



Waltham Toll Bar Academy

CBH/GM

September 2023

Dear Parent/Carer,

As we begin another busy academic year at Toll Bar Sixth Form, we would like to welcome all of our students and their parents/carers. We look forward to working with you all as we continue our efforts to secure the best possible outcomes and future for every student that attends our Sixth Form.

2023 Leavers

We were delighted to be able to celebrate the success of our Year 13 leavers this summer. With a 98% pass rate across all qualifications, and 93% of students attaining places at their first or second choice of university, there were many happy faces on A Level Results Day! We are immensely proud of the achievements of all our students, many of whom are now settling in at prestigious universities all over the country, and we have high hopes for continued success with this year's cohort of Year 13 students.

Welcome to Year 12

It has been fantastic to welcome our new Year 12 students to Sixth Form this week, and we look forward to seeing them take advantage of the many opportunities that Sixth Form life presents. Our dedicated Sixth Form Team is here to support students to make a successful transition to this phase of their education, and we encourage students to approach us with any concerns that they may have as they settle in.

Assessment Dates

Please find below an overview of the formal assessment periods for this year. Students are assessed throughout their A Level courses, so that we can monitor the progress they are making towards their target grades, and identify targeted areas for improvement. Your support in ensuring that your son/daughter prepares thoroughly for all assessments is much appreciated, and if you have any concerns regarding progress, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Year 12	Year 13
Assessment Period 1 – w/c 13/11/23	Assessment Period 1 – w/c 25/09/23
Assessment Period 2 – w/c 04/03/24	Assessment Period 2 – w/c 04/12/23
Assessment Period 3 (End of Year Examinations) – 17/06/24 – 28/06/24	Assessment Period 3 (Mock Examinations) – 19/02/24 – 01/03/24

UCAS for Year 13 students

Our Year 13 students have begun the UCAS application process during their tutorial sessions, and we encourage all students to consider university as one of their future options. All students should have completed their personal statements already, and have submitted these for checking. Please note, the early entry deadline for UCAS applications is 16/10/23, with the final deadline for submission of applications being January 31 2024. We advise all students to complete their applications in good time, and to access the support available from the Sixth Form Team to assist them with their choices.



Proud to be part of the

Lincolnshire Gateway
Academies Trust

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Principal: Nigel Whittle



Attendance

All students have been briefed regarding our attendance expectations and procedures. The attendance office must be contacted at the earliest opportunity on the day of absence by either the students or parents/carers. The number to ring is: 01472 500505. If students are absent with no reason given, we will endeavour to contact parents/carers to confirm absence. Failure to attend lessons on a regular basis, without good reason, is taken very seriously, and will result in escalation through our attendance monitoring procedures. We therefore request your support in encouraging students to maintain the highest levels of attendance throughout their time with us.

16-19 Bursary Fund

The 16-19 Bursary Fund is available to students/families that meet the eligibility criteria outlined within our Bursary Policy, and is designed to remove some of the financial barriers that can affect students at this stage of their education. In recognition of the current cost of living crisis, we have increased the household income threshold that is used to determine eligibility for Bursary Funding, meaning any student whose annual household income is below £36,000 can access financial support through the Bursary Fund. The full Bursary Policy and Application Form for 2023-24 can be found on the Toll Bar Sixth Form website.

Invitation to Sixth Form Information Evening – Thursday 21st September

We would like to provide you with an early opportunity to access information on how you can support your son/daughter throughout this academic year. As such, all parents/carers are invited to our Sixth Form Information Evening on Thursday 21st September. There will be two information sessions delivered on this evening, tailored to the different stages of our Year 12 and 13 students, as shown below.

Year 12 – 5:30pm-6:00pm:

Information on Sixth Form life and expectations, opportunities available to students, within Sixth Form, and how you can best support your child through this phase of their education.

Year 13 – 6:30pm-7:00pm:

Information on how to support students throughout Year 13, key milestones, the UCAS application process, and planning next steps.

If you would like to attend, please sign up via the link on the Toll Bar Sixth Form website, indicating which session you will be attending. Both sessions will take place in the Music Hall in the main Academy, and will also provide you with the opportunity to approach the Sixth Form Team with any questions that you may have.

Thank you once again for your ongoing support for Toll Bar Sixth Form. We look forward to sharing the successes of our students with you over the coming year. Please do not hesitate to get in touch at any point should you have any concerns or general queries.

Yours faithfully,



Miss C Hook
Vice Principal