

Rated **Outstanding** by OFSTED
July 2023



Wath
Academy
Sixth Form

Enrichment

at Wath Academy
Sixth Form

There's more to Sixth Form
than just lessons



Wath
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Sixth Form

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Message from the Head of Sixth Form

At Wath Academy Sixth Form, our aim is to produce well-balanced and responsible young adults, fully prepared to take their places in higher education and the professions.

We have a proud history and proven track record of developing well-rounded students who have the qualifications, skills and character to go on and lead happy, successful lives. While subject choices are crucial for future successes, they will only ever help with obtaining an interview – securing the job depends upon character.

The involvement students have in activities outside of the classroom will significantly contribute to their overall development. I am sure that you will be as impressed as I am at the amount of enrichment activities that our students are involved in.

Mr Barlow
Head of Sixth Form

I am proud to share that on our most recent OFSTED visit in 2023, inspectors commended our “extensive range of experiences available, including a medics club, sporting activities, scholarship programmes, visiting speakers, work experience and additional study programmes”. They were also complimentary of the leadership opportunities we give to students including acting as coaches and mentors.





Core Maths

The Core Maths qualification is designed to challenge students with meaningful mathematical problems that increase their confidence and competency when using maths.

Students on this course will most certainly be better equipped for the mathematical demands of other courses, higher education, employment and life.

This course is ideal for students wishing to carry on studying Maths, but not the A Level. It is suitable for students who are studying Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Psychology, Economics and Business.

It is a linear qualification that is completed in May/June of Year 13 and has the same UCAS points as an AS qualification.

Students require a Grade 5 or above in GCSE Mathematics.

Further Maths

Sixth formers at Wath have the option to complete an AS Further Mathematics qualification as an enrichment option. This qualification builds on topics from A Level Maths and decision maths, a relatively new branch of mathematics but one that has far-reaching uses in today's world.

The breadth of study in the course allows students to learn further algebraic techniques, proof, complex number, matrices and vectors in 3D.

Additionally, we look at game theory and a variety of algorithms to model everyday situations.

Students who study Further Maths will be ideally positioned to go on and study mathematics at university, but the course would equally suit those who have a strong interest in studying maths for the beauty of it.

Extra Qualifications

Extended Project Qualification

Our students can opt to study for the Extended Project Qualification alongside their other A Level or BTEC choices. The course is designed to prepare students for academic life at university, with a big emphasis on independent learning.

Students design their own research project, shaped from their personal interests and they then organise their time to research, plan, write, present and evaluate their final project. The outcome can be a research paper, a scientific report or even something artistic.

Students come to the Extended Project with all areas of expertise and past projects have varied from K-pop, the Ottoman Empire and building a computer from scratch. The course lasts for a year and is the equivalent of half an A Level. Unlike many one-year courses, an A* is also available to students, which means highly successful projects can gain a few extra UCAS points!

Universities also love students who study an Extended Project, which means they often lower their entry requirements for successful completion of the course.





Skills for the Future

Life Skills

As part of our Life Skills programme, students develop their knowledge of the three core themes recommended by the PSHE Association, at a level appropriate to their age.

Core Theme 1: Health and wellbeing

Students develop a knowledge of importance topics to keep them physically and psychologically well. This includes sessions around self esteem and cosmetic procedures, identifying and managing mental health problems, drug and alcohol awareness and the impact on road safety, sexual health and how to identify and self examine for a range of cancers.

Core theme 2: Relationships

Within these sessions student explore issues around consent and sexual misconduct, forming, maintaining and ending mature relationships as well as identifying and challenging bullying, prejudice and discrimination.

Core theme 3: Living in the wider world

We put great emphasis on developing our students to be responsible citizens. In order to achieve this students will cover content such as social media and building a professional online profile, financial literacy including tax, debt and budgeting as well as their rights and responsibilities as an employee



Public Speaking

As part of our tutor programme, students work to develop their public speaking skills. Public speaking is the skill of delivering speeches or presentations to a live audience. This extremely beneficial skill can give students the edge during the application process for both university and the workplace. Not only this but it gives students greater confidence in their ability to communicate in large groups which will help develop their social skills.

