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Meadowhead School Sixth Form

Academy Trust

We Make a Difference

2023-24

Welcome to Meadowhead Sixth Form

Outstanding results again in 2023!

We trust that this prospectus and our website will provide you with a comprehensive overview of what is on offer at Meadowhead.

Meadowhead is an excellent sixth form, with outstanding facilities, located in the South West of Sheffield. We are the Sixth Form of first choice for the vast majority of students in the area and our welcoming approach, and proven track record of academic success, is attracting more and more students from other schools. This year, 95% of Meadowhead's top achieving Y11s chose to stay on to Sixth Form, and we welcomed record numbers of Y12s in September.

Due to our size we are able to offer a wide range of academic and vocational subjects, appropriate to student needs and interests, whilst maintaining small class sizes of 14-18 on average.

In 2022, we were rated as the top performing state Sixth Form in Sheffield based on our AAB grade % at A Level. In 2023, students continued to excel, achieving the best ever results for a year where assessments were not adjusted for the pandemic. This highlights that the teaching and facilities at Meadowhead are of the highest quality and these, combined with our outstanding care, guidance and support, enable students to achieve well and to gain places at a wide range of universities, including the best in the country.

The opportunities we provide are first class. The Meadowhead Community Learning Trust consists of our feeder primary schools, Sheffield College, both universities in Sheffield and 21 local and national business partners. Our day-to-day school life is enriched by visits and activities to provide our students with incredible career opportunities and to improve life chances. These links are particularly helpful to those who choose to follow a more vocational pathway in the Sixth Form.

Meadowhead's impressive facilities provide students with a state-of-the-art learning environment. The school buildings include brand new IT and private study facilities which help students to develop independence and discipline in their learning.

The best way to learn about our Sixth Form is to meet our students, who will tell you what it is like to study here. You are very welcome to visit and see Meadowhead Sixth Form at work.

Mrs Kam Grewal-Joy

Headteacher



Outstanding facilities

Our Sixth Form Centre was officially opened in 2018 by Meadowhead alumnus and first British astronaut Helen Sharman. The centre is part of a £2.4 million extension to our existing school building. It features eleven new teaching spaces equipped with the latest technology, a Common Room and social space with a café, the Sixth Form Office and private study space.

The new St James's Retail Park opened in 2018 and is available for students to access during their lunch break.

66% of all grades awarded to students were A*-B in 2023

Ranked the top performing state Sixth Form in Sheffield for 2022

Average applied general grade was a Distinction in 2023

Our values

We are

Excellent

We will provide high-quality teaching and learning. Our lessons will be led by inspiring teachers who are subject specialists.

Ambitious

We will help you widen your horizons and look further afield as you consider the next steps in your life. All students benefit from a unique enrichment programme, extended work placements, and University visits.

Supportive

We will encourage and support you to be the best you can be. We welcome students from a diverse range of backgrounds and are very proud of our work in helping students overcome any barriers they may face. We offer friendly and helpful tutoring and regular access to a specialist careers adviser.

Challenging

Our courses are challenging yet rewarding. They will stretch you out of your comfort zone and ask you to work harder than ever before.

Fun

We organise a wide range of extra-curricular activities and social events (in school and beyond) that will help you enjoy your Sixth Form experience.



CRIME SCENE DO NOT ENTER

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Why choose Meadowhead?

Here is a taste of what we offer:

1

Experienced A Level teachers and an excellent range of subjects

- Dedicated, passionate staff who inspire students to achieve high levels of success
- Students follow rigorous and challenging courses that prepare them for university study and entry into professional life
- There is a strong emphasis on independent study and research
- Experienced A Level teachers
- A broad range of over twenty subjects to choose from
- A timetable that is designed around student applications

2

A growing tradition of outstanding results

- Ranked as the top-performing state Sixth Form in Sheffield in 2022
- Ranked in the top 3 Sixth Forms in Sheffield for A Level results in 2023

3

Outstanding support for university, apprenticeship and employment applications

- University of Sheffield, Sheffield Hallam, Leeds Beckett University, Emmanuel College Cambridge and Magdalen College Oxford are established partners who provide support, advice and opportunities for students aspiring to attend university
- Bespoke programme of support for students applying to Oxbridge, Medicine/Dentistry, Veterinary Science and Law
- Explicit and targeted support for all post-18 pathways with a focus on students' destinations as well as their grades
- All students complete a week of work experience in Year 12 to develop skills and enhance applications
- Outside speakers from a range of institutions and organisations – including the local MP and local charities and organisations – who visit our student briefings to encourage aspiration and encourage debate
- A high quality tutor time programme which supports applications and helps students to develop a more independent, resilient mindset
- In school impartial careers advice service – all students meet with our advisor regularly
- Next steps evening in June of Year 12 features guests from universities and employers
- All Year 13 students participate in mock interviews with local employers and receive feedback on their CVs

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Comprehensive academic and pastoral support

