

Get your future off to a flying start at
WORKINGTON ACADEMY SIXTH FORM



**WORKINGTON
ACADEMY**
Sixth Form

A dynamic and empowering education for all

WELCOME TO OUR SIXTH FORM PROSPECTUS

Can I first of all thank you for taking the time to read this prospectus. We hope our prospectus will give you a clearer idea of what life is like in the sixth form and in particular, help you to gain a positive impression of what Workington Academy can offer you.

Sixth form is the time when you make your final preparations for adult life. By the time you leave us, you will have already made great progress to develop the many academic and vocational qualities needed for your future.

At Workington Academy you will get many opportunities to stretch your wings by engaging with businesses and the community, as well as acting as mentors for some of our younger students.

Throughout the academy, our mantra is 'be the best you can be' and it is no truer than at sixth form. Respect, Responsibility and Resilience are our three core values and lie at the heart of learning, which at sixth form can be demanding and require a lot of resilience and determination to succeed.

As you may know our new building is well under way, which promises to make the 2016-17 academic year a hugely exciting year for us. The £16m state-of-the-art academy building will be Workington's first new school for decades. Not only will it allow us to provide some of the best educational, science, technology and arts facilities in Cumbria, it will also ensure that you have the most aspirational learning environment possible.

Thank you for your interest in Workington Academy Sixth Form. Our prospectus provides you with some of the reasons why students leave us as well-rounded individuals, capable of taking their place in society. By enrolling, you will be able to see at first hand why it is the ideal place to launch the next exciting phase of your life.

I hope you will join us for the journey!

Jonathan Logan, Headteacher
Workington Academy



WORKINGTON ACADEMY SIXTH FORM

A launch pad for your future

Artists impression of the new Workington Academy



If you are looking at your sixth form options, as director of learning at Workington Academy Sixth Form, I can assure you that you will be joining us at an exciting time.

First and foremost, the completion of our new building in January 2017 marks the start of a transformational phase in the life of Workington Academy students – throughout the school – not just at sixth form level.

In our new building, sixth form students will be integral to the school with their own learning facilities, common room, cafeteria and break out areas. These new facilities will provide the ideal environment for your learning and personal development.

Secondly, our curriculum is broad and balanced, featuring a wide range of subjects, such as: English, maths, law, psychology, physics, languages, business studies and religious studies to name but a few. This broad range of subjects allows us to support you to follow your chosen career option.

If vocational subjects are chosen, placements are used to introduce students to working life. Other students may sample their 'dream placement' so they can find out what it would be like to work in their dream job - a great way to develop links for future employment!

We are achieving some marvellous results too. Just last year for example, 94% of our students were accepted on university courses or went on to further education, higher apprenticeships or employment.

There was also a 51% pass rate of A* - B on A-level courses and 99.5% achieved a pass rate of A-E with a 100% pass rate on all diploma courses.

SIXTH FORM: WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE?

Such success demands high expectations – you of us and we of you! In sixth form you will find school life a little different to what has gone before. This is because you are embarking on a phase in your life where a great deal of application and determination to succeed will be necessary, whilst at the same time, you will be expected to be a role model for some of the younger students in the school – so your appearance, attitude and behaviour must be of the highest standards at all times.

In many cases you will work in smaller groups, which means you will get to know your teachers well and you will be treated more like adults than pupils. This carries with it a responsibility for more independent learning on your part.

You will be pleased to know however, that it is not all about teaching and examinations. We want to develop the potential of every single student – not just their academic potential - but their ability to succeed in the world as individuals. As part of this, we provide a great deal of pastoral support together with a team of learning supervisors who can mentor students and act as a sounding board to ensure you get the right advice at the time you need it.

WE GO THE EXTRA MILE FOR YOU

In fact, we really go above and beyond just preparing students for exams at Workington Academy Sixth Form. We also get some great feedback from students and parents about their experience of studying at sixth form level – parents particularly feel we keep them well informed about their child's progress and that we are approachable and accessible.

We want all our students to enjoy their time here and achieve their potential - being 'the best you can be' often requires some extra encouragement and help along the way.

Stephen Hunter-Brown, Assistant Headteacher
Director of Learning Sixth Form



THE CHANCE TO EXPERIENCE LIFE BEYOND THE SCHOOL GATES

Because of the higher expectations placed on you in sixth form, students have access to staff at all times and the chance to participate in numerous enrichment activities to provide a wider perspective of life.

