

Welwyn & Hatfield

14-19 Consortium

STUDENT HANDBOOK

2024-25



Please read carefully and keep safe for reference throughout your time in the Sixth Form



CONTENTS

Welcome to Sixth Form	2
Post 16 Learning Contract	2
Student Attendance and Punctuality	3
Staff Absence	3
Private Study	3
Examinations and Coursework	3
Mobile Phones	3
Paid Employment	3
Behaviour	3
Student Concerns	3
Student Monitoring/Subject Changes	3
Student Progression	3
Planning	4
Driving to Other Sites	4
Transport	4
Fire and Emergency Procedures	5
Teaching Times	5
Folder/ Portfolio Requirements	5
Contacts	5
Appendix A – Actions and Consequences	
Appendix B – Progression to Year 13	
Appendix C – Dress Code	
Appendix D – Safeguarding	

Welcome to the Sixth Form! The purpose of these notes is to give you essential information regarding Consortium matters. Please keep this document for reference throughout the year. You can also find a copy of this document on our website and on school websites: www.welwynhatfieldconsortium.org.uk

You will be required to sign a student contract the details of which are laid out below:

Post 16 Learning Contract

As a member of the Welwyn & Hatfield Consortium, Bishop's Sixth Form will provide:

1. A learning programme that is appropriate to you and meets your needs
2. Transport to consortium sites between lessons
3. A friendly, caring and supportive learning environment
4. A Personal Tutor that provides pastoral support, monitors your progress and sets appropriate targets with you.
5. Teaching and facilities appropriate to the courses offered.
6. Ongoing monitoring through parents' evenings, written reports and interim assessments.
7. A full and varied enrichment programme.
8. Opportunities to develop interpersonal skills and hold positions of responsibility.
9. Information and support regarding progression routes Post-18
10. Opportunities to feedback on Consortium provision are instrumental in the ongoing development of our offer.

As a Bishop's Sixth Form student, you will:

1. Attend school on all days other than when absence is unavoidable through illness or other reason authorised by Mrs James.
 - a. Notify Mrs James, Head of Sixth Form, regarding any known absence. (Please note driving lessons, dental appointments and doctor appointments should be made out of school time.)
 - b. Explain any unplanned absence by immediately contacting the school
2. Take responsibility for my own learning:
 - a. Be punctual to all sessions.
 - b. Meet all work deadlines.
 - c. Use private study time in school and at home effectively. An absolute minimum of 5 hours per subject per week.
3. Adhere to home school's sixth form dress code and respect the dress code of other teaching sites. (Appendix C)
4. Always sign in and out and wear my ID badge at any time when on a school site.
5. Pay for my exam entry if I do not attend the exam without a valid reason deemed acceptable by the Exams Officer.
6. Take an active part in the life of the school in its widest sense by involving myself in Sixth Form activities, setting a good example to younger year groups and fundraising.
7. Be respectful and polite to all members of the schools' community.
8. Treat the school environment with respect and maintain the Sixth Form area in a clean and presentable state.

This information is contained in the Student Registration Form which must be completed by all students and returned to their home site before commencing lessons in September.

STUDENT ATTENDANCE AND PUNCTUALITY

- Students must arrive by 8.40am for morning lessons and by 1.15pm for afternoon lessons
- You must sign in and out at all sites you visit and wear your lanyard at all times.
- You must notify your subject staff of your reason for absence.
- After any absence, you should check online or with subject staff and catch up on any missed work.
- All registers will be taken on the Consortium Progresso website, which will be regularly monitored by the Post 16 Teams.
- All students should attend Friday mornings at Bishop's and register by 8.30am.

STAFF ABSENCE

- If for any reason a teacher is unable to teach a class, work will be set.
- If a teacher has not arrived after 15 minutes and no work has been set, please check with the departmental or school office for further information.
- Students must follow their home school procedures for staff absence, which can be found at <https://welwynhatfieldconsortium.org.uk/useful-information>
- If you are in any doubt about where you should be in the event of staff absence, you must check with your Head of Sixth Form.

