



**SOUTH WIRRAL HIGH SCHOOL**  
A Visual & Performing Arts, Maths & Computing College

*An Education That Offers More*



# WELCOME FROM THE HEADTEACHER

Here at South Wirral High School we are proud of the excellent reputation we have in the local community, as a result of a record of success in all aspects of school life. We are ambitious for our students, committed to providing learning experiences which are challenging and exciting.

We want our young people to be:

- successful learners
- active citizens
- happy and confident individuals

To be successful learners our students need to have an outstanding attitude to learning. That is why academic progress and good behaviour are vital. It is why we put so much emphasis on home learning, in partnership with parents. It is why, as teachers, we set the highest standards for our own professional development. Our LORIC Pledges give students the experiences and responsibilities to develop into active citizens. We are a happy school, full of confident young people of whom we are immensely proud.

Our success has been recognised by a number of Quality Standards which demonstrate our commitment to ensuring the quality of school experiences for our students.

Mr S. Goodwin, Headteacher

“Pupils expressed positive views about developments under the new headteacher.”

- Ofsted





# A SCHOOL WHERE...

*We Achieve, Reflect and Improve*

South Wirral is changing and you join us at a very exciting time. Recent arrivals in our leadership team have helped the school go from strength to strength. This is shown by strong improvements in our results year on year and a harder focus on attainment.

We believe that a good school is founded upon three core elements:

- Excellent behaviour
- Academic rigour
- Outstanding pastoral support

We have recently introduced many new exciting initiatives such as our “Aspire to Higher” programme, which works with our highest attaining students to ensure they are ‘Russell Group Ready’ after a 7-year journey at South Wirral.

We have also embarked on a new partnership with the Rugby Football Union further developing our sports offer to students with expert coaching and sports visits. These two programmes show that whatever your interests or ability, at South Wirral you can excel.

## ASPIRE TO HIGHER

At South Wirral High School we run an exciting programme of enrichment for high attaining students that supports them in becoming ‘Russell Group Ready’. The Russell Group are the 24 best Universities in the UK that we expect our students to be prepared and ready to go to after 7 years at South Wirral.

The programme includes:

- Personal skills development of workshops
- Inspirational speakers
- University visits
- One-to-one mentoring

AN EDUCATION THAT  
OFFERS MORE

# A SCHOOL WHERE...

*We Can Succeed*

South Wirral High School offers a broad and balanced curriculum to meet the needs of all our students. Students are encouraged to be active learners who can be independent but also work cooperatively with others. We challenge students to be the best they can be, encouraging them to ask questions, take risks and be proud of their achievements.

In Year 10, subjects are divided into different pathways offering academic and vocational choices for students. The curriculum is developed in partnership with learners and parents - and each student is individually counselled as to their most suitable pathway.

In Year 9 we offer students the opportunity to choose some of the subjects they will go on to study at GCSE level. We offer students four free choices from a range of subjects. If your child is more creative they can choose a combination including Dance, Drama or Art. If they prefer technology subjects, they can choose a combination of Design & Technology, Computer Science or Digital Photography. This helps equip them with the skills they need for careers in the 21st century. We feel that no one offers better choice than South Wirral High School.

We have an ethos based on high expectations; we expect high standards of behaviour, excellent attendance and positive attitudes.



“Students learn well in those areas where the curriculum provides new, challenging and exciting opportunities, such as in Art, Drama and English.”

- Ofsted, 2019







“Teachers encourage pupils to ask questions and explore new ideas. The positive attitudes to learning of these pupils extend their progress because they are confident enough to experiment with new ways of doing things.” - *Ofsted, 2019*



