

Welcome from the Head Teacher and Director of Sixth Form

All students will be cooperative, confident, ambitious and successful regardless of their background. We expect students to meet academic challenges, discover their passions, develop confidence, contribute positively to society, be resilient and become independent thinkers prepared for successful and fulfilling lives.

I know this is not the end of Year 11 that you had envisaged, but take this opportunity to start of the next chapter in your education. You may not be able to sit your GCSEs this summer, but you will still be sitting your BTEC and A Level examinations in the summer of 2022! With this in mind, there is no time like the present to start preparing for these.

Sixth Form is the gateway to life beyond school, and the choices you make are some of the most important you will face. You have made an important decision to study at Gildredge House Sixth Form. You will find aspects of both teaching and learning in the Sixth Form to be different from the way your learning was organised throughout Key Stage 4.

We are not sure at this stage how your final GCSE grades will be calculated. I want to reassure you that we will work in collaboration with you, your Secondary school and the Examination Boards to ensure that your hard work over the past five years is recognised, and that you are awarded a place at Gildredge House Sixth Form if we feel you are able to cope with the demands of A Level and BTEC studies.

It is imperative that students arrive in September with a positive mindset, and all transition tasks and activities are completed to a high standard. Regardless of examination results, these tasks provide you with an opportunity to demonstrate your suitability for your chosen courses. Sixth Form staff will have high expectations of students, and the jump from GCSE courses to A Levels is significant. The Sixth Form staff will be there to support students fully with this transition. This transition period will inform staff of your ability to cope with the demands of the subjects.

Your time in the Sixth Form will go by very quickly, look how the last five years have flown, so you need to hit the ground running! We aim to do all that we can to support you with making outstanding progress during your post-16 studies. In your two years with us, we hope you develop the confidence and skills to flourish at University and in the workplace. We are here to support, guide and elevate you to fulfil your ambitions and achieve your potential.



Mr Stuart Reeves
Head Teacher



Miss Jemma Graffham
Director of Sixth Form

Key Contacts

Miss Jemma Graffham - Director of Sixth Form j.graffham@gildredgehouse.org.uk

Mrs Karen Maxwell - Head of Year 12 k.maxwell@gildredgehouse.org.uk

Miss Francesca O'Callaghan - Head of Year 13 f.ocallaghan@gildredgehouse.org.uk

Transition Tasks

Summer Transition Tasks

For each subject that you intend to study, we ask you to complete the tasks set and bring them with you to your first lesson of each subject in September. Each task asks you to research or explore something, and to complete some work which will challenge your existing skills. You may find these activities difficult, but please give them your best attempt. This transition work will help you make a flying start to Sixth Form, as well as providing teachers with information to help understand your level of knowledge, skill and ability. Links to subject tasks can be found on our website.

These tasks are important because they:

- provide an introduction to key ideas within the course.
- help to bridge the gap between GCSE and A Level/BTEC.
- encourage students to think like an A Level/BTEC student
- demonstrate a commitment to study and subject teachers will expect that tasks are completed to a high standard.

Courses at A Level and BTEC are significantly different to GCSE and provide exciting opportunities for independent learning. The first challenge for any student joining Gildredge House Sixth Form or moving from Year 11 into Year 12 is to successfully complete a summer preparation task for each of their chosen subjects.

Option Blocks

As you are aware, not all subjects outlined in our Prospectus will be running in September 2020. However, I am delighted to be able to share with you the courses we are running, and the option blocks these fall within.

Block A	Block B	Block C	Block D
Biology English Literature Further Maths BTEC Sport	Chemistry Economics Computer Science BTEC Sport	Physics Psychology Politics BTEC Sport	Maths Geography History Business (BTEC single)

Students can select any subject from each block. The majority of our students choose to study the equivalent of three A Levels; however, we do have students who have opted to study four. Subjects within each block run at the same time, therefore students cannot study multiple subjects from the same block.

Subject Leaders

Biology	Mr C Applegate	c.applegate@gildredgehouse.org.uk
Chemistry	Mr B Young	b.young@gildredgehouse.org.uk
Computer Science Business Studies Economics	Mr K Kenth	k.kenth@gildredgehouse.org.uk
English Literature	Mrs T Newby	t.newby@gildredgehouse.org.uk
Geography	Mrs K Nicolle	k.nicolle@gildredgehouse.org.uk
History Politics	Mr J Blatch	j.blatch@gildredgehouse.org.uk
Mathematics	Mrs J Dowle	j.dowle@gildredgehouse.org.uk
Physics	Mr M Alker	m.alker@gildredgehouse.org.uk
Psychology	Ms H Kitching	h.kitching@gildredgehouse.org.uk
Sport	Mr T Addems	t.addems@gildredgehouse.org.uk