

Glossopdale
Sixth Form

PROSPECTUS 2025

Glossopdale
Sixth Form



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Welcome To Our College

Thank you for your interest in Glossopdale School & Sixth Form; your local, thriving Post-16 provision.

We teach a wide range of academic and vocational courses, with excellent facilities in a state of the art, dedicated Sixth Form Centre. Courses cover both 'A' Level and Level 3 vocational options and will be tailored to suit your needs: they can be academic, vocational or a combination of both. We also ensure that students have the opportunity to build an array of qualifications outside the usual subject range, such as The Extended Project Qualification (EPQ), Duke of Edinburgh Award and a Personal Development curriculum that supports decision-making in your chosen future pathway.

The teaching staff at Glossopdale Sixth Form are experienced and passionate subject specialists, dedicated to working with you and giving you the precise support needed to succeed. Pastoral care is excellent, with a Head of Sixth Form, Year Manager and a tutor team to guide you, in and out of the classroom. Students at Glossopdale Sixth Form are happy, cared for and fully supported throughout their journey with us.

The Sixth Form Centre is well-equipped and provides a college experience distinct from that of the main school, whilst also allowing students to benefit from the excellent facilities and expertise that we have across the site. Sixth Form students have exclusive use of an independent social and study area, seminar rooms, vocational rooms, an industry standard media room and a bespoke Sixth Form science lab. The Arts have always been integral to our school community and we are pleased to provide a purpose built drama studio, theatre, an impressive dance studio and a suite of Art classrooms. Students interested in sport have access to the sports hall, fitness suite and all-weather pitches.

We are very proud of our Sixth Form, the personalised support that we provide and the high standards we set. Our students THRIVE here, both pastorally and academically. Please use this prospectus and our Open Evening events to find out more about our wonderful school; we hope that you join us in your next step to fulfilling your ambitions.

Ms. K. Smith
Headteacher



Why Choose Glossopdale Sixth Form?

Choosing where to study after Year 11 is one of the biggest decisions you'll make. At Glossopdale Sixth Form we combine the benefits of a dedicated college experience with the warmth and support of a school community.

Exclusive Sixth Form Centre

Our purpose-built Sixth Form building is at the heart of student life. With its own café, social spaces and study zones, it provides the perfect balance between independence and support. Sixth Form students enjoy the freedom of their own centre while still being fully connected to the wider school community.

Small Class Sizes

Learning in smaller groups means your teachers know you as an individual. You will benefit from more one-to-one time, more opportunities to ask questions and a learning environment where you are supported to reach your full potential.

Specialist Staff

Our Sixth Form teachers are experts in their fields and passionate about their subjects. They are committed to helping you achieve your goals, whether that's securing a place at a top university, progressing to an apprenticeship or preparing for your chosen career.

"Glossopdale Sixth Form is the best of both worlds — it feels like a college but with a real sense of community and care." – Year 13 student

Strong Outcomes

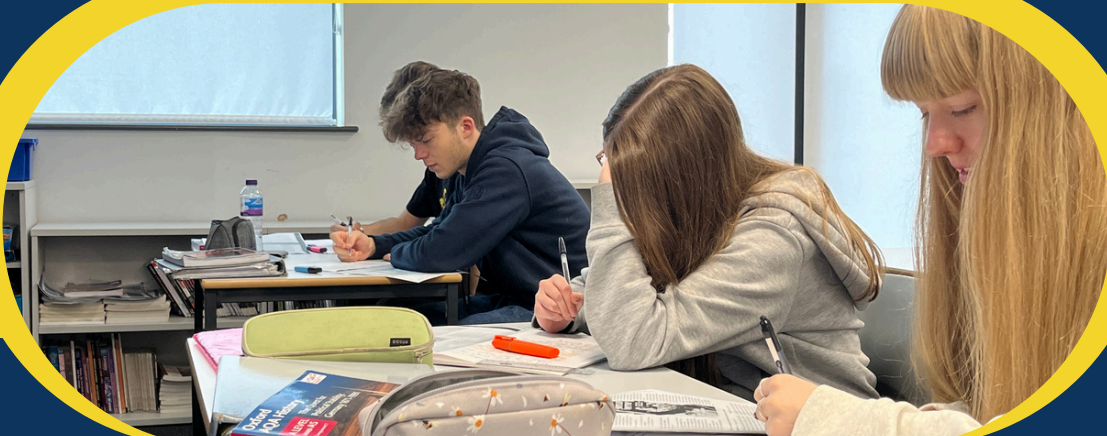
Students in Glossopdale Sixth Form consistently make excellent progress from their GCSE starting points. Our results open doors to a wide range of future pathways, from competitive universities and higher apprenticeships to direct entry into employment.