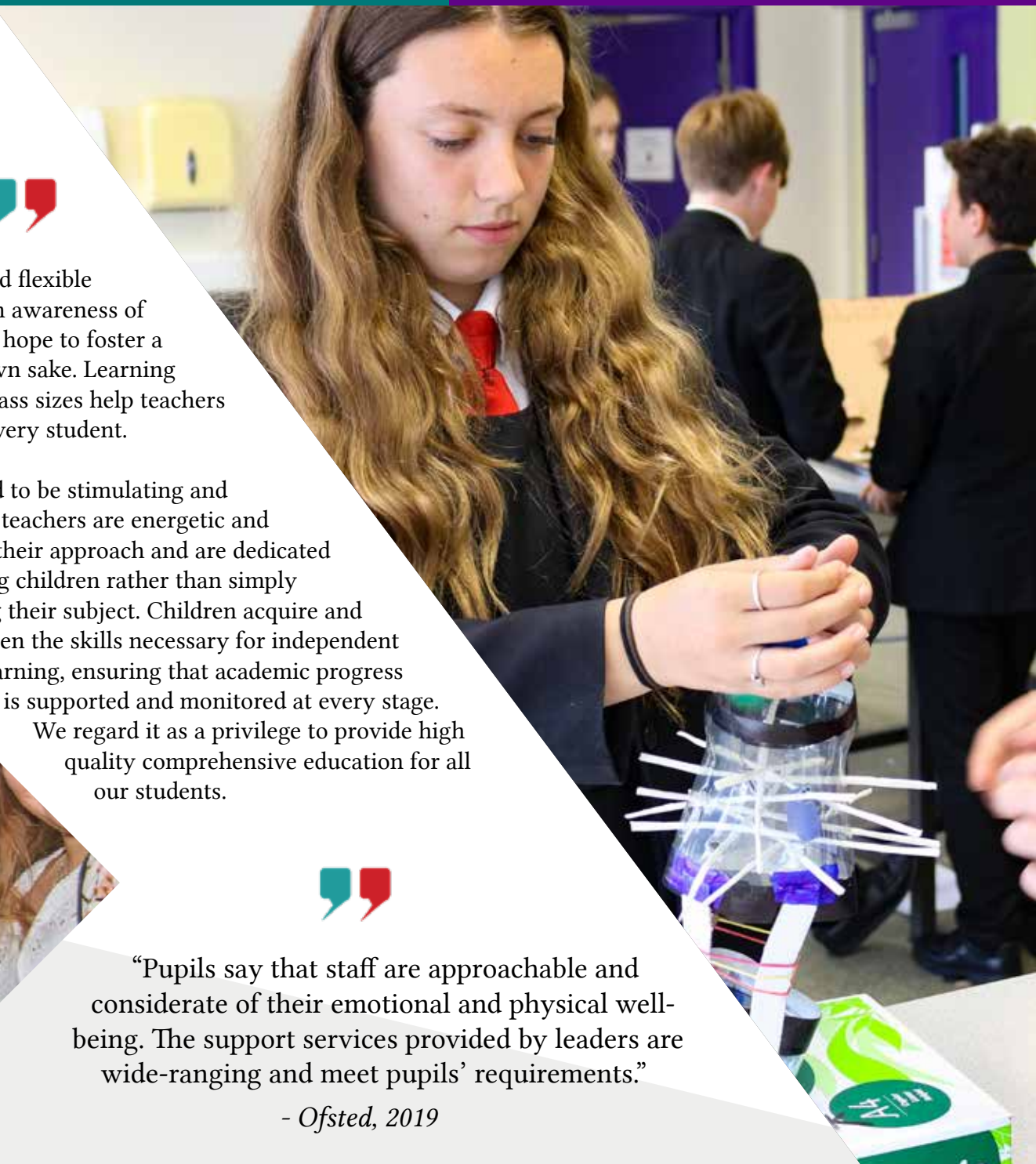
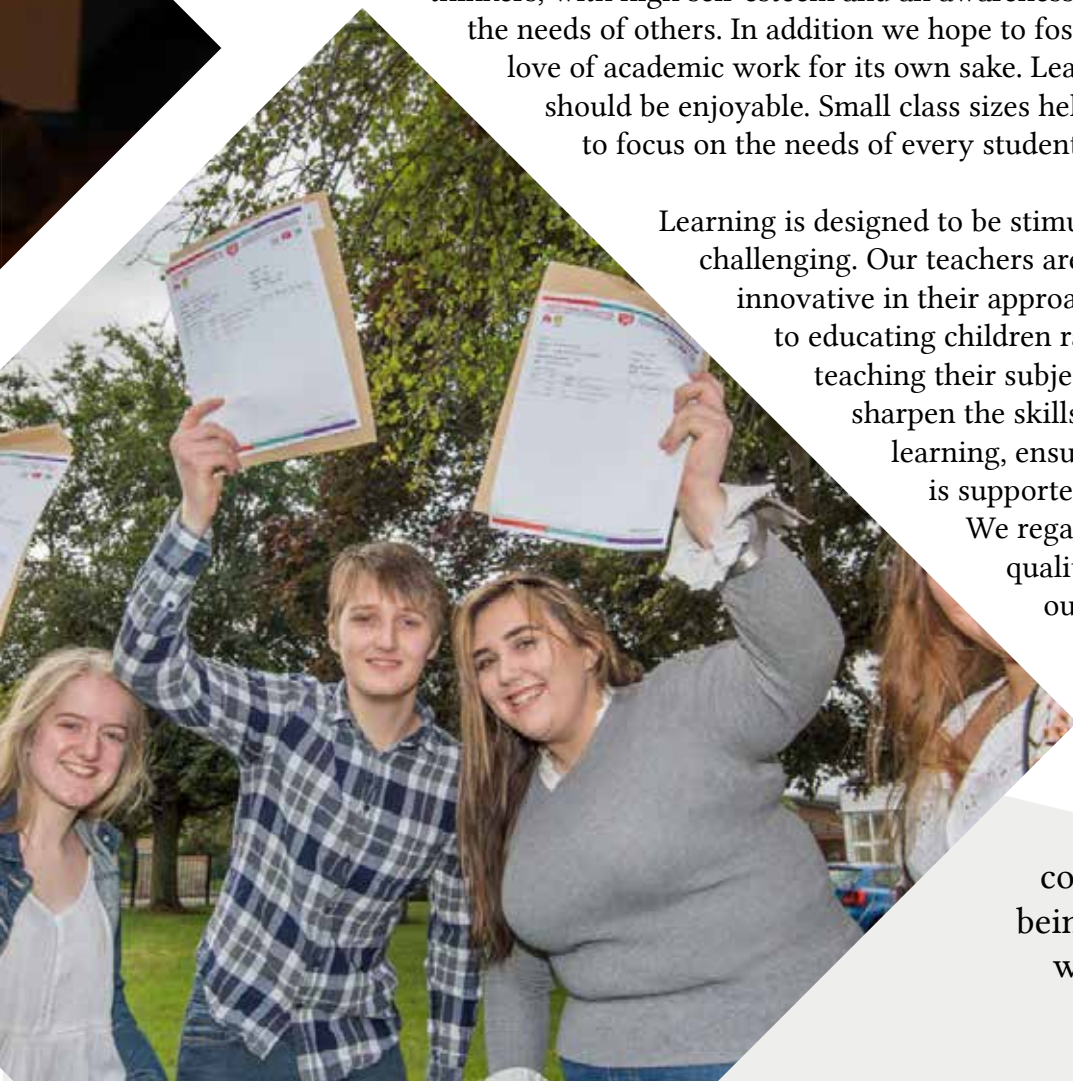
We want our students to be creative and flexible thinkers, with high self-esteem and an awareness of the needs of others. In addition we hope to foster a love of academic work for its own sake. Learning should be enjoyable. Small class sizes help teachers to focus on the needs of every student.

