



SIXTH FORM PROSPECTUS 2022



WELCOME



FRASER TURNBULL | HEAD TEACHER

HIGH QUALITY TEACHING AND LEARNING COUPLED
WITH OUTSTANDING PASTORAL SUPPORT ENSURES
WHICKHAM SIXTH FORM STUDENTS SUCCEED

Our Sixth Form is an extraordinary place to study. Students achieve strong A level and Level 3 BTEC results whilst also developing the personal qualities that enable them to succeed in higher education and employment.

We are very proud to offer students an experience that is one of the best in the region. Whickham Sixth Form combines access to a wide range of A level and Level 3 BTEC subjects with high quality teaching and learning that has supported students in achieving outstanding results over many years. Students can continue to study subjects they have enjoyed and achieved success in during Year 11 or experience new subjects that can open a wide range of career pathways. The size of the Sixth Form enables us to offer a curriculum that is broad and meets the specific needs of post 16 learners.

Students access a range of high quality destinations at the end of their time in the Sixth Form. Most students go onto university and staff are highly experienced in supporting this process. Students access a range of exciting courses all over the country, including Oxford and Cambridge. The Sixth Form team is also increasingly supporting students who move directly into employment and a range of high profile local and national businesses recruit directly from the school.

Academic success is important and we are proud of the success our students achieve, but the Whickham Sixth Form experience is about much more than this. Students have experiences and develop qualities that will serve them well for the rest of their lives. Whether it be involvement in Charity Week, work experience, being a member of our debating society or the school band, taking part in the Duke of Edinburgh Award or World Challenge schemes, auditioning for one of our fantastic productions or supporting students in lower school, post 16 learners can experience a range of activities that are unique and enable the development of important skills. It is often these experiences and memories that students cherish.

Finally, students enjoy the use of a state of the art Sixth Form Centre that is equipped to support study. This provides a range of facilities including IT access, study resources and a cafe, ensuring students have a base when they are not in lessons.

Whatever your goals we will help you achieve them. I wish you the very best for your future success.

HEAD OF SIXTH FORM



MISS S TUMELTY | HEAD OF SIXTH FORM

A VAST CURRICULUM COUPLED WITH SPECIALISED SUPPORT AND GUIDANCE PROVIDES STUDENTS WITH AN ARRAY OF OPPORTUNITIES

There is an array of opportunities and challenges facing students when deciding to continue their education beyond 16 years or entering the world of work. Ensuring all students make the right choice is essential, as it allows them to be the best they can be.

The breadth of curriculum offer at Whickham is something we are all very proud of as we endeavour to support students in selecting the right route and subject mix for them. We offer a wide range of both A-Level and BTEC Courses, some of which can be taken as a double or triple offer as well as the single.

Whickham is a very caring Sixth Form that caters for the needs of all learners, be it in the curriculum offer, the pastoral support available or the additional enrichment opportunities. There is a big emphasis on enrichment opportunities as they help students transition to adulthood by developing skills such as self-confidence whilst also supporting the local community. We have very high expectations of all of our students. They are role

models for students across the school who aspire to one day be where they are. We expect students to support the rest of the school and in doing so further develop skills to progress on to university and employment.

Whickham Sixth Form has a fantastic pastoral and academic structure that provides you with all the tools needed to achieve. Sixth Form will be one of the most enjoyable and important times of your life. With great reward comes challenge, this challenge will build your resilience and pave the way for your chosen career path.

We look forward to seeing you in September.

Wishing you good luck in your summer examinations.

A VIEW FROM THE HEAD BOY AND HEAD GIRL

Our Head Boy and Head Girl are appointed from Easter of year 12 to Easter of year 13. Throughout their term of office they are responsible for representing the school and its students both within the school and to the community, as well as being head of the student voice.



JAKE TRINDER | HEAD BOY

Whickham Sixth Form is a completely different atmosphere and experience that encourages students to explore their interests and further develop their knowledge in these areas, as well as learn and develop important skills such as leadership, effective communication, and good work ethic, which are essential for later life. The wide range of subjects ensures that each student can develop their knowledge in what they are passionate about, and additionally can try a variety of different subjects to potentially discover a new passion.