- Experienced, friendly tutors and Sixth Form support team
- Specialised advice and guidance – students arranged in forms by subject choice to ensure targeted advice
- Form time programme which includes exploration of different careers options and of extra and supercurricular content
- Access to more personalised support from other school professionals or external agencies as required
- Regular parental email contact and access to our online parental portal keeping parents up-to-date with key information
- A range of face-to-face family events including parents' evenings, Sixth Form Welcome Evening and Progression Evening
- Weekly after school Academic Support sessions staffed by members of the Sixth Form team
- Tutor time programme that covers a broad range of key skills for study and for life

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Unique and personalised Meadowhead enrichment programme

- All students complete a range of enrichment activities in Year 12 to ensure they build up a portfolio of experience for applications by the start of Year 13
- This programme includes work experience, university visits, independent reading and research, volunteering and the development of a hobby or skill
- A large network of businesses and organisations (through our Meadowhead Community Learning Trust) that provide unique work placements in a wide range of fields
- Elected roles of President and Vice Presidents
- Wide ranging extra-curricular activities available including football team, sport, drama productions, and opportunities to mentor and support younger students
- A variety of trips, including to Iceland, CERN in Geneva, Washington and Canada
- A Opportunity to take the Duke of Edinburgh Award

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Ethics Curriculum

- Specialised ethics curriculum designed and taught by subject specialists each week
- Coverage of a variety of important and relevant issues to our students, including mental health and wellbeing, life skills, social action, consent, body image and self-esteem
- Responsive to the ideas and views of our Student Voice

The sixth form team was great at handling the well-being of students and often went above and beyond.

STUDENT LEAVERS' SURVEY 2023

Studying at Meadowhead

At Meadowhead, students receive excellent teaching and learning. The "jump" between GCSE and A Level is considerable but our students are helped to transition into the Sixth Form through a dedicated programme. We hold a two day transition event in early July in order to support students.

Our teaching staff are subject experts and share their enthusiasm and passion for the subject with students. For continuing Meadowhead students, our teachers will be familiar faces who you will have known since you joined the school. We regularly meet with students and their families at information evenings.

Students are taught in small groups (usually 14-18). Students also enjoy access to well-resourced classrooms as well as space for independent study in our fantastic Sixth Form Centre and our excellent Learning Resource Centre.

UNIQUE TO MEADOWHEAD

Outstanding pastoral care
Unique enrichment programme
Specialist tutoring
Unrivalled contact with employers
Student experience at the heart of what we do

Our enrichment programme

Alongside high-quality teaching and learning in their chosen subjects, students also take part in our unique enrichment programme.

During Year 12, students complete modules in the following areas:

- Work Experience (one week)
- University visit days (at least two days)
- School or Community Volunteering (at least five hours)
- Extra-curricular hobby or skill (at least ten hours)
- Supercurricular reading and research (at least five hours)

Students will be supported through these modules during Tutor Time and Study Time.

For the work experience module, we engage with over 50 well-known local and multinational employers to provide high-quality placements in a wide variety of industry sectors: engineering & construction, sports & leisure, hospitality & catering, legal & financial, business administration and education. Visit our website for more details and links to all Trust partner websites.

During Year 13, students will be supported in applying for university, apprenticeships or employment. As well as being incredibly beneficial for personal development, these activities also support successful applications.

Students who attend the sixth form are taking up places at university in increasing numbers.

OFSTED 2022

There is a well-planned programme of careers education, information, advice and guidance on offer.

OFSTED 2022



Our subjects

- English Language
- English Literature
- Mathematics
- Further Mathematics
- Biology
- Chemistry
- Physics
- Applied Science (BTEC Extended Certificate)
- Forensics and Criminology (BTEC Diploma)
- French
- German
- Spanish
- Geography
- History
- Economics
- Philosophy
- Psychology
- Sociology
- The Extended Project Qualification (EPQ)
- ICT (BTEC Extended Certificate)
- Computer Science
- Art, Craft and Design
- Art Textiles
- Photography
- Product Design
- Music (A Level)
- Performing Arts (BTEC Extended Certificate)
- Sport (BTEC Extended Certificate, Diploma and Extended Diploma)
- Sport (A Level)
- Health and Social Care (BTEC Extended Certificate)



Scan the QR code for further information

Teaching in the sixth form is highly effective. Teachers use a variety of approaches to encourage students to think deeply, to make connections and to support their views and ideas

OFSTED 2022

Trips, events and guest speakers

As a Sixth Form, we are proud of our extensive range of trips and visits. We hold an annual Leavers' Dinner at the Double Tree Hilton Hotel.

In recent years, trips and visits have included a Geography trip to Iceland, an Art and Design trip to Barcelona, a History trip to Washington DC, a Science trip to CERN, Geneva and a visit to museums and cultural sites in London. Last year, we reintroduced the Duke of Edinburgh Award, and this year we are running a fully funded trip to Canada for qualifying students. Sixth Form students have also been part of whole-school events such as the football trip to Spain.

We work with the rest of the school to support events such as the annual Sports Day, the Everyone a Writer celebration evening and drama performances.



