



1 March 2022

Dear Student

Welcome to Wath Academy! Our names are Lillie and Lucianne, and we are currently Head Students here at Wath Academy. Wath Academy is an incredible place to start your education where all students gain an array of positive school memories and develop exceptional character. Our roles within the Academy are to work with the staff and students to enable us to further enrich our school, to deliver exceptional learning experiences to enable young people to lead successful lives, and to support all students to reach their full potential. On our journey to success, both staff and students live and breathe our key drivers which we believe will enable us to thrive in a competitive world; we have a **'Growth mindset'** where we work hard and we value the individual feedback we are given by teachers to make progress in our subjects and in real life situations. We hold the **'Highest expectations'** as we believe everyone can be successful if we remain resilient and determined to **'Never give up'** when we may find a task difficult. As a school, we have **'No excuses'** because we create solutions and make positive thinking a habit by believing everyone can succeed. Here, **'Everyone is valued'** as diversity is celebrated, and we see the best in every single student. Through engaging with the informative lessons planned by teachers every lesson, every day, we are able to display **'World-class learning'** and **'Integrity'** by being committed to our learning, being trustworthy and honest, and by delivering on promises in order to walk the talk.

We are soon moving on to the next chapter in our education and we have achieved these aspirational goals through never giving up, being resilient and by always having the highest expectations; we believe that all students develop an inner belief and ambition to fulfil their dreams and we are motivated to work hard to fulfil our potential, regardless of our background or starting point.

Facilities

As well as our world-class learning and engaging lessons every single day, we have a wide variety of different facilities which we value as students at Wath Academy. We believe these facilities provide many opportunities for all students to get involved during lessons and as part of the extra-curricular activities offered. We have three sports halls, a tennis court, fitness suite, as well as a 3G sports pitch. Additionally, our science labs are prepped for experiments to aid our learning and to give us an opportunity to explore the practical aspect of this subject. As students, we believe these facilities create an appetite for acquiring further knowledge and skills which we will take onto our further education in the future.

House System

Through annual sports days and house competitions, the system encourages friendly competition between all students to display our nature of determination and resilience to stay at the top of the leader board each week. It ensures all students have the opportunity to be a part of the team and to be a valuable asset to our house system through the many competitions available to take part in! Our sense of community as a school, thrives each week as the staff and students work together to gain the most points. Our house system dates back to our humble beginnings and it did much in those early years to encourage students to progress. We have six houses, named after classical civilisations: Athens, Carthage, Rome, Sparta, Thebes, and Troy. The aim is to build teamwork, confidence, and community through competition.

Wath Academy encourages every student to develop the character, grit, and determination to enable them to experience what it feels like to be part of a successful team as well as getting first-hand experiences of camaraderie and team spirit.

Starting Year 7

I (Lillie) have been a student at Wath Academy since Year 7 whereas I (Lucianne) joined the school from Netherwood in Year 12. Despite starting at two different ages, we were both very nervous as the building seemed huge and there was a lot of excited students everywhere. After the first day, we both started to know our way around the school and started to make friends as everyone was so kind and welcoming. The teachers provided us with support and the feeling of community from day one and assured us that if we needed help, there was always someone there to ask. At this stage, you will also begin to make new friendships which will last a lifetime, this may be with people in your classes or from an extra-curricular activity where you share a common interest with other students. We both quickly realised that there was nothing to worry about and that everyone was in the same situation, so we began to feel less nervous and more excited about the future that was ahead of us at Wath Academy. We believe our school helped us make important decisions throughout our education from our choices in Year 9 to the choice of our A-Levels in Year 11 and now as we select our university courses.

As students at Wath Academy, we believe that we will become one of the best academies in the country and therefore we would like to congratulate you on joining our community. Like all the students at our academy, you will make memories that will last a lifetime and will be given the most incredible opportunities throughout your education. We truly believe that even though you may feel anxious now, after your first day you will love it and will be so excited to start your journey here with us at Wath Academy!

Five Top Tips

1. Get involved in as many extracurricular activities as you can; they really are a great way to meet new friends.
2. Talk to as many new people as you can on your first few days. Do not just stick close to people you already know and ignore everyone else.
3. If you have any worries or concerns, please don't hesitate to talk to any member of staff. All staff are very supportive and will help in any way they can.
4. Don't feel worried about finding your way around school, you will quickly learn the letters and numbers.
5. Make sure you are organised for your first week at Wath Academy and have all your equipment ready.



Yours sincerely

Lillie Hitchiner
Head Student

Lucianne McTaggart
Head Student