

EXPECTATIONS OF SIXTH FORM STUDENTS

Joining the Sixth Form is a voluntary act by students, and we are delighted that you have chosen to join Gordano Sixth Form. We aim to treat students as young adults wherever possible and offer a greater range of privileges than pupils in Years 7-11. These include:

- Use of a dedicated Sixth Form Common Room, Independent Study Centres, for the sole use of Sixth Form students
- The right to leave the school grounds at break and lunchtime
- A less formal dress code than lower school
- Independent study time within the school day
- Home study arrangements for Year 13 students
- A host of opportunities for involvement as senior students in leadership roles, as well as in charity and social events

By joining the Sixth Form and becoming senior students at the school, students also accept a greater responsibility than pupils in Year 7-11; this responsibility extends both to their own learning and to the ability of teachers and other students to focus most effectively on their tasks.

Appearance

There is no uniform requirement for Sixth Form students, however, as we are a Sixth Form within a school, we do have a dress code to set an example to the lower school.

We want our students to have freedom of expression but do **not** expect:

- facial/body piercings (lip and brow rings need to be removed in school as do extensive ear piercings – one small nose piercing is allowed)
- clothing that causes offence to others (by wording, logos, images or by being too revealing)
- beach wear – board shorts, short shorts, flip flops/beach sandals
- hats to be worn indoors
- clothing considered by staff to be a health and safety risk

Lanyards

For safeguarding reasons, Sixth Formers **must** always wear their lanyard and ID card – the card allows students access to study areas and school gates and identifies them as an adult on site.

Individual Equipment

Subject books may be lent out in lessons with different faculties operating with different resources, subject dependent. Teacher may recommend a reading list or books they may purchase.

In addition, it is each student's responsibility to provide themselves with: -

- Suitable ring-binders, with paper, for written work and homework in each course
- All necessary items of stationery, including calculators where needed
- Specialist equipment for certain courses

Any student needing financial help to provide such items should contact the Sixth Form Office manager, as there is a 16-19 Bursary Fund available to support students with the costs of their learning.

Mobile Phones

In lessons, and when walking around the school site, phones should be switched off unless a teacher gives permission for phones to be used for study purposes. Phones may be used in the common room and in the study room for accessing Class Charts and music but should not be used for games, taking pictures or listening to music (unless headphones are used) As with staff, students are not expected to have phones out in public areas. Phones can be confiscated by a teacher and returned at the end of the day if used in undesignated areas.

Food/Drink

In normal school opening conditions, Sixth Form students have their own dedicated café in the Sixth Form Common Room, and this is also open in the morning before break time. Students may use the main school canteen. Students also have the privilege of being free to leave the site at lunchtime. Students should also note the following responsibilities:

- Food and drink should always be consumed in the dining hall or common room. Food and drink may not be taken into lessons, registration periods, the Learning Curve, Library, or computer rooms.
- All litter in the Common Room should be placed in the bins provided
- Smoking or vaping is not permitted anywhere on the school site, or within view of any aspect of the school boundary.
- Students are not permitted to drink alcohol at any time of the school day, including lunchtime, whether on or off site.
- Students are not allowed to order external food deliveries/or bring fast food deliveries on to site.

Commitment to Learning

In taking a place in the Sixth Form, students undertake three fundamental commitments to each course:

- a) to attend all lessons
- b) to complete set work by a deadline.
- c) to undertake independent study

If a student consistently fails to fulfil these commitments without good reason, they will be required to meet with their parents/guardians, the Heads of Sixth and the Head of School to discuss their place in the Sixth Form

To make the most of lesson time, we expect all students to

- Arrive promptly for lessons
- Bring the correct equipment
- Ensure files are organised
- Contribute positively and willingly to discussion and other activities
- To listen to the opinions of others with respect and courtesy
- Ensure all work is handed in on time

Lessons are only half of the learning time for Post-16 courses; a large part of an Advanced course must be done by a student independently. As a guide, students should expect to spend at least 3-4 hours each week on independent work for each subject of study; for most students, this means a least 12-15 hours of homework each week.

Attendance Procedures

See separate document

Uses of ICT

Please read and sign the separate ICT agreement

Artificial Intelligence and Plagiarism

Please make sure you follow the school's guidelines around the use of AI. It is an offence to submit coursework and NEAs that is not your own or has not been written by you.

Post-18 reporting and communication

Once a student turns 18 we will continue to report to and communicate with parents and carers as we have done before the student turns 18, unless the student explicitly tells us to change this which they have the right to do.

Unifrog

Each student at Gordano has a log in to Unifrog, an on-line careers platform that helps students research careers, identify courses and apprenticeships, build a portfolio of careers related activities and skills and produce refined applications. Parents can login at www.unifrog.org and use the form code gordanoparent to set up their own account.

Home-School Agreement for Sixth Form Students

We believe that a student is most likely to fulfil their potential if their education is based on an effective partnership between the student, parent(s)/guardian(s) and the school. Success is most likely if all partners recognise their responsibilities and try to carry them out as best they can.

The student's responsibilities

I will:

- Take responsibility for my own learning, with the help of my teachers and tutor
- Attend registration, assemblies, lessons, electives and study periods consistently and punctually, and follow the requirements of the Sixth Form attendance policy
- Meet deadlines and complete work on time and to the best of my ability
- Work quietly and independently in study areas during study periods
- Ensure quick return of library books, so that all students may have fair access
- Treat all school premises with respect
- Dress in a way that meets the Sixth Form dress code
- Show respect for the needs of all staff, students or visitors, regardless of their ethnicity, gender, religion or other personal circumstances
- Respect Gordano School positioning in the wider community to set a good example to the lower school

The responsibilities of parents/guardians

I/We will:

- Ensure that my/our son/daughter attends school punctually and attends all timetabled activities and complies with the dress code. **All absences must be reported to the Attendance Officer by 10 am on 01275 841380 or by emailing 6thformattendance@gordanoschool.org.uk**
- Support my/our son/daughter in their studies and other opportunities for learning
- Support the authority of the school in its expectations of hard work, good behaviour, respect for others and care of school equipment and premises
- Respond quickly to enquiries about my/our son/daughter's education and welfare and make every effort to attend meetings affecting his/her progress
- Make the school aware of any concerns or problems that might affect my/our son/daughter's work or behaviour

The responsibilities of the school

The school will:

- Aim for the highest standards of work and behaviour through good teaching and pastoral care
- Report regularly on your son/daughter's progress and keep you informed of any concerns
- Respond quickly to all enquiries about your son/daughter's education and welfare
- Provide information and opportunities for you to know more about the opportunities available to your son/daughter

Teachers will:

- Set, mark and monitor work
- Take account of the individual circumstances of your son/daughter, consult colleagues for advice and seek specialist support where necessary
- Be firm but fair in their dealings with students

STUDENTS AND PARENTS MUST COMPLETE AND SIGN THE ONLINE SIXTH FORM REGISTRATION DECLARATION FORM TO CONFIRM THEY HAVE READ AND AGREE TO THE ABOVE TERMS