Our modular approach to public speaking means students will learn the basics of the skill focusing on elements such as eye contact and body language as well as more nuanced components such as the use of pauses. In Y12, this will culminate with students delivering a speech on a topic that they feel passionately about. In Y13, we focus on the use of public speaking in the interview process.



Directed Independent Learning and UpLearn

Students at Wath Academy Sixth Form benefit from a dedicated Sixth Form Study Area to use during study periods as well as before and after school.

It is equipped with a bank of laptops, refreshment facilities and a host of educational materials. The KS5 Resource Base that is located within the Study Area allows students to access textbooks, past papers, revision cards and stationary that have been recommended by subject teachers and the Sixth Form Team.

Students are required to select three of their non-contact periods to dedicate to Directed Independent Learning. It is expected that students sign in with the KS5 Study Co-Ordinator and complete revision and other consolidation activities using the resources provided. Students have access to the online platform UpLearn for Maths, Physics, Chemistry, Biology, Economics and Psychology and students are expected to spend two hours per week per subject completing assignments on this platform.

“Before Up Learn I was studying just by flashcards. Flashcards worked for me at GCSEs but because at A Level the subjects are more heavily content based, they don’t work because they take a lot of time to make and I don’t have any time to revise them. Whereas Up Learn helps me learn the definitions in under half an hour for each topic.”

Reading Mentor

All Y12 students have the opportunity to become a Y7 reading mentor. All mentors receive training in phonics and reading strategies to allow them to support younger students. The mentor sessions generally involve, listening to students read, helping them break down tricky words applying their knowledge of phonics and discussing key ideas within the text. In order to facilitate purposeful relationships, we ‘match’ all mentors and Y7 students based on their likes and interests.

Work Experience

All students in Y12 complete a two week self-arranged work experience placement. Work experience is incredibly valuable as it bridges the gap between classroom learning and the real world. It allows students to apply theoretical knowledge in practical settings, helping them understand how their studies relate to actual careers. Through work experience, students gain essential skills such as time management, communication, and teamwork, which are highly sought after by employers. It also boosts confidence and independence, as students learn to navigate professional environments and take on responsibilities. Importantly, it can help clarify career interests, giving students a clearer sense of direction for their future education and job choices.

A number of students have secured employment and degree apprenticeship offers through a successful work experience placement.



VESPA

VESPA is part of the tutor programme at Wath Academy Sixth Form. The aim of VESPA is to assist students in the challenging transition from GCSE to A Level study, where there is an increased need for a proactive, resilient and independent approach to study.

Each letter of the acronym represents an area that students will develop during their time in the Sixth Form at Wath Academy:

Vision is about having a clear goal.

A wealth of research highlights that both long-term and short-term goal setting enhances achievement. In simple terms, it is about learners knowing the outcomes they wish to achieve.

Effort (sometimes called academic perseverance) refers to how much hard work a student does; performance on most tasks depends on effort that is proactive and independent.

Systems is about two things:

1. a system to organise learning so students can make sense of it all.
2. a system to organise their time so students can complete key tasks to meet deadlines.

Ppractice should be considered as distinct from effort – it refers to what learners do with the time they put into their studies. Practice is not the “how much?” but rather the “how?”.

Attitude has four elements:

1. Confidence (in particular, confidence in abilities).
2. Emotional control.
3. Academic buoyancy.
4. Growth mindset.

Research suggests that all students need an element of these five aspects in order to achieve their full potential, meaning they are crucial for success.

Through tutor support, assemblies and coaching, we provide students with activities, tools and guidance to support their journey through VESPA.



House System

Wath Academy is proud of its house system, which dates back to the school's foundation in 1923.

All students are placed into a tutor group and represent one of the six houses, which are named after the ancient cities of Athens, Carthage, Rome, Sparta, Thebes and Troy.

Many house activities and competitions take place each week of the academic year.

Sixth form students play an important role in the whole school house system: Year 12 students can apply for the position of House Captain and be responsible for the organisation of house activities across the school.



In-Class Support

Sixth form students can opt into in-class support, an enrichment opportunity that gives them the opportunity to work alongside teachers for one or two lessons per week to provide support for students in younger years in the subject of their choice.

This is particularly useful for those wishing to pursue a career in teaching or wishing to work with children or young people.