Learning is designed to be stimulating and challenging. Our teachers are energetic and innovative in their approach and are dedicated to educating children rather than simply teaching their subject. Children acquire and sharpen the skills necessary for independent learning, ensuring that academic progress is supported and monitored at every stage. We regard it as a privilege to provide high quality comprehensive education for all our students.



“Pupils say that staff are approachable and considerate of their emotional and physical well-being. The support services provided by leaders are wide-ranging and meet pupils’ requirements.”

- *Ofsted, 2019*



# A SCHOOL WHERE...

*We Feel Happy And Enjoy Ourselves*

## HOUSE SYSTEM

At South Wirral, we have a house structure with four houses named after local families - Laird, Wilson, Stanley and Mayer. Each student belongs to a house from day one.

The House Progress Leader monitors your child's whole educational experience, ensuring that the individual needs of students are met. The House Progress Leader morally, spiritually, socially and culturally helps to educate all students in their care, throughout their time at South Wirral. Parents of Year 7 students are invited into school to meet House staff a short time after the start of the school year, and will act in partnership to ensure your child is supported and encouraged at each stage of their development.

Parents are warmly welcomed to the school to meet the House Progress Leader to discuss any matter or review any difficulties or concerns that their children may be experiencing. It is important to us and your child that parents and House Progress Leaders work in partnership to help raise achievement and promote development.

## STUDENT SERVICES

Our Student Services Hub provides a single place students can go to for any pastoral support they may need.

Assistant House Progress Leaders are available throughout the school day to ensure students are prepared to learn to the best of their ability.





## SEN

We have high expectations of your child, whatever their ability. From the beginning of their time with us, careful attention is given to identifying and assessing special educational needs by the Code of Practice. The Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator works closely with primary schools to ensure continuity of support for children who have particular learning difficulties which have already been identified at Key Stage 1 & 2.

Programmes are set up for students with Special Needs targeting their individual problems.

The department has a team of Teaching Support Assistants. This enables us to put support in place for students identified as having Special Educational Needs. Identified students will be assisted both in class and in small workshops to achieve their full potential.

“Staff work closely with the pupils’ primary schools to ensure that their pastoral, care and academic requirements are known and acted upon by staff when they enter Year 7.”

- Ofsted  
2019

“It’s really nice to have a place you can come to and just be yourself”

- Student

“Thank you for the constant help you have given my daughter and for the placement which has given her a great start in life”

- Parent

## ACHIEVEMENT MONITORING AND ACADEMIC PROGRESS

We aim to raise achievement by making it easy for your child to see how well they are doing, to recognise achievement and to indicate areas for improvement.

Also, student progress is monitored closely by House Progress Leaders, Sixth Form Team and the Senior Leadership Team, so they can intervene when appropriate. You and your child will receive printed reports of assessments; which can also be viewed online.



# A SCHOOL WHERE...

*We Support Each Other*

Carefully selected small tutor groups are at the heart of our pastoral system. Our tutor groups are developed with a strong focus on structured registration time - tailored to the needs of each year group.

## YEARS 7 & 8

Tutors can get to know each student and their family well; they provide individual support and guidance, monitor academic progress and enthuse your child to try something new. Students take part in spelling tests and quizzes, helping with the continuous improvement of literacy and numeracy skills.

## YEARS 9 & 10

Discussions in Year 9 & 10 turn to topics such as GCSE options, future aspirations and students' favourite books.

## YEAR 11

Many of our Year 11 student groups are led by the faculty leaders of English and Mathematics. This allows students to gain additional support in the lead up to examinations direct from the Head of Faculty every day. The structure allows targeted interventions to take place in a much more strategic way.

## STUDENT PLANNERS

We have recently established student planners for all students at South Wirral. This is one of the many initiatives designed to improve our school and is an additional way of communicating with parents allowing you to keep up to date with home learning tasks being set. We ask parents/carers to look at the planner once a week and sign it as part of our 'Home School Agreement'.







# A SCHOOL WHERE...

*We Aspire To Be The Best Version Of Ourselves*

## ATTITUDE TO LEARNING

We want to prepare your child for a successful life by encouraging good learning habits that will help them to be successful in future apprenticeships, college, university, and careers.

Throughout the year, students will consider their strengths and areas for improvement in these seven areas. These are seven learning habits that everyone needs to be successful in life. In the future, students can talk about them in job interviews and university admissions interviews - education is for life, not just for school.



**UNDERSTAND OUR ROLE IN  
OTHER STUDENTS' LEARNING**

**ENGAGE WITH TEACHERS,  
STUDENTS AND RESOURCES**



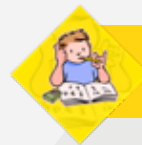
**DEAL WITH DIFFICULTY**

**TAKE RESPONSIBILITY FOR  
OUR OWN LEARNING**



**PRACTICE TO IMPROVE**

**ACT UPON FEEDBACK**



**CONTINUE OUR LEARNING  
OUTSIDE LESSONS**

ENRICHMENT







## DROP EVERYTHING AND READ

All students are encouraged to read. Once a week each house has a dedicated 'Drop Everything and Read' session during morning registration. We are building a culture where we believe that every student should be encouraged to read for their own pleasure. Reading is enjoyable, fosters house spirit within school and increases students' chances of being successful in life.

