



Welcome to Greenshaw Sixth Form

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Summer 2023

Simply put, this summer results were outstanding. Over a third of ALL grades achieved were A*/A, and 90% were A*-C. We had no U grades and our overall grades far outperformed the national average..

We are so proud of all of them, from Ananya getting into Oxford, Zhill securing a degree apprenticeship as a Quantity Surveyor to the tens that got places at Russell group universities and the absolute vast majority that got their first choice university place - they did so well.

High expectations lead to high outcomes - we of course want to continue with that success and so we will be asking a lot of your children in terms of their work ethic inside and outside of school so please do all you can to support this



Head and Deputy Head Students

I'm delighted to report that we appointed Holly Moore and Omar Malik as our head students for 2023/2024 and Adara Arulmaran and Aburvan Palananthajumar. We are very excited about their appointment and know that they will serve the school well at the upcoming events and tasks set for them.



ASPIRE Curriculum

Ambitious

Socially Responsible

Persevering

Inclusive

Role Models

Engaged



Reality of A levels –reflections from last year

- Those that worked hard and worked smart did really well
- Some need to be better at just sitting and doing work; being independent
- Registration works as a way of maximising the day but some still need to be more productive in independent study sessions
- 2 year course is different – needs a different approach to AS – we need to treat this as a 2 year journey and not a ‘game of two halves’
- Excellent teachers, excellent sixth form team and we have great students – we should aspire for the very top





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Sixth Form Staff

- Miss Buchanan – Assistant head for KS5
- Miss Larkin – Head of Sixth form
- Ms Ayres – Deputy Head of Sixth Form
- Mrs Reid – Study skills manager
- Mr Jones – Lead Tutor
- Mrs Roberts– Attendance officer
- Mrs Lercher– Sixth form receptionist and administrator
- Mrs Sone – Careers advisor (whole school)
- Plus all of the year 13 tutors



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Tutor List

13BB - Mr Broniecki

13DWH - Mrs White

13JDO - Mr Dowie

13KH - Dr Hirst

13KDC - Miss Duce

13SWL - Mr Wallis

Tutor are your first point of contact (unless for absences). Email addresses are available on the school website.

The role of the tutor

- Registration Tues-Thurs mornings but not afternoon. There will be a programme to follow but this will be entirely suited to their needs at this stage of their academic careers
- Academic mentoring/tutorial sessions are held fortnightly with tutors for all students
- Assemblies will take place once a fortnight
- Tutors responsible for UCAS references
- Tutors will also deliver key information about UCAS, other applications and some personal/social/ well being material throughout the year with a focus on stress and mental health preparing them for university, apprenticeships, internships, employment



University - Key Messages



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- Students sometimes get overwhelmed by ranking. The best university for them is where they will be happy and productive.
- 30% of our students attend Russell Group universities. If your child is not in the top 30% in their classes here they should not expect to get an offer from this type of university
- Most students do not go to Russell groups but still get degrees and are successful in their fields.
- We will have already been aspirational in your child's UCAS predictions and so they should not apply to anywhere where they are not predicted the grades as this is a wasted choice for them in most cases.



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UCAS and predicted grades

- References have changed this year - it is important that students share any relevant skills or mitigating circumstances with tutors who will write their reference.
- Subject teachers are responsible for the subject part of the reference and the UCAS predicted grade
- Mocks- will form the basis of their UCAS grade.
- Mrs Ayres and Miss Larkin check the references and authorise applications to finally be sent to UCAS
- Personal statement Deadline – Thursday 9th November (straight after half term)
- Anyone who is applying for medicine/dentistry or Oxbridge will have extra support from Mrs Sone both at this stage and at the interview stage of the process.



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Summary checklist

Stage One – Research

Have you:

Looked at the information on the UCAS website?

Fully researched the courses you are interested in?

Fully researched the universities you are interested in?