"I personally want to go into a health-based career, so in-class support is helpful as it allows me to work with children and young people," Wath Academy former student, Laura Rodgers comments. "It is really beneficial for both you and the younger students, which makes it a wonderful experience."

"You can also tailor the classes you support to the field you would like to go into, which makes it all the more meaningful."

Charity and Community

Through extra-curricular involvement, students develop exceptional character and rich life experiences so that they thrive and excel in life.

The Sixth Form Experience Passport advocates exposure to a wide range of age appropriate, life-enriching experiences. Trips will be organised by the academy to help you complete the activities in the passport and you can include out of school experiences. The passport ensures that you have experiences outside the 'everyday norm' that will give you the confidence to make brave choices beyond your time at Wath Academy.

The activities are grouped together into the following categories:

Religion and Culture

Visits to religious landmarks, participation in an unfamiliar religious festival and cultural visits to an opera.

Sport and Outdoor

Physical challenges, outdoor pursuits, climbing a mountain and attending an international sports fixture.

Heritage

Visits to the Houses of Parliament, museums and English Heritage/National Trust sites.

Careers and Enterprise

Creating a company and raising a profit, exploring Post-18 choices and increasing employability skills.

World and Travel

Visiting a European capital city, learning about other cultures and exploring new foods and literature.

Community

Charity events, clean-up projects, local projects and Race for Life.





Christmas Hampers

Every year at Christmas time, tutor groups across the school get together to design and make a hamper to be donated to members of our local community. This is a house competition and the staff and students work really hard to design creative and thoughtful hampers.

Our sixth form students have a very important role in this event, as not only do they also provide a hamper from their tutor groups, but they also assist by working with younger students in other tutor groups in the designing of the hampers. At the end of the competition, they help to deliver the hampers. Last year, they delivered over 80 hampers, which were gratefully received by vulnerable members of the community.

Revision Mentors

Many of our Sixth Form students take the opportunity to act as a mentor for younger students, for example, as a an attendance or reading mentor.

Some Sixth Form students also complete training with With Me In Mind to help support younger students who are experiencing difficulties with their mental health including low mood and anxiety.

These mentorships provide a great opportunity for students to develop their communication and interpersonal skills. It can also be exceptionally fulfilling to share your own personal experiences to help others and to act as a role model for younger students.

Senior Students & Student Voice

Student voice is a key driving force behind school-wide strategic decisions, actively working to raise standards across the whole school and ensure an outstanding school experience for all students.

All Sixth Form students are given the opportunity to take on leadership roles within the school council or act as student ambassadors. This involves taking key leadership roles across a range of action groups, guiding younger pupils in the discussion, planning and implementation of new initiatives that will benefit the whole school. Students will be able to apply for the role of Senior Student in January of Year 12 with an additional opportunity to apply for the role of Head Student, Deputy Head Student and Assistant Head Student at the end of Year 12.



“Every year at Christmas time, tutor groups across the school get together to design and make a hamper to be donated to members of our local community.”

Performing Arts

Drama & Theatre

There is a great range of extracurricular activities available at Wath in drama.

A highlight of every year is the whole school production at Christmas, which combines acting, singing and dancing along with a whole raft of backstage and set design opportunities and, while the Christmas production is open to all students, we often find that our sixth form performers make great role models for younger students. Previous productions have included pantomimes, such as Cinderella, and adaptations of classics, like Charles Dickens' A Christmas Carol.

Students have the opportunity to attend a number of theatres productions. Over the last few years students have visited local theatres such as Sheffield Lyceum to view productions such as One Man, Two Guvnors, starring James Corden.

We also had a "frightfully" entertaining evening at Sheffield Lyceum when we saw a production of The Woman in Black.

Further to this, we support the Sheffield theatres scheme "Ignite", which is available for all of our Drama students and allows them to one free ticket, and a second at £5, for any Sheffield Theatres productions in the Crucible Theatre. These evenings are open to an audience consisting of staff, parents and older students and prove, yearly, to be a fantastic success.

There are also a number of opportunities on offer to see live theatre. We have a subscription to the National Theatre Collection which gives us access to National Theatre productions, such as Frankenstein starring Benedict Cumberbatch.

