The Wellington Academy
6th FORM

Happiness | Achievement | Limitless
A WARM WELCOME TO THE WELLCINGTON ACADEMY

The Wellington Academy was opened in 2009 and is proud of its aspirational and inclusive educational offer. Our 2016 ‘Good’ Ofsted report is further evidence that it has never been a better time to send your children to the school.

Our vision at the Wellington Academy is simple. We strive for the academy to be a happy community where everyone is valued and respects each other. We achieve well, believe in ourselves and have limitless aspirations. We are determined to make this vision statement more than just words, ensuring that it permeates through every vein of our school.

We offer a curriculum that is enriching and innovative. Our young people (through our curriculum) have opportunities to develop their leadership skills and foster a strong sense of charity and community service. Through our enrichment programme students unearth talents, pursue passions and develop a strong sense of self belief and value.

We are part of the Wellington College family of schools which is instrumental in helping us achieve our mission of limitless aspiration for all, through unique and life changing opportunities. Our students’ involvement in programmes such as the Combined Cadet Force, Wheeler Programme, Global Leadership China Projects, The Talent Tap, and China internship, as well as other leadership development courses delivered by Wellington College, can truly take our students beyond the boundaries of the academy gates and their own self-imposed limitations. We want our students to stand shoulder to shoulder with any student from any selective school, be indistinguishable and have all options possible; enabling them to thrive in their chosen paths.

Our strong links with the army, a high percentage of forces children and a 100 students’ capacity boarding house mean that our students are diverse, culturally rich and together add a wealth of experiences to our academy. We bring together our community through strong house systems and community groups which are often displayed at our numerous charity events, house competitions and annual summer creative arts and sports festival.

Sending your child to the Wellington Academy is more than sending them to a school. It is like joining a family and we welcome you.

Ms Abrilli Phillip
Executive head teacher
**OUR SPONSOR**

The Wellington Academy is named after our sponsor, Wellington College in Berkshire. The college was founded some 150 years ago as a national memorial to the Duke of Wellington.

Wellington College’s sponsorship of both the primary and secondary academies is part of their wish to break down the barrier between state and independent education. Students and staff at the academy benefit from the exchange of ideas and shared experiences. Students can also benefit from opportunities which are open to the College students, such as work experience placements, internships and bespoke support.

*Leaders rightly pride themselves on the quality of their work to develop the moral, social, cultural and spiritual education of pupils. As a result, pupils develop the skills and attributes that enable them to become good citizens.*

OFSTED 2016
The school develops the social, moral, spiritual and cultural education of pupils very effectively.

OFSTED 2016

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 and 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
YOUR PATH TO SUCCESS

At the Wellington Academy our 6th Form team is committed to ensuring that every student feels part of the Wellington community. Our 6th Form is now rated amongst the top 25% of A Level providers in the country, 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.
OUR VISION

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 very 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 a friendly place to be and I loved being part of a school whose students looked 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 in case 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.
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 Vocational courses – these combine practical assessment, coursework and short written tests.
• GCSE re-sit courses – any student without a 4 Grade in GCSE Maths or English 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 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, and at the end of year 13. Some students get to spend two weeks in London working with some of the capital’s top businesses.

Staff provide excellent advice on how to improve work to achieve higher grades.

FORMER 6th FORM STUDENT
COURSES ON OFFER

A Level courses:
- Art
- Biology
- Business
- Chemistry
- Digital Photography
- Economics
- English Literature
- Ethics and Philosophy
- Further Maths
- Geography
- History
- Maths
- Physics
- Politics
- Psychology
- Sociology
- Textiles

Vocational Level 3:
- Applied Law
- Business Diploma
- Business Extended Certificate
- Child Development Extended Certificate
- Construction Diploma
- Construction 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
- Professional Catering levels 1 and 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:

• Work experience
• Work placements
• The Talent Tap – summer internship with national and international organisations
• China internship with three different schools in China
• Exciting trips – including a New York business trip and a Berlin history trip
• Senior Wellington Diploma – preparation for life after school and increased employability
• 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
SCHOOL LIFE

The Talent Tap

The Talent Tap is a charity set up by two former Wellington College students and it 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 Saatchi and Saatchi, The Mirror, The Times and several large investment banks. Around ten Year 13 students are accepted onto the programme each year with many students invited back in following years for further work experience or internships. For more information please visit our website.

China internship

Students have the opportunity to apply to schools in Tianjin and Shanghai where they will work in the classroom, support extra-curricular activities and have the opportunity to travel, experience the culture and broaden their horizons.

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.

I really enjoyed 6th Form. The teachers were always there to help when I was struggling with an aspect of work and they explain really clearly.

FORMER 6th FORM STUDENT
6th FORM AND BEYOND

Pastoral care
With a dedicated non-teaching Engagement and Development Coordinator, 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.

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 that 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. Our students have joined College students on a number of leadership development courses and mediation training, as well as sharing global experiences in Nicaragua and Switzerland.

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. An essential skills list acts as a marking criteria and as the evidence required to achieve the diploma; if the students has evidenced all of the required skills to an adequate level, then they are awarded the Senior Diploma.

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.
Leadership

Student Leadership across the Academy is run by 6th Form students. There are numerous opportunities for students to be involved in leadership whether that be through appointment as a Head Boy/Girl or as Head Boy/Girl Deputies, through to House Leader positions. During the 2017-2018 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, with exciting and worthwhile trips to Romania and 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 2017-18 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 be used to achieve an accredited SSAT Leadership Qualification. The 2018 cohort had their graduation ceremony at the prestigious Oxford University.
COMMUNITY CAMPUS

Schools world-wide 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 space for students and our facilities include a 300 seat theatre, an all-weather 3G pitch, music and technology recording suites, DukeBox FM radio media 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.
ADMISSIONS

- Complete an application form. Applications are available from the Wellington Academy website.
- Return your completed application form to the Engagement and Development Coordinator.
- An individual course consultation will be arranged for you and your courses will be provisionally agreed.
- The offer of a course 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 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.

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

I would describe my time at the Wellington Academy as a stepping stone to another big adventure!

FORMER 6th FORM STUDENT

WE LOOK FORWARD TO WELCOMING YOU TO THE WELLINGTON ACADEMY 6th FORM.