PRIVATE STUDY

- Sixth Form Students are permitted to study at home in their free block if they have one.
- Students will normally return home for private study but, where appropriate, arrangements can be negotiated with your Head of Sixth Form for you to work elsewhere.

EXAMINATIONS AND COURSEWORK

- Dates for exam entry forms to be completed at your home site are shown on the consortium calendar.
- Entry forms must be signed and agreed by teachers for each of your subjects.
- Students are responsible for ensuring that their exam entry and coursework deadlines are met.

MOBILE PHONES

- Mobile phones must be turned off during lessons and used according to the school site policy.

PAID EMPLOYMENT

- We advise spending no more than 12 hours per week in employment. This should not be during school hours and should not impact any aspect of your education or school commitments.

BEHAVIOUR

- Please familiarise yourself with the Actions & Consequences Document. (Appendix A)

STUDENT CONCERNS

- If you have any concern in connection with your subject, you should initially discuss this with your subject teacher. If this concern is not resolved, you should refer to your Personal Tutor.
- Any other concerns you have should be referred to your personal tutor and/or Mrs James.

STUDENT MONITORING AND REVIEW: Course changes

- If you wish to make a subject course amendment, a form must be filled in and approved by both your A Level/BTEC Teacher and Mrs James.
- If you propose to discontinue your studies in any subject you must first speak to Mrs James

STUDENT PROGRESSION (Appendix B)

- Your academic progress will be monitored by your home site.
- The overall responsibility for monitoring your progress rests with your Personal Tutor and Mrs James
- Progression to Year 13 is not automatic, but dependent on your level of achievement as well as conforming to high standards of work, attendance and behaviour (see attached criteria, Appendix B).

PLANNING

- Subject staff will supply you with information on what you will be taught during each term and what deadlines there are.
- You are responsible for recording and meeting all important work deadlines.
- If you are unsure what you will be doing throughout the year, ask your subject teacher.

DRIVING TO OTHER SITES

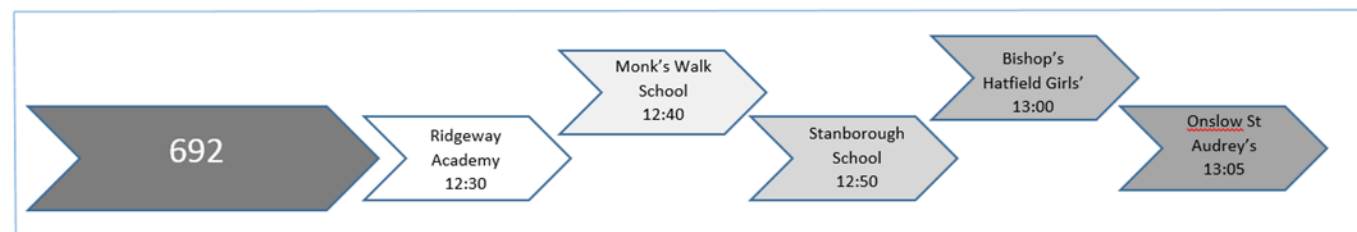
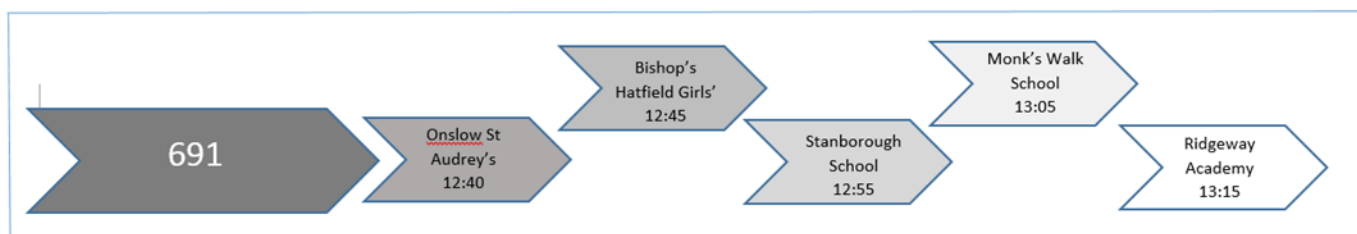
- If you wish to take a car or motorcycle to another establishment, you may only do so after consultation with the Head of Sixth Form there, who will explain the regulations in force with regard to parking, registration etc. There is no parking available for students except at Monk's Walk School.
- Where on-site parking is available, you will need to complete a Student Parking Notification form at each site you visit for teaching.

