

Glossopdale
Sixth Form



2025

STUDENT HANDBOOK

Welcome to Glossopdale Sixth Form
Your future starts here.

This handbook is your essential guide to life in the Sixth Form – packed with everything you need to succeed both in and out of the classroom. Inside, you'll find key information about expectations, support, enrichment opportunities, and how to make the most of your time with us. Whether you're aiming for university, an apprenticeship, or the world of work, we're here to help you achieve your goals and grow into the best version of yourself.

Let's make these years count.





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WELCOME MESSAGE



Daniel Peate

Head of Sixth Form

Dear Students,

I'm delighted to welcome you to our Sixth Form. Whether you are continuing your journey with us or joining from another school, you are now part of a close-knit, ambitious, and supportive community. At Glossopdale, we pride ourselves on offering a friendly, inclusive environment where you'll be encouraged to aim high and feel confident in your next steps.

Our Sixth Form team is here to support you – not just academically, but in every aspect of your personal development. From day one, you'll find staff who know you well and want you to succeed.

Looking Ahead

The next two years are a unique opportunity to grow. You'll gain greater independence, deepen your subject knowledge, and prepare for life after Sixth Form – whether that's university, an apprenticeship, or the world of work.

We expect you to work hard, take responsibility, and get involved in the life of the Sixth Form. In return, we will provide the guidance, resources, and opportunities you need to achieve your full potential.

I look forward to seeing all that you will accomplish.





KEY PEOPLE AND CONTACTS

Mr Daniel Peate

Head of Sixth Form

Responsible for the overall leadership of the Sixth Form, including academic progress, pastoral care, and post-18 destinations.

✉ dpeate@glossopdaleschool.org.uk ☎ 01457 607173

Mrs Kath Boakes

Sixth Form Learning Manager

Your first point of contact for day-to-day support, wellbeing concerns, attendance issues, and any general queries.

✉ kboakes@glossopdaleschool.org.uk ☎ 01457 607166

Mrs Sue Bailey

Exams Officer

Contact for all exam-related queries, including timetables, access arrangements, and exam day procedures.

✉ exams@glossopdaleschool.org.uk

Mr Paul Stirling

Deputy Headteacher – Safeguarding Lead

If you are worried about your own safety or someone else's, you can speak directly to Mr Stirling or email the safeguarding team.

✉ safeguarding@glossopdaleschool.org.uk

Mrs Joanne Green

Careers Adviser

Support with planning your next steps, including university, apprenticeships, and employment. Bookable one-to-one careers appointments are available throughout the year.

✉ careers@glossopdaleschool.org.uk

Mr Lewis Woolstencroft

IT Support

For help with school accounts, passwords, or technical issues with school systems or devices.

✉ helpdesk@glossopdaleschool.org.uk

The Sixth Form team will support your academic and personal development throughout Sixth Form. If you're ever unsure who to approach Mrs Boakes is a great place to start.

HIGH STANDARDS

As members of the Sixth Form, you are role models for younger students and ambassadors for Glossopdale School and Sixth Form. We expect you to meet high standards in your behaviour, attitude, and appearance at all times. The following expectations apply both in and out of the classroom:



Appearance:

Sixth Form students must dress appropriately for a school environment. Clothing must be respectful and suitable for an 11–18 setting:

- No offensive slogans or logos
- No midriffs on show
- One nose piercing (stud only)
- No visible tattoos
- No hats or hoods to be worn inside the building

Conduct:

As Sixth Form students, you are expected to model mature, respectful, and professional behaviour at all times. You are role models for the rest of the school, and your conduct should reflect that responsibility.

- Always treat staff, students, and visitors with respect.
- Set a positive example through your words, actions, and attitude.
- Wear your ID badge visibly at all times while on school grounds.
- Always sign in and out using the school systems.
- No food or hot drinks are allowed during lessons – only water is permitted.
- Always uphold school values and follow all Sixth Form rules and policies.



ATTENDANCE & PUNCTUALITY

High attendance and excellent punctuality are key characteristics of students who achieve in line with or above their potential. Research shows that poor attendance has a serious negative impact on outcomes. Attendance below 95% is linked to an average drop of one A level grade per subject, rising to two grades when attendance falls below 90%.

As part of their contract of attendance:

- All Sixth Form students are expected to maintain a minimum attendance rate of 95% or above to ensure strong progress.
- Students must attend all timetabled lessons and one hour of Personal Development each week.
- Students must take part in one hour of Enrichment per week.
- When on site and not in lessons, students are expected to use their time productively.
- Students will stay in college and attend 'College Study' for one hour per week, per subject. This will relax by Christmas provided that we are happy with their approach to independent work.
- Punctuality is essential. Students must arrive on time to all sessions. Persistent lateness disrupts learning and may result in sanctions.

Please note;

Failure to meet attendance and punctuality expectations will be addressed through a staged support process:

1. Informal meeting with the Sixth Form Learning Manager to set targets and offer support.
2. Formal meeting with the Head of Sixth Form and Learning Manager if there is no improvement – a warning and written targets will be issued.
3. A formal meeting with the Assistant Headteacher: Sixth Form and parents/carers present. A final warning will be given.
4. Continued failure to meet expectations may result in the student being asked to leave Glossopdale Sixth Form.

Reporting an Absence

If you are going to be absent, you must email sixthform@glossopdaleschool.org.uk as soon as you are aware.

Please include:

- The reason for your absence
- The date you expect to return
- Copy your parent/carer into the email

This helps us keep accurate records and ensure appropriate support is in place if needed.

ENRICHMENT AND WIDER OPPORTUNITIES

Success in the Sixth Form isn't just about what you do in lessons — what you do beyond the classroom is equally important. Universities, apprenticeship providers and employers value students who show commitment, leadership and wider interests.