Stage Two – Preparing to apply

Here you need to find out all the personal information that may involved parental input and you need to write your personal statement and have this checked

Stage Three – Applying – inputting the information online once you have registered and ensuring that your tutor writes your reference covering all the information you want covered and detailing what we do as a school to predict grades accurately.

Stage Four – Progressing your application – school sending the application of and you then wait to hear/are able to track your application

Choices



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- You can select a maximum of **5 choices** of courses
- The best advice is to have 2 that are for realistic but high aims, 1 or 2 for realistic aims with a touch more pessimism and 1 that could happen if things go wrong in the final exams
- The reality of this means that if you were predicted BBB you would go for one or two courses that were BBB, one or two that were BBC and one that is BCC or even CCC (or the equivalent tariff scores)



A level Grade Tariff points

A* 56

A 48

B 40

C 32

D 24

E 16

Some universities make offers based on grades, some on tariff scores



Some initial thoughts...

- All decisions have risk
- A university degree is not (and never has been) a guarantee of employment – though the trends and rules have changed significantly in recent times
- There is a ranking of degrees by employers and some universities/ courses are more favoured
- That said many jobs will simply state graduates only (where before they would have accepted below this qualification) meaning that without a degree you are not eligible to apply for a large number of jobs in today's competitive job market



Loans - a little more detail



You'll only start making repayments if your income is over the repayment threshold, which is currently £25,000 a year, £2,083 a month or £480 a week in the UK. If your income falls below the repayment threshold, your repayments will stop and only restart when your income is over the threshold again.

You can also make additional voluntary repayments to SLC at any time.

You'll repay 9% of your income over the repayment threshold, which is currently £25,000 a year, £2,083 a month or £480 a week in the UK. If your income changes, either rising or falling, your repayment amounts will automatically change to reflect this.

Annual salary	Plan 5 monthly repayments (6th April 2026 – 5th April 2027)
£25,000	£0
£30,000	£38
£35,000	£75
£40,000	£113
£45,000	£150
£50,000	£188

As Plan 5 Student Loans are being introduced in August 2023, the first repayment will be no earlier than the 2026/27 tax year.

To summarise

1. There will be debt, but...
2. The loan is only paid back when you earn enough
If you do not pay it off over 30 years then it is written off
3. The repayments are not crippling – based on wages not what you owe and stop at any time that wages stop e.g. maternity leave
4. There are still some grants and bursaries available for some
5. But it is a lot of money so you do need to make sure you are doing the right degree for you



UCAS - Making your Application



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Every applicant has seven sections to complete:

- Personal details
- Additional information / Student Finance
- **Choices** – you can select 5 COURSES
- Education – this includes your GCSEs as well as your predicted A level grades which your tutor will fill in
- Employment
- **Personal statement** – this needs to be planned, thorough, academic and wholly applied to your suitability for the course that you have applied for
- Reference - completed by your tutor

The Personal Statement



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- The only personalised section
- Support from Year 13 Tutors but this has to come from students - it's personal!
- This needs to be an **academic piece of writing** (approx 6-700 words). 80% needs to be focussed on the degree of choice including super curricular information, explaining why the A level subjects and any outside interests/extra reading etc. supports this choice of degree
- Personal/ Extra curricular information is useful but be selective!

University or not?



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Apprenticeships



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Students who are not going to university need to be even more prepared than those going to university

The job market is competitive (PWC gave 6% of their applicants an apprenticeship last year) and students need to work hard to demonstrate the soft skills needed to perform in an interview.

Most 18 year olds do not walk straight into apprenticeships.

Recruitment Day - gave students some experience of the processes involved.

Degree Apprenticeships offer OJT alongside studying for a degree generally paid for by the organisation therefore these are highly competitive and often more so than securing university places!

Workplace Skills



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Employability Skills Curriculum

How to improve your
employability



PWC Employability Skills Curriculum will be delivered through mentoring and Y13 registration throughout this year



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How to improve your employability...

