

The Denefield school community

Sixth Form students exemplify the ethos of Denefield and champion the school CHARACTER values. They are role models for the lower school and provide a positive presence within the Denefield school community.

As leaders of the school community, Sixth Form students agree to:

- immerse themselves in the wider school community
- actively report any episodes of bullying or discrimination of others
- adhere to the Sixth Form dress code, including the display of student ID badges
- ensure that mobile phones and headphones are not visible around the school site. They are only permitted in the Sixth Form common room, work room and library for independent study, and for educational purposes that are directed by teaching staff.

In the classroom

Within the classroom there is a culture of engagement, encouragement and effort. Students are passionate in developing their subject knowledge and take every opportunity to maximise their learning. The behaviour of Sixth Form students is exemplary and founded upon respectful relationships.

Whilst studying, sixth form students agree to:

- respect staff and their peers
- actively engage with the lesson content and work purposefully independently
- take opportunities to make positive contributions to the lesson.

Punctuality

Punctuality is about respect and you cannot respect someone if you do not respect their time.

It is expected that students:

- ensure they attend registration (including before briefing), study periods and all lessons
- arrive on time to registration, study periods and all lessons
- meet deadlines for all homework and directed independent work
- are punctual in informing staff if they are going to be absent from registration, study periods or lessons. Driving lessons are not a reason to miss these sessions.
- refrain from taking any regular paid work on a Friday afternoon as this time could be used for intervention or, for students who fail to meet expectations, an extended school day.

Sixth Form staff

Our shared vision is for Denefield to become a centre of excellence for post-16 education.

Denefield will become the Sixth Form of choice for an outstanding, inclusive education; where students are provided with expert guidance and given the skills and knowledge they require to take on the next challenges in their lives – be that apprenticeships, employment or university courses.

Sixth Form staff will:

- treat students with the respect and dignity of adults
- care personally and be ambitious for each students' future
- provide a safe but challenging environment for students to learn in
- provide suitable independent work, including extension tasks and wider reading, to allow students to apply their knowledge.

Sixth Form dress code – “business-like dress”

Denefield Sixth Form students are role models for younger students, and their standards of dress are an important part of the culture of our Sixth Form. We are a Sixth Form based on a school site

that has high standards of dress as a part of their values and ethos, and we expect Sixth Form students to lead the community by example, reflecting these standards. We also believe that the way we dress influences our mindset, which feeds into the belief that a focussed working day allows students to live rich and varied lives in their own time. We have a dress code that stops short of a prescriptive uniform, with the aim to have a smart appearance that allows a degree of personal expression.

It is impossible to cover all bases here. The Head of Sixth Form, and Sixth Form team, will make the final decision as to whether an item of clothing falls within the spirit of business-like dress.

- Our intention is to allow freedom of expression within these boundaries. For example, coloured or patterned trousers, provided they are smart in cut and material, would be acceptable.
- There will be concessions to 'summer dress' to ensure comfort (details of which will be confirmed ahead of summer).
- Outer layers for subjects which have a practical element (Sciences, Art, Product Design) will be available to protect clothing.

What is allowed:

- smart, work-oriented and comfortable shoes (including plain black trainers or plain black canvas shoes with no logo)
- smart trousers or skirt
- smart dress
- smart collared shirt, blouse or smart top (high neckline and covered shoulders)
- a jacket/blazer, jumper OR cardigan with no visible logo (no leather or denim jackets)
- sports coaching students are permitted to wear their Reading kit only on training and match days. They should only wear what is provided for them, and not sports clothing of their own choice
- single nose piercing
- plain t-shirt
- plain smart tailored shorts (Term 6 only).

What is optional:

- full suit (trouser or skirt suit)
- smart outdoor coat
- tie
- closed-toe sandals in summer
- smart boots in winter.

What is not permitted:

- denim or any ripped clothing
- t-shirts with large logo's, sweatshirts or hoodies
- clothing that is overly revealing, including exposing bare midriff or chest
- hats and other headwear (except for parentally confirmed religious or medical reasons)
- skin-tight trousers (fitted trousers are acceptable) combat trousers, shorts or cut-offs
- strappy tops or vests
- sportswear eg. tracksuits, hooded tops
- leggings or jeggings
- more than one facial piercings or extremes of hair style/unnatural hair colour.