



Guilsborough Academy

Sixth Form

Prospectus
2022



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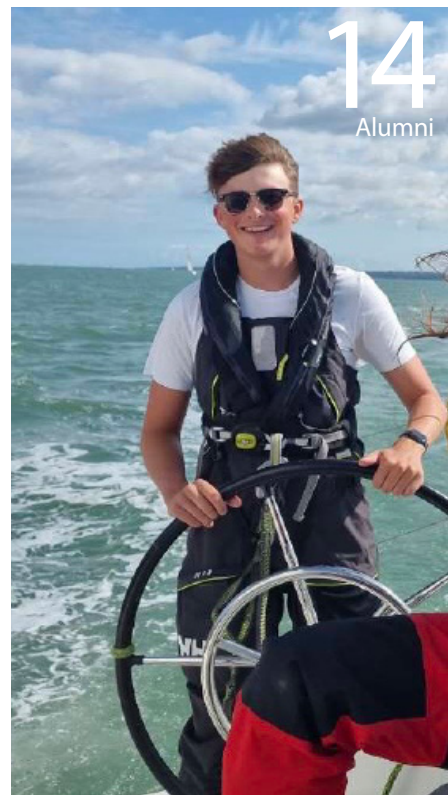
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Welcome from the Principal



I would like to offer a very warm welcome to all students looking to join Guilsborough Academy Sixth Form.

In the Sixth Form you will be encouraged to excel academically while involving yourself in a wide range of extra-curricular activities. I believe it is our responsibility to help you see beyond the limits of your own expectations and ensure you have the opportunities to reach your potential.

Guilsborough Academy Sixth Form is an inclusive learning environment where we put the student at the heart of everything we do. We have invested heavily in the facilities available to them, including a modern café where students can choose to study.

During your time in the Sixth Form you will be supported by a highly experienced tutor who will be available to support you daily. Your progress in the Sixth Form will be monitored and aided by a team of teachers and support staff with a wide range of expertise.

While 2020-21 was a challenging year, the vast majority of our Sixth Form students who chose to apply to university gained their first-choice place. Our excellent careers advice and guidance also supports students who wish to follow alternative routes, including higher level apprenticeships and employment.

For those students not currently studying at Guilsborough Academy, we look forward to welcoming you and giving you a tour of our new facilities. In the meantime, I would like to wish all Year 11 students the very best of luck in the summer examinations.

Mr S Frazer

Principal



Welcome

from the Head of Sixth Form

The Sixth Form Team:

Mr Mills

Head of Sixth Form

Mrs Stewart

Deputy Head of Sixth Form

Miss Hunt

Sixth Form Academic Mentor
EPQ Coordinator & Enrichment Lead

Miss Fairlie

Sixth Form Learning Supervisor

At Guilsborough Sixth Form, we pride ourselves on providing a welcoming yet challenging learning environment that enables all students to aspire and succeed. Our range of courses caters for students who wish to follow an academic route, a more vocational pathway, or a mixture of the two. Most importantly, we support all of our students to enable them to follow their chosen route to post-18 options.

Our students are encouraged to inspire others through their successes, leading as role models and mentors as well as contributing to the wider community, both within and beyond the academy. We are proud of our students; they are at the heart of our Sixth Form and academy.

This year we have expanded our purpose-built facilities to include additional classrooms and an exclusive cafeteria. Our students can choose from a range of spaces in which to study, contributing to a positive study culture which supports students' transition to independence.

We look forward to welcoming you into our happy and successful Sixth Form where we offer both high support and high challenge to all.

Mr D Mills

Head of Sixth Form

Welcome

from the Student Leadership Team

We would like to wish you a warm welcome to Guilsborough Sixth Form, the next step to your success.

