



Handsworth Wood
Girls' Academy

SIXTH
FORM

ASPIRING FOR EXCELLENCE

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WELCOME

XTH FORM

Welcome to the Handsworth Wood Girls' Sixth Form

Welcome to the Sixth Form at Handsworth Wood Girls' Academy. We can offer you not only excellent teaching, but also the opportunity to become involved in a wide range of enrichment activities. We have high academic standards and expectations for our students which are reflected in our very good results at A Level. A comprehensive induction programme is provided so that all students quickly settle into the academy.

We regularly monitor academic progress and students, parents and teachers work closely together to ensure that all students achieve their full potential. Excellent attendance, hard work and determination are the key skills that we promote to allow our students to become independent and prosperous both in the Sixth Form and in their future career. We regard our Sixth Formers as role models for younger members of the academy and are keen for them to be involved in the wider aspects of academy life. Sixth Form students contribute significantly to many activities, including music, sport and drama. Our Sixth Form Ambassadors, led by our Head Girl, play a tremendous part in supporting students across the academy.

We provide a high level of guidance and support for students as they prepare for life after Handsworth Wood Girls' Academy, whether this is embarking on a career or going on to higher education. Each year an increasing number of our Year 13 students progress to the university of their choice.

Whatever course a student decides to follow in the Sixth Form, we stress strongly that it will be different from year 11. A greater responsibility will be placed on the student. We expect a mature and motivated response to work from our students. This will support them in negotiating successfully further in higher education and/or employment.

We are certain that Handsworth Wood Girls' Academy Sixth Form provides an exciting environment in which students can flourish. If you have any queries about Post 16 opportunities here, then please do not hesitate to contact us.

Mr L Billingham,
Assistant Headteacher (Director of Post 16 & IT)



We have high expectations for our students in all areas of their learning. Studying for A Levels and Level 3 BTEC courses requires 100% commitment to learning, where having a positive attitude to study is paramount. We expect all students to attend the academy every day and arrive on time, bringing with them the necessary equipment for a full day of learning.

Academic learning is hard work but extremely rewarding. Students are given opportunities in lessons to learn in a variety of ways such as discussing issues together, doing research and presenting their learning to other students. This must be backed up by a commitment to complete all homework on time and to act upon the advice of the teachers in order to make further progress. Students must also expect to spend 3 – 4 hours per night studying in order to pass their courses with the highest grades.

We place great emphasis on respect for each other and politeness. Being in the Sixth Form is a privilege and therefore we expect our students to behave like mature young women, providing positive role models for younger students in the academy as well as preparing themselves for a future career.

EXPECT

A woman wearing a black hijab is shown in profile, focused on typing on a laptop. The background is a blurred library with colorful book spines. The word 'INTEGRATIONS' is overlaid in large, bold, pink letters at the bottom of the image.

INTEGRATIONS

CURRICULUM

Students are able to benefit from a broad range of courses in the Sixth Form that facilitate progression to any university course.

Advanced Level courses are studied over two years with examinations at the end of Year 13. Our students' progress is carefully monitored over this period through teacher assessment and mock examination results to ensure expected progress is being made.

BTEC courses at Level 3 are available for students who prefer a more coursework based approach. Subsidiary Diplomas are equivalent to one A Level, Diplomas equivalent to two A Levels and Extended Diplomas are equivalent to three A Levels.

EPQ (Extended Project Qualification) is available for our students to study as part of their enrichment programme. This prestigious research based qualification attracts UCAS points and is highly valued by universities.

Level 2 courses for students who require an additional year of study before accessing Level 3 pathways are also available and all students have the opportunity to retake GCSE English or GCSE Mathematics if necessary.

A full list and complete details of courses currently available, including their entry requirements, may be found on the enclosed curriculum sheet and academy website.



STUDE

Handsworth Wood Girls' Academy aims to develop confident, mature, self-disciplined, reliable and considerate young women who are motivated to achieve their potential but who are altruistic and prepared to contribute to their community.

