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Welcome to The Norwood School Sixth Form.
This handbook is designed to tell you about all
the things that make Sixth Form Life different
from school as you know it!

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Norwood Student Ethos

“To provide students with a positive, enriching, creative, curricular experience. High achievement at all levels and in all aspects of school life is the expectation at all times.”

Expectations of students & staff at Norwood School

We want a Sixth Form where:

Learning is engaging, varied & well-planned. Students share in their responsibility to learn.

Students properly prepare and contribute to their time in Norwood Sixth Form both academically & pastorally.

Students and staff attempt to achieve high standards in all aspects of work and attendance.

Lessons provoke interest, challenge and develop students' knowledge of the subject and its broader context in the curriculum and careers/society.

All students contribute to the life of the school and its community.

Above all, we believe in:

Creating Success Together

Sixth Form Our Ethos

Understanding your new Privileges and Responsibilities

Speak to any Sixth Former and they'll tell you how different it is to life in Year 11, and a lot of that is down to the new privileges you will be given.

Although you will have signed up to The Norwood School's regular Home-School contract, there are some additional expectations made of our Sixth Form students.

This section of your handbook will explain the things that only apply to our Year 12&13 students, but **remember to refer to our whole-school policies on the website for everything else, including the Behaviour Policy.**

It's important to remember that as a Sixth Form student we give you these privileges to reflect your maturity. We like being able to do this and we know that these freedoms are valued by our students. In certain circumstances, though, they can be withdrawn. Ultimately the whole-school rules and policies can and do take priority over Sixth Form privileges.

Dress Code

For many, no longer wearing uniform is one of the highlights of being a Sixth Former.

As Sixth Formers, we encourage you to think of school as your place of work. Over the next two years many of you will take holiday or weekend jobs, and in most workplaces there are rules or guidelines about what is appropriate to wear. It's also true that as the oldest students at Norwood, you set an example of professionalism and maturity to the rest of the school and so your standard of dress is an important part of our culture.

When discussing a dress code with students before it was introduced, preferences ranged from full uniform to the other end of the spectrum. We have developed a code which is gender neutral, reflects the common expectations of many professional workplaces, but also allows for your individuality and creative expression, as befits our Performing and Visual Arts specialism.

Students of all subjects must wear their Sixth Form ID card at all times.

Our Core Dress Code

Mix and match your school wardrobe from these smart-casual options:

- A button up shirt or blouse
- A knitted jumper
- A fitted top (not a T shirt)
- A dress
- A skirt
- Smart trousers
- Shoes, boots, trainers or canvas shoes (such as Vans)
- A cardigan
- A blazer or suit jacket

Plain, solid colours are great, as are simple patterns.

If you wish to wear jewellery, please keep this understated, and avoid hoop earrings or large rings that could inadvertently cause injury to you or someone else.

Outdoor coats and jackets are not worn in lessons. You should be warmly dressed enough to take these items off during the school day.

The following items are considered to be too informal and are not to be worn:

- Clothes that show your underwear (boxers, bra straps)
- Cropped tops and halter necks
- Torn or ripped clothing
- Baseball caps / hats / du-rags / bonnets
- Casual T-shirts
- Sweatshirts, hooded sweatshirts and other hoodies
- Jeans and other denim items
- Clothes with writing on
- Sports / "athleisure" wear
- Filpflops / slides / crocs etc

Exceptions to the Dress Code

Our Dress Code is appropriate for all classroom-based learning, but may not be suitable for practical activities.

Dance, Sports and Basketball Academy students have permission to wear sports clothing. Specifically branded kit is available for these subjects, but otherwise plain sportswear is acceptable. Cropped tops may be worn during classes but a covering layer should be worn at other times, to suit the general level of formality we expect in the sixth form.

No other students have permission to wear sports clothing. The subject leaders of Acting, Music and Visual Arts have explicitly agreed that the normal smart casual dress code offers enough choice to facilitate practical lessons in those subjects.

It is not acceptable for any students to wear the following, even as part of their sportswear:

- Hoodies or hooded sweatshirts
- Oversize T-shirts or T-shirts with inappropriate images
- Clothes with writing, pictures, flags, signs or symbols

A final word on dress code...