1

Coach and
develop yourself
and others

2

Communicate
with impact and
empathy

3

Be curious:
Learn, share and
innovate

4

Lead and
contribute to team
success

5

Build and sustain
relationships

6

Show you have
courage and
integrity

7

Manage projects
and budgets

8

Be open minded,
practical and
quick to adapt

9

Build knowledge
of the world of
work

10

Be passionate
about making a
difference

Employability Portfolio



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- 1) CV
- 2) Competency based soft skills questionnaire (i.e. matching hobbies and interest to employability skills)
- 3) Covering letter
- 4) Social media profile I.e. LinkedIn
- 5) Group presentation
- 6) Assessment centre tasks
- 7) Assessment centre tests (i.e verbal/numerical reasoning)
- 7) Presentation
- 8) Solo interview
- 10) Post June 2023 plan I.e. internships / first jobs



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Support for your children

- Tutor is the first point of contact for academic and pastoral concerns
- Mrs Reid: Study Skills Manager
- Y13 students linked to each tutor group for peer support
- Head students and sixth form reps can be used to raise any student concerns
- Subject reps for every subject to answer any questions
- Well being support (tutors and Junction drop in every Thursday P6)



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Study Skills

The majority of students will this year look at study skills individually or in small groups with Mrs Reid.

If you child is feeling down or unsure about their revision or they are not very organised then please encourage them to be pro-active and to speak to Mrs Reid or you can email her directly at treid@greenshaw.co.uk

The sooner they can do this the more successful they will feel and will become.

Daily routine



- Students need to be here by 8.20am every Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday and they need to be in registration by 8.25am. They should not be late and need to set the example on these days.
- They can leave after their last lesson but they need to consider where they are best off being for studying independently - it is not an opportunity to simply go home and put feet up – they will fail if they take this route
- They may leave site at lunch and break but need to be back in time for their lessons



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Attendance Policy

- Aiming for 96%+ for all students.
- Attendance and punctuality must be submitted on all reference request forms.
- Students with attendance under 90% must submit medical evidence
- No holiday can be approved during term time
- Attendance action plans will be enforced for any student with attendance concerns
- Where a request need to be made for a planned absence students need to complete this on Frog. You will also need to approve their request before we consider it.
- All appointments should be booked outside of school hours wherever possible.

Absence Request Form



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This form is now available on FROG for all students, so if they need to request to have a day off they will need to fill this in and it will then be approved (or not) by Ms Larkin, Mrs Ayres or Miss Buchanan

The screenshot shows a web form titled "Request Time off School" for Greenshaw Sixth Form. The form is set against a light blue background with the school's logo at the top. The form fields are as follows:

- Student name:** Two text input fields for "First Name" and "Last Name".
- Tutor group:** A dropdown menu with "Please Select" as the current selection.
- Your attendance percentage:** A text input field with a note: "Your attendance percentage - check with your tutor/Sixth Form team:".
- Date of absence:** A date picker field showing "DD-MM-YYYY".
- Time from:** Two dropdown menus for "HH" and "MM", and a radio button for "AM".
- Time to:** Two dropdown menus for "HH" and "MM", and a radio button for "AM".

Below each time field is a small label "Hour Minutes".

Sixth Form Dress Code



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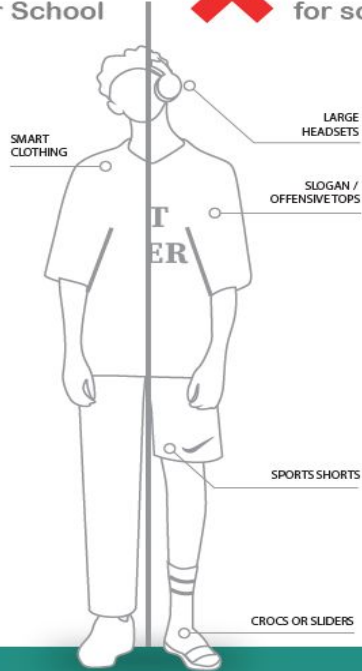
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Ok
for School



