

Rated **Outstanding** by OFSTED
July 2023



Wath
Academy
Sixth Form

Golf Scholarship

Specialise in golf alongside
A Level/vocational study

IN ASSOCIATION WITH:





Wath Academy Golf: Our Vision

The Wath Academy Sixth Form Golf Scholarship aims to deliver exceptional golfing experiences that enable all scholars to thrive in a competitive sport and lead successful and fulfilling lives.



“An outstanding golf experience, offering a unique opportunity for highly talented 16–18 year old golfers to further develop their golf education in addition to their academic studies.”

The Programme

Wath Academy Sixth Form and Waterfront Golf are working in collaboration to offer students the opportunity to enrol on a golf scholarship programme.

Scholars study Level 3 qualifications (A Level and/or vocational courses) alongside golf training, giving students the opportunity to experience a range of progression routes into a variety of careers in golf.

The programme is proving to be an outstanding golf experience, offering a unique opportunity for highly talented 16–18 year old golfers to further develop their golf education in addition to their academic studies.

The scholarship provides access to elite-level practice facilities via Waterfront Golf and lessons from qualified PGA coaches.

“Waterfront has state-of-the-art technology and excellent facilities including an indoor putting studio and simulator, which is beneficial during the winter where we can work on all parts of our game. At Waterfront, we have numerous coaches who are all very knowledgeable and approachable. Due to this, my game and knowledge has improved immensely over the period of time I have been on the scholarship. When I first started on the scholarship, my handicap was five and I now play off one. We have full access to the golf course which is in great condition all year round and this helps greatly with our playing ability.”

Max Whitaker (+1 handicap)



“The programme will be a beacon of golfing excellence working as a hub for the best golfers in the region.”

Our Intent

- All golf scholars develop an inner belief and ambition to fulfil their dreams
- All golf scholars develop a passion for life-long learning and game development
- All golf scholars make first rate progress and develop their golfing ability
- All golf scholars develop exceptional character that exemplifies a phenomenal work ethic, confidence and high levels of grit, resilience and determination
- All golf scholars gain an array of positive golf memories which last a lifetime
- The programme will be a beacon of golfing excellence working as a hub for the best golfers in the region