TRANSPORT

- If you are travelling to another establishment you are expected to make your own way there first thing in the morning, and to make your own way home at the end of the day.
- At lunchtime, free transport will be provided.
- Students will be aware of any additional safety measures which may need to be put in place according to government guidelines.
- If you are travelling between Welwyn and Hatfield Schools, you will need to take the appropriate bus. See the routes below:

	691		692
Onslow St Audrey's School	12:40	Ridgeway Academy	12:30
Bishop's Hatfield Girls' School	12:45	Monk's Walk School	12:40
Stanborough School	12:55	Stanborough School	12:50
Monk's Walk School	13:05	Bishop's Hatfield Girls' School	13:00
Ridgeway Academy	13:15	Onslow St Audrey's School	13:05

Any failure of normal service should be reported directly to the Duty Inspector at University Bus (Tel: 01707 255766) and the Consortium Office notified.



FIRE AND EMERGENCY EVACUATION / LOCKDOWN PROCEDURES

1. You must read the *Fire and Evacuation Notice* which is displayed in every Consortium classroom, laboratory, workshop or changing area.
2. You must follow the instructions for evacuating the building and assembling at the relevant assembly point. If you are taught at another site you must familiarise yourself with the emergency procedures of that school.

TEACHING TIMES

The start of morning and afternoon sessions may vary from site to site. For your first few weeks aim to be at your morning teaching site at 8.30am and the afternoon site by 1.00pm. Individual teaching staff will confirm start and finish times with students.

SCHOOLS	MORNING	AFTERNOON
Bishop's Hatfield Girls' School	9.00 – 12.40	1.20 – 3.00
Monk's Walk School	9.05 – 12.30	1.15 – 3.20
Onslow St Audrey's School	9.00 – 12.30	1.10 – 3.10
Ridgeway Academy	8.45 – 12.00	1.30 – 3.30
Stanborough School	9.00 – 12.20	2.00 – 3.30

FOLDER/PORTFOLIO REQUIREMENTS

Below is a list of the minimum expected items that should be in evidence in any sixth form student's subject folder/exercise book/portfolio/device. Some subjects may wish to add further items to suit the specific needs of their subject. Students who complete work on a device/online are still expected to have these items whether digitally or on paper.

1. **Subject specification/learning journey** – clearly accessible.
2. **Assessment Record Form/Grid** – Standard format provided for all subjects where students can track their graded assessments against targets. This will include target grades, mock results and a place for exam dates once they become known.
3. **Clear organisation of work** (dividers for folders or different exercise books for different modules for example).
4. **Assessed work** that is quickly and easily accessed with feedback from teachers (www and ebi).
5. **Written work** that is dated every lesson.
6. **Glossary of key terms** for any literacy based subject.
7. **A useful reading and key websites** list for any relevant subject.
8. **Evidence of folder checks** by form tutors and the sixth form pastoral team PLUS any checks carried out by departments as part of their own planning.

As a Sixth Form student, you are expected to be undertaking appropriate independent work conducted outside of class hours. This can be anything relevant to your subject from news articles, completed past papers, notes from a play, annotated poems, annotated examiner's reports or additional source material on a historical context for example. This can be added to your folder in addition to the above requirements.