My form tutor supported me with my applications as well as my learning

STUDENT LEAVERS' SURVEY 2023

Meadowhead Football Academy



In partnership with Sheffield United's Ben Osborn and EFD Sport and Education, this is a unique opportunity for talented 16-18 footballers to train and play in a full time environment whilst studying at Meadowhead Sixth Form. Students will be able to combine a full A Level/ BTEC programme of studies with the Football Academy and will have access to weekly training, matches and competitions by highly qualified coaches.

"Winning the league unbeaten just felt like the right way to wrap up an unbelievable two years I'll genuinely never forget. The scholarship was a privilege to be a part of and I'll always be grateful for the coaching we received as it was nothing short of top-class." – Football Scholar

Information, advice and guidance

All Sixth Form students belong to a tutor group with a dedicated tutor. Tutor groups are arranged by discipline to enable targeted advice and guidance from a subject specialist; students are placed in a tutor group with peers who are studying similar subjects.

The Head of Sixth Form works with a team of dedicated staff to support and guide all students. Along with their tutor, each student will be supported by their Head of Year, a Pastoral Manager and the Academic Support Manager. Throughout Years 12 and 13, students receive support and guidance to help them achieve their potential and to make the right choices when they leave Meadowhead. Students also have access to the school's experienced careers advisor who will meet with students regularly during their time with us to offer impartial advice and guidance.

Students and Sixth Form staff meet for a briefing on Tuesday morning and this is followed by a one hour tutorial. Here are some of the topics we cover during tutorial time and through our Ethics curriculum:

- Introduction to progression options: university, employment, apprenticeship and gap years
- Support for applications to each of these routes
- Preparation for academic and employment interviews
- Citizenship and democracy: voting and politics
- Citizenship and democracy: meet the local MP
- Personal wellbeing: mental health, stress and anxiety
- Personal wellbeing: sexual health and healthy relationships
- Personal wellbeing: self-care and healthy eating
- Personal wellbeing: alcohol, drugs and managing risks
- Personal wellbeing: independent travel and safer driving
- Personal wellbeing: managing paid employment and student-workers' rights
- Study Skills: conducting research, referencing and plagiarism
- Study skills: revision strategies
- Study skills: giving a presentation
- Living independently: finances
- Living independently: housing, landlords and renting

The teachers are absolutely brilliant

STUDENT LEAVERS' SURVEY 2023

How to apply (2024 entry)

Students usually apply for Sixth Form during the autumn of Year 11. Our entry requirements ask that students achieve at least five subjects at grades 9-4 including English and Maths and usually at least a 5 (GCSE) or a Merit (BTEC) in their chosen subjects.

For some subjects, the entry requirements are higher. Students normally choose three subjects and study them for two years. If chosen, students with very high GCSE attainment (at least six 9-7 grades) may wish to study four subjects.

A full list of our entry requirements can be found on the school website.

The details of how to apply are included below:



New students

We warmly welcome students from other schools to join our growing Sixth Form. If you are from a Sheffield school, you should also be supported through the application process by your form tutor. If you are a student from outside Sheffield, please contact the Sixth Form team for an application form.

If your application is successful, we will contact you directly.

Arranging a visit

You are welcome to arrange a visit or come and see our Sixth Form "in action" during the day. Should you wish to arrange a visit please contact the Sixth Form team on **0114 237 2723** ext. 716.

Scan the QR code for more information on how to apply.

Meadowhead students

You will be supported through the application process during Tutor Time. Additional support will be available from the Sixth Form team. You will be able to submit your application from late November onwards. Interviews are usually held in December.



Student voice

We believe that the best form of education emerges from a partnership between teachers, students and their families. With this in mind, we regularly consult with students and parents about our Sixth Form provision. Students elect a Sixth Form student president and vice-president and these students, alongside a presidents' committee of specialist roles, raise concerns and questions. Such representation ensures that the student experience is the best it can possibly be. Elections are held for these positions each October.

"Great study and social areas make free periods enjoyable."

STUDENT LEAVERS' SURVEY 2023

"Teachers give extraordinary support for their students. They take time out of their days to offer support and help their students."

STUDENT LEAVERS' SURVEY 2023

"Whenever I have had a question about my studies there has always been a teacher with expertise in the subject to help me"

STUDENT LEAVERS' SURVEY 2023

"I have really enjoyed my time at sixth-form. It has provided me with many opportunities such as trips to London and Liverpool, as well as textiles workshops and mock interviews, which I gained lots from. I felt very supported by the team when making my next step decisions and was impressed with the amount of effort they put into future pathways and UCAS guidance."

STUDENT LEAVERS' SURVEY 2023



Meadowhead School
Sixth Form Academy Trust

We Make a Difference

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For more info about our school visit
www.meadowhead.sheffield.sch.uk



- Sixth Form students are positive role models for younger pupils. Students who attend the sixth form are taking up places at university in increasing numbers. There is a well-planned programme of careers education, information, advice and guidance on offer.
- Teaching in the sixth form is highly effective. Teachers use a variety of approaches to encourage students to think deeply, to make connections and to support their views and ideas. Sixth-form students are wonderful ambassadors for the school. They willingly support younger pupils and have led the school's 'never okay' strategy that promotes safer relationships awareness.
- Students in the sixth form benefit from expert support that helps them to make decisions about their next steps.