Students engagement with reading is recognised through gaining achievement points on completion of their Library Reading Log. The Library Challenge is designed to motivate students to read across a range of genre throughout their school life.



# A SCHOOL WHERE...

*We Aspire To Be The Best Version Of Ourselves*

## EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

South Wirral High School students are exposed to a range of opportunities, developing them into well-rounded individuals. With such a large number of clubs and activities available - academic, sporting, musical, dramatic, creative, charitable, adventurous - the challenge for students is to decide just how much they are able to fit into a school week. Everything our school does is geared towards helping students set and reach their own targets for successful and fulfilling lives. Recent additions to our extra-curricular offer include our new Debating Society and a Formula 1 Club.

To see a sample of the clubs and activities on offer to our students - visit our website or pick up a copy of the Extra Curricular Activities booklet from our main reception.

“The programme of [extra curricular] activities broadens pupils’ experience and expertise through their involvement in wider academic, cultural, artistic and sporting interests”

- Ofsted 2019

ENRICHMENT







# A SCHOOL WHERE...

## LORIC Pledges

LEADERSHIP, ORGANISATION, RESILIENCE,  
INITIATIVE AND CHARACTER

We Shape Our Futures

As well as providing an extensive array of courses and learning opportunities within the academic curriculum, we want all of our students to be confident, independent, self-disciplined, participators, performers, communicators, creators and culturally educated.

Providing our students with an enriched curriculum and broad extra-curricular programme of activities, to fully equip them with the skills necessary to be active and successful members of the wider community, is at the heart of our school ethos.

To ensure students receive high-quality enrichment activities and cultural experiences throughout their seven years at South Wirral through key stage 3 to key stage 5, we have written our own LORIC pledges which have been created to ensure all students have access to an all-embracing range of learning experiences outside of the classroom.

Each pledge represents a LORIC standard which signifies Leadership, Organisation, Resilience, Initiative & Character.

Over each key stage, students will be expected to complete at least 5 elements of each LORIC standard. A minimum of 25 pledges will be achieved at each key stage.

The LORIC pledges will form part of the registration activity once a week and tutors will be responsible for recording the accomplishment of each pledge. This will be recorded on SIMS and achievement of these pledges will be celebrated during house assemblies, led by an Assistant House Progress Lead.

Evidence of each pledge achieved will also be recorded and documented in a student progress folder.

“The spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of pupils is given a high priority by school leaders.

All pupils are challenged to fulfil the ‘South Wirral pledges’ that link to different aspects of enrichment designed to prepare pupils for life in modern Britain.”

- Ofsted, 2017







## RFU CBRE ALL SCHOOLS PROGRAMME

South Wirral High School has been lucky enough to be selected as part of England Rugby's CBRE All Schools programme - giving our students the opportunity to have fun, build lasting relationships and gain valuable skills through playing rugby.

The programme is built around rugby's 5 core values of teamwork, respect, enjoyment, discipline and sportsmanship. These define the game, England Rugby and the culture we are trying to create. This programme helps our students gain advantage, grow more confident, more determined and more able to cope with anything the game of life throws at them.

Together with England Rugby and CBRE, South Wirral is committed to helping deliver a real rugby legacy for England.

As part of this programme, South Wirral have partnered with Anselmians and Port Sunlight Rugby Clubs, and students will further benefit from expert coaching, support and equipment contributions from the RFU.

Our under 15's girls rugby team were recently invited to design their own kit with sports kit supplier Canterbury, and the RFU have provided the school with additional kit for a number of our other teams.



# A SCHOOL WHERE...

*Together, We Achieve More*

South Wirral High School is at the heart of our local community both geographically and in the many ways our students get involved with helping local residents. Whether raising money for the Charles Thompson Mission, working with Claire House Childrens' Hospice or entertaining elderly residents with performances, students are encouraged to 'give back' to their community through our LORIC Pledges programme.

Our regular contact with local primary schools reinforces a close relationship - particularly during the transition period 'moving on up' from primary to secondary. We organise visits from our current students to perform to younger children, and invite primary students into our school to take part in sports festivals. Recent STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths) initiatives have seen students join us in

exciting and educational activities focused on developing the skills needed for careers in the future. In 2019's 'Space Week' the school provided students with a week of exciting space-themed activities culminating in the launch of a balloon - with payload - into near space.