DIRECTORY

Name of Centre	Telephone	Member of Staff in Charge
Bishop's Hatfield Girls' School	01707 275 331	Mrs E. James
Monk's Walk School	01707 322 846	Mr M. Haseler
Onslow St Audrey's School	01707 264 228	Ms E Tyler and Mr P McKenna
Ridgeway Academy	01707 351 350	Mrs N Picariello
Stanborough School	01707 321 755	Mr M Whelan-Hind

AND FINALLY

If you are finding things difficult or you have a concern, don't wait. Talk to your Subject Teacher, Personal Tutor or Head of Sixth, whoever you feel is appropriate so that the problem can be solved and you can concentrate effectively on your studies.

Good luck and have a successful and enjoyable year!

APPENDIX A

Category	If this behaviour occurs.....	Then staff will.....	Which could result in.....
Attendance	2 lessons missed and/or 2 consecutive absences with no reason over a six week period.	Subject staff must contact student and notify the tutor (for home site students) and HO6 th .(for offsite students)	Subject staff emailing HO6 th who will speak to student if attendance does not improve
	3+ lessons missed with no reason over a six week period.	Subject staff to contact HO6 th who will speak to student and contact home.	EMJ forwarding emails to appropriate HO6 th for guest students
	Persistent absence	Subject staff contact home and CPOMS	HO6 th inviting parents in. Student may be removed from course.
Punctuality	First late in a subject	Subject teacher speaks to student in the first instance and record on Edgen.	
	Repeated lateness in a subject	Record on Edgen. Subject staff can keep students back for break/lunch time (log on GO) or issue lunchtime detention.	Subject staff email HO6 th who will speak to student if punctuality does not improve. EMJ forwarding emails to appropriate HO6 th for guest students. Student could lose home study.
	Lateness to registration	Lunchtime detention.	
ID Badges	Failure to wear ID badge	ID badge: Students will have to obtain a temporary one from office staff. If students have lost ID badge they will have to put in a request to the office for a replacement	EMJ contacting home or relevant HO6 th
Dress Code	Dresses inappropriately (in breach of Sixth Form dress code)	Talk to student. If there is no valid reason they will issue a Lunchtime detention	Students will have to work in the study room if they persistently break the dress code and refuse to change.
Homework	Failure to submit homework	Provide a revised deadline	
	If work is still not forthcoming	Subject staff contacting home and /or setting an after school detention.	If student are guest student then subject staff or HO6 th will contact home site
	Persistent failure to complete homework	CPOMS, PIP and contact HO6 th . Student placed on subject report. Removal of home study.	If a pattern emerges across subjects student will be placed on full Sixth Form Report.

APPENDIX A cont....

Category	If this behaviour occurs.....	Then staff will.....	Which could result in.....
Classwork	Failure to complete adequate work of an appropriate standard in a lesson	Direct students to complete/redraft work in lunchtime detention For guest students email EMJ who will forward to appropriate HO6 th at home site.	
	Persistent failure to complete adequate work in a lesson	Discuss with CL, PIP, contact home. Student placed on subject report. Parent meeting	CL and subject staff meeting with student
Respect for school community	Disrespect shown to staff or other students at any time in any form.	Subject staff to speak to student concerned, complete CPOMS .	Subject Staff ask the student to leave the lesson and complete cause for concern form. SLT/ HO6 th may take further appropriate sanctions.
Respect for the environment	Disrespect shown for the school environment.	Speak to student concerned, CPOMS and pass directly to the HO6 th	Subject Staff ask the student to leave the lesson. SLT/ HO6 th may take further appropriate sanctions.
Electronic devices (mobile phones etc)	Device used outside Sixth Form area.	Ask student to stop using the device and put it away immediately.	Report any refusal to SLT/HO6 th which could result in the confiscation of the item until the end of that morning or afternoon session if a visiting student. If a home student confiscate for 2 days.
	Device going off/used in a lesson without permission.	Ask student to stop using and turn off device. Subject staff may confiscate until the end of the lesson.	Staff reporting any refusal or persistent occurrence to SLT/ HO6 th which could result in the confiscation of the item until the end of that morning or afternoon session if a visiting student, or the end of the day, if a home student
Food	Student bringing food out of the canteen area.	Staff to send student back to the canteen	Any refusal to comply must be reported to HO6 th
	Student bringing hot food in from off site.	Student will be asked to leave the school building to eat the food or dispose of the food.	

