The Wellington Academy 6th FORM

Inquisitive  Ambitious  Independent
A warm welcome to the Wellington Academy

The Wellington Academy is celebrating its eleventh birthday. Throughout these years we have remained true to our core values, providing an inclusive and happy education for all students. This year the Academy was oversubscribed in Year 7 and we are delighted to welcome all our new students from the local community and those who have joined us due to army rebasing.

As part of the Royal Wootton Bassett Academy Trust family of schools, we can offer opportunities that are quite unique in a state school. There is something for every student to participate in; be it the Combined Cadet Force; Wheeler programme; Global Leadership China project; The Talent Tap and China Internship, as well as having a host of other opportunities to succeed both at school or beyond. This year a large group of our students have had the opportunity to serve internships in top London companies and also work in China and Thailand at our sister schools for a year.

Our curriculum is focused on ensuring every student is equipped to leave school ready to achieve their dreams and fulfil their goals. In addition to English, Maths and Science we continue to reintroduce more of the creative subjects. We know the impact these can have on building confidence and an enjoyment of school. We want students to have the chance to exhibit their talents, be it in music, dance, drama or sport. The Academy’s stunning theatre, drama studio, music practice rooms and sporting facilities are second to none and we look forward to sharing these talents with you as parents/carers through performances at school.

The Wellington Academy sits at the heart of the community. It is here to serve and we work closely with charities and our local primary schools. We provide support in the delivery of subjects such as French and run sports days. We value our close ties with other organisations; it is likely that your child will already know us well! Our links with the army are very strong; we welcome the diversity and cultural variety its presence gives to the school. Children who have recently moved from other parts of the country, returned from abroad and those who have joined our Boarding House, offer an insight into an international world with all its unlimited potential.

We will work with you to help build the character of our students as they progress through the school, emerging as resilient, resourceful and respectful young adults ready to embrace all that their life may bring.

We will foster in the kindness, respect and tolerance through their sessions with their dedicated tutor each and every day. To be truly successful, it is not sufficient to pass examinations - they need become young people of dignity, underpinned by a well developed moral purpose and true pride in themselves.

We are proud of what we stand for; proud of our passionate, caring and skilful staff; and proud of our students.

When your child joins our school, you as parents/carers will also become part of the future of the Academy. We look forward to seeing you throughout the year at various events - the summer festival, the induction days, the science visits and technology days. You will all become part of a family. We will be delighted for you to entrust your child’s education to us and we will strive every day to honour your trust in us.

Mr S Paddock
Headteacher

Mr S Paddock
Headteacher
Now in my tenth year here at the Academy I am delighted by the number of lives our 6th Form has had a positive transformation over. Every year our Alumni grows larger and we are able to add to the wide list of destinations for our students. The element which I am most proud about is the family atmosphere which our 6th Form has with all students and staff there to support each other generating a real warmth and feeling of collaboration. This cultivates the positive atmosphere where students believe anything is possible and contributes to our ethos of creating inquisitive, ambitious and independent students. Whilst our numbers are increasing each year, we are still a small enough 6th Form to be able to offer personal support and guidance and bespoke curricular plans.

Our student body is diverse with all students bringing their own unique story and outlook on life. Just under half of our 6th Form population joined after GCSEs and have come from a wide range of both local, national and international schools. We have a diverse range of nationalities and backgrounds in our student body leading to opportunities to develop cultural awareness and increasing the richness of classroom discussions. All of this helps students to gain a better understanding of the world beyond 6th Form.

The Wellington Academy 6th Form is truly unique. As well as excellent grades in a range of subjects in both A Level and BTEC options, we offer an outstanding range of extra opportunities that you will not find anywhere else. The ethos of the 6th Form means we spend a lot of time ensuring that students not only succeed to the best of their ability in the subjects of their choice, but also develop and broaden their wider mind set. Students have the opportunities to experience programmes designed to both enhance their future choice prospects, and also develop as a young adult ready for the world beyond school. We work closely with the other Sixth Forms in our trust and also Wellington College, and this link provides some of the opportunities that would not normally be accessible to state schools.

Whether it be a Russell group University place, a high-end apprenticeship or a competitive work placement we are here to support the students achieve their dreams. Our Alumni are always happy to share advice and guidance and give a real insight into all opportunities and destination prospects. Every year we are thrilled when a new destination is added to our extensive lists.