Throughout each year, Sixth Form provides many opportunities for students to get involved in exciting projects and activities which also helps improve their life skills. One example of these would be our annual Charity Week, where students go into multiple groups and each contributes goods or services to the students of Whickham School to generate money which then all gets collected and the total amount between all of the groups gets donated to a charity that the students choose. This is always incredibly successful and is a fantastic opportunity for students to develop their teamwork and problem-solving skills.

Overall, Whickham Sixth is an environment that allows every student to thrive and grow in their unique way.



EMILY OAKES | HEAD GIRL

Since joining Whickham Sixth Form, I have felt continuously safe and supported, especially through such an unprecedented few years. It is a space which supports the diversity of students and encourages us to express our individuality, treating sixth formers with respect as the young adults we are. The teachers are all extremely passionate and encouraging, and have provided unconditional support to all students assuring that we reach our full potential both in and outside of the classroom.

We are encouraged to be independent with our studies, whilst also having a constant support system which is always there to guide us. Through a personalised timetable including many free study periods, students can study under their own schedule, leaving plenty of time to participate in the amazing extra curricular activities which the Sixth Form offers.

In terms of making that next step, Whickham offers excellent support for all options beyond school, supporting us with university applications, apprenticeships, creating a professional CV and exploring all further options. I have received immense support and guidance when choosing my post 18 options and have been provided with many insightful resources.

School Qualities

ASPIRATION

Whickham students set aspirational goals that are ambitious and without limitations.

RESPECT

Without compromise, Whickham students demonstrate respect for themselves, others and their environment.

RESILIENCE

Whickham students persevere with challenges, especially when faced with setbacks.

EMPATHY

Whickham students strive to be kind, caring and understanding of each other's feelings and needs.

2021 LEAVERS WHERE THEY ARE NOW?

Hannah Falconer -
A* Chemistry,
A* Biology,
A* Mathematics &
A* Physics -

Biological Sciences at
Durham University



Joel Taylor -
A Business,
A Economics & A
English Language -
Building Surveying
at Northumbria
University



Sarah Reid -
A* Mathematics,
A* Further
Mathematics,
A* Chemistry &
A* Physics - Natural
Sciences at Durham
University



Aaron Greally -
A* Biology,
A Chemistry,
A German &
A Mathematics -

Biomedical Science at
Newcastle University

Kate Foreman -
A* History,
A* Mathematics &
A* Physics -

History at the
University of Oxford



Olivia Clark -
A* Economics,
A* Business &
A* Geography -

Accounting,
Business Finance &
Management at the
University of York



Jessica Murray -
A* Economics,
A* Business &
A German -

Marketing at the
University of York



James Harrison -
A Biology,
A Chemistry,
A Mathematics &
A French -

Biochemistry and
Molecular Medicine
at the University of
Nottingham

Tom Laidler -
D* BTEC IT,
A Business &
A Geography -

Computer Science at
Newcastle University



Matthew Woods -
A Psychology,
A Geography,
A English Language &
B Core Mathematics -

Psychology at
Newcastle University



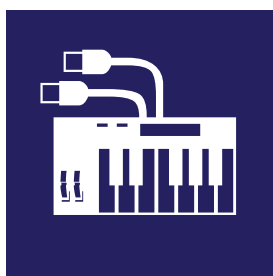
CHARITY WEEK

The annual Sixth Form Charity week is both long established and one of the highlights of year 12. Our students continue to amaze with their enthusiasm and ingenuity in raising money for deserving charities. Each year the charity is chosen by the students themselves. This year students chose to support the MS Society a charity focused on funding research, providing support, and building a community for people with multiple sclerosis.



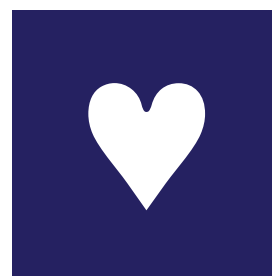
DUKE OF EDINBURGH AWARD

Every year a large number of Sixth Form students complete the Duke of Edinburgh award either at Bronze, Silver or Gold level. The award is run at school and all expeditions/training is organised through the school. For more information please see Mr Golightly.