Not
for school



GREENSHAW
SIXTH FORM

Dress Code

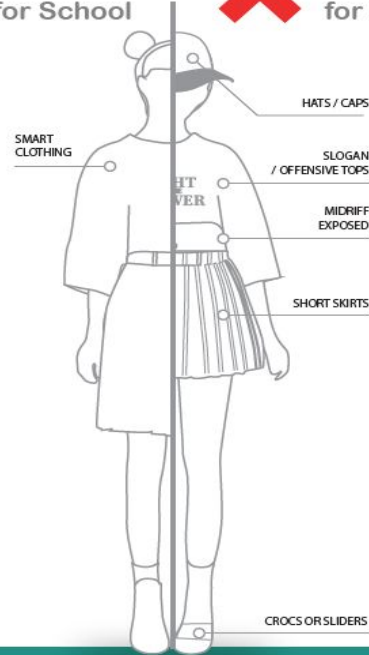
As role models and leaders of the school, the 6th Form dress code is designed to promote a smart look inside and outside of Greenshaw and contribute to the productive learning environment.



Ok
for School



Not
for school



You will be
sent home for:

- RIPPED / DISTRESSED JEANS
- LEGGINGS / LYCRA SHORTS
- HOODIES

- CROCS OR SLIDERS
- SHORT SKIRTS & DRESSES
- CROP TOPS / SPAGHETTI STRAPS
- JOGGING BOTTOMS



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Absolute expectations

Students have been warned that these three items are absolutely necessary and they must adhere to these three rules.

- ID – must be worn AT ALL TIMES
- Letting people onto site is NEVER permitted and will end in your exclusion from school (most likely permanent)
- Showing respect for each other, staff and your school



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Y13 Timeline



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- W.c. 18th - 22nd September - Autumn Mock Series
- 13th October - First data collection with final UCAS predicted grades. To ensure parity and fairness predictions will not change after this date.
- 15th October - UCAS deadline (Oxbridge / Medicine, Dentistry, Veterinary Science)
- 19th October - Parents Evening
- 9th November - School UCAS deadline (UCAS applications in to tutors)
- w.c 19th February - 1st March - Y13 mocks (2 hour papers)

Assessment hour



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- This will continue to run as last year, one assessment per subject every 4 weeks. Teachers will use this to monitor progress throughout the year.
- Opportunity for learning. This is not to catch students out or use it for grade predictions.
- After mocks, the first assessment hour is w.c. 6th November



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Autumn Mock Series

- Will mirror the real exam to give students further exam practice
- These will be approx 2 hour papers for each written subject, sat in the exam hall
- Results will support UCAS predicted grades - but these will not be lower than students received in the summer and will include a professional judgement supported by how students performed.
- Important that students are working hard towards these during and outside lessons

Bursary information



The Bursary Fund is designed to help support those young people who face the greatest barriers to continuing in education or training post 16.

Types of bursary:

- guaranteed bursary (if you are in care or a care leaver, or if student is in receipt of universal credit or disability allowance)
- discretionary bursary (if they have ever been or are currently on FSMs or if parents are in receipt of benefits)
- one off bursary – additional help for change of circumstances e.g. sudden loss of employment of one parent

Application forms are available on FROG – if you need support then please do fill out this form and include any relevant evidence that is required. The applications are checked daily. If you have had this support previously you do not need to fill in a new form.

Resilience - things for parents to look out for/support us in



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Mental health wins

- Consistent daily independent work
- Happiness/enjoyment of subject
- Asking for help in subjects when they don't understand something
- Excellent attendance and punctuality (96%)
- Doing extra work on the things they find most difficult - avoidance is a terrible strategy; facing challenge head-on is a necessary attribute for success at this level
- Healthy habits; food, sleep, exercise, balance
- Connecting to the school and local community in non-academic ways i.e. through sport, enrichment, charity and other hobbies

Please also support us by reading communications, looking out for the newsletters, and updating us promptly if contact details change