Murder Mystery Evening

Every year, the Year 13 Drama group works alongside Drama staff to write, produce and perform a fantastic evening's entertainment in the shape of a murder mystery. Last year's production was titled "Perish and Prejudice" which documented the tragic tale of infidelity and greed leading to a gruesome end at the annual church fayre. Featuring food, drinks and twists and turns aplenty, this evening is always a great way to celebrate the end of the first half term.





Academy Awards

Each year we hold our Academy Awards ceremony at Sheffield City Hall. Performers from Y7-Y13 collaborate to put together breathtaking performance for audiences of over 2000 guests. We also use this as an opportunity to reward students for their attendance, attainment and progress in all subjects, with celebrity guests handing out over 400 awards.



Dance Enrichment

Dance enrichment is an opportunity for any students to perform, keep fit and make new friends within the sixth form. It is perfect for those who love to dance and would like to be involved in different performances and opportunities throughout the year. Free from the stress of performing to gain a qualification, we look at broadening students' knowledge and experiences, which can be used later on UCAS applications and in interviews. There are weekly technique classes and also different fitness classes such as clubbercise, zumba and yoga.

Students are involved in creating performance pieces, in particular for our annual dance performance: Movement Evening. There is also the opportunity to get involved with competition pieces for regional competitions such as Crossing Borders and Fresh.

In addition, there is the chance to attend workshops in aerial arts and dance conventions, such as the national convention Move It! and events at higher education institutions like the University of Central Lancashire.

Work experience can also be gained through dance enrichment, such as through shadowing teachers and planning lessons. Students could lead or be involved in running KS3 for part of the year, developing teaching skills. There is also the opportunity to work with our primary schools, teaching KS2 children performance pieces for our annual dance show.

Everyone is welcome to dance enrichment, regardless of previous experience. Students can have fun, try new things and learn new skills.

"Everyone is welcome to dance enrichment, regardless of previous experience."



Music Activities

The Department of Music welcomes anyone who wants to take part, regardless of ability, in the diverse range of activities we have on offer. There are weekly peripatetic music lessons for a range of instruments provided by Rotherham Music Service and private tutors (woodwind, brass, percussion, piano, guitar, singing, strings) and, through these, engagement in the Rotherham Music Service Hub activities are encouraged. These lessons can contribute towards UCAS points, so it is a good opportunity for students to enhance their portfolios.

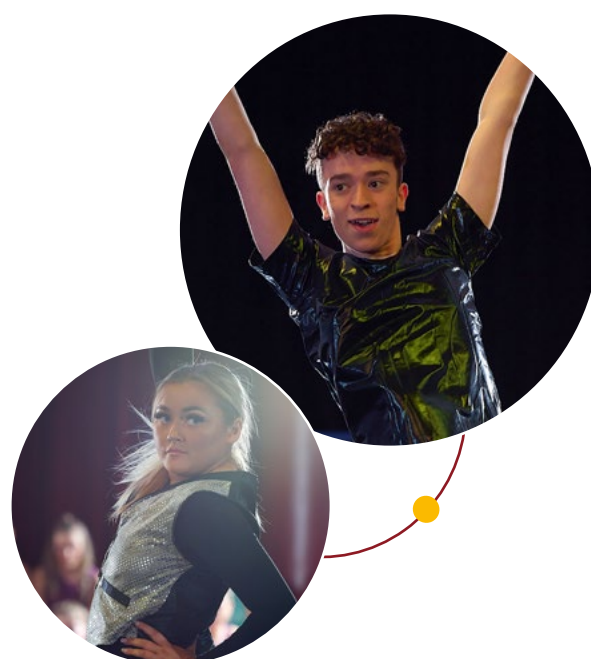
We also run a variety of ensembles on a weekly basis to encourage group music making, and we strive for sixth formers to take a leadership role to act as mentors for younger students. These include the school band, string ensembles, woodwind ensembles, vocal groups, ukulele group, advanced vocalists, and, where possible, we encourage students to create their own ensembles such as rock bands and pop groups. These activities are showcased in our termly events which include Vocal Evening, the Christmas concert, Piano Recital Evening and summer productions. These events provide opportunities for students interested in events management, stage production, lighting or sound to gain valuable experience.