Tailored Enrichment

Life in the Sixth Form is about more than just lessons. You will take part in a wide range of enrichment opportunities designed to build your confidence and strengthen your university or job applications. From volunteering and mentoring younger students, to joining leadership programmes and student committees, you will find activities that help you stand out.

Stretch & Challenge

For those aiming high we offer an extensive programme to stretch and challenge our most able students. This includes support for Oxbridge and university applications, guidance on personal statements for competitive courses, super-curricular opportunities and a network of alumni who can share their own university and career experiences.



Your Study Pathways

At Glossopdale Sixth Form, we know that no two students are the same. That's why we offer three distinct pathways — allowing you to choose the route that matches your strengths, ambitions and future goals.

Pathway 1 – A Levels

A Levels remain the traditional route into university. You will study three or four subjects across two years, with final examinations at the end of Year 13. Alongside your subjects, you can also take the Extended Project Qualification (EPQ), which develops independent research and critical thinking skills. This pathway is particularly suited to students who enjoy academic study and may be considering applications to university, degree apprenticeships, medicine, law, or other competitive courses.

"The flexibility of the pathways meant I could choose a mix of A Levels and vocational courses that suited the way I learn best. It's given me a clear route into university and kept my options open." – Year 12 student



Pathway 2 – Mixed A Level & Vocational

This option combines the academic challenge of A Levels with the practical, coursework-based approach of vocational courses. You will typically study three subjects over two years, assessed through a mixture of exams and coursework. This pathway is ideal for students who want the best of both worlds: developing higher-level academic skills while also gaining valuable vocational experience relevant to future careers. Students on this pathway may still be considering university post-18.



Pathway 3 – Vocational

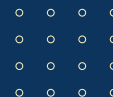
Vocational qualifications are designed for students who prefer applied learning and want to link their studies directly to careers. You will usually choose three Extended Certificates (equivalent to an A Level each), in subjects such as Health & Social Care, Sport, Criminology, Engineering or Creative Media. Lessons are a blend of practical projects and theory, with assessment through coursework, presentations and external examinations. This pathway provides a strong foundation for progression into higher education or directly into employment.



Other Opportunities

Whichever pathway you choose, you'll also benefit from a range of additional qualifications and experiences. These include the EPQ, Duke of Edinburgh Award, Sports Leadership, First Aid and other short courses that help you build a stand-out CV. For those who need to secure a grade 4 in English or Maths, we also offer GCSE resit opportunities alongside your main programme of study.

We offer a wide range of subjects to match your interests, abilities and career aspirations. Whether you prefer academic study, practical learning or a mixture of both, you'll find the right combination here at Glossopdale Sixth Form.



A Level Courses

Our A Level subjects provide challenge, depth of knowledge and strong preparation for university or competitive apprenticeships.

3D Product Design

Art Textiles

Biology

Business Studies

Chemistry

Computer Science

English Language

English Literature

Combined English Language & Literature

Fine Art

French

Further Maths

Geography

History

Maths

Music

Photography

Physics

Psychology

Sociology

Course Directory

Vocational Courses

Vocational subjects focus on applied learning, linking theory to practical skills. They are assessed through a combination of coursework and external exams, and are equivalent to A Levels.

Criminology

Engineering

Film & Creative Media

Health & Social Care

Music Performance

Music Technology

Performing Arts: Dance

Performing Arts: Drama

Sport

Other Qualifications & Opportunities

Extended Project Qualification (EPQ)

Duke of Edinburgh Award (DofE)

GCSE English and Maths resit (if required)

Scan the QR code to see our full subject guide, including detailed course information, entry requirements and example student pathways.



We know that moving into Sixth Form is a big step. At Glossopdale, you will never be on your own — every student is supported academically, personally and professionally throughout their journey with us.

Personal Tutor System

On day one you will be assigned a Personal Tutor, who will act as your mentor during your time in Sixth Form. They will meet with you regularly to discuss progress, set goals and offer guidance. Your tutor is the first point of contact for advice, encouragement and support.

