Welcome

Dear Student,

Welcome to the Washwood Heath Academy Post 16 prospectus. We are delighted you have decided to find out more about the exciting opportunities and new experiences we can offer. Our Post 16 provides a wide curriculum with a broad range of subject choices ranging from A-level to BTECs at both level 2 and 3. The Academy has an excellent record of academic success and boasts impressive facilities that will allow you to reach your full potential.

In addition to your main programme, you will take part in a range of recreational enrichment activities to help you on your journey to becoming well rounded, confident adults and to enrich and support you throughout your life and career. Activity choices range from the highly respected Duke of Edinburgh Award to the Envision Programme, as well as student mentoring schemes, charity events and many more leadership opportunities within the Academy.

We believe one of the most special features of our Post 16 is its feeling of community. This is a place where students and staff respect each other and where students can thrive in a safe and supportive environment. You will be closely supported by the Post 16 team who are there to help you along the way and guide you as you make those important decisions. We believe in working hard towards a common goal and that every individual should succeed in all aspects of Post 16 life.

Post 16 is unique. It forms a bridge between compulsory schooling and higher education or employment. You will be given greater freedom than in Years 7-11 but you must also accept greater responsibility. You will be expected to act as a role model for the younger students in the Academy and so expectations of attitude and conduct are very high.

This prospectus, and the built-in links to our website, will help you to find out more about Washwood Heath Academy Post 16 and the kinds of subjects and study programmes we can offer you. We hope it offers a flavour of the balance we aim to achieve between hard work, personal responsibility and enjoyment and demonstrates our commitment to helping you to reach your goals.

I sincerely hope that you will want to share in our success and become part of our thriving school community.

Bev Mabey
Trust Chief Executive Officer
“The guidance has been brilliant, I have been able to thoroughly explore all my options and my tutors have helped me plan clear, manageable steps towards my career goals”

Halima, year 13
Health and Social Care and Psychology
At Washwood Heath Academy Sixth Form, all of our students are treated as individuals. From your first day we will get to know you as a person – your strengths, your weaknesses and what your aspirations are for the future. Throughout your time in the Sixth Form you will be guided through everything from support with your studies to decisions about your next steps. You will receive one-to-one, tailored support whenever you need it. As a Sixth Form student, you will also have a dedicated form tutor who is there to guide you and assist you with any concerns or questions you might have.

As well as this, Sixth Form mentors are there to support you academically making sure that you reach your academic potential.

Alongside getting to know your teachers, you will also get to know your fellow students and have the opportunity to make lifelong friends. Our facilities include a comfortable learning pod where you can relax and socialise, as well as a calm and airy study centre for you to focus on your work, either alone or with your classmates.

“I feel like my tutors really know me. They spend a lot of time helping me and nothing ever seems too much trouble for them. The Sixth Form has a family atmosphere where I feel supported and confident that I can succeed”

Shahid, year 12
“This experience is something that you can’t get in the classroom, something that every young person should experience to develop intercultural understanding of other nations and their cultures and customs as well as the need for additional language skills”

Fauzan Sadiq

Erasmus Key Action 2 Strategic Partnership project, Knowing You, Knowing Me (KYKME) gave our young people the opportunity to participate in an overseas visit to Bacau, Romania. Students pursued stimulating learning activities. They gained valuable life-skills and international experience to help them develop personally, professionally and academically and to succeed in today’s world.
Enrichment

As well as achieving outstanding grades, young people must acquire a range of skills and experiences in order to succeed in later life. Here at WHA, you will be given opportunities to compliment your studies with a variety of exciting and rewarding projects.

You will be expected to take part in at least two activities during your time in the Sixth Form. Activities may include some of the following:

- The Duke of Edinburgh Award
- Coaching younger students
- Career Ready
- Press gang
- Supporting School evenings
- Peer mentoring
- Work with our MAT Primary schools
- Charity fund raising
- Supporting IRead
- Developing literacy / numeracy of younger students
- Hosting events for residents of our community
- Student Leadership
- Supporting the House system in Lower school
Work Experience

All students have the opportunity to participate in a two week block of work experience during their time in Year 12. Other students may wish to complete more days, especially those working within the healthcare sector. As part of their course requirements Health and Social Care students will be required to gain experience within different care settings.

Business and Community Partnership
Our strong links with a wider range of businesses in the local community and across the West Midlands helps us to offer students a unique learning experience.

Some of our business and community partners include:

- Mosaic
  The Power of Positive Thinking
- Prince’s Trust
- AkzoNobel
- Greater Birmingham Chambers of Commerce
- Asian Business Chamber Of Commerce
- Aston University
- Balfour Beatty
- The REP
- Saheli Hub
- Lloyds Banking Group
- Future First
- PLANT
Executive Head Boy and Girl

As a Sixth Form student, you will represent Washwood Heath Academy both on and off the premises. Therefore, you will be expected to demonstrate the attitude and behaviour that means you are positive role model to our younger students and to the local community.

We believe that students should have input into their education and we actively encourage student debate. All students are given the opportunity to develop their leadership and communication skills through active participation in the student council. As well as this an Executive Head Boy and Executive Head Girl represent our year 12 and year 13 students on many areas of Six Form life.
Independent Advice and Guidance

Choosing what you do once you leave the Sixth Form is a big decision, for which early consideration is essential. From when you join us in year 12, time will be allocated throughout the year for you to explore and discuss the options that are open to you.

We have strong links with a number of universities in the Midlands such as Birmingham City University, Aston University, Coventry University, Wolverhampton University, Numen University and the University of Central England. During your time with us you will have the opportunity to visit these establishments and to meet university representatives giving you the opportunity to gain valuable insight into university life. You will also be invited to attend next steps, careers and future days at the Academy to explore job opportunities, work based training and further study routes.

Whatever path you choose, your mentor will be on hand to support and guide you all the way through, helping with UCAS applications or CV and job application writing – and most importantly, helping you achieve your goals. Students may also want to go into an apprenticeship or onto employment. We will provide you with the correct advice and guidance, making you aware of the latest opportunities available, to secure that all important next step in your life journey.

Recent leavers have gone on to follow a huge range of pathways including, Dentistry, Law, Radio Presenting, Optometry, Business, Nursing, Film Studies, Accountancy, Music Production and Childcare.