Movement Evening

Movement Evening is our annual dance show, which takes place in February. It is definitely one of the highlights of our school calendar. This is a chance for all students to showcase their talents and be involved in dance performances (whether they study dance or not).

We have acts from all different genres and styles including kamikaze, street, break, contemporary and musical theatre, meaning there really is something for everyone. There are three sell-out shows, which means students perform to an audience of over 900 people across the three nights. Everyone is welcome to get involved in Movement Evening; our sixth form enrichment dance is always a highlight.





Annual Productions

Wath Academy puts on annual performances throughout the year that is open for participation from all year groups. Examples of this include performances of *Oliver!* and *We Will Rock You*. Students work hard each year to prepare for these showcases with rehearsals running during enrichment time as well as afterschool.

Behind the scenes, student participation is just as important: other students use the opportunity to take on advertising and backstage supporting roles.



Beyond the Classroom

Rugby Tour to Porto

Wath Academy's Rugby Union scholars had the exciting opportunity to compete in the prestigious Portugal Rugby Youth Festival, one of Europe's premier youth rugby tournaments. As part of the ACE Rugby programme, this international experience allowed students to test their skills against top teams from around the world, while gaining invaluable exposure to high-level competition. The tour not only supported their athletic development but also provided cultural enrichment and team bonding, making it a memorable highlight of their rugby journey at Wath Academy...



Maths Inspiration Show

Year 12 students attended the exciting Maths Inspiration Show in Leeds.

Maths Inspiration is a national programme of interactive maths shows for KS5 students. It gives Year 12 students a chance to experience the UK's most inspiring maths speakers live in theatres, presenting mathematics in the context of exciting real-world applications.

Students participated in three interactive talks and a lively Q&A session at the end. The show connected our students to inspirational mathematicians, engineers and statisticians to open their eyes to the great opportunities in STEM and mathematical careers.

The show included:

- Statistics - How maths supported the data collection in pandemic and helped with Covid-19 vaccine.
- Puzzling Maths - How to use maths to solve some trickiest problem!
- The Shape of Escape - How maths helps stadiums designers, music concerts organisers to design safe fire exit plans.
- Patterns, Predictions & Juggling - How can we spot patterns and predict the future!

Barcelona Visit

Y12 Maths students spent four nights exploring the city of Barcelona. This visit helped students to understand the application of Maths to the real world. Students explored the magnificent CosmoCaixa Science Museum, one of the largest within the world, and also applied their knowledge of Mathematics to the architecture seen in the Gothic Quarter. It wouldn't be a trip to Barcelona without a trip to Nou Camp and Las Ramblas! Students enjoyed exploring all areas of the famous football stadium and enjoyed taking in the cultural delights and traditional cuisine on one of Europe's most famous shopping areas.

Naples Visit

Geography students enjoyed taking their knowledge of Geography out of the classroom to explore the historical sites of Naples. Students enjoyed sunny day trips to Sorrento and Capri, including a boat tour to assess the coastal landforms and how they may differ to those in the UK. A crater walk around Mount Vesuvius was one of the many highlights of the trip where students enjoyed applying their knowledge to assess the structure and features of this famous volcano, including following the trail of lava from its last eruption.



Tutor2U Workshop

Year 13 students studying Psychology, Sociology, Economics and Business attended this revision workshop held at The Vue cinema, in the White Rose Shopping Centre. Each subject attended sessions in a different screen and experienced lecture and seminar based sessions to prepare them for their final examinations. Students engaged in quizzes and competitions and each brought home a Tutor2u revision workbook.

This session really helped to support the students in the lead up to their final exams and was commended by staff and students alike.

Ski Trip

Each year, students in Year 12 have the opportunity to attend the school's annual ski visit to the Alps. The school has a long tradition – over 40 years – in running a ski visit and it continues to be immensely popular with students.

The visit provides the once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for students to learn to ski and experience skiing within a mountain range with the spray of freshly fallen snow.

The excursion consists of six days skiing led by qualified instructors and evening activities led by the school staff, who have many years of experience.

Hepworth Gallery Visit

Year 12 Product Design students take an annual trip to the Hepworth Gallery as part of their A Level course, enabling them to cover Assessment Objective 1 of the specification: first-hand observations. As students are working on the concept of curvy linear as a starting point for their own designs, the Hepworth is a perfect place to visit since Barbara Hepworth's work reflects this.