Careers & Future Planning

Our Careers programme provides expert advice to help you explore your options and plan your next steps. Whether you want to apply to university, secure an apprenticeship or head straight into employment, you will have access to guidance, resources and personalised support to prepare you for the future.



Support & Guidance



Academic Support

Small class sizes mean teachers know you as an individual and can adapt lessons to your needs. Extra help is always available — whether that's through one-to-one discussions, workshops or subject clinics designed to strengthen your skills.

Wellbeing & Pastoral Care

Your wellbeing is as important as your academic success. Our dedicated Sixth Form team is always available to offer support, alongside counsellors, careers advisors and external services. Whatever challenges you may face, we are here to help you manage them.

Tracking Your Progress

We are ambitious for all our students. You will be set aspirational targets and take part in regular review meetings with your teachers. Together, you'll identify strategies to help you meet your goals, ensuring you stay on track and achieve your potential.

At Glossopdale Sixth Form, we are proud to be an inclusive community where every student is valued, supported and celebrated. We understand that every individual has different needs and circumstances, and we work hard to provide the right support so that everyone can thrive.

Support for Every Student



SEND Support

Students with additional needs are supported by our experienced SEND team. We ensure that the right adjustments are in place so you can fully access your studies and the wider Sixth Form experience. Support may include:

- Specialist advice and mentoring.
- Extra time or adjustments in exams.
- Access to Learning Support Assistants.
- Regular reviews to make sure the right strategies are in place.

Our approach is personal and flexible — we work closely with you, your family, and your teachers to remove barriers and maximise your potential.

Financial Support

We want Sixth Form to be accessible to all, regardless of financial background. Our 16–19 Bursary Fund provides help with travel, equipment, textbooks and other essential costs. Support may include:

- Vulnerable Bursary (for students in care, care leavers, or those receiving specific benefits).
- Discretionary Bursary (based on household income).
- In-kind support such as equipment, travel passes or IT access.

Full details and application forms are available on our website, and staff are on hand to help families through the process.

Students From Other Schools

We welcome applications from students who are joining us from other schools or who have been home educated. Our induction programme ensures that everyone settles quickly, makes new friends, and feels part of the Sixth Form community. Staff and students alike are committed to making new starters feel at home.



Being a Sixth Form student at Glossopdale is about more than just lessons — it's about developing independence, enjoying new freedoms, and being part of a vibrant community.



Our New Building

Sixth Form students have their own dedicated centre, separate from the main school. This modern space includes specialist classrooms, seminar rooms and a Sixth Form science lab. The design gives you a real taste of college life, while still being part of a familiar and supportive environment.



The Pod Café & Social Spaces

At the heart of our centre is The Pod — a café and social hub exclusive to Sixth Form students. Alongside this, you'll have access to a common room and outdoor seating area where you can relax, catch up with friends, or take a break between lessons.



Independent Study

We know that success in Sixth Form comes from developing independence. That's why we provide a range of quiet and collaborative study areas, complete with IT facilities and resources. Our College Study programme gives you structured time each week to focus on independent learning, helping you to build the habits that prepare you for university or employment.



Specialist Facilities

As part of Glossopdale School, Sixth Form students benefit from outstanding facilities:

- A purpose-built drama studio and dance studio.
- Industry-standard media and music rooms.
- A fully equipped sports hall, fitness suite and all-weather pitches.
- Dedicated art and design studios.

Life in the Sixth Form

A Strong Sense of Community

Students tell us that one of the best things about Glossopdale is the welcoming atmosphere. The Sixth Form centre gives you independence, but you are also part of a close-knit, supportive community where staff know you well and celebrate your achievements.

“The Sixth Form building feels like our own space — it's modern, friendly and makes you feel grown-up. Having a café and study areas just for us makes a massive difference.” — Year 12 student



Sixth Form is about more than just academic study. At Glossopdale, we provide a wide range of opportunities to help you grow as a person, build your confidence, and prepare for the future.

Enrichment & Leadership

Every student takes part in at least one hour of enrichment each week. This is your chance to explore new interests, develop valuable skills, and give something back to the community. Opportunities include:

- Volunteering in the local community or supporting younger students in school.
- Joining the Student Leadership Team.
- Leading clubs and activities in sport, drama, music or art.
- Taking part in the Duke of Edinburgh Award or Sports Leadership qualifications.