For serious offences please refer to the main school Actions and Consequences.

APPENDIX B

Progression to Year 13 (2024-2025)

Progression to Year 13 is not automatic and students will need to have demonstrated their commitment to a further year of study through a variety of criteria. The main criterion for progression within a subject area will be achievement.

It is expected that a student wishing to continue into Year 13 will meet the following criteria:

Criteria	Measures
Advanced Level Achievement	It is important for all students to be on the correct courses that can give them the best possible outcomes. Students starting Advanced Level/BTEC subjects in September 2023 are expected to achieve at least a D grade in two subjects to progress to their second year. These grades will be determined through the internally set end of Year 12 exams. If this standard is not met there will be a review of, and possible amendment to, that student's course provision. As part of the review, the student's attitude to work and their attendance will be considered. Any changes made to course provision will be in the best interests of the student's potential achievement; full support will be given should there be a need for a change of course or institution.
BTEC Achievement	Average a merit grade in coursework modules, complete all modules set and pass the external examination at the end of Year 12.
Attendance	Under normal circumstances an attendance figure of at least 95% would be expected of any student wishing to progress to Year 13.
Punctuality	Less than 5% late
Coursework/ homework	A record of meeting required deadlines.
Attitude	Commitment towards their studies and an attitude that contributes towards a positive learning environment, showing respect for Staff, students and the wider community.

In exceptional circumstances and in liaison with the subject teacher, schools may recommend a student to progress who has not met the criteria. Each case will be treated individually by the School.

APPENDIX C – Dress Code

BHGS Sixth Form Dress Code

Sixth Formers at BHGS have some discretion to make certain choices about their working clothes and appearance but are expected to set an example of smartness to other year groups. The Sixth Form dress code is smart office wear, preparing you not only for your studies but also for life beyond school. Below are the rules on what this includes:

- **Skirts/Dresses:** Of a length appropriate for a professional environment.
- **Trousers:** Smart suit style, tailored boot-cut, straight-leg or tapered trousers with zip fastening.
- **Suit –Plain jacket/blazer**
- **Tops:** Sleeveless, short or long sleeved shirts, blouses, smart t-shirts, smart/fine knitwear.
- **Shoes:** Smart flats, low-mid heel courts or smart boots. Smart sandals in summer.
- **Tights:** plain coloured.
- **Shirt:** A long or short sleeve suit-smart shirt (tie optional)
- **Hair:** Should be neat, a natural colour.
- **Ear piercings:** Permitted in school plus a single discreet nose stud or ring.

Appropriate clothing will need to be brought into school to change into for practical subjects.

Not permitted

- Outdoor coats in lessons or assemblies.
- Inappropriately short skirts/dresses
- Denim or leather in any form.
- Hooded tops or leggings.
- Strappy tops or crop tops..
- Clothing with holes, studs or rips.
- Trainers, canvas shoes, Converse, flip flops, backless shoes or sandals, Ugg-style, above the knee boots and Crocs. Excessively high heels are not suitable.
- All piercings not specified above are not permitted (e.g septum, lip, eyebrow, tongue)
- Tattoos.
- Shaved head hairstyles.

Any student who breaches the school dress code can expect to be sanctioned

APPENDIX D – Post 16 Safeguarding

Safeguarding you as a Post 16 student is very important to us. You have more freedom than your younger peers, and with that comes additional responsibility.