There *should* be a difference between what you wear to school, and what you wear at home. This reflects adult life for the vast majority of people. If in doubt about an item's suitability, please discuss this with your Head of Year before wearing it to school.

We will send home inappropriately dressed students.

Because fashions change constantly, and because the possibilities regarding clothing are so numerous, it must remain the right of senior members of staff and the Head of Sixth Form to determine that a particular item of clothing not mentioned above, is nevertheless not appropriate for school.

Mobile Phone Policy

Smartphones have given most of our students access to information and technology at their fingertips. But **with great power comes great responsibility!**

Our younger students are not allowed to use their phones in school, but we believe you are mature enough to use them in specific places, responsibly, both to enhance your learning, and for personal use.

However, as well as needing to show courtesy to others and setting a professional example to younger students, as a school we must all be mindful of issues relating to child protection. For these reasons any policy that includes approved use of mobile phones must be direct and precise. The abuse of this privilege must have clear direct consequences.

Every student in our sixth form must sign a copy of this policy.

Please read the following carefully:

- Pupils can use their mobile phones in the **Study Hub only**. They can access the internet and listen to music through headphones as long as no disruption is caused to others. Pupils must not play music / watch video out loud.
- Pupils **cannot** use their phones whilst in the atrium, in outdoor areas of the school or while walking along corridors, at **any time** of the day. **If your phone rings, you must wait until you are outside the school gates to answer / return the call.**
- When talking to a member of staff students must put phones away / remove airpods / headphones if requested; using the phone whilst someone is talking to you is poor manners.
- **Headphones, earbuds and airpods must not be worn outside the Study Hub, regardless of whether or not they are being used.**
- Phones must be switched off during lessons and be placed in school bags/pockets.

Sixth Form Mobile Phones

- Students are not allowed to charge their phones around the site – we expect this to take place in the Study Hub only.
- Mobile phones **may** be used in the classroom, if required as a teaching/learning tool, in which case the teacher will provide permission for students to use them on a lesson-by-lesson basis.
- Pupils cannot use a mobile phone in an exam – even as a calculator (as per exam board regulations). Mobile phones must be switched off and placed in bags prior to the start of an exam. Exam regulations are clearly displayed in the exam hall.
- Pupils must **NEVER** take photos or film on site using a personal phone (it is a **criminal offence** within a school and will be sanctioned with a fixed term exclusion).
- Students' phones are their property, the school cannot be held responsible for any loss, damage or theft that takes place on site.

Sanctions

We would like students to take responsibility for the safe & considerate use of their mobile phone. However, if at any point a pupil fails to follow the above rules, a member of staff can confiscate the phone/headphones. These will be placed in the office to be picked up by a parent/carer/student at the school's discretion.

I have read and understood the above Mobile Phone Policy and agree to abide by its requirements.

Print name:

.....

Signed:

..... Date:.....

The School Day

Being in the right place at the right time is important. Make sure you know what privileges and responsibilities you have now.

Partly this is because you are more mature and trustworthy, and partly it's because you won't have six timetabled lessons every day.

You will have a timetable for your subject lessons, and a weekly PSHE period. Attendance to these classes, and registration, is compulsory. Failure to attend any classes, including PSHE and GCSE retakes, will be treated as truancy.

Attendance and Punctuality

Being on time

As you agreed in your Home-School contract, we expect students to arrive at 8.25am for an 8.30 start. Registration begins at 8.40am, so you need to have visited your locker, said hello to your friends and had any necessary refreshment or bathroom breaks before that time. Registration is of critical importance in Sixth Form, as we use it to pass on opportunities and tell you about the ongoing university/career planning process.

If you arrive at 8.41am or later, you must sign in, and should attend late detention. Failure to sign in after 8.40am, or fraudulently trying to avoid doing so, will result in a period of time on report. Remember, at 8.41am, you are already 16 minutes late.

A Full Time School

We are a full time Sixth Form. As we all discovered during the C-19 crisis, learning happens best in school. However. If you have no lessons for the entire morning (lessons 1-4) or afternoon (lessons 5-6) you may choose to study at home. Please note: if you have no lessons period 1-2, and the your classes start period 3 or 4, you must still arrive, punctually, for morning registration. This privilege may be rescinded if your punctuality, attendance, work or conduct fails to meet expectations.

If you are not sure what you should be doing in your study periods, or if you find yourself regularly spending this time socialising, you must see a member of the sixth form team who will help you use this time to succeed.

The End of the Day

Some subjects will hold compulsory after school tutorials, rehearsals etc, either weekly or when needed. Otherwise, you may not remain on site to wait for friends, unless doing supervised work (for example in the Study Hub). If working with the agreement of a teacher, you must not take yourself to remote parts of the school, or allow friends to join you. Students working late with permission must leave school by 5pm, unless performing or competing in an evening event. **If you are planning to watch an evening event you must leave the site, and return at the appropriate time.**

Unavoidable Absence

In extenuating circumstances when students cannot attend school or stay for after school events, they must supply formal evidence of appointments in advance (such as hospital letters). Please also email in advance any subject teachers who would expect to see you. In the case of debilitating illness, contact from parents by phone call or email on the first day of absence is expected. We expect our students to make routine medical appointments outside of school hours, just as staff do.

In the case of school trips leading to you missing lessons, there's no need to send formal evidence as teachers are able to check with each other. A simple email in advance politely explaining the situation is fine.

Sixth Form Areas

It's important to find a location where you will be able to work productively. For this reason we have provided special areas for Sixth Formers to go.

- **The Study Hub.** The old library has been refurbished and rearranged to make a space that supports our students to focus and study without distraction. This is also where you'll find our administrator, Ms Cunningham and our Sixth Form Learning Mentor, Ms Fearon, is, as well as the your chromebooks and other resources. It's also where you'll find Mr Parsons and the Sixth Form team's office

If you are taking a short break from study and wish to quietly use the internet or read (not in groups) you may do so, but please do not use the computers / chromebooks unless doing school work.

- **The Atrium** This is a secondary study area, usually favoured by those who wish to work in groups. Because of the location of this area, (in full view of the headteachers, senior staff and visitors to the school), as well as the fact that younger children will be arriving for lessons at every changeover, you **must** model professional conduct at all times. Please do not leave litter, sit in groups larger than appropriate for the size of the table, or make a lot of noise.
- **Other Spaces.** If you want somewhere else to work quietly, you may also use subject breakout spaces as well as outdoors in good weather. Please do not use classrooms, studios or other teaching spaces unless you have been given specific permission.
- **Lunchtime and other breaks.** If remaining on site at lunchtime, please use the atrium but be considerate regarding mess and noise. If you wish to take a short break from work during the day, you may use the atrium or outdoor spaces, which weather-permitting can be a pleasant place to take a break. Please note that loud conversation outdoors will very likely be heard in offices and classrooms, especially if the windows are open. Remember that the rest of the school is working and your study periods should be spent doing the same.

Going Off-Site

Another privilege afforded to Sixth Form students is the flexibility to leave the site at break and lunch time. This privilege comes with the following conditions.

- You must sign out at reception when you leave, and sign in again when you return. This is a legal requirement, relating to evacuation in case of a fire.
- If you have a study period before or after lunch, you may leave a few minutes early and/or return a few minutes after the end of lunch. Do not attempt to travel further than the time allows.
- Under no circumstances may you bring takeaway food onto the school site. You may, however, buy cold food from a shop or supermarket and bring this back to eat in school.
- When outside school we expect you to be a positive representation of our school and Sixth Form.

Email & ICT

Keeping in touch

Sixth Form students are expected to check their school email **at least once a day**. Most information and opportunities will be sent by email and you will miss important information if you do not bother to check this frequently. You can access your email anywhere by going to the following address:

<http://rmunify.com>

Type in your username@thenorwoodschool.org

Password

Then click on the Google Mail

However, it's much easier if you add your school email account to the email app on your phone.

Email communications with staff and outside agencies should be written in a way that reflects your maturity, professionalism and literacy skills. Punctuation, spelling, capital letters—these are things that make written communication clear and easy for everyone to understand, and so not using them lacks courtesy. You have a more formal relationship with your teachers than with also family and friends, and your emails must reflect this. If you are emailing someone outside the school, especially to apply for an opportunity, be particularly careful.