I hope you find all the information you are looking for and look forward to you joining our ever expanding family.

Dave Bissington
Head of 6th Form
Welcome from George Croxford

We are delighted to welcome The Wellington Academy to our trust. Our vision for RWBAT is built around the one word of 'Excellence.'

Together all our Schools will strengthen each other. We will share good practice and build capacity through challenge and support.

We will strive to maximise the potential of every individual within our community and are absolutely committed to continuous improvement. We value developing the whole person equally to the achievement of academic success.

George Croxford
CEO RWBAT
Recent Post 6th Form Destinations

Below you will find an example of just some of the Universities and courses our students have recently gone on to after finishing 6th Form.

Universities
- University of Bristol
- Cardiff University
- University of Exeter
- University of Leeds
- University of Liverpool
- London School of Economics & Political Science
- University of Manchester
- University of Southampton
- UCL (University College London)
- Lancaster University
- University of Bath
- University of Leicester
- University of Reading
- University of Essex
- University of Surrey
- Swansea University
- University of Kent
- Aberystwyth University
- University of Portsmouth
- University of Plymouth
- University of Brighton
- Coventry University
- De Montfort University
- University of the West of England
- SOAS University of London
- Oxford Brookes University
- Bournemouth University
- Liverpool John Moores University
- Bath Spa University
- Winchester University

Courses
- Accounting
- Aeronautical Engineering
- Architecture
- Biochemistry
- Business
- City Planning
- Computer Science
- Creative Advertising
- Criminology
- Economics
- English Literature
- Events Management
- Film Studies
- History
- Illustration
- Law
- Marketing
- Maths
- Medicine
- Microbiology
- Midwifery
- Nursing
- Occupational Therapy
- Pharmacy
- Physics
- Physiotherapy
- PPE
- Primary Education
- Sociology
- Sport and Exercise Science

As well as having excellent University destinations we are also extremely proud of our work and apprenticeship destinations. In just the last two years alone we have had students moving on to apprenticeships including; Veterinary nursing, Data analyst, Software management, Sports coaching and Accounting at companies including Microsoft and Vodafone.
One thing I really loved about the 6th Form at The Wellington Academy was that they go the extra mile to support students’ academic needs and well-being. It was also a fun place where you could feel relaxed and be yourself. Applying for university can be a stressful anxious time, however, the 6th Form team attentively guides students through the process.

I learned how to study independently during my time at 6th Form and that prepared me for university. I also learned how to have a balanced life and the importance of self-care, this is especially useful when dealing with exams, deadlines and/or stressful events in your personal life. After 6th Form I was able to secure a place at the University of Southampton, where I studied BSc Sociology and graduated with First Class Honours.

Former 6th Form Student

The school develops the social, moral, spiritual and cultural education of pupils very effectively.

Ofsted 2016
At the Wellington Academy our 6th Form team is committed to ensuring that every student feels part of the Wellington community.

We have a strong academic profile and students are enabled to maximise their potential in a safe and secure environment. There is a real belief amongst the students that they can excel in their subject areas and there is the aspiration that they can go on to achieve great things with their lives, whatever they choose to do.

There are a range of factors which contribute to our unique offering; the boarding house, our unique link with Wellington College and schemes such as The Talent Tap. Students realise that we live in a global world and want to embrace opportunities to experience life beyond the immediate vicinity.

With excellent results, fantastic facilities and a range of opportunities, we firmly believe that the Wellington Academy 6th Form can offer every student the chance to thrive academically and socially.

If you have any questions, or would like to come and have a look around, please do not hesitate to get in contact with us.
The 21st century must undoubtedly be the most exciting era for the human race. With rapid and often unpredictable change occurring at exponential speed.

Many of the jobs which exist today did not exist just under a decade ago and we are preparing a generation for which, for the first time, we are unable to make real predictions about their careers, development and life paths. Our young people will inherit a different world and it is our job to ensure that when they leave us they are ready to enter this world and, not just survive it but, thrive in it.