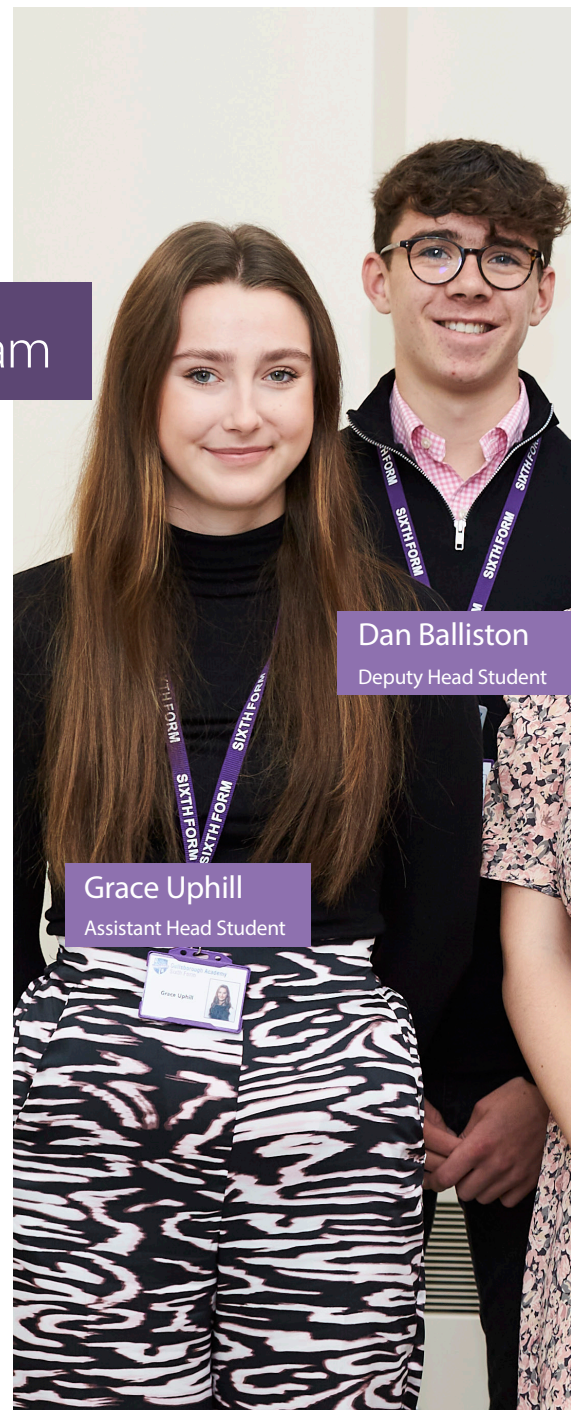
Guilsborough Sixth Form, we pride ourselves in encouraging students to go above and beyond, not only in their subject studies, but also in the wider curriculum; enabling them to fulfil their potential. Whether it be academic or personal, support is always available to aid students in this stage of their education. The strong learning links, within our Sixth Form, ensure that fine attention is always paid to our academic progress and personal wellbeing.

With our various committees and clubs, which we have established ourselves; an interest in the wider world is inspired. The extensive range of extra curriculum activities gives each student the opportunity to develop a wide range of life skills that they will be able to apply in later life.

As the Student Leadership Team we aim to be approachable and work as a link between students and teachers, creating a community feel in the Sixth Form. Furthermore, our facilities encourage independence for the future, with students being able to borrow Macbooks throughout the day, and even use the kitchen in the common room - a cup of tea or slice of toast is never too far away!

We wish you the best of luck in your forthcoming examinations and we hope to see you at Guilsborough Sixth Form in September 2021.

2021-22 Student Leadership Team



Grace Uphill
Assistant Head Student

Dan Balliston
Deputy Head Student



Alex Cowap

Assistant Head Student

Ben Kiely

Assistant Head Student

Adam Lawless

Deputy Head Student

Kara McCrone

Head Student

Emily Weller

Head Student

Emma Dunn

Assistant Head Student



“ We like the feel of being in an ‘adult’ part of the academy and enjoy being able to choose where to study. ”

About the Sixth Form



GUILSBOROUGH is a large rural 11-18 academy, strongly committed to its local community, which became a Multi Academy Trust in April 2014, with Naseby Church of England Primary School joining our academy family.

The majority of our sixth formers are students who stay on at GUILSBOROUGH following successful Year 11 studies. External students also join the Sixth Form from other schools, both inside and outside the county.

We are proud of our outstanding examination results and excellent value added outcomes for students of all abilities. A high percentage of students achieve their Post-18 destination of choice each year. These successes include medical students and those aiming for 'Russell Group' Universities; we encourage all of our students to aim high and support them to be successful no matter the route they choose.

Independent study is a staple of Sixth Form life. Alongside bespoke classrooms, our purpose-built facilities provide a variety of environments to facilitate silent and quiet study, as well as more informal and interactive spaces in the cafeteria and common room. We believe allowing students the freedom to identify which study spaces suit them best is an important aspect of the transition from school to Sixth Form, as well as ensuring the development of skills essential for further study and training Post-18.

Sixth Form Life

The step up to Sixth Form requires significant adaptation to the way you are currently learning at school, especially the amount of independent effort that you put in.

The approach that you take directly corresponds with what you get out of your time at our Sixth Form, both academically and socially.

We pride ourselves on the integration of both upper and lower Sixth Form and have found that it strengthens and forms relationships in both year groups. This has proven to enhance students' experience of Sixth Form by increasing the level of fulfilment they feel at the academy, which is important through these two years of hard work and decision making.