If you haven't already, it is a good idea to set up a professional-sounding email account with one of the main webmail services such as Gmail or Hotmail. An address like jdizzzzzzle@gmail.com or prettygirl58@hotmail.co.uk will not help convince universities and employers that you are mature and serious.

E –Safety and Being You Online

The school's ICT rules apply to Sixth Form too, and you should read the full policy on the school website.

Your Online Footprint

Be very careful about the photos and comments that you and your friends put online, as it's common practice for employers to search the social media of candidates. There have been high-

profile cases of young adults losing out on jobs and positions because of things they said online as a teenager. You should act on the assumption that everything you leave on the web could turn out to be public in future & therefore can affect you in ways that are not always evident.

It is highly recommended to keep your full name off your social media accounts.

Always refer to the following websites for advice and guidance.

www.ceop.police.uk

<https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/>

Please report any cyber bullying incidents immediately via

www.bully-watch.co.uk

Messaging Apps

Messaging apps like Whatsapp are obviously very useful for keeping in touch with friends or family. However, in recent years there has been a trend for very large groups, including lots of people in our sixth form. These massive groups have then been used to make negative comments about students, or to spread inflammatory gossip. Other times people have been pressurised to accept requests to join groups or open anonymous messages. **We must be clear—this behaviour is completely unacceptable, may be illegal, and students taking part risk permanent exclusion and, in serious cases, details being passed to the police.**

Access to Computers

We have a set of Chromebooks which are kept in the Sixth Form Study Hub. You may use the computers elsewhere in the school, but must return them and plug them in. Students who fail to do this risk not being allowed to use the Chromebooks in future.

If all the Chromebooks are being used, relevant subject staff may let you work in their ICT rooms, or borrow their laptops. However, there are times when you may not be able to find a computer. Don't contribute to this situation by taking or holding on to a Chromebook you aren't currently using for school work.

At times the internet at school can be very slow, due to the numbers of users. Please avoid streaming video content (unless explicitly related to your course).

Money Matters

Sixth Form Support Bursary

Those who were in receipt of Free School Meals in KS3 & 4 or whose families are now in financial difficulties may well be eligible for a Sixth Form Bursary. These payments are designed to help with travel expenses, study materials and so on. It is important to understand that bursary payments depend on full and punctual attendance and appropriate progress on study courses. The amount is £90 per half term, but does not include holidays.

Bursary payments are made retrospectively at the end of each half term. However, The Head of Sixth Form has the right to withhold some or ALL of the bursary if a student falls below expectations in attendance, punctuality, effort and behaviour.

To see if you are eligible, please see Jeni in the Study Hub for an application and complete this at home with your parents.

Earn While You Learn

This is our programme to let students earn money while you attend the Sixth Form. Lunch and Breaktime Supervisors must show reliability, honesty, leadership and responsibility. If you apply successfully and are selected after interview, you can earn the equivalent of over £5 an hour. Typically these opportunities will be highly competitive and will last a term at a time.

These kind of roles are excellent ways to demonstrate your commitment and level of responsibility.

Part Time Employment

Part time employment can give you transferrable skills as well financial reward, your priority must be achieving academic success. Therefore, we recommend that students do not take on more than **10 hours maximum of shift work and that if at all possible this is completed on one day of the weekend**. Evening work that starts on a weekday is NOT recommended as you may be required to start staying until the end of the school day, or attending an after school session. You will also need the chance to do your academic work and get a good night's rest.

In the period building up to exam times we also recommend that this paid work is either stopped or at the very least scaled down. If you are not keeping up with your academic potential, you will be asked to resign from your employment.

Your Learning

Now you're studying fewer subjects, we expect you to be really enthusiastic and dedicated learners.

Most Sixth Form subjects have six periods a week, and you need to arrive to each lesson not just on time, but prepared. We call this Flipped Learning.

Flipped Learning

Staff flip the learning back onto students in order for them to prepare for future lessons. This can take the form of:

- Wider reading & note taking
- Answering preparatory questions
- Leading the start of an activity
- Organising activities, role plays, performances, presentations, projects, group work
- Watching documentaries, TED talks, podcasts and recording key ideas
- Completing learning tasks from lessons
- Reviewing and condensing lesson notes/activities
Preparing revision

The depth and range of content in the Sixth Form is so extensive, and such a big step from GCSE, that the onus will be on students to have prepared in order for teachers to be able to test and extend knowledge. **Students who have not completed work may not be allowed to continue learning** until they have caught up, and this will trigger sanctions.