SCHOOL BAND

The School Band always has a strong Sixth Form presence as do the various school productions, which include Sixth Form musicians, actors/actresses, dancers and the back stage crew.



CHARITY WEEK

A full week of activities took place last year which included highlights such as the 'Variety Show', 'X-Factor', 'Strictly comes to Whickham' and ASDA bag packing. Along with a host of smaller events the students raised over £17,000. Over the last 2 years Whickham Sixth Form has raised almost £40,000 for local charities.



ENRICHMENT & DIVERSITY

Whickham School aims to be very much at the heart of the community and our large sixth form plays a full and active part in helping achieve this.



WORLD CHALLENGE

World Challenge is designed to develop students' leadership qualities and independence.

They travel to remote locations to trek and complete a community project. Last year 25 students took up the challenge and participated in a 4-week expedition to Eswatini and Mozambique. They were involved in constructing a



fenced garden, washroom and cooking facilities for disadvantaged children. In addition they contributed to a marine project by monitoring whale sharks and marine mammals. Past expeditions have been to Namibia, Mexico, India, Morocco, Bolivia, Tanzania and Borneo. The 2021 expedition is to India Himalayas and Rajasthan, where students will undertake a community project.



DIVERSITY WEEK

At Whickham we are really lucky to be part of a school community where you are able to be who you want to be without being judged by others. This value had been emulated through our school Rainbow society. We also enjoy opportunities to explore how diverse people and cultures are worldwide.



GUIDANCE AND SUPPORT

CURRICULUM GUIDANCE

Support and guidance is offered even before students join the Sixth Form. In November we hold a number of guidance presentations and assemblies for our year 11 students and parents. This is followed up by more in-depth individual meetings with senior members of staff. These enable our students and parents to discuss possible options and future aspirations.

TRANSITION

We have a comprehensive transition programme. This begins straight after the GCSE examinations in July where prospective sixth formers meet for two days of induction. Students have the opportunity to experience some year 12 lessons. Students also attend a buffet lunch and have the opportunity to talk to some current year 12 students.

Once term starts students undertake a structured induction course:

This is where students get to know their tutor and tutor group much better. We also work with students to help ensure a successful transition from year 11 to year 12 by looking at the study and independent learning skills required to be successful. Students will also start planning for their "Charity Week".

There is also an activity around the local area in friendship groups. This really starts to build student relationships and it is always a day mentioned as a highlight of students time in Sixth Form.



NEW TO WHICKHAM SCHOOL

Starting a new school can be a daunting experience. Each year we have a number of students from Gateshead and Newcastle schools who choose to come to Whickham School for their Sixth Form studies. They have all settled in and made new friends quickly and are already on their way to outstanding results. Many of these students apply to Whickham because of the wide range of A level subjects and BTEC courses they can choose from, as well as all the varied enrichment opportunities that are available to our students throughout the two years.



Name: *Akeesha Adamus*

Subjects: *A-level Religious Studies, A-Level Geography, BTEC Health and Social Care & Extended Project.*

"Joining and studying at Whickham Sixth Form reassured me that I would receive support throughout my studies. Studying at Whickham has provided me with a range of opportunities including part time employment and my role as Deputy Head Girl."

WHICKHAM SIX

The six characteristics of a successful learner...



ONE Be Here

Ensure you attend Sixth Form and attend on time.



TWO Be Prepared

Always arrive to Sixth Form equipped with the resources and mindset to learn.



THREE Be Well

Keep yourself physically and mentally well and seek support if you feel unwell.



FOUR Be Engaged

Engage in lessons and in the extra opportunities on offer at Whickham Sixth Form.



FIVE Be Inspired

Make sure you always push yourself to be the best you can be.



SIX Be Inspiring

You are a role model to younger students. Take opportunities to help them develop into successful young adults.