We must ensure that they have a strong sense of ‘self’, are confident and, most of all, that they are happy. We must ensure that neither they nor we set limits on learning, ambition, ability, aspiration and dreams. We must ensure that they are highly skilled and educated, having progressed well through school and having attained the best qualifications required in order to open any door that they choose to enter. We must make them truly competitive. We must ensure that they know their own worth but also that they appreciate the worth of others, respecting the choices and opinions of the people that they walk through life beside.
When they say school days are the best days of your life, you don’t realise how true that is until you’ve left for good! The Wellington Academy was and is a friendly place to be and I loved being part of a school whose students look out for one another. The school pushed me to be the best person I could be and taught me that anything is possible if you work hard and keep focused.

In a one to one meeting to discuss careers, I remember distinctly saying I wanted to train as a journalist and become a magazine editor. Not once did my teachers tell me to focus on a back-up plan, just incase it didn’t work - they had faith in me and told me I could do whatever I wanted if I set my mind to it. I had regular meetings to discuss university and work experience placements to ensure I could meet the criteria needed for the job and I had a tight support system around me.

Luckily The Talent Tap was introduced to the Academy in my final year of A levels. The charity, which helps under privileged students find work placements in London, provided me with the extra experience I needed to ensure I could get into university and, more importantly, find a job afterwards. Fortunately, they helped me secure work placements at The Telegraph, OK! Magazine and The Evening Standard, which reinforced my passion for journalism.

Now, I work at OK! Magazine as a Sub Editor in London and I recently graduated with a Master of Arts degree.

I am a strong believer in the universe and if you really want something, and visualise it, with hard work and determination, you will manifest it into your life. With a focus, you’re unstoppable. Whether you want to be the best hairdresser in your area, own a business, or write for a particular magazine or newspaper, if you work hard and take advice from those around you, you can do whatever you set your mind to.

Former 6th Form Student
What we can offer you

There are two defining principles that underpin our curriculum at The Wellington Academy. Firstly, effective course combinations (leading to employment or further study) and secondly, ensuring that all students have access to courses in which they will succeed.

There are a number of different courses on offer:

- A Level courses - these are primarily assessed through examination at the end of two years.
- Level 3 BTEC courses - these are modular and are assessed through examination and coursework.
- Level 2-3 Professional Catering - this combines practical assessment, coursework and short written tests.
- GCSE re-sit courses - any student without a Grade 4 in GCSE Maths and/or English Language will have to re-take the course.

Pathways

Choosing the right course combination is essential in order to remove any potential barriers to realising your future goals. To this end, we have designed a curriculum model that enables students to avoid potential pitfalls, to maximise their chances of success but still have the flexibility to try something new.

One of the best things about the 6th Form is how they help prepare you for life after school. Everyone takes part in the Senior Diploma which is a series of options designed in conjunction with local businesses to help develop skills and give you experience of working life. There is also a two week work experience placement at the end of the first year, where you put your studies into practice and start to make more solid plans for the future. At the end of year 13 some students also get to spend two weeks in London working with some of the capital’s top businesses.

Former 6th Form Student
Courses on Offer

Please note that the following list comprises potential courses available. We cannot guarantee that all of the courses will run. Numbers opting for subjects, timetabling constraints and local and national developments may result in changes in the curriculum choices we can offer. We give all students a free choice of subjects and then block the courses accordingly to allow maximum satisfaction. If the course you want to take is not on this list, we may still be able to offer depending on demand.

**A Level courses:**
- Art
- Biology
- Business
- Chemistry
- Computer Science
- Digital Photography
- Economics
- English Language
- English Literature
- Further Maths
- Geography
- Government and Politics
- History
- Maths
- Media studies
- Physics
- Psychology
- Sociology

**Vocational Level 3 (BTEC):**
- Applied Law Extended Certificate
- Business Diploma
- Business Extended Certificate
- Child Development Extended Certificate
- Health and Social Care Diploma
- Health and Social Care Extended Certificate
- ICT Extended Certificate
- Performing Arts Extended Certificate
- Sport Diploma
- Sport Extended Certificate

**Other courses:**
- GCSE Maths
- GCSE English Language
- Professional Catering Level 2
- Extended Project (AS Level)
Developing Skills

In addition to our academic offering, The Wellington Academy 6th Form also encourages students to develop existing skills, learn new ones and importantly; enjoy this exciting stage in life!