In the last year, this has included a number of field trips, a Maths Challenge, trips to galleries and the theatre, creative and media filming opportunities, a visit to the Magistrates Court, a Physics trip to CERN in Switzerland and a trip to an ICT/Business Conference in Paris.

Additionally, there is a wide range of leadership opportunities which encourage students to develop their confidence and social skills. We encourage participation in our Student Council; Young Enterprise activities to encourage entrepreneurship; Duke of Edinburgh awards; university taster days; sporting, music and business activities as well as working with charities. We also provide a UCAS/Personal Statement workshop, which has proved very popular with former students.



YOUR TIMETABLE

When you enter Year 12 in 6th form, you will find that the school day is broken down into four main areas:

- Academic subjects
- Tutorial/Personal Development
- Enrichment Activities (Sport/Arts)
- Private Study/Further Enrichment

There are two types of enrichment activities: those which support your A-Level courses and more general activities which will broaden your horizons, tap into non-academic subject areas and help you become an active member of society.

A list of typical enrichment activities and leadership opportunities can be found in the back pocket of this prospectus.

OUR COURSES

We offer a range of A-Level, OCR/BTec Certificates and Diplomas as well as a Level 2 Diploma

Further information about OCR/BTec Certificates and Diplomas can be found in the back pocket. The range of A-Level subjects include:

- | | | |
|-------------|-----------------------|---------------------|
| • Art | • English Language | • Geography |
| • Biology | • English Literature | • Law |
| • Chemistry | • Mathematics | • French |
| • Physics | • Further Mathematics | • Psychology |
| • Drama | • History | • Religious Studies |

WHAT OUR FORMER STUDENTS SAY

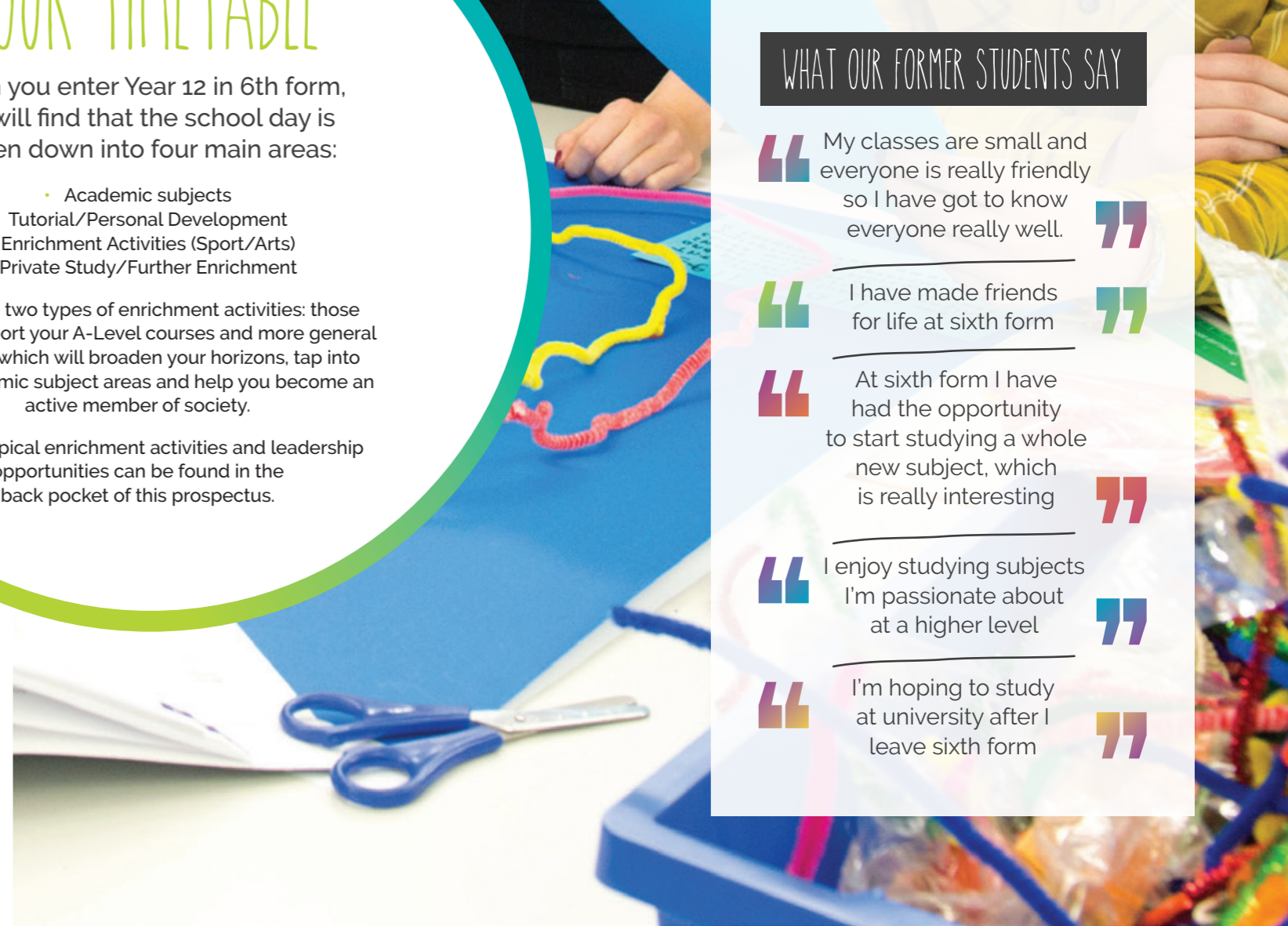
“ My classes are small and everyone is really friendly so I have got to know everyone really well. ”