All Sixth Form students are expected to take part in at least one hour of enrichment per week. This can be through organised Sixth Form activities or approved opportunities outside school.

Examples include:

- Volunteering in the local community
- Counselling or mentoring younger students
- Supporting with reading or Maths interventions in the main school
- Helping with clubs, activities and school events
- Participating in enrichment activities organised by the Sixth Form

In addition, part-time work can be a great way to develop workplace skills and experience. However, we strongly recommend keeping part-time work to no more than 12 hours per week, so it does not affect your academic progress.

Getting involved in enrichment and using your time well outside the classroom will help you build confidence, develop valuable skills and strengthen your applications for university, apprenticeships or employment.



ACADEMIC SUPPORT



Your academic progress is closely monitored and supported throughout your time in Sixth Form

- We set aspirational target grades for all students using ALPs. These targets are based on your GCSE results and predict what you could achieve in each subject if you performed in the top 25% of students nationally. These targets are designed to stretch and challenge you, and we'll support you every step of the way in aiming for them.
- You'll regularly record the grades you're achieving in each subject on your subject tracking sheets. These help you monitor your own progress and identify areas where more effort or support may be needed. Every half term, you'll review your tracking sheets with your Mr Peate during Student Reflection Sessions, where you'll reflect on your progress and set short-term goals.
- Each term, you'll also take part in a formal Subject Review Meeting with your teachers. This is a focused one-to-one conversation about how you're doing in each subject and what you can do to improve.
- Your teachers report your progress to the Sixth Form team three times a year. This data allows us to identify students who may need additional support. If you're not meeting your target grades in two or more subjects, you may be invited – along with your parents/carers if needed – to an Individual Action Plan (IAP) meeting with Mrs Boakes. In this meeting, you'll agree personalised targets to help you get back on track.
- Over the two years, you will receive four progress reports and have four parents' evenings, giving you and your family regular updates on your progress and next steps. You'll also have mock/trial exams and review meetings where required.





INDEPENDENT STUDY

Independent study is essential to success at A-Level. Lessons alone aren't enough – to achieve your target grades, you need to take responsibility for your learning outside the classroom.

Why Independent Study Matters

- Builds deeper understanding – reviewing and applying what you've learned helps turn knowledge into long-term understanding.
- Improves exam performance – regular revision and practice improve your confidence and skills under exam conditions.
- Develops vital skills – time management, organisation, and self-motivation are key for university, apprenticeships, and employment.
- Directly linked to outcomes – students who commit to independent study consistently perform better at A-Level.

What Independent Study Should Involve

You should aim to complete 5 hours per subject, per week. This can be done at home or in Sixth Form study areas. Use the time to:

- Review lesson notes and organise your folders
- Complete homework and improve previous work
- Revise using flashcards, mind maps, or past papers
- Complete wider reading or research tasks
- Act on teacher feedback to improve your work
- Prepare for assessments or coursework deadlines

Independent study isn't just about doing more—it's about doing the right things, regularly. If you're unsure how to study effectively, ask your teacher for guidance. The effort you put in now will shape your results—and your future.

PASTORAL SUPPORT

If you ever need advice, support, or just someone to talk to, the Sixth Form team is here for you.

For a confidential chat, you can contact:

Mrs Boakes – Sixth Form Learning Manager

✉ kboakes@glossopdaleschool.org.uk

Mr Peate – Head of Sixth Form

✉ dpeate@glossopdale.school.org.uk

We have dedicated school counsellors available to support Sixth Form students. If you are experiencing any difficulties — whether personal, emotional, or academic — you can request an appointment for a confidential chat. To arrange this, speak to Mrs Boakes, who will help you access the support you need.

Useful Online Resources

If you need support outside of school, the following services are available:

- [Kooth](#) – Free, safe, and anonymous online counselling and peer support for 11–18-year-olds. Just click to register.
- [42nd Street](#) – Based in Manchester, this service offers online counselling, group work, and individual support for young people aged 11–18.
- [Tameside & Glossop Talking Therapies](#) – Free NHS service for anyone aged 16+ registered with a GP in Tameside or Glossop. Offers support for low mood, stress, and anxiety.

You are never alone – there is always someone who can help.





KEY DATES

2025

18th September - Parent Information Evening

1st October - Mental Health Team Parent Event

6th - 17th October - Subject Review Meetings

10th - 14th November - Year 13 Mock Exams

20th November - Sixth Form Open Evening

10th December - Parents Evening / Year 13 Reports Home

18th December - Christmas Trip

2026

19th - 30th January - Subject Review Meetings

23rd - 27th February - Year 13 Mock Exams

3rd March March - Year 12 UCAS Discovery Day Visit

25th March - Parents Evening and Reports Home

15th April - Year 12 University Visit

4th May - External Exams Start

11th - 22nd May - Subject Review Meetings

26th June - Sixth Form Leavers Meal

6th July - Year 12 Work Experience

UCAS and Apprenticeship Deadlines

All students applying to university through UCAS must submit their applications by the Sixth Form internal deadline in late October. This allows time for references to be written and final checks to be made before the national deadline in January. Students applying to Oxbridge, Medicine, Dentistry, or Veterinary Science must meet an earlier internal deadline in early October, in line with the national deadline for these courses.

For those applying for higher or degree apprenticeships, deadlines vary depending on the employer, and some opportunities open as early as October in Year 13. These applications can involve multiple stages, so early research and preparation are essential. The Sixth Form team will provide support throughout the year to help you meet deadlines and submit strong, well-prepared applications.



WHERE YOU BELONG **WHERE YOU GROW**



Glossopdale Sixth Form
Newshaw Lane
Glossop
SK13 2DA

www.glossopdaleschool.org.uk/sixthform