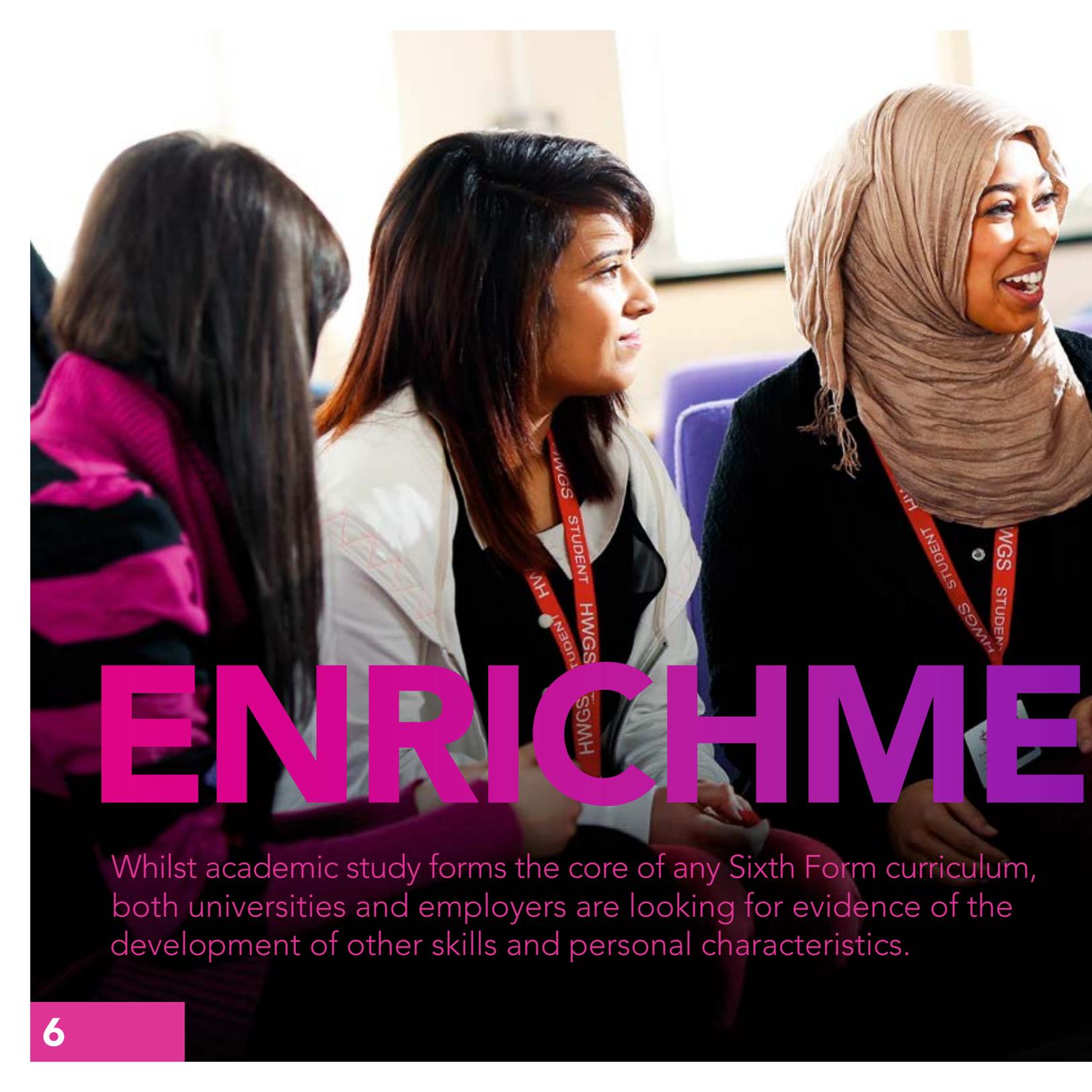


STUDENT SUPPORT

We also promote equality of opportunity whilst celebrating and valuing diversity and encouraging mutual respect. We place a strong emphasis on the importance of the role of pastoral care in achieving this aim.

All students are allocated to a tutor group led by a form tutor who will monitor and support their learning whilst addressing any issues or concerns that they may have. Students see their tutor twice daily for registration and tutorial activities, but they also have the opportunity to meet their form tutor individually to discuss progress through academic mentoring.

Dedicated subject staff work with students in small teaching groups to help them take responsibility for their own learning. This is achieved by enabling students to identify short, medium and long term goals, to develop the ability to self-evaluate and to focus on their achievements. By monitoring progress and providing constructive feedback, staff provide support and challenge to enable all students to achieve success.



ENRICHME

Whilst academic study forms the core of any Sixth Form curriculum, both universities and employers are looking for evidence of the development of other skills and personal characteristics.



NT

At Handsworth Wood Girls' Academy all students participate in a timetabled enrichment activity and there is the flexibility and opportunity to participate in much more. The compulsory enrichment options are very broad including Level 3 courses such as the Certificate in Financial Capability and EPQ (Extended Project Qualification), which both have UCAS points attached to them.