Students are required to take photographs of the Hepworth sculptures, make drawings and research the concepts and inspiration behind her work. They must then record this, in their own way, to form part of their personal study. This primary research is then used to inspire students with their own design work and development to a final manufactured product.

Royal Society of Chemistry Christmas Lecture

Year 12 chemists took part in a trip to the University of Sheffield for an interesting lecture by Dr Tim Craggs about how light can be used to measure tiny objects.

The main focus of the lecture was to explain how cells replicate without causing damage to the body, but it had wider links to the three main branches of science: diffraction and the way light works (Physics); how the proteins have dyes attached to them and the measuring of the fluorescence of the dyes over time (Chemistry); and the replication and checking of the DNA in the cells by proteins (Biology).

Overall, it was a very interesting and accessible lecture for all students.

"The visit provides the once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for students to learn to ski and experience skiing within a mountain range with the spray of freshly fallen snow."



The Diamond Visit

The Diamond in Sheffield is a STEM (Science Technology Engineering and Maths) higher education centre at the University of Sheffield.

Year 12 Physicists attended a specific taster day on aerospace engineering. The day involved studying a jet engine, engineering model planes and very advanced flight simulator systems – students were allowed to have a go on the latter, which was of particular interest to previous student Jai Barber, a budding pilot.

The day concluded with a STEM careers talk, enabling students to better understand better the breadth of future options in engineering and physics.

"It was a really great day," said one Year 13 student. "The most interesting part was learning how a jet engine works. It was fascinating to see how they manage to compress 1,200 kilograms of air per second to create enough thrust to propel a one-tonne aircraft up to speeds of over 550 miles per hour, at an altitude of 12,000 metres. That high, it's minus 50 degrees Celsius!"

A Level Science Live

Many prestigious scientists gave lectures to Year 12 and Year 13 chemists at A Level Chemistry Science Live. These talks explored how these scientists have used chemistry to excel in pioneering projects. Professor Andrea Sella, Dr Philip Ball, Dr Suze Kundu, Professor Lucy Carpenter and Professor Peter Atkins all attended the event, alongside Michelle Oldfield, who gave useful exam tips about reaching Grade A*.

The A Level Biology Science Live lectures allowed Biology students to listen to cutting edge research, including "Human Progress", "Is Man Just Another Mammal?", "A Life in Science", "Revenge of the Microbes" and "The Staggering Diversity of Planet Earth". Students were particularly inspired by Professor Robert Winston.

Attending A Level Physics Science Live, our A Level Physics students were enthralled by lectures on Quantum Physics, Nuclear Physics, Gravity and Plastic Electronics.

Each event was jam-packed with real insights into what our young scientists are capable of doing with their futures.

Football Tour to Salou

Our football and rugby scholars had the opportunity to travel to Salou to play international football. As well as daily training sessions at the world class Mediterranean Sports Village, they also played competitive fixtures against a range of high level international teams. As part of the trip, students also explored the city of Barcelona to soak up the atmosphere of the Las Ramblas boulevard, visited the Nou Camp stadium and spent recreational time with their team mates playing beach volleyball and crazy golf.

"As part of the trip, students also explored the city of Barcelona to soak up the atmosphere of the Las Ramblas boulevard."



Performing Arts New York Visit

Year 12 and 13 Performing Arts students visited New York City for 5 days to give them first-hand experience of visiting and seeing what Broadway has to offer.

Whilst staying on the Broadway doorstep in the famous Time Square, the students had the opportunity to watch two popular Broadway shows including Chicago and Moulin Rouge and took part in two intensive tailored dance workshops relating to both shows. They had the amazing experience of having a tour around Radio City, famously housing the Rockettes and even got to meet and interview a current Rockette about the role of a dancer.

In addition to this students really experienced the life of what it is to live in New visiting landmarks such as the Statue of Liberty, Empire State and Grand Central Station as well as Ellens Star Dust Diner.

"It was a trip of a life time and gave me opportunities that I probably would never had have the chance to do if the trip wasn't available to us" Sophie Kay Y12.

