

## Monkseaton High School Sixth Form



The Sixth form at Monkseaton High School is a place where success for all is modelled, instilled and celebrated. As well as reflecting the lower school ethos, our Sixth Form has a warm, productive and enjoyable atmosphere, which contributes to the climate of inclusivity and enjoyment of learning across the school. Students are treated as adults and set the standards for learning and behaviour. Our sixth form embodies the school vision, values and ethos of equality, opportunity and inclusion and is testimony to the sound relationships we foster and the opportunities we provide for all to achieve. Students in post 16 are noticeable as you walk around the building and within our school community, and as our leavers' questionnaire states; 'they are very happy'

It is our belief that this has played a key part in the rapid improvements we have made over the last 3 years in outcomes. Our average grade for A Level students is a C+ and for Vocational students a Distinction+. we also have a 100% pass rate at post-16. As a result of this success we retain the majority of our year 11 students into Sixth Form, as well as attracting a significant number of students from other schools (over 20 each year) to join us for their post-16 studies. The Sixth Form benefit from a dedicated Sixth Form Area, with study and social space. They take part in enrichment activities, which include sports clubs, reading and debating societies and cooking skills. They also regularly support students in lower school lessons.

### **Achievement and Outcomes:**

We are delighted with the success of the Sixth Form over the last few years. Seeing and maintaining a rise in outcomes across all measures. Alongside the exceptional IAG, there are many Raising Achievement initiatives throughout the year. This can include CPD for staff based on teaching, learning and assessment strategies for the sixth form, events for key students within specific groups including A\*-B, A\*/A and motivational events to inspire students to success.

### **Information, Advice and Guidance:**

The improved IAG programme, which begins in Year 10, has ensured that students access the correct courses based on their ability, interests and future career intentions. We have a very inclusive ethos, meaning we have students enrolled who are successful in early entry application to UCAS and also a small number of students who study a small range of level 2 courses. Typically the Sixth Form entry profile of students has been below national average, but this has changed due to the success of our students at Key Stage 4. In response, it is now possible to study for a variety of pathways – academic, vocational and mixed - to allow learners flexibility in their course choices. The successful candidate will have to ensure a smooth transition to the curriculum offer due to new specifications for Applied General qualifications and the de-coupled A levels due to begin in September 2016. Additional to the curriculum, all students take part in compulsory independent learning and the compulsory tutorial programme, which they attend every morning. In addition, the enrichment offer in school is strong, with students being required to complete a minimum of 10 hours of enrichment activities each half term.

### **The Sixth Form Team:**

We have an Assistant Headteacher responsible for sixth form, 2 Pastoral Raising Achievement Leaders (1 in charge of Year 12 and 1 in charge of Year 13) alongside a team of tutors. Each student has a form tutor. We have delivered a lot of training around the role of the tutor to ensure they are skilled at raising achievement and providing IAG, and ensuring thorough attendance monitoring. Students are expected to attend morning registration at 8.55am each day regardless of their subject timetable and this forms an integral part of their Information, Advice and Guidance programme. We have a 100% destination success record for the past 3 years and this is down to the relentless drive of the team to ensure all students access a Post 18 pathway. We have recently

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opportunity

inclusion

achievement

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completed the largest number of UCAS applications on record, but also have a third of the year group who are applying for Apprenticeships and employment – an area we have recently strengthened through our enrichment offer

**Student engagement, enjoyment and progression:**

The enjoyment of our Sixth Form students is as important to us as their achievement. Currently, both parents and students tell us how much they value their time in school through Parent View, parental questionnaires and the Leavers Questionnaire. We achieve this through listening to what our students want, then acting on their feedback. We also actively seek out opportunities for our students, which include University admissions schemes; we are part of the NU entry, Newcastle University Partners Scheme and the Durham University Supported Progression programme. We also have students attending the Teach First Futures programme, and the Social Mobility Foundation support programme. Our year 12 summer term is also unique. All of our students attend a bridging week at University, which can form the basis of their EPQ. Alongside this, they also completed work experience, a Careers Day involving lectures from a range of destinations and a sports and celebration day. At the end of Year 13, we also arrange a celebration evening in to wish students well with their next step.