Further opportunities include:

- The Talent Tap - summer Internship with national and international organisations
- China Internships with three schools in China
- Exciting trips including New York and Berlin
- Senior Wellington Diploma - preparation for life after school and increased employability
- WIN/WON Partnership – Careers advice and guidance
- Coachbright Mentoring
- Place2Be counselling service
- Trust links to other 6th Forms
- Close links with Wellington College
- Focused Academic Mentoring
- Free access to the on-site gym
- Free on-site parking

The school has a very inclusive culture. Pupils are made to feel welcome, valued and safe.

Ofsted 2016
Unique Opportunities

As well the fantastic teaching and support it was the extra bits which really made my 6th Form experience. I was able to have an intensive revision week at Wellington College before my A levels and also got to go to China and experience the Talent Tap programme. Both of the these enabled me to experience a world I never knew would be open to me.

Former 6th Form Student

The Talent Tap

The Talent Tap is a charity set up by two former Wellington College students and provides unique work experience opportunities to students at The Wellington Academy. Students with successful applications complete a two week placement in London with a company within the industry that they are aiming to enter. Placements have included Google, Saatchi and Saatchi, The Mirror, The Times, OK! Magazine, Law firms and several large investment banks to name just a few. Around ten Year 13 students are accepted onto the programme each year with many students invited back in following years for further work experience placements or internships.

China Internship

Students have the opportunity to apply to schools in Tianjin and Shanghai where they will work, support extra-curricular activities, have the opportunity to travel, experience the culture and broaden their horizons. Students have previously taught small groups, worked in marketing, finance, acted as a boarding tutor and acted as a teaching assistant to name just a few areas.

Unique links with Wellington College

Our links with Wellington College afford us access to provision that would ordinarily be beyond our grasp and, it is right that we ensure our students benefit from this. We are able to utilise the experience of 150 years of top quality education in order to support and develop our own teaching and learning, as well as to support applications to top universities. Students can access major events held at the College including revision weeks and futures days as well as talks from external speakers. Our students have joined College students on a number of leadership development courses and training, as well as sharing global experiences in Nicaragua and Switzerland.
6th Form and Beyond

The Senior Diploma

The Senior Diploma has one main objective; to ensure that every student has participated in a range of activities that will leave them best placed to embark on their chosen pathway. To ensure the integrity of the diploma, local employers have contributed to its development and refinement. An essential skills list acts as a marking criteria and as the evidence required to achieve the diploma. Through activities including CV workshops, interview participation, work experience, community support and developing school links, the Diploma ensures the student leaves the 6th Form with both the social and professional skills required for the next stage of their development.

Year 12 Work Experience

The Academy runs a successful Year 12 work experience programme. Students complete a compulsory work experience placement at the end of Year 12 with the option to either apply for a position in one of our partner companies or alternatively, seek their own placement with a company or organisation of their choice. Although students are encouraged to take the lead with this they are supported through securing placements.

Pastoral Care

With a dedicated non-teaching support team, there is always someone around to help. We are also fortunate to have an experienced 6th Form leadership team and personal tutors who share the responsibility of ensuring that all students are making the necessary progress required to succeed. There are a number of sources of support for our students’ mental well-being.

Place2Be

We have a dedicated Place2Be mental health professional who is an integral part of the school team, working closely with pupils, families and staff to improve emotional well-being and provide mental health support for the whole school.

Sport

There are numerous opportunities to take part in sporting activities. The Academy has a whole range of facilities to cater for sports such as netball, football, rugby, basketball and tennis. There is also a free weights room and an air conditioned fitness studio on site. We actively encourage students to take care of their physical well-being.
Leadership

Student Leadership across the Academy is run by 6th Form students. There are numerous opportunities for students to be involved in leadership including; through appointment as a Head Boy/Girl or as Head Boy/Girl Deputies, through to House Leader positions or through leading their own initiative. During the 2019-2020 academic year over 1/3 of our Year 12 students held a leadership role of one kind or another. It really is an exciting time to be part of the leadership programme available to our 6th Formers. Recently this has included; exciting trips to Romania, the opportunity to lead initiatives such as the Anti-Bullying Campaign, the integration of House systems across the whole school, the organisation of whole school events, Peer Mentoring and also further opportunities to lead the Academy on causes with personal significance.