These experiences help you stand out in university, apprenticeship and job applications – showing you are committed, proactive and well-rounded.

Trips, Visits & Guest Speakers

Throughout the year you'll take part in a range of experiences designed to broaden your horizons. These include university visits, subject-specific trips, cultural and careers visits, as well as talks from guest speakers who are leaders in their fields.

Work Experience

Every Year 12 student completes a week of work experience. Placements are carefully chosen to link with your future pathway, giving you the chance to develop practical skills, build networks and gain valuable insights into the world of work. For some courses, weekly industry placements are available to give you even deeper experience in your chosen sector.

Careers & Progression

We place a strong emphasis on preparing you for life after Sixth Form. Our careers programme includes one-to-one advice, application workshops, CV writing, and interview preparation. We also have excellent links with local employers, apprenticeship providers and universities, ensuring you are well-informed about all the routes available to you.



"The work experience I completed in Year 12 confirmed the career I wanted to pursue. Having that practical insight really helped me shape my university application." – Year 13 student

We know that many of our students aspire to the very best universities, apprenticeships and careers. At Glossopdale Sixth Form, we provide the guidance, stretch and challenge you need to achieve those ambitions.

NURTURING AMBITION

Oxbridge & University Support

Students aiming for the most competitive universities benefit from a bespoke programme that includes:

- Workshops on preparing for early entry courses such as Medicine, Dentistry and Veterinary Science.
- One-to-one guidance on writing personal statements for highly competitive degrees.
- Mock interview practice with staff and visiting professionals.
- Oxbridge outreach events and links with admissions tutors.

Super-Curricular Opportunities

We encourage you to go beyond your subjects and develop the skills that top universities and employers are looking for. Opportunities include:

- Extended Project Qualification (EPQ).
- Super-curricular reading programmes.
- Online courses and MOOCs.
- Student-led research and presentations.
- Specialist subject competitions.

Alumni Network

Our growing network of alumni is a real source of inspiration. Past students have gone on to study at Cambridge, Russell Group universities and beyond, as well as secure competitive apprenticeships. They regularly return to Glossopdale to share their experiences and advice, helping current students see what's possible.

Visits & Partnerships

You will also have the chance to visit universities, take part in taster days, and benefit from established partnerships with higher education providers. These experiences help you feel confident about your next steps and make informed decisions about your future.



Entry Criteria

Our entry criteria are 5 grades 9–4 in separate GCSE subjects or an equivalent Merit or above in Level 2 BTEC subjects, with a grade 9–4 in English and Maths.

Some subjects have their own entry recommendations; please refer to the course directory for individual subject areas for this information.

This entry requirement is ambitious and reflects the fact that A Level courses are challenging. However, we look at each application on a case-by-case basis and aim to be as flexible as we can when making our conditional offers. Some students, for example, may be strong in some areas and less strong in others; their A Level subject choices may reflect these strengths even if the overall entry criteria have not been fully met across five GCSE subjects. Our primary concern when making any offer is to ensure that every student is enrolled on courses that allow them to succeed and to access their future pathways.



How to Apply



Applications & Offers

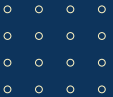
We welcome applications from any student who would like to join our Sixth Form from other establishments. Students from other schools settle in well and are quickly made to feel part of our Sixth Form community, and students from Glossopdale welcome the opportunity to make new friends and forge new relationships.

The initial deadline for applications is usually by Christmas, but we accept applications right up to our September enrolment. All students who apply will be given a consultation meeting to discuss their course choices and ensure they are making the right decisions about their future pathway. All initial offers are subject to summer GCSE and BTEC results.

Enquiries

Any enquiries regarding our Sixth Form admissions should be directed to Mrs Boakes – Sixth Form Learning Manager
Tel: 01457 862336 Email: sixthform@glossopdaleschool.org.uk

Glossopdale Sixth Form is where you belong, and where you grow. With excellent teaching, outstanding facilities and a wide range of courses we are the perfect place to take your next step.



Create Your Future at Glossopdale Sixth Form

Address:

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Newshaw Lane
Hadfield, Glossop
Derbyshire, SK13 2DA

Telephone: 01457 862336

Email: sixthform@glossopdaleschool.org.uk

Website: www.glossopdaleschool.org.uk/sixthform

Apply online: glossopdale.applicaa.com/sixthform

Where you belong. Where you grow.