Iceland

Sixth form students will also have the opportunity to attend a visit to Iceland to study the physical Geography of the tectonic landscape. Whilst there, students will explore Icelandic landmarks such as visiting the Blue Lagoon, climbing waterfalls and visiting the Eyjafjallajökull volcano to complete a case study on the 2010 eruption and it's social, economic and environmental impacts.





Higher Education

Each year students visit a number of different universities to develop an understanding of university life. Last year, Year 12 students visited Magdalen College in Oxford and experienced academic sessions as well as campus tours.

All students were given advice on the application process and how to strengthen their applications to highly selective universities.

Every year, all Year 12 students are given the opportunity to visit a university of their choice. Universities visited in previous years include: the University of Leeds, Manchester Metropolitan, Durham University, Loughborough University, the University of Lincoln and De Montfort University. Student ambassadors toured students around the campus and the accommodation on offer and shared useful insight into life as a student as well as student finance.

University Support

At Wath Academy Sixth Form, we encourage all students to be aspirational in their university choices and future career goals. To help students achieve this, we provide additional support for those students wishing to apply for Oxbridge or Russell Group universities as well as those applying for the most competitive courses including Medicine, Dentistry and Veterinary Medicine. This cohort of students will receive bespoke careers advice including additional one-to-one sessions, a specific early entry tutor programme and wider support with admissions testing, interview coaching and super curricular activities.

Russell Group Pathway

Our Russell Group Pathway enrichment option allows students to develop skills such as leadership and public speaking that will give them the edge against other candidates at university interviews.

Careers Education

Throughout their two years at sixth form, students will experience a comprehensive careers programme.

Careers education is delivered throughout the academic year via our tutor programme. Students will explore the range of opportunities available to them using the Unifrog platform. This platform uses information around students' personalities and interests to provide personalised careers options. Students also have the opportunity to take part in university visits, mock interview days and a two-week work experience placement.

We understand that parents also play a vital role in supporting students throughout university, degree apprenticeship and employment applications. As a result, we hold a Year 12 Parents and Carers evening, which allows us to share important information around Post-18 options and processes so that we can collaboratively meet the needs of all students.





Outdoor Activities

Golf Scholarship

Wath Academy Sixth Form's golf scholarship programme at Waterfront Golf is going from strength to strength. Since its launch in 2018, we have seen some great improvements in the players who have worked hard over the winter months preparing for the golf seasons ahead.

The state-of-the-art training facility enables professional coaches Frank Houlgate, Danny Walsh and Chris Dennis to oversee all aspects of the game and prepare structured practice programmes, so that our golf scholars are never left without anything to do. We were lucky enough in our first year to have Ben Schmidt win numerous events at national level, including the prestigious Brabazon Trophy! Luca Houlgate won the Sheffield Junior Stroke-Play Championship as well as setting a new course record at Waterfront. Charlie Daughtrey made a fantastic effort to win the South Yorkshire Schools Championship at Hickleton and he also won the North of England Qualifier for the Brabazon at Lindrick.

Jack Whaley U.S. Amateur Championship Winner 2026

- 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.
- In 2026, Jack won the U.S. Amateur Championship at Merion Golf Club.



Wath Academy Sixth Form's golf scholarship is perfect for anyone serious about rising to a professional standard in golf.

Netball Scholarship

The Netball Scholarship offered at Wath Academy Sixth Form is a specialist 16-18 netball programme that ensures all students access a first-class netball experience. Scholars work with Netball England qualified coaches, training on a daily basis to further develop their netball skills and knowledge of the game. In addition to training sessions, Netball Scholars will also play weekly fixtures across South Yorkshire and complete match analysis using specialist equipment.

Football Scholarships

Our football scholarships offer a unique opportunity for talented footballers to further develop their football education alongside A Levels or BTEC Level 3 qualifications. Students are trained by UEFA A/B-licensed coaches four times a week, gain their refereeing qualifications and the opportunity to complete an Introduction to Coaching Football qualification. They also get the chance to develop their skills on our elective international trips.

Since its launch in 2018, our boys have won the AOC Yorkshire and Humber League, whilst also representing the school at local and regional levels. The squad that consisted of 18 players grew to over 30 players in year two, and we are pleased we now have three teams regularly playing fixtures on Wednesday afternoons.