Many students choose to undertake work experience on a weekly basis to develop their employability skills whilst others follow a work placement as part of their Child Care or Health and Social Care course. We offer a wide range of options in our enrichment programme. We believe that all Sixth Form students should have the opportunity to develop their leadership and team working skills and there are many opportunities to do this.

Our wide and varied enrichment programme support career ambitions, supporting our students to "stand out from the crowd" and achieve their desired next steps destination. Examples of these are organising, supporting and attending schemes/clubs and activities, getting involved in academy productions, taking posts of responsibility throughout the academy and directly supporting the learning of younger students through mentoring.

UCAS & CAREERS



Preparation for Higher Education within our Sixth Form is considered an important journey for each and every one of our students.

Students are encouraged and inspired to further their career aspects and broaden their knowledge to prepare them for their chosen career pathways. During tutor time, students plan and prepare applications for their Post-18 options. Tutors and visiting experts offer support in preparing CVs and UCAS personal statements.

Students are encouraged to broaden their knowledge by attending master classes and subject conferences at local universities in areas of study that interest them. University Taster Days and Open Days also offer students the opportunity to find out more about further study and student life. In addition students have face-to-face access to bespoke information, advice and guidance on careers from our on-site careers advisor. Post 16 students also have access to the "Careers Planner" software, which provides tailored support for Sixth Form students.



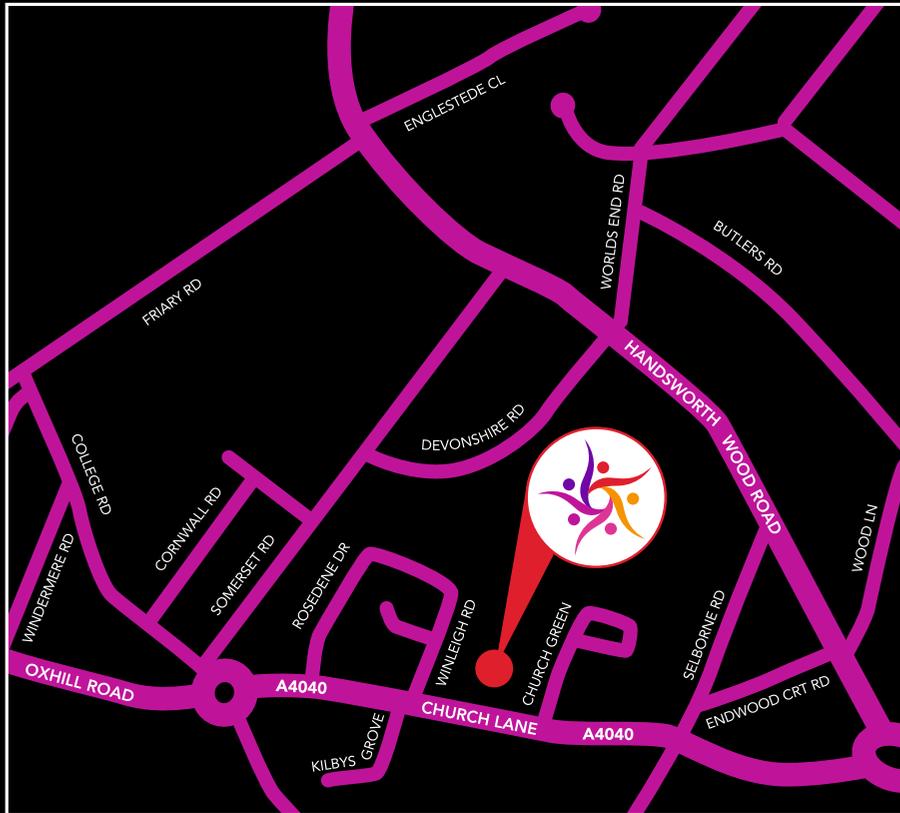
FACILITIES

Handsworth Wood Girls' Academy is set in a seven acre campus three miles from the city centre.

It is within easy reach of the trains from New Street Station and is easily accessible on the number 11 and 16 bus routes. Facilities include:

- A dedicated Sixth Form study area, which is ideal for studying and taking refreshment breaks.
- Work areas for independent learning.
- A laptop with wireless internet access to our Virtual Learning Environment for every Sixth Form student.
- Dedicated Science resources, with specialist laboratories on a dedicated floor for Physics, Chemistry and Biology.
- Several fully-equipped, high spec ICT suites with the latest hardware and software.
- Learning Resource Centre with a dedicated area for Sixth Form private study.





Handsworth Wood Girls' Academy

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