Students who attended South Wirral High School are also invited in to offer specialist talks to current students to help inspire them on what they can achieve as part of our Alumni network. This includes Shaune Harrison who is now a prosthetic special makeup effects artist and has worked on films such as Harry Potter, The Avengers and Star Wars.



"I work with students across the Wirral from a variety of schools and can honestly say the level of support your students receive is far above any provided at other schools. I would like to congratulate staff on their commitment and efforts to prepare their students"

- Mrs Blessing, Private English & French Tutor





# A SCHOOL WHERE...

Communication Is Key

At South Wirral High School we use a number of ways to ensure home school communication is as clear as possible. Our main method of communication is via our school App EduLink One. You can download this app or access it on your computer.

Our half-termly 'South Wirral Digest' newsletter allows parents to see what is happening in school and to celebrate our students' successes. This is available on our website, through EduLink One, and posted on our regularly updated social media channels.

ATTENDANCE

ASSESSMENTS

TIMETABLE

LETTERS

EXAM DETAILS

SCHOOL CALENDAR

LORIC PLEDGES

HOUSE POINTS

SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

SCHOOL REPORTS

## EDULINK ONE

## OUR COMPLETE HOME-SCHOOL COMMUNICATION PLATFORM

EduLink One provides a unified platform that allows parents and carers to view a wide variety of day-to-day information about their child(ren) with ease. Parents are able to access information using the EduLink One portal and mobile app available on the App Store and Google Play.

"I'm delighted  
how well my son has  
settled into the school.  
He's loving his time spent there.

Thanks to all the staff who helped  
the transition from primary go so  
smoothly.

I use the EduLink app daily,  
it's really useful."

- Parent



For more information on our use of EduLink One, visit [www.southwirral.wirral.sch.uk/home-communication](http://www.southwirral.wirral.sch.uk/home-communication)

# A SCHOOL WHERE...

*There Are No Limits To Our Success*

Sixth Form @ South Wirral is a thriving Sixth Form College where students are able to build on their previous successes at GCSE level and get to experience a new approach to learning. This approach, with a focus on independent learning, equips our students for the next steps in their lives whether it is University, Apprenticeships or employment.

Our Sixth Form offers excellence in subject specialism with experienced staff from industry, specialist facilities including ICT suites and our 'Google Classroom' Chromebook suite.

Alongside studies, the opportunities are there for curriculum enrichment and the advice and guidance to make decisions on future careers. Students benefit from our new driven programme of enrichment every Wednesday afternoon where they experience community projects, talks from universities and industry.

We encourage all our students to be independent learners, team players and positive contributors to our community.

This ultimately sets them up for their future whether that be going to Russell Group Universities to study subjects such as Bio-Chemistry, to study History at University of Cambridge or begin apprenticeships with companies like Markhams, Unilever and Airbus.

Our staff, guidance and advice will help your child become the best version of themselves.



**SIXTH FORM @ SOUTH WIRRAL**  
A Visual & Performing Arts, Maths & Computing College



**SIXTH FORM**





**PROMOTING OF INDEPENDENCE, SWIFT  
LEARNING AND PROGRESS IN PREPARATION  
FOR ADULT LIFE**

**DRIVEN PROGRAMME OF ENRICHMENT AND  
PREPARATION FOR STUDENTS TO BE READY  
FOR SUCCESS AT THE BEST UNIVERSITIES,  
APPRENTICESHIPS OR CAREERS**

**OUTSTANDING CARE, GUIDANCE AND  
SUPPORT DURING THE TWO YEAR  
PROGRAMME OF STUDY**

**BURSARY WORTH £300, WITH WHICH A LAPTOP  
AT THE VERY REASONABLE COST OF £100 CAN BE  
PURCHASED TO ASSIST AND DEVELOP STUDIES  
AND PROGRESS**

**CAREERS, UNIVERSITY AND APPRENTICESHIPS  
ADVICE AND GUIDANCE HUBS TO SUPPORT  
POST 18 DESTINATIONS**

**(100% SUCCESS RATE IN APPROPRIATE DESTINATIONS FOR STUDENTS)**

**COMFORTING AND WELCOMING  
KNOWLEDGE OF THE SCHOOL AND STAFF**



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