

## SIXTH FORM CONTRACT OF STUDY AT CTA 2023 - 24

As you progress into the Sixth Form, you will find that many aspects of school life are different: you will have your own personal study time, you will only be studying three subjects, you will have a greater level of responsibility to play around the school and the standard uniform rules applied to the rest of the school are different, allowing for some individuality.

We are very proud of our Sixth Form at Chase Terrace Academy and at the centre of everything we do is high standards and high expectations. We want you to be the best that you can possibly be every day, both in your academic studies, and as a role model and ambassador around the school. The information below outlines some of our basic expectations of Sixth Form students. This information provided is intended to support you in meeting these expectations. Please take the time to have a read through and contact a member of the Sixth Form team if you have any questions.

### **Bridging Programme**

The transition from GCSE to A-Level is a challenging one – in some ways it is greater than that from A-Level into university – and so it is important to get your mind-set correct before you start the courses in Year 12. We also need to bear in mind the fact that, over the past two years, teaching time has been lost during delivery of some of your courses, which could potentially make the transition even more challenging.

In order to support you in making this transition, we will be setting bridging tasks for each subject; these are designed to support you in making the step up to Sixth Form study and give you a better insight into Post-16 education. In the current situation, you all have the opportunity to make a real head start before attending the Sixth Form in September, so it is absolutely vital that you do this by completing the work set for each of your subjects. All students who are offered a place in our Sixth Form will be expected to complete the bridging tasks for their chosen subjects and bring them to their first lessons in September. These tasks will be used as the basis for initial assessment work during the first few weeks of the course. The tasks will be located in the sixth form section of the school website under the heading 'bridging tasks'.

### **Attendance**

Students are expected to attend school on a full time basis and attend all morning registrations. A minimum attendance of 95% is expected and this is in line with expectations for the rest of the school. Attendance figures are monitored by the Sixth Form team and if the attendance figure should fall below the minimum requirement, students and parents may be required to have a meeting with a member of the Sixth Form pastoral team to rectify the situation. Whilst we appreciate that occasionally, in exceptional circumstances, there are justifiable reasons for absence, persistent poor attendance without good reason could jeopardise an individual's place at CTA Sixth form. **ALL** absences must be reported by email/text on a daily basis to the Sixth form team

## **Punctuality**

Students need to be punctual to both registration and all lessons. Students will follow a comprehensive programme of study during registration that is not optional and will include assemblies. There will also be opportunities to engage in leadership development activities within the school during these times. Therefore it is important that students are in school for 8.30 each morning.

## **Dress Code**

Please see attached for the Sixth Form Dress Code. Sixth Form students are role models for the wider school community and are in preparation for progression into higher education or employment. We therefore require that all students adhere to the dress code at all times. Please note in particular that inappropriate footwear or denim are not permitted. Males need to wear a formal, collared shirt, whilst females are not allowed to wear vests or crop-styled tops and skirts of an unacceptably short nature. Sportswear, hooded tops and t-shirts of any type are not permitted; jumpers should be plain and free from any logos or branding. Jeans of any sort are not acceptable as part of school dress. Students failing to adhere to these expectations will be asked to go home and rectify their dress.

## **Wider School and Community**

All students are required to make at least ONE contribution to wider school life at CTA and this needs to take place on at least a weekly basis. Areas that students may become involved in are:

Raising achievement: this involves supporting individuals in key achievement groups at key stages three and four.

Extra-curricular activities: this is an opportunity to get involved in supporting the running of extra-curricular activities by departments across the school. Sports Leadership and Performing Arts Leadership are examples of developmental roles within this area.

Academic support: this involves opportunities such as providing support for students with special educational needs, one-to-one reading or working with students who are aiming for top grades across all of their subjects.

Whilst this work will enable Sixth Form students to gain credible experience for references, personal statements and their leadership award, it also reinforces our vision of the role that Sixth Form students should play in the whole-school community. We want our younger students to aspire to be in the Sixth Form in their later years and you will play a key role in acting as ambassadors in everything that you do, every single day

## **Charity**

As a school community, we offer a range of charitable support and it is an expectation that Sixth Form students help lead and support this process across the whole school as required.

## **Academic Study and Deadlines**

You will be required to attend a minimum of nine hours of taught lessons per subject per fortnight and should expect to complete at least 5 hours of independent study for each of your subjects every week; level 3 courses cannot be covered with classroom study alone. This is then supported by study periods within school time.

Subjects will also have specific requirements in terms of homework, assessment points and coursework. It is therefore essential that ALL deadlines are met and work is completed to the best of your capabilities – school studies must take priority over out-of-school activities (including part-time work!). In order to monitor progress, there will be assessment points during the course of the two years, the most important being the Year 12 and 13 internal Mock Exams. All students are required to pass at grade D or above to continue their studies in that subject. Students gaining E and U grades will be required to retake the exam to improve further. Students who fail to make sufficient progress towards their targets will be placed on intervention and support programmes; any lack of engagement with these combined with a lack of required improvement could potentially jeopardise their place in the Sixth Form at CTA.

## **Part Time Work**

Whilst it is inevitable that many of you will be likely to engage in part-time work, it is expected that this does not impinge on the personal study time that is required for you to achieve your potential in each of your subjects, or your attendance and punctuality. We recommend that you do not commit to more than 8 hours of part-time work per week and that the majority of this should take place at weekends. You are attending the Sixth Form in order to achieve the best grades possible so that you are able to progress into employment and/or higher education; giving your best efforts to all of your subjects should be your priority during the two years of study.

## **Work Experience**

It is now a statutory legal requirement that ALL Year 12 students take part in meaningful work experience that links into subject areas and/or future career ambitions. Students will therefore need to ensure that they find suitable provision for this by the end of February for a placement in the final week of the summer term. This process will be supported by tutors and the Information & Guidance Team.