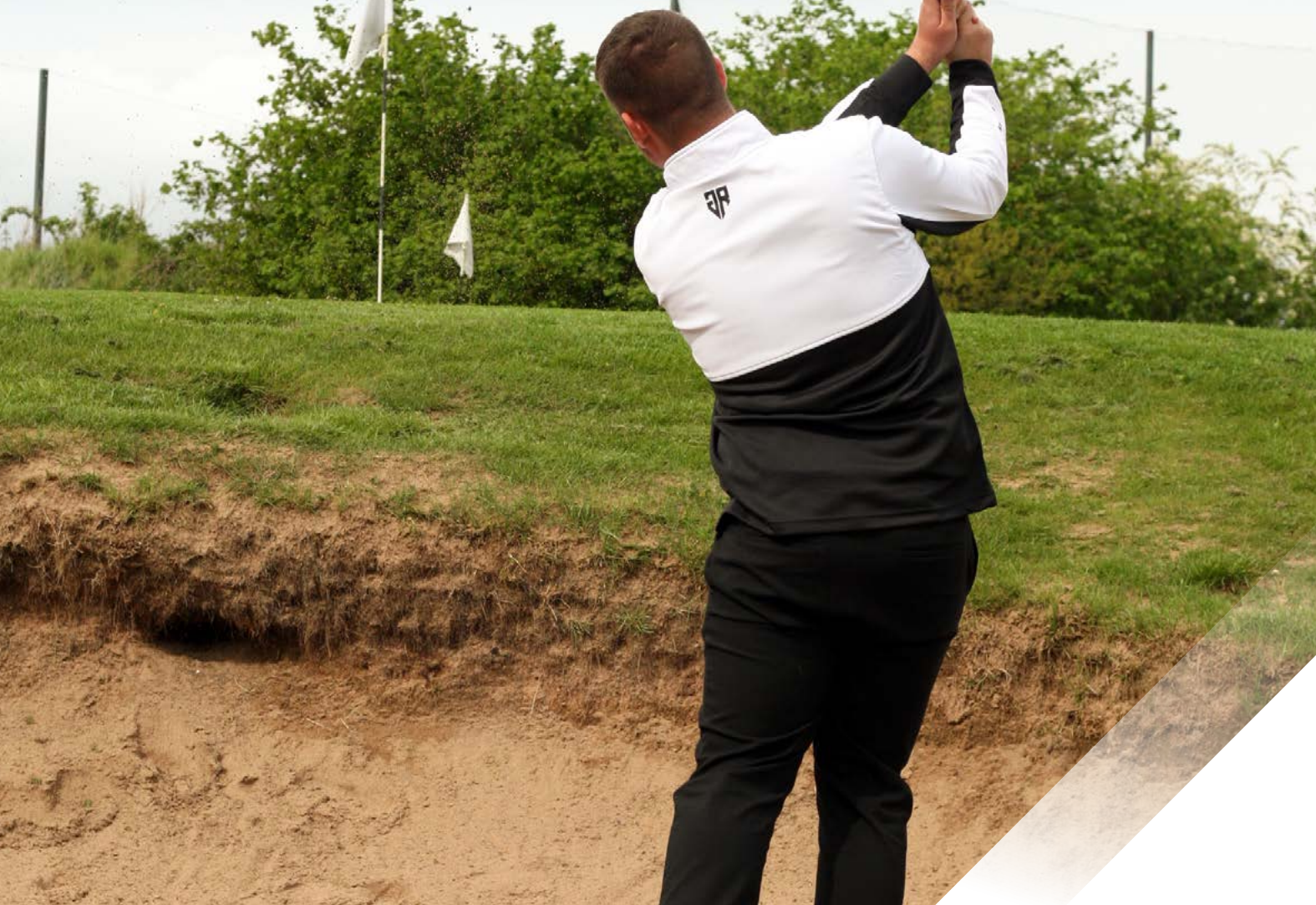
Competitions

Scholars compete in the British College League, Yorkshire Schools Golf and events from the International Schools Golf Association. This includes excellent winter competition that helps to keep them focused and making progress throughout the year.

“In the last year my handicap has come down from 3 to +2. A lot of this was due to having access to the practice facilities at Waterfront!”

Mia Eales-Smith (+2 handicap)





The Offer

All those enrolled onto the scholarship programme undertake A Levels or applied qualifications alongside their golf programme.

The scholarship provides students with the following:

- A personalised golf coaching programme (eight hours per week), individually or in small groups, developed and delivered by PGA-qualified coaches
- Access to state of the art practice facilities, including floodlight driving range and short game area
- The use of TrackMan technology
- Access to club competitions and college matches within the British Schools and Colleges League
- Golf membership provided, meaning full use of the course all year round
- Work experience opportunities

“Set in 170 acres of beautiful parkland, the Waterfront Golf course takes in breathtaking views.”



Facilities

The Golf Course

Waterfront Golf course is located in the heart of South Yorkshire. Set in 170 acres of beautiful established parkland, the course takes in breathtaking views of the surrounding Old Moor Nature Reserve and Manvers Lake.

The stunning nine-hole golf course, designed by international course architect Simon Gidman EIGCA, incorporates 18 different tees, measures over 6,500 yards and is one of the longest of its kind in the UK. With USGA-specification greens, strategically placed bunkers and tight fairways, it is a true test of golf.

The course is renowned for being in excellent condition over the winter months, which makes it the perfect elite level training facility for our talented golf scholars.

Trackman and Trackman Range

Golf practice and player development are going through a period of tremendous change and technology is a central component in that transformation. The mapping of swing DNA is now possible, as is the quantification and comparison of swing feel vs. real.

Technology also empowers us to monitor granular swing changes over time. These are just a few, examples of how to unleash talent more effectively.

With TrackMan 4, golfers have all the tools to jump ahead, from ground-breaking club and ball tracking golf radar systems to the best performance enhancing software available in the industry today.

Short Game Area

The short game area provides a place to practice the game unlike anywhere else in the surrounding area. This includes a sizeable putting green, bunker practice area and chipping and pitching greens.

The chipping areas allow scholars to play from real grass so that preparation is akin to playing out on the course.

The Range

The state of the art driving range boasts 32 bays (including three cutting-edge teaching and fitting studios and brand new custom putting studio incorporating a Capto putting lab and blast motion), each housing the latest air compressed mats and easy-access ball trays.

Our range balls are a yellow, two-piece, 100% compression Srixon balls. The outfield is also fully equipped with chipping nets, flags, greens with exact yardages given in each bay for every target.