Coachbright

This was a new initiative introduced to the 6th Form during the 2017-2018 academic year. Coachbright is an academic mentoring programme in which selected Year 12 students work with those members of Year 10 who would benefit from the support of our 6th Form students. This involves meeting with a Year 10 student on a 1:1 basis over a 7 week period. During this time the mentor is expected to build evidence towards a portfolio that can used to achieve an accredited SSAT Leadership Qualification. Previous cohorts have had their graduation ceremony at the prestigious Oxford University.

WIN and WON Partnership

We work closely with these two organisations who provide advice and support around the next stage after 6th Form. The support offered includes, dedicated careers meetings and planning, taster days at Universities, Apprenticeship information and support, professional support with CV writing and advice and guidance on all areas around improving employability.

Combined Cadet Force (CCF) and The Duke of Edinburgh Award

Our CCF wear the cap and badge of 22 Royal Engineers based at Perham Down. Funded largely by the Ministry of Defence, the CCF have a purpose built centre which is equipped with stores, armoury and an indoor shooting range.

Students who choose to take part in the CCF and Duke of Edinburgh Scheme learn invaluable life skills such as teamwork, self-reliance, survival skills, resilience and commitment. The Award is recognised by many universities and future employers and is an excellent addition to a student’s record of achievement.
Community Campus

Schools worldwide are asking questions about how education must evolve to match the changing world and the aspirations of young people, their families and communities. Our Academy campus embodies these ideas by feeling less like a school and more like a university or business - as well as being a learning hub for the whole community.

The building, designed by award-winning architects, reflects the surrounding countryside and internally has a beautifully open, light feeling that ensures people working together can see each other and feel connected as part of our learning community. The building provides high quality classrooms and social spaces for students and our facilities include a 300 seat theatre, an all-weather 3G pitch, music and technology recording suites, DukeBox radio centre, an engineering and manufacturing centre, drama and dance studios, our Ofsted rated “Outstanding” Boarding House and a sports and fitness centre - all with free on-site parking.
Had I been told about everything I would’ve achieved during my two years at the Academy I would never have believed it. Never in my wildest dreams did I imagine all of the great opportunities I was able to experience and this would not have been possible without the help and support of the 6th Form team, my teachers and the Alumni network.

Former 6th Form Student
Boarding

Our Benson and Wellesley Boarding Houses provide superb facilities and care for up to 100 students. We are Wiltshire’s only state boarding school and have been rated as ‘Outstanding’ by Ofsted and, for those students who choose to take advantage of our outstanding provision, we provide a separate handbook. Please note that to be eligible to qualify for boarding you must have a place to study at the Academy. Please request a copy from the Admissions team.

We can scarcely believe that Carolina’s time at the Wellington Academy has come to an end. It truly seems like just yesterday that we were buying her uniform and getting her ready for her first day at school. More than anything else we would like to thank you for the fun that Carolina has had during her time in boarding. Every term she would arrive home with tales of activities and field trips that she will remember for the rest of her life. The boarding is a supportive community focused on giving each student the best education possible, and your leadership provided Carolina with just that.

~ Boarding Parent
How to Apply

• Complete an application form. Applications are available from The Wellington Academy website.
• Return your completed application form to Dave Bissington (Head of 6th Form) by post or email to 6thform@thewellingtonacademy.org.uk
• Alternatively, complete the online application form on the website.
• An individual course consultation will then be arranged for you and your courses will be provisionally agreed.
• The offer of courses will be conditional upon meeting the required entry grades, any subject specific criteria and the provision of a suitable reference from your previous school.
• Your final confirmation interview will be held immediately after you have received your GCSE results. This will be when your actual offer is negotiated and confirmed with you based on results.

Finance
Tuition is free to all students under 19 years of age, although some small charges may be made for trips, materials and workshops.

Transport
Students can travel to the Academy on public buses or will be allocated places on school buses where spaces are available. Wiltshire County Council does not subsidise transport costs for 6th Form students but may provide financial assistance to families in receipt of certain benefits.

If you drive, there is free parking on site.

I would describe my time at the Wellington Academy as providing the foundation on which I was able to build an exciting future.

Former 6th Form Student

We look forward to welcoming you to The Wellington Academy 6th Form