Independent Study

The greatest change that will impact on you this year is about how you manage your time. Sixth form students have around 10 non-timetabled periods per week. How you use this additional time will determine your success in Post 16 education.

Post 16 education places more reliance on your ability to manage your time and studies. Whilst we will help to support you using study skill tips and suggestions, you must quickly understand that

most subjects simply can't cover all the content required for exams in lessons. You will need to reinforce and learn in your own time too.

As a rule of thumb you MUST spend the same amount of time studying outside of lessons as you do in lessons: 5 hours of contact time = 5 hours of study time.

For those studying BTECs/RSL qualifications you will need to manage and meet assignment deadlines throughout the course.

As explained earlier, **The Sixth Form Study Hub is a quiet study space during lesson times.** It must be treated accordingly.

How you use your time will be vital in paving the way for success. Examples of how students use Independent study time productively include:

- Complete research
- Work on assignments
- Work in partnership with others
- Revise topics (not only just before exams)
- Review lesson content and consolidate learning
- Clarify understanding
- Read set texts / wider reading.
- Catch up with current affairs
- Organise school events and projects

Poor use of time (e.g. playing cards, computer games, watching videos or just chatting) disrupts others from learning. If you want to have a chat with friends who are “free” at the same time please use the atrium—though you should not use this space for playing games. But remember if you regularly find yourself with time to spend this way, you are not going to succeed in line with your potential.

If you have a lot more than ten study periods per week, you will probably be asked to take on other activities. This may involve providing regular support to a KS3 class in one of your subjects, or taking on a MOOC or EPQ.

English & Maths GCSE Retakes

Any student who was not awarded a Level 4 in Maths or in either English Language or Literature will have to attend retake classes until they have successfully secured these grades. **This is a legal requirement.** There are two retake opportunities per year: in late autumn, and in the summer exam season. The ideal situation would be to work hard and pass them in the late autumn, and then have the rest of your Sixth Form time to focus on your chosen courses.

Universities, and the majority of employers and higher-level apprenticeship providers require level 4 or both in both subjects.

PSHE

You will have PSHE lessons every week. These deliver essential life and employability learning, and take you through the process needed to make a successful application to university or apprenticeships. Attendance to PSHE is compulsory, as for all lessons.

Checking You Are On The Right Courses

You need to take subjects which suit your skills, and which you enjoy enough to work at with commitment and enthusiasm.

You may be trying one of the new subjects on offer in the Sixth Form, such as Film Studies or Psychology. You may initially sign up for 4 A-levels, with the expectation that you might drop to three, depending on how things work out. Alternatively you might just find a subject too challenging at A Level.

It is in nobody's best interest to carry on with unsuitable subjects. In the 2nd or 3rd week of Year 12 you will be assessed by all your teachers, and depending of the outcomes, **at this time a small number of our students will change their courses.**

At the end of the autumn term you will be assessed again. We expect all students to achieve a grade D or higher, (or a Pass for BTEC/RSL subjects). If you fail to do this, you will be required to take a resit in January, and your continuation with the course may depend on making significant improvement at this point.

At the end of Year 12 you will complete your end of year assessments in every subject, and before the end of term you will be invited, with your parents to an Academic Review meeting. In cases of persistent low attainment, a result of E or below in any subject may result in being withdrawn from that subject, or the suggestion that you repeat Year 12.

Assessment

We follow this schedule. Practical and Vocational courses will have different/additional assessment dates.

Autumn Term

September

Y12 Baseline Tests & Y13 UCAS Predictor Tests

November

Y12&13 Assessments

December

Sixth Form Parents' Evening and Short Reports

Spring Term

January

Retakes for all Grade E or below

February/March

Y12 Assessments and Y13 Mock Exams

March

Short Reports sent home

Summer Term

May/June

Public Exam season begins

June

Y12 Finals (Internal End of Year Exams)

July

Academic Review meetings

Sixth Form Assessment

Supporting You to Get It Right

Sixth Form comes with lots of new benefits and privileges, but also high expectations and lots of responsibility. Who can help you get it right?

Your Tutor

Your new form tutor will have a huge impact on your future, because they're the person who will write your reference, recommending you for university and apprenticeships/employment. All our Sixth Form tutors love working with Year 12 and 13. They will support you in every aspect of your Sixth Form life and once a term will check in with you, to discuss one-to-one how things are going.

The student/tutor relationship is one of the most important relationships that any student has. Building a successful relationship is vital in helping to provide valuable support and help especially in the early days of Year 12 as well as throughout your sixth form career. After all the tutor will often be the first port of call for parents and staff alike.

Maintain a good working relationship by having an exemplary attendance and punctuality record, replying promptly to emails, engaging on Google Classroom, listening to their advice and guidance, and participating in **the weekly Sixth Form quiz** for the enduring glory of your tutor group!

The more that your tutor learns about you over a reasonably short period the more they can write about you in supporting references for UCAS /job references and apprenticeships.

Other types and sources of help

Students struggling with stress or mental health concerns can tell their tutor or any other trusted member of staff. We can help you find support in and out of school. Additionally, our annual **Discover** programme, run by professionals from local young people's mental health services, helps students feeling the pressure of school and life develop strategies that really help.

SSSP (Student Services Support Programme)

Norwood uses a support programme to help to provide every opportunity possible for students to take responsibility over their learning and to **keep on track with their potential**.

Tutors and/or subject staff, who have not had success with faculty support systems may refer students to this programme for some or all of the following reasons:

- Low attainment/failure to reach expected grade
- Insufficient work
- Missed assignments
- Failure to “catch-up” with work - after faculty intervention
- Lack of attendance
- Missed meeting or activity - Catch up Club
- Other issues

The level and duration of support will vary according to the needs of the student. Typically students on the SSSP will attend study periods supervised by Ms Fearon, who will also offer personalised support strategies and monitor progress.

Sanctions and Disciplinary Procedures

Everyone makes mistakes, but nobody is **incapable** of doing what we ask. All our expectations are reasonable and fair.

When you become an adult, failing to meet your employer's expectations will have consequences, and we would not be preparing you for adult life if we did not hold you to account when you make bad choices.

Although you are still subject to the whole school Behaviour Policy which you signed up to as part of the home-school agreement, there is a slightly different set of consequences in the Sixth Form, reflecting the fact that, although you're not quite an adult yet (and so we are more lenient than an employer would be), you're definitely no longer a child.

In a nutshell we only have **ten** main rules:

1. Be here on time, every day prepared and ready to learn
2. Respect our shared spaces . Don't make noise & mess
3. Follow the rules if going off-site at break and lunch
4. Keep phone/headphone use to the Study Hub
5. Attend every lesson & other commitments
6. Don't hang around after 3:10pm
7. Follow the dress code
8. Meet deadlines
9. Work hard
10. Be polite

The Disciplinary Procedure

It's important to know where you stand. If you haven't responded to normal tutor or subject teacher sanctions, this is how things will work in most cases:

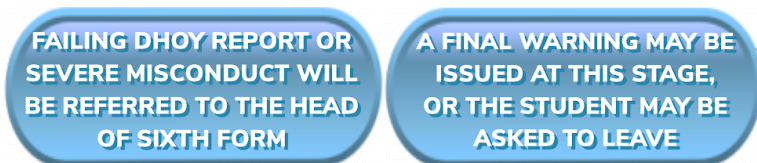
FORMAL WARNING



FORMAL WRITTEN WARNING



FINAL WARNING / DISMISSAL



Your Development

Over the next two years, you will make some decisions that will influence the way your adult life turns out.

The difference between ultra-successful people and everyone else is very little to do with natural talent, and almost entirely related to how much you are willing to push yourself to do. Every Sixth Former in the country has a choice to take the easy path... but if you do, you have to understand that the people who **do more** will overtake you.

#DoMore

We want you to volunteer for opportunities because it helps enrich our Sixth Form and school community, but that's not all.

When you apply for an opportunity, organise a project or support the lower school it gives you something impressive to write on your future applications, true... but **the only reason those things are impressive is because the people who have those experiences develop skills their peers don't have.**

Outside Opportunities

Our Sixth Form introduces an unbeatable range and number of opportunities to have high-quality experiences. Our students have been selected for prestigious and competitive development programmes with organisations including **Arts Emergency, The Property Prize and the Sutton Trust** and global advertising agency, **M&C Saatchi**. Others have joined with **Advocacy Academy** to actually do something about the social injustices in our society, or won cash funding from the **Mark Evison Foundation** to pursue ambitious personal challenges and projects. These are among the organisations who have come in to meet Year 12 students in the past, but there are hosts more opportunities being shared by email. Fantastic work experience placements in the Performing Arts or with "2blue chip" companies (so rare and hard to get), summer schools, film making academies - and all free of charge or at minimal cost. Students who **#DoMore** In year 12 have the confidence to apply to universities secure in the knowledge that compared to most people their age, **their skills and connections are hard to beat.**

In School

You can make a positive contribution to our community while also developing your skills. Every year some of our Sixth Form support KS3 students through the **Buddy Reading** programme, while others act as mentors to help younger children find the right path and be happy at school. Students have provided subject support, or help for EAL and SEN students. You can also help support our special events: performances and open evenings, for example.

Sixth Form is also a time to plan and carry out projects that matter to you, be they fund raisers, cultural events, movie nights. Students who have planned their own projects have always learned a lot of skills very quickly! There's nothing like it.

Student Leadership

We want our students to see themselves as future leaders, pushing to change the injustices in the world and improving things on a local level. Our School Council has made an impact on student lives, and its sixth form representatives take the lead in the changes it will make during your time in the sixth form. If you are interested in taking on the responsibility of leading the school community and having your voice empowered, you should put yourself forward for the council.

We are proud to work with Advocacy Academy, an organisation that puts together young people in South London who want improvements in social justice in touch, and helps them to actually get things done.

During your time in sixth form, you might have an issue you want to raise awareness of, a charity you want to raise funds for, or an event you want to stage. We want to help you plan and deliver these projects so that they can be done professionally and successfully. See Mr Parsons or anyone on the Sixth Form team as your first step. **Think about the ways you could see yourself helping and let us know!**

Work Experience

The benefits of being part of the professional workplace are inarguable, and all our Year 12 students take part in work experience in July. However, there's a world of difference between some work experience opportunities and others. Working with world-class organisations or in competitive fields will require a lot of effort on your part. You'll need to check your emails daily for opportunities, and build good relationships with professionals you might meet through enrichment opportunities you take part in.

Gifted and Talented / The Access Project

You may already be aware that many of our most academic students receive support in the form of tutoring and in-school mentoring through our partnership with The Access Project. If students want to study at a top university for their subject, or pursue highly academic pathways like medicine, veterinary science, law or engineering, they won't be able to waste a single moment of their sixth form years, and The Access Project is designed to support that process. The school is also happy to support students who aren't eligible for this programme, but whose hard work pays off in the form of excellent results from the start of year 12. If you have high academic ambitions and the results to back them up, see the Sixth Form team for help with Oxbridge applications, entrance exams for medicine and other subjects, and ways to enrich your academic learning—including applications to Kings+, and University Summer Schools.

Tomorrow's Arts / Arts Emergency

All sixth form students studying Performing or Visual Arts subjects (including Film Studies) are part of our Tomorrow's Arts programme, which is designed to enrich and support the learning and career planning of young people who want to pursue creative careers. We kick off year 12 with a visit to the UCAS creative conference: a big event where you can meet representatives from dozens of the top arts training and education providers to get the inside track on what they look for in an applicant. We are privileged to work with Arts Emergency, who offer a number of our students mentorships, linking them with successful professionals working in their chosen field. Look out for the application process at the start of year 12. Additionally, we will check in with you throughout your sixth form experience, to help you decide on your next steps, secure competitive enrichment and work experience opportunities, and plan extra curricular creative projects. When the time comes to apply, subject staff will work with you to prepare for auditions, showreels and portfolios. If you're not studying an Arts subject, but do want to pursue a creative career (for example, if you're an English A-level student who wants to do Media at university), please let Ms Tatam know, and she'll add you to the Tomorrow's Arts group.