Trackman Range means we know have Trackman technology in every bay so practice after your lessons will have the same amazing tech that all your lessons have. Thirty-inch touch screens which allow practice games and full golf courses from around the world, mean that whatever the weather nothing will halt scholars' progress.

“The course is renowned for being in excellent condition over the winter months, which makes it the perfect elite level training facility for our talented golf scholars.”



Coaches

Frank Houlgate

Head PGA Professional

Frank has over 26 years of teaching experience and has worked with all levels of golfers from the elite to the rank beginner. Frank is passionate about making golf easier for all his pupils and believes strongly in teaching neutral golf so no fancy gimmicks or methods – just what works! Frank uses TrackMan 4 and video technology in his lessons.

Frank is delighted to say that: "Our team of elite golf scholars are making great progress and continue to learn from our great team of coaches on all aspects of the game."

Danny Walsh

PGA Teaching Professional

Qualifying as a Class A PGA professional in 2007, Danny has since built up a strong reputation coaching players of all abilities. Junior coaching and encouraging participation in golf are key interests of his. Danny uses a holistic approach to enhance existing skills and improve the players knowledge of their own game. He aims to help players feel relaxed and able to ask questions, an open dialogue is key to his coaching success.

Danny helps players to progress all aspects of their game and uses video analysis and Trackman technology in his lessons.

Chris Dennis

PGA Teaching Professional and European Tour Coach

Chris, who qualified in 2015, has since spent his time becoming a specialist putting coach. Chris has worked overseas for the last five years and spent the last 18 months travelling on both the men's and womens European Tours. Chris thrives on the challenge that most golfers could save a lot more shots on the green.

Chris breaks down putting into aim, read and speed and during sessions he will work to improve the main aspect that is holding golfers back on the course. Chris utilises our custom putting studio, which incorporates a Capto putting lab and blast motion amongst many other training aids.

James Millington

PGA Teaching Professional

After a successful career in amateur golf, James is now helping golfers build a golf game they can be proud of. Having worked with some of the most experienced and highly regarded coaches in England, James is aware of how the best coaches work and is keen to implement this into his own coaching strategies.

Having completed the scholarship himself in 2020, James knows how important the programme is to improving overall golf performance and developing a well-structured practice schedule. James believes the coaching he received on the scholarship programme from Frank and Danny were vital in his successful amateur career.

James has a great understanding of the game and a wealth of experience having played a lot of golf with some of the best players to come out of Sheffield who have gone on to play for their country, compete on the DP World Tour and in major championships. As well as giving detailed and informative feedback to his players, James also adds a fun and enjoyable element to his coaching which he believes is key for improvement and will enable players to achieve their goals.

James now wants to pass on his knowledge he gained playing elite amateur golf onto the next generation of golfers from South Yorkshire. James has also shown there is more than one pathway for a career in golf and making it on tour is not the only option for a successful career in the golf industry.

"Our team of elite golf scholars are making great progress and continue to learn from our great team of coaches on all aspects of the game."

Pick-up locations



Rotherham Route

- Ravenfield
- Maltby
- Wickersley
- Whiston
- Bawtry Road
- Greasbrough
- Hooton Roberts
- Thrybergh
- Swinton Train Station