Identification

- You will be issued with an ID badge. It is compulsory for you to wear these at all times, and at all consortium schools. Students without appropriate identification could be turned away from the relevant school if recognisable identification cannot be produced.

Registration

- It is your responsibility to ensure that you register using the appropriate system for each school. This also serves as the fire register, so it is imperative that records are accurate.
- Attendance to your classes is also monitored by the class teacher.
- Fire procedures are displayed in all consortium post 16 study areas. Please make yourselves aware of these on the first visit to each school.

Movement around the consortium

- You will make your own way to and from schools at the start and end of the day.
- At lunchtime, you can make your own way to offsite lessons, or use the free consortium bus.
- The consortium bus, like all public transport, is subject to the health and safety guidelines of the relevant transport company.

(If you make your own way to offsite lessons, then you do so under the responsibility of your parents, as you do when journeying to and from school in the normal school day).

Schools operate a transparent system of shared safeguarding checking for staff across all consortium schools).

- If you have any concerns of a safeguarding nature linked to offsite schools you should speak to the school's Head of Sixth Form in the first instance, (their office is signposted in their post 16 study area), or to your Head of Sixth Form asap.
- The most up to date designated safeguarding lead for all consortium schools can be found on the front page of the individual school's website.

Life skills

- It is important to us that you receive an appropriate diet of pastoral support within our post 16 offer.
- These sessions will include guest speakers, which cover a wide range of issues including the promotion of support to avoid safeguarding issues, and to raise awareness, for our young people.
- For example, awareness of FGM, radicalisation, e-safety, mental health support systems, LGBT information, homelessness and various health and sexual health information sessions.

If you have any questions or safeguarding concerns please contact your Head of Sixth Form. If you are offsite, please contact the following:

Name of Centre	Head of Sixth
Bishop's Hatfield Girls' School	Mrs. E. James ejames@bishophatfield.herts.sch.uk
Monk's Walk School	Mr. M. Haseler mh@monkswalk.herts.sch.uk
Onslow St Audrey's School	Ms E Tyler and Mrs P McKenna etyler@onslow.herts.sch.uk pmckenna@onslow.herts.sch.uk
Ridgeway Academy	Mrs N Picariello picarellon@ridgeway.aat.school
Stanborough School	Mr. M. Whelan-Hind mwhelanhind@stanborough.herts.sch.uk

APPENDIX E

Name: _____ Form: _____ School: _____ Subject/s: _____ TG: _____

Considerations:	Yes? Some? No?	Comments:
General – tell me about how you manage your work? Do you use physical folders, electronic folders, or anything else? Does this change between subjects and topics? Why?		
Handbook – where is your subject handbook? Is it easily accessible and used? What information is included in it? How and why would you use it?		
Presentation – is your classwork well presented, neat and legible? Are titles clear and underlined, do you use subheadings, highlighters, coloured pens? Do you use pencil and rules for diagrams and charts? Have you proofread for literacy?		
Organisation – how is your work organised? Physical folders might have dividers, sections and plastic wallets. Electronic folders might have labels, sub folders of topics and a logical order. How and why does this compare from subject to subject?		
Marked work and assessments with feedback – where are your marked work, assessments and feedback stored? Are they easily accessible and used? How do your teachers give you feedback? What examples help you progress the most?		
Your reflections and improvements – where are examples of reflections and improvements on your work? Are they easily accessible and used? Do you use a different colour pen/font to indicate improvements? How do you know you made progress?		
Wider reading – where do you log your wider reading? Do you keep copies (physical or digital) of the texts you read? Do you purchase books, use a library or online reading materials? How do you record your reading- highlighting, annotating, notes etc?		
Independent study, homework and revision – where is your work from independent study, homework and revision kept? How is it organised compared to your classwork? Do you prefer to complete this handwritten or electronically or a mixture, why? What types of tasks do you complete? Which types of tasks help you to make the most progress?		

Positive feedback:

Even better if:

Student actions before the next folder check:

Folder checked by:

Date: