



GCSE to Sixth Form Transition Policy

Managing Transition

All options available to students post-16 are discussed with GCSE students as part of their PSHE programme. In addition to A-level study, BTECs, NVQ and apprenticeships are also discussed.

At Collingham GCSE, we pride ourselves on equipping students with the skills they need to move into the next phase of their education. During their time at Collingham, GCSE students have supervised study sessions which help them to organize and structure their independent study time. If a student is struggling to keep up with their work, additional after-school (post-4pm) sessions can be arranged for them. At AS level in the Sixth Form, students are then timetabled for a maximum of four hours a week of supervised study time and then, in the A level year, students are generally expected to manage their study time entirely independently. This practice gradually encourages students to take responsibility for their time which is essential to their success at university studies or in the world of work.

In Year 11 about a third of the students' time is spent at 23 Collingham Gardens, which helps students to integrate into the A level part of the college. As well as developing a familiarity with the building, many tutors teach both GCSE and A level and will continue to teach the students as they move up to A level study.

There is considerable integration between GCSE and A level departments, with students coming together for external activities, to listen to guest speakers and to participate in college events, such as the Collingham Bake Off and Concert. There are fledgling plans to develop a GCSE/A level mentor scheme, as well as having A level teachers across subject areas offer 'booster' sessions to GCSE students, particularly in the run-up to the exams.

In the Spring Term, Year 11 students experience a taster A level day during which they can experience those subjects that are not delivered at GCSE level, such as Economics, Politics, Psychology and History of Art.

Whilst the Head of GCSE is in on-going contact with parents regarding their child's future studies, the Principal meets with all parents to discuss whether or not their child is suited to the Sixth Form and A level studies and to answer any questions they have regarding sixth-form entry at Collingham.

Sixth Form Admission

Students entering the Sixth Form are usually required to achieve five GCSE passes (Grade 4 or above). However, if it is felt that it is appropriate for the student, programmes that include a mix of GCSE re-take and AS study can be formulated. (See Admissions Policy)

Unless parents have given written notice by the end of the Spring Term that their child will attend another institution for post-16 study, or be entering into employment, it is assumed that their child will continue on to the Collingham Sixth Form.

Collingham College is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of our students and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. It is our aim that all students fulfil their potential.

The group tuition fees for students continuing on from GCSE to Sixth Form will be frozen for their time at the college.

Availability

This policy is provided to staff on confirmation of their appointment and to all staff on an annual basis.

Monitoring and Review:

- This policy will be subject to continuous monitoring, refinement and audit by the Principal and Designated Safeguarding Leads (DSLs).
- The Chairman of the Board of Directors will undertake a formal review of this policy for the purpose of monitoring and of the efficiency with which the related duties have been discharged, by no later than two years from the date shown below, or earlier if significant changes to the systems and arrangements take place, or if legislation, regulatory requirements or best practice guidelines so require.

Signed:

Dr Sally Powell
Principal

Date: January 2017

Edward Browne and Robert Marsden
Board of Directors

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