We also hold events throughout the year to promote our integrated Sixth Form, for example the yearly Sixth Form Ball, annual visits to the seaside and our Year 12 team building and resilience day.

Students feel that the vast array of opportunities offered here at Guilsborough allow them to pursue their individual goals and interests. We have a variety of student-run committees that facilitate this, including Sport, Newspaper, Fundraising, Music, Debating and Environment.

“

We feel that the vast array of opportunities that we are given here at Guilsborough have allowed us to pursue important and personalised subjects and career paths.

”





The committees are just the beginning of what shapes our unique and well-rounded Sixth Form. Mentoring takes place in the Sixth Form in many ways including one-to-one pastoral mentoring to help younger students, a paired reading scheme to increase confidence, subject mentoring and in-lesson support opportunities. Students report these experiences to be extremely rewarding and successful. They are able to take what they have learnt and the skills developed to other aspects of lives, as well as enhancing their CVs.

There is never a 'boring' assembly in Guilsborough Sixth Form. We have a range of external speakers giving information and advice on a range of topics including post-18 pathways including university, apprenticeships, and gap years. The support is always there to broaden your outlook to Post-18 education, with trips to universities and fairs throughout the year.

Our students enjoy giving back to the wider community. They are role models both within and beyond the academy and embrace this element of sixth form life. Students might attend the local annual remembrance service, lead litter picks in Guilsborough village, or visit schools without sixth forms to share their experiences with younger students.

Enrichment

Regular opportunities:

- Committees and Clubs
- 'Arrows' aspirational society
- Medical Society
- Peer Mentoring
- Work Experience
- Volunteering
- Sports Teams
- Sixth Form Summer Ball
- Student Leadership Team
- Academy Performances
- Charity Events
- Trips

Additional qualifications:

- Extended Project Qualification
- Core Maths qualification
- Duke of Edinburgh's Award

Currently exploring:

- Sports Leader Award
- Young Enterprise
- World Challenge
- Journalism qualification
- Finance qualification

Lots of opportunities
for you to get involved!

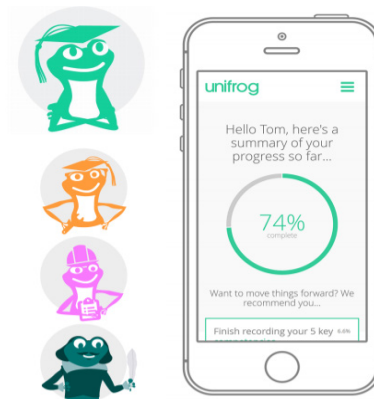


Post-18 Preparation

During your time with us, you will be making some big decisions about your future.

We include advice and support on all your post-18 options and how to prepare for them throughout your time in the sixth form.

We also use the Unifrog platform to help you explore pathways, track your achievements, and produce applications.



Explore different pathways.



unifrog

Support and Guidance:

- Specialist tutor team
- Access to independent careers adviser
- Unifrog used throughout your sixth form career
- Trips to university and apprenticeship fairs
- Assemblies and workshops from experts in a range of fields
- Online calendar of university open days, webinars, virtual work experience opportunities
- Post-18 applications guidance booklet
- 'Arrows' aspirational society

“Unifrog has helped me find out what I want to do for my future career, how I get to that, different courses that can help me get there.”

Where are they now?

Students from GASF go on to a wide range of Post-18 training and careers. Here are just a few of our alumni stories...

Cora Bancroft

Undergraduate Engineer at
The Dyson Institute of Engineering and
Technology



"I work three days a week as an engineer at Dyson whilst studying for my degree from The University of Warwick for the other two.

The first two years of the program were spent rotating through different engineering teams, experiencing everything from app development to structural analysis and early stage robotics. Now in my final year I've specialised into software and work in a cloud team delivering the out of box experience for our users; every single time someone opens the Dyson Link App they interact with code I've written which would have been unimaginable just a few years ago.

Compared to a normal university I've had the opportunity to develop so many skills that I wouldn't have been exposed to otherwise, all whilst getting to apply my degree to real world problems as I learn. Plus - no student debt!"

Hetta Johnson

Hetta was Head Girl in 2019. After taking a gap year, she successfully applied for a place to study English at University of Oxford



"One of the most notable aspects of being an English student at Oxford is the amount of reading there is to do. It sounds obvious but the lists can be extensive so balancing my time in order to complete everything was a valuable learning curve. It also helped me massively during term as it allowed me to keep up with classes and develop my own tastes, refining what I enjoyed studying.

As important as keeping on top of the work is, striking a good social balance is just as necessary, thankfully there will be ample opportunity to immerse yourself in university life.

While moving away from home can be daunting as well as exciting, it was a great choice for me. Everybody begins on the same page and there is a whole new and vast array of people from all walks of life to meet and befriend, made all the better by being in a new place. I look back on my memories of first year fondly (despite the strangeness caused by the pandemic!)."

Finlay Scull

Superyacht Cadetship,
Operational Yacht Science at
Plymouth University



"I am currently completing a Superyacht Cadetship with the UK Sailing Academy down in Cowes on the Isle of Wight alongside a degree in operational yacht science awarded by Plymouth University.

What I like most about my course is that it is very practical and hands-on; since joining the course a month ago I have spent 2 weeks at sea, 1 week of theory and 1 week of firefighting and first aid training which has been extremely tiring but very enjoyable and rewarding.

My first training phase ends in February and then I will go on to work on a superyacht in the Mediterranean/ Caribbean for roughly a year until my next short phase of training begins. During my course I am working towards my OOW 3000gt ticket which will enable me to be Chief Officer on superyachts and once I have gained this qualification I would like to go further and work towards my Masters 3000gt ticket which will enable me to become a captain on superyachts up to 3000gt."

How do I decide what subject to choose?

Our advice is to choose subjects that you are good at, you enjoy and will support your aspirations for the future. Talk to your teachers, the Sixth Form team, family and friends as well as doing plenty of research into each course; remember that it is you, however, that will be doing the course! If you have any questions about choosing the right subjects please come and talk with us.

What facilities are available for sixth formers at Guilsborough?

We pride ourselves on the range and quality of our facilities, particularly for our sixth formers. The Sixth Form is a designated area with bespoke teaching rooms including IT facilities, a media editing room and a designated study area. Our study rooms have undergone extensive renovation and it is an area that not only supports learning but one that our students enjoy being in during social times as well.

What extra activities are available?

We feel that it is important for you to excel academically but also develop a wider set of skills. To facilitate this, we offer a wide range of enrichment activities.

How much studying will I need to do?

Studying for a Post-16 course is demanding and requires you to take more responsibility for your own learning. Regular homework will be set by each of your teachers and, in addition, you should read around each subject every week. You should aim for a minimum of five extra hours (outside of lessons) per subject, per week.

What help do I get with applications for Post-18 pathways?

We provide students with all of the support that they need to make successful applications. Every student has a tutor who will support all applications to universities, apprenticeships and job placements. In addition, we lead a series of assemblies so that you have a clear understanding of the process including the important deadlines. There are also higher education events including the externally run UCAS/ Higher Education Fair as well as our own higher education day in the academy as well as extensive VLE guidance. We support students visiting university open days and will often run academy arranged trips if there is sufficient interest in a particular university.

What advice is available if I would like to apply for a competitive course (Oxford, Cambridge, medicine, dentistry etc.)?

We have an excellent track record of our students successfully moving onto these destinations and/ or courses post-18. Mr Ditchburn has considerable expertise in this area. Many students in Year 11 will already have attended university visits and the Arrows programme (for students who are aiming high) runs through Year 11 and Year 12 to support students applying for competitive courses at the best universities and apprenticeship providers. Students who have participated in Arrows have gone on to study Law, Engineering, Physics, Anthropology and Medicine with leading providers, including Oxford and Cambridge universities.

Is student voice valued in Guilsborough Sixth Form?

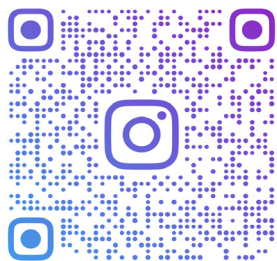
Like the rest of the academy, we place high value on the feedback from our students. Our Student Leadership Team meet with us regularly to discuss current issues as well as any queries or ideas that students may have. In addition, you will have the opportunity to be part of committees of your choice.

What is the dress code?

As part of being a role model for your younger peers, through high standards and high expectations, and in line with the whole academy change of uniform, we follow a smart dress code. Our student working party (2014-2015) along with our Sixth Form Team has written the policy. This followed visits to other sixth forms as well as listening carefully to a wide range of student voice. We want you to be proud of being part of our Sixth Form and this is the first stage of this. If you would like any further details about our dress code, please see the information leaflet on our website.

Is there any financial support for students in Guilsborough Sixth Form?

Similarly to other post-16 providers, we offer a bursary scheme. It is our intent to support all eligible students through a fair and considered process. We (like other sixth forms) ask students to apply for this and will then consider carefully any application made, involving our Sixth Form Governor. Equally, if a student does not qualify for the bursary, we will always consider the application for one off payments, where it is needed. For example: if applying to take drama and therefore the need for numerous auditions/ interviews, around the country. If you have any questions or queries, please do not hesitate to contact us.



GUILSBOROUGH6THFORM



Guilsborough Academy

Sixth Form

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