



Winterbourne Academy

Welcome to Year 12

6th October 2026



The transition from Year 11 to Year 12

- From 9 or 10 subjects to **3 or 4 subjects**
- **Longer lessons**
- Academic **challenge**
- Increased **independent study, self-discipline & resilience**
- **Decrease dependency** upon external motivation
- **Expectations** – developing good learning habits
- **Career focused**
- Taking advantage of all **opportunities**
- **There's always work to be done**



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Advice to new starters from Year 13s (June 2026)



- **Take year 12 seriously** so that you don't have to catch up in year 13
- **Using all school hours** instead of going home for free periods. It means you do the vast majority of homework passively in school, making your life easier and less stressful. Good for social life too.
- **Don't let the stress get to you**, prioritise yourself and your mental health above everything else.
- **Revise whenever you can** and **keep up with any coursework.**
- **Take part** in any super-curricular in Y12.
- Don't be afraid to **reach out for support** from your teachers.
- **Be ambitious**- don't let your worries and fears limit or define you.
- **Start revising** little and often as early as possible.
- Make sure to **study subjects you feel passionate about** and/or interested in.

How can you help them succeed?

- Challenge them!
- Help them find a goal – look to the future
- Encourage them to work hard but keep a balance
- Be organised and stay organised
- When they say they have nothing... ask them to review their work/complete past papers
- Encourage them to not compare themselves to others
- Develop good habits: No such thing as a 'free period'
- Communicate with us



What do we expect from our Post 16 students?



- Excellent attendance (including enrichment & tutor sessions)
- Punctuality
- Complete assigned tasks to a high standard
- To complete extra reading/revision in their free periods
- Sign up to as many opportunities as possible
- Complete a week's worth of work experience

Sixth form only space

Sixth Form only spaces, ensuring they have the right environment around them not only to study but to make new friendships and grow as individuals.

P16 Cafe and Common Room eating & relaxation areas

Main P16 Study Area (+20 computers) & S08 quiet working areas

S10 & S9 small and quiet computer work rooms – each equipped with 20 computers and a workspace for students to work in a quiet space.



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Timings of the school day



Today		5 Days		Month
		08.30 – 09.00	Tutor session (twice a week)	
08:00	08:30-0	09.00 – 10:00	Lesson 1	
09:00	09:00-1 Maths (	10.00 – 10.25	Break	
10:00	10:25-1	10.25 – 11.25	Lesson 2	2: 12B/Ph-WW
11:00	11:25-1	11.25 – 12.25	Lesson 3	2: 12B/Ph-WW
12:00	Maths (	12.25 – 13.00	Lunch	
13:00	13:00-1 Physics	13.00 – 14.00	Lesson 4	
14:00		14.00 – 15.00	Lesson 5	12D/Ma2-WW
15:00	15:00-1 Physics	15.00 – 16.00	Lesson 6	
16:00				



Lesson structure

- For each KS5 course students will receive nine taught hours and one 10th period a fortnight, designed for independent study.
- The 10th period lesson will not be with teachers but students are expected to be on site, working through work set by their teachers



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Careers in Post 16

Our Careers programme aims to support all students in making informed decisions. Students will be offered:

- 1:1 Impartial Careers meeting
- Workshops from Universities and Apprenticeships providers
- Opportunities such as Insight days, mock interviews etc.
- Aspire and 'Get Hired' groups that meet regularly (January onwards)
- HE+: Opportunity for students expected to get ABB or above to participate in Uni Of Cambridge in person and online programme
- Not Impossible: Opportunity for targeted students to participate in micro placements



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Destinations 2026



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Work Experience

Change in the Government statutory guidance: expectation is that **everyone** in year 12 completes at least one week of Work Experience

All placements must be logged on Unifrog
Support from Mrs Brookman to find and record placements

We do not have a set week!

There will be guidance on:

- when is or isn't appropriate
- how to secure a 'good quality' work experience
- the process of ensuring the work experience is 'appropriate'.



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Enrichment:

Compulsory 2 hours (min) per fortnight for every student

- **Young Enterprise Initiative**
- EPQ – Extended Project Qualification
- **Gold Duke of Edinburgh**
- Core Maths – AS Level
- **Volunteering**
- GCSE English or Maths resits
- **First aid & Sign Language & Finance**
- Team Sports



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Channels of Communication

- We use emails as one of two main ways of communicating with students – make sure they can access their @olympustrust.co.uk - email address all of the time.

THEY NEED TO CHECK IT REGULARLY, OR THEY MAY MISS SOMETHING IMPORTANT

- We will also be using **Google Classroom** to share information with students. Post 16 Team, Academic Mentors, subject teachers and the careers team will use Google Classroom as the main way of sharing resources and share deadlines etc.



Google Classroom



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The Academic Mentor's Role

- To meet students regularly
- First point of contact
- Monitor attendance, behaviour and attitudes and to support
- To contact subject teachers when there are concerns in a subject to help resolve issues.
- Link to parents when needed
- To support students with their UCAS, apprenticeship and job applications
- To support and plan core activities involving P16 students, including PSHE



Sixth Form Academic Mentors



P16 students ARE REQUIRED to attend TWO registration sessions per week (8.30am to 9.00am)

In addition, students will be requested to attend 1-2-1 mentoring sessions when required.

Academic Mentors will be in place of tutors and will be the FIRST POINT of contact for you as parents and carers.

The Year 12 Academic Mentors are:

Mrs Greenwood (Mrs Spencer and Mrs Duckett), Mr Sapoff, Mrs Gillett, Mr Thompson, Mr Rendu & Mrs Greer



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Part-time jobs

- Research evidence and our direct experience suggests that students who work more than seven hours per week in a part-time job adversely affects their school attainment
- We therefore do not recommend students work excessive hours as this will negatively impact their work-life balance.



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Bursary support

There are two types of bursary will be available to young people aged 16-19 who commence their training in the year 2026 – 2027:

1. Discretionary Bursary

For students who need financial support to help them stay in education may be able to claim a smaller discretionary amount to help with costs of transport, equipment or other course related costs. This will be available where the combined household income is less than £22,500 per year.

2. Vulnerable Bursary

The defined vulnerable groups are students who are:

- in care
- care leavers
- receiving Income Support, or Universal Credit
- receiving Disability Living Allowance or Personal Independence Payments

If you believe you may be entitled to bursary funding, do apply. Application forms are available on the school webpage or from reception.

If unsure, please email Mrs Arpino



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Attendance & Absence

If you need to report a student's absence please use the following format:

Call P16 administrator – 01454 252051

Email the following member of staff
jennifer.arpino@olympustrust.co.uk



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Looking ahead:

Academic Review Day (virtual):

- Thursday 22nd October 2026

Y12 Parents' Evening Olympus (virtual):

- Thursday 11th March 2027

Year 12 GCSE Resits: 3rd to 9th November 2026

Year 12 Internal exams:

- Week commencing 25th January 2027
- Weeks commencing 14th June 2027

Year 12 Futures Week: 12th to 16th July 2027



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Questions

Please can we ask that you send any questions you may have to

Post16@winterbourneacademy.org.uk

We will also upload this presentation to our website for future reference.



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