“ I have made friends for life at sixth form ”

“ At sixth form I have had the opportunity to start studying a whole new subject, which is really interesting ”

“ I enjoy studying subjects I'm passionate about at a higher level ”

“ I'm hoping to study at university after I leave sixth form ”





WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BE AN ACADEMY?

Workington Academy Sixth Form is now part of three academies in Cumbria sponsored by the William Howard Trust. But what does this mean for you?

The William Howard Trust is a not-for-profit charitable organisation which was formed in September 2014 and is managed by a highly experienced group of education professionals and business people on its board of trustees.

Its purpose is to deliver outstanding educational provision and ensure all learners receive high quality teaching and learning opportunities.

The Trust's aim is for each of its academies to demonstrate consistent year-on-year improvement and in this way, enable every young person to reach their potential.

The Trust is committed to supporting all learners, staff and its sponsored academies to 'be the best they can be'.

When a school signs up to become part of the William Howard Trust, it signs up to share the Trust's vision and values.

The William Howard Trust is fully committed to meeting the emotional, cultural and academic needs of all the young people who attend its academies, supporting them to flourish and grow, with a relentless focus on academic outcomes.

Its trustees also understand the importance of the development of wider skills to allow students to grow into fully rounded individuals. A rich and varied range of extra-curricular activities including the arts and sport is therefore provided.

Our Vision

To enable every young person to reach their potential and achieve the success they deserve by providing an innovative and inspiring learning experience

Our Values

- Respect, Responsibility and Resilience are the three values at the heart of our ethos
 - We offer a dynamic and empowering education for all
 - We operate a student-centred approach which values relationships and respect for others
 - We aim to ensure that every student's potential is fully explored

MAKING THE RIGHT CHOICE FOR YOU

Along with students who are able to progress naturally through their existing school to sixth form, an increasing number of students decide to change schools after they have taken their GCSEs.

For many, the move into the sixth form signifies a major life changing event, opening the door to adulthood. Until recently it was optional, but now it is compulsory to remain in full-time education or training until the age of 18, so you need to make the right choice and that means doing your research.

Talk to your current teachers. Look at the list of subjects available to make an informed choice. Remember that ALevel courses are different to GCSE courses, in their content. Do you have specific career plans? Do you wish to study a more vocational subject? Do you know what universities want? Sometimes you may discover that you do not need to study a particular subject at A-Level to be able to do it at degree level.

There will be many more questions to ask, but here are a few reasons why you should choose to study at Workington Academy Sixth Form:

- We offer a wide range of courses
- We have subject specialist staff
- We are striving to continually improve
- Our results are very good – last year the top A grade was achieved by 46% of our students
- 76% of students who held offers for Russell Group universities achieved the required grades
- We offer exceptional pastoral care
- We will have the most advanced 11-18 educational facilities available in Cumbria from January 2017
- We have the backing of a progressive and dynamic board of trustees who are totally dedicated to helping YOU succeed

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

Sometimes if the family budget is stretched, we can offer financial assistance via a student bursary.

This is dependent on household income and/or personal circumstances and can be applied for through the sixth form when you join us. It will be paid into your bank account each term.



WHAT NEXT?

If you require more information, please contact Stephen Hunter-Brown, Assistant Headteacher and Director of Learning Sixth Form or Andrea McAllister, Assistant Director of Learning Sixth Form on **01900 873926 Ext 253**.

Alternatively email shunterbrown@workingtonacademy.org or amcallister@workingtonacademy.org



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