FUTURE PLANS

CAREERS GUIDANCE

At Whickham Sixth Form we pride ourselves on the excellent guidance all students get ahead of applying to university, apprenticeships or employment. We have been particularly successful this year as we have supported students who have obtained places on medical degrees. We also have some fantastic degree apprenticeships with; Gateshead Council, Bishop Wilkinson Catholic Education Trust and Price Waterhouse Coopers (PWC).

STUDENT GUIDELINES

ATTENDANCE AND PUNCTUALITY

Attendance and punctuality are vital if success is to be achieved on Sixth Form courses. Punctuality to tutorial time, lessons and in the production of homework and coursework are also expected and failure to produce work on time can lead to modules being repeated.

THE PASTORAL PROGRAMME

The Sixth Form programme concentrates in areas which have not been fully covered in the Lower School. Study skills and time management are dealt with early in year 12 and stress management appears at examination time. A lot of time is spent on one-to-one reviews. Year 13 sees a full programme of advice and guidance for higher education, including UCAS form completion, careers interviews and advice on grants and loans.

ASSEMBLIES

Sixth Form assemblies happen on a weekly basis. Parents have the right to withdraw their child from collective worship. To do so please write to your son/daughter's Head of Year.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

The School has a statutory obligation to deliver Religious Education in the Sixth Form. This is done through offering Religious Education A level, through elements of study in Sociology, through tutor-led activities as part of the PSE curriculum and through assemblies.

Parents have a statutory right to withdraw their child from Religious Education in the Sixth Form. To do so please write to your son/daughter's Head of Year.





CODE OF DRESS

Sixth Form students are role models for students in lower school, and their standards of dress are an important part of the culture of Whickham. Students are expected to regard Sixth Form dress requirements in a positive manner. We have a dress code that stops short of uniform and instead, we have a dress code that is formal, smart, business-like and comfortable, whilst recognising the variety of dress considered appropriate in workplaces our students will go on to work in. The code of dress below is for the gender which you identify as.

MALES

- Formal/smart shirt and tie
- Formal/smart trousers
- Formal shoes
(not trainers or plimsolls)
- Hoodies are not permitted
- Sixth Form lanyard

FEMALES

- Formal/smart shirt or blouse
(no low cut tops or cropped tops)
- Formal/smart trousers or skirt
which has no pattern, of a suitable
length
- Formal shoes
(not trainers or plimsolls)
- Hoodies are not permitted
- Sixth Form lanyard

EXCELLENCE IN SPORT

Part of our Sports College legacy means that at Whickham we go the extra mile to help develop talented sports stars and sports leaders.

Both our academic (A-Level) and vocational (BTEC Sport single and double) programmes provide support and progression to the next generation of sports stars and leaders. Additional opportunities include level 2 and level 3 sports leaders' Awards, the prestigious National Young Ambassadors programme, Duke of Edinburgh (Bronze & Gold) and World Challenge expeditions.

SUPPORT FOR ELITE COMPETITORS

We provide many of our talented and elite sports people with:

- An individual mentoring and coaching programme
- Flexible time to attend regional and national events
- Opportunities to access advanced coaching programmes
- Personal & leadership development opportunities



NIAMH MILLS

I studied PE, Psychology and English Language in sixth form and I am really enjoyed all aspects of each subject. Within PE there is a wide range of knowledge such as physiology, psychology and sociology. The teachers have always supported and encouraged my class. After year 13 I would like to go to university to study Sports Development and Coaching or Sports Science, in hope of having a career in sport in the future.

Sports Leadership is a popular enrichment option that Whickham School do particularly well. We provide leadership experiences and qualifications that stand out from the crowd. In Sixth Form you have the choice of Sports Leadership where you have the opportunity to lead primary school events, gaining skills that can be applied to any situation.

FACILITIES



The sixth form is housed in a brand new purpose built state of the art building.

THE SILENT STUDY AREA

The silent study area is one of the most used resources in the Sixth Form building. It was specifically requested by students and is well used. It houses a large amount of open plan personal study space, as well as 33 computers for study use. The study area is open daily from 7am to 7pm and is well used after school. Study facilities are also open to students during school holidays in the exam season.