Doncaster Route

- Doncaster
- Sprotbrough
- Edlington
- Conisbrough
- Hooton Roberts
- Thrybergh

Sheffield Route

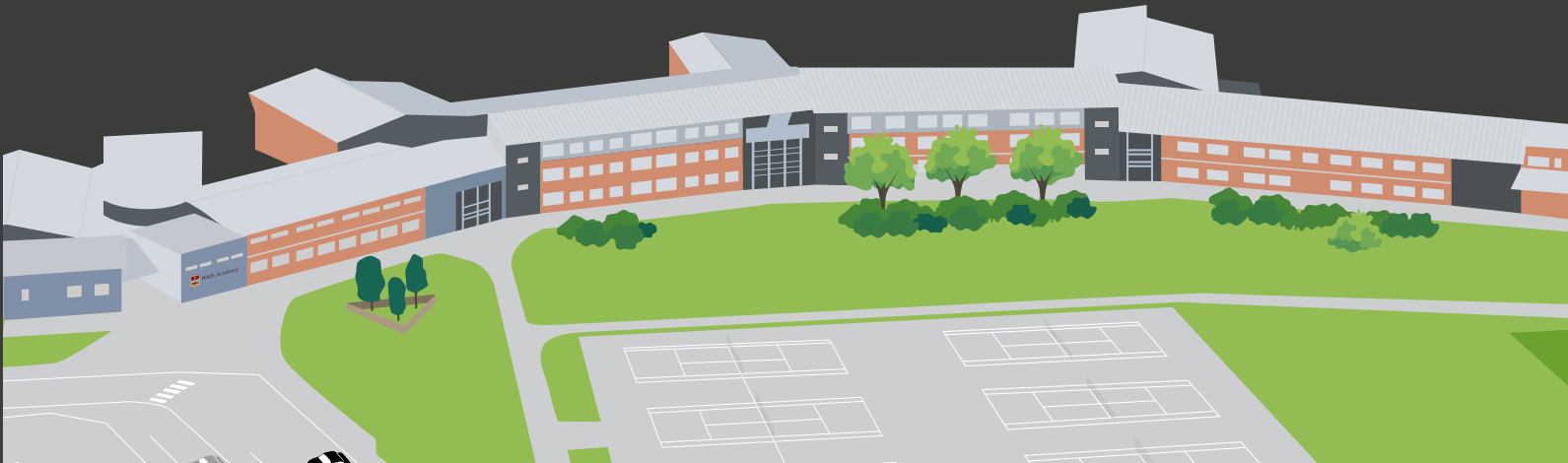
- Meadowhall Interchange
- Asda Chaucer
- Chapelton
- Thorpe Hesley
- Greasbrough Coop

Barnsley Route

- Hoyland
- Birdwell
- Ardsley
- Darfield
- Great Houghton
- Goldthorpe
- Thurnscoe
- Bolton Upon Dearne



*Pick up locations are subject to student demand



Success Stories

Ben Schmidt

- Winner of the Brabazon Trophy
- Winner of the Carris Trophy
- Winner of the Henry Cooper Masters
- Winner of the New South Wales Open (Australia)
- Winner of the Alwoodley Open Qualifying event
- World ranking high of number six
- Plans to turn professional in the near future
- Played in the Walker Cup, representing GB & Ireland against the USA, in a match played in Florida.
- Currently professional playing on 3 tours including the DP World tour.

Charlie Daughtrey

- Winner of the South Yorkshire Schools Championship
- Winner of the North of England Qualifier for the Brabazon at Lindrick
- Yorkshire Amateur Champion 2020
- Now playing amateur golf at elite level whilst working at Waterfront Golf as a green keeper.

Jack Whaley

- Jack started his American Golf career at Dalton University before transferring to Florida State.
- He was the top-ranked player in NAIA winning five tournaments and never finishing outside of the top 10 all season.
- In 2025, Jack was named NAIA Men's Golf Champion after shooting 8-under following a record-setting round of 61.
- Jack has finished every tournament ranked in the top 15, and as a result was named the Phil Mickelson Award winner.

Luca Houlgate

- Winner of the Sheffield Junior Stroke-Play Championship
- Course record of 66 for Waterfront Golf
- SUGC Junior Captain 2021
- Alongside developing his own golfing ability, Luca is showing exceptional levels of leadership and coaching whilst teaching young children as part of the junior coaching programme at Waterfront Golf.

Frankie Houlgate

- A former scholar now caddying full time for Ben Schmidt.

Mia Eales-Smith

- Represented England against Spain
- Selected for the Yorkshire Ladies' team for the last four years
- Reached top 10 English girls this year.

Max Reynolds

- One of our former scholars is enjoying his second year at golf college out in the states, Max had a win in his first season and shot a course record in his first event.



Careers & Future Opportunities

As part of the scholarship programme, students will open the door to many different career pathways, including:

- Professional golf
- Caddy in the professional game
- PGA club professional
- Teaching
- US scholarships
- Green keeping
- Business/sport management
- Higher education and university

"The two years that I had on the scholarship programme were the most beneficial two years I could have had for golf. The balance between completing my work in school and being able to practice worked perfectly. The facilities that are on offer are the best: use of the golf course (which is always great condition), the driving range, chipping/pitching area and putting green – and not to forget the offering of great coaches that are awesome and always supportive in what you do. There isn't anything else on offer as good at this. Great opportunity, great two years!"

Ben Schmidt (+5 handicap)

Find Out More

Contact Wath Academy Sixth Form for further information about this exciting scholarship programme. You can also visit the Waterfront Golf website at waterfrontgolf.co.uk





Interested in our scholarship programme?
Scan the QR code to find out more



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