:



REVISE

We teach students how to revise and expect revision is evidenced before an assessment.

REFLECT

We help students reflect upon their progress following assessments and they identify strengths and areas for development.

RELEARN

Where learning gaps have occurred our staff will support in reteaching and students will relearn so that these gaps are closed.

RETEST

When a student performs below target we support them to retake and retest themselves.





This learning cycle means that students are prepared to achieve and we will always support and guide them if they do not meet their target grade. Our ultimate goal is for students to make outstanding progress and to realise their potential.

Curriculum & Extra-Curricular Experiences

Trips are a core component of the curriculum and we aim to offer a curriculum trip for every course that we offer. This is important to enrich students' experience at post-16 and to show how learning is not confined to the classroom. Trips are designed to deepen knowledge, embed skills and to inspire students to learn more and to aim higher.

Some examples of curriculum trips are listed below:



- University experience days
- UCAS conventions
- Theatre trips
- Geography field work trips to Dorset
- Business experience at Worcester University
- Biology trip to Kew Gardens
- Art trip to Tate Modern

Reward Trips

We also believe in reward trips to celebrate the success of our students at Woodrush Sixth and extra-curricular trips to expose students to memorable and inspiring experiences.

Examples of these trips are listed below:

- New York trip (run every 2 years)
- Go karting / laser tag reward trip
- Winter Wonderland, London, Christmas trip
- Theatre trips

2022 Headline Figures:

- A-Level average points per entry 34.67
- A-Level average grade B-
- 20% of students achieve AAB including 2 Facilitating subjects
- 14% of students achieve AAB including 3 Facilitating subjects



Destinations 2022-23

Woodrush Sixth is a pathway to university, apprenticeships or employment. The table below shows the universities and courses that our students have enrolled onto following their success in our sixth form.

University	Degree Courses
Aberystwyth University	Biochemistry
Aston University, Birmingham	Biological Sciences
Aston University, Birmingham	Electrical and Electronic Engineering
BIMM University	Film Making
Birmingham City University	Fine Art
Birmingham City University	Primary Education with QTS
Birmingham City University	Sport and Exercise Science
Birmingham City University	Real Estate with Foundation Year
Bristol, University of the West of England	Drama and Acting
City, University of London	Optometry
Keele University	Criminology and Sociology
Newman University, Birmingham	Primary Education (3-11) with QTS
Newman University, Birmingham	Primary Education (3-11) with QTS
Newman University, Birmingham	Studies in Primary Education
Nottingham Trent University	Biomedical Sciences
Nottingham Trent University	History
Nottingham Trent University	Sport and Exercise Science
Royal Holloway, University of London	English and Film Studies
University of Birmingham	Biochemistry with Study in Continental Europe
University of Birmingham	Pharmacy
University of Birmingham	Physics and Astrophysics
University of Birmingham	English
University of Birmingham	Sport, Exercise and Health Sciences
University of Birmingham	History
University of Exeter	Medical Imaging (Diagnostic Radiography)
University of Lincoln	Psychology with Forensic Psychology
University of Lincoln	Ecology and Conservation
University of Liverpool	Psychology
University of Manchester	Law with International Study
University of Nottingham	Veterinary Medicine
University of Sheffield	Robotics with a Foundation Year
University of Warwick	Psychology
University of Warwick	Chemistry
University of Worcester	Biology
University of Worcester	Theatre, Acting & Performance
University of York	Chemistry with a year in industry

Each year, we are delighted that students also progress into employment and apprenticeships, including the police force, hospitality, pharmaceutical industries, engineering and finance companies.

Getting further information



For further information please visit the sixth form area on our [website](#) or by scanning the QR code.

On the website you will find more information and videos about;

- Course overviews
- Sixth form life
- Application information
- Videos on student insight
- CEIAG information
- Entry requirements



Safeguarding Statement

“All staff work together to create a strong culture of safeguarding for all pupils which permeates the school”

Ofsted 2018

Woodrush High School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people, and all staff and volunteers share this commitment. As a school we have robust safeguarding processes and procedures in place to which all staff are trained and adhere to.

Sometimes we may need to share information and work in partnership with other agencies when there are concerns about a child or young person's welfare. We will ensure that our concerns are discussed with the child and their parents/carers or young person first, as appropriate, unless we have reason to believe that such an action would be contrary to the person's welfare.

Our Safeguarding Team are;

- Mr Monk – Deputy Headteacher – Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL)
- Mrs Peters, Mrs Francis, Mrs Holtom-Brown and Mr Barber – Deputy Designated Safeguarding Leads (DDSL)

A copy of our full safeguarding policy can be found on the school website or from the school on request.



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