THE SIXTH FORM CAFETERIA

The Cafeteria serves a wide range of hot and cold food and drink. Following consultation with students it was redesigned in 2020 and now also serves Starbucks coffee. The Cafeteria is open from 8.30am to 2.30pm serving students during the school day, as well as those who either come in early or stay late to study.

SIXTH FORM FACILITIES

The Sixth Form areas house all of the sixth form facilities:

- Offices where you can find the Head of Sixth Form and Heads of Year
- Sixth Form Reception
- Silent Study Areas
- Sixth Form Cafeteria
- Sixth Form Computer Suite
- Classrooms
- Student Support Office
- Social Area

The Bursary Fund

*The bursary fund is available for students to help support them with their studies.
The level of bursary depends upon your circumstances.*

BURSARY A **WEEKLY PAYMENT: £30**

Paid to the most disadvantaged students who meet any of the following criteria:

In Care / Care Leaver

Teenage Parent

Claiming Employment Support Allowance AND Disability Living Allowance / Personal Independence Payment

Student receives Income Support or Universal Credit (in their own name)

BURSARY B **DAILY FREE SCHOOL MEAL & SUPPORT WITH EQUIPMENT AND TRAVEL**

This bursary is available for any student eligible for Free School Meals. Payment of free school meals will be paid through the school bio-metric system.

Assessments for eligibility are completed by Gateshead council. (Google: Gateshead Free School Meals)

Free School Meals criteria:

(meet one or more of the following)

Household income of £16,100 or lower and receiving child tax credit (but not working tax credit)

Parents in receipt of Income Support or JSA or Guarantee pension credit or ESA

Parents receive support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999

BURSARY C **SUPPORT WITH EQUIPMENT AND TRAVEL**

Where there is surplus money left over in the school's bursary fund after payment of all A+B type bursaries we wish to support students whose financial circumstances pose significant challenges but who don't quite meet the criteria for the other bursaries. This fund can support with a range of educational costs including equipment and travel expenses.

Students wishing to claim from the Bursary C pot must have a household income of less than £27,000 This must be certified by any of the following documents: P60 / Tax Credit statement or they must be a Young Carer.

Sixth Form Learning Contract

As a member of the Sixth Form at Whickham School, students are expected to uphold the guidelines outlined below;

The student will always endeavour to...

1. Attend school regularly and punctually and inform the school office of absence on the first day. The school day begins at 8.35am, with tutorial beginning at 8.40am each day.
2. Behave in a mature and socially acceptable manner at all times. This includes appropriate use of school IT facilities.
3. Adhere to the school policies including the sixth form dress code. Students will be sent home to change if code of dress is inappropriate.
4. Take full advantage of extra-curricular activities.
5. Organise part-time employment and leisure in such a way as to ensure adequate time for homework and additional research work. Government guidance recommends no more than 12 hours per week of paid employment.
6. Fulfill the requirements of the course and attend all timetabled lessons.
7. Attend all resit Maths and English lessons (if applicable).

In return the school will always endeavour to provide:

1. Guidance which is personal and relevant throughout the student's career.
2. Information on bursaries, careers, open days and student concessions.
3. Effective assessment to ensure the most successful course is being pursued.
4. An appropriate learning environment including adequate study and computer facilities.
5. Opportunities for personal development beyond the normal curriculum of the school.
6. Regular consultation with teachers, parents and outside bodies.

As a Sixth Form student, I have made a clear choice to continue my education at Whickham School. This choice involves obligations from both me and the school. I agree to uphold these obligations.

STUDENT SIGNATURE :

STUDENT NAME:



**WHICKHAM
SCHOOL**

CONTACT US

Whickham School
Burnthouse Lane,
Whickham
Newcastle upon Tyne
NE16 5AR

T: 0191 496 0026

E: sixthform@whickhamschool.org

 [@WhickhamSchool](https://twitter.com/WhickhamSchool)

 [@whickham](https://www.facebook.com/whickham)

www.whickhamschool.org