Our players have progressed on to a wide variety of exit routes with players attending a variety of universities and playing for professional and semi-professional clubs. We have had a number

of alumni who have secured football scholarships in the USA.

Launching in 2019, our girls' football scholarship has seen many positive experiences. The inaugural girls' Post-16 team, the first to play at Wath Academy Sixth Form for many years, competed against many established colleges and sixth forms in its opening year.

Our football scholars have found themselves in fixtures against teams that play at academy training grounds, as well as opportunities in futsal, a league that they won in their first season.

The girls have also involved themselves in a number of FA initiatives, including primary school tournaments, school events and FA Wildcats programmes. This is part of the FA's vision to grow the female game. With the third close upon us, we are looking forward to welcoming a new cohort to join the current set of talented Year 12 girls.

Rugby Scholarship

Wath Academy Rugby Scholarship offers a realistic pathway into semi-professional rugby. It is an elite rugby union development programme that allows students to access high quality facilities and training with coaches who have previously worked within the professional game. Students on the scholarship will train on a daily basis as well as competing in a range of cup and league tournaments, including the Association of Colleges Rugby Union League. Timetabled sessions throughout the week will include match analysis using Veo camera technology and PlayerTek GPS, strength and conditioning as well as technical/tactical sessions.

Cricket Scholarship

Wath Academy's Cricket Scholarship offers aspiring cricketers the opportunity to develop their game alongside A Level or vocational studies. With expert coaching, state-of-the-art analysis technology, access to outstanding facilities and regular competitive fixtures, students can pursue sporting excellence while achieving academic success.



“At both levels, students are given the opportunity to plan their own route, navigate, overcome rain, sun and fatigue and, potentially, figure out where they went wrong to get back on track!”



The Duke of Edinburgh's Award

At Wath Academy, we offer the Bronze level Duke of Edinburgh's Award to our students in Year 10 and the Silver level to our students in Year 12 (who do not need to complete the Bronze award first). It is a brilliant opportunity to get active, learn some new skills and make new friends!

This enrichment rewards commitment: students complete at least an hour per week on each chosen activity and collect evidence (photos, reports, an activity log, videos) to show what they have done and how they have improved, which are uploaded for approval by the DofE charity.

There are four sections to complete for both awards: Physical, Skill, Volunteering and Expedition. A comprehensive list of activities can be found online at dofe.org/do/ideas, but here are a few ideas for inspiration: athletics, football, dance, horse riding, cheerleading, mountain biking (physical activities); playing a musical instrument, cooking, plant growing, learning to drive, creating a blog, dressmaking (skills activities); charity work, helping in the local/school library, working at an animal rescue centre, helping in a care home, Youth Parliament, conservation or litter picking (volunteering activities).

“It is a brilliant opportunity to get active, learn some new skills and make new friends!”



For the expedition, our Bronze students spend two days walking in the beautiful countryside around Cawthorne and Penistone, where they camp overnight at simple campsites. At Silver level, students spend three days walking in the beautiful Peak District.

At both levels, students are given the opportunity to plan their own route, navigate, overcome rain, sun and fatigue and, potentially, figure out where they went wrong to get back on track!

The benefits of achieving the DofE Award are endless. So many of our students say it's life-changing. Achieving an Award will give students skills, confidence and an edge over others when they apply for university or a job. Beyond their academic achievements, universities want to see evidence of the “soft skills”, such as communication, commitment, leadership and teamwork. The DofE Award is a fantastic way to evidence these skills. Students also make a difference to their community, become fitter and healthier, make new friends and have memories to last a lifetime.





Christmas at Wath

Christmas Lunch

Christmas lunch is a notable date on the calendar at Wath Academy. The hall is transformed with long tables to accommodate two entire year groups (with several dining sessions throughout the day), and features all the usual Christmas paraphernalia, such as crackers, jokes and prizes. Students are treated to a delicious main course of turkey with all the trimmings (with a vegetarian and vegan option available, of course!) and a Christmas pudding or ice cream for dessert. Live reindeer and snow machines also make it a truly unforgettable experience.

“Christmas lunch is a notable date on the calendar at Wath Academy.”







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