

Parent/Carer Sixth Form FAQs

1. How many subjects will my child have to take in Sixth Form?

Your child will need to opt for a minimum of three and a maximum of four different subjects. These subjects will be selected from different option blocks (A, B, C & D). Unfortunately, students are unable to select two subjects from the same option block e.g. If History and Geography were in block A the student would have to choose one or the other.

2. What are independent learning (IL) lessons?

Every student will have three “independent learning lessons” on their timetable. These lessons are compulsory and there to help support students learning. In Sixth Form, students have to work in a more independent manner than in lower school. IL lessons provide students with an opportunity to complete homework, revision notes, assignments, extra reading or any other additional work. Students should plan what work they will complete in each session to make the most of this time. There are three IL lessons, one for each subject area.

3. If students do not have a lesson period 1, do they need to come into school for registration?

Yes! Registration starts at 8.55am and takes place in a students allocated tutor room. Attendance to registration counts towards a student’s overall attendance figure. During tutorial time students will participate in a tutorial programme designed to support their needs and is used to pass on key messages to all students e.g. regarding upcoming events, UCAS information or changes to a weekly schedule. This is what makes school different to a Sixth Form college.

4. Once students have finished their lessons, can they go home?

Students are expected to be in school from 8:55am until 2:15pm (unless they have a lesson period 5). We are trying to help students prepare for life after school to make full use of the school day. We have excellent study facilities in the newly refurbished Sixth Form area that were designed to support student’s independent learning.

5. Can students park their car in the school car park?

Sixth Form students can travel to school in their own car. They should park in the first car park as you enter school grounds. This can become very busy in the mornings with Star of the Sea parents. It is best to factor this into their morning routine to ensure they are not late to registration.

6. Will students get the chance to do work experience?

All students have the opportunity to complete work experience in Year 12 during the summer term. Work experience is essential in helping students decide on a future career pathway. Tutors will help support students in looking for appropriate placements. We strongly encourage students to self-place and look for a placement that reflects their future careers intentions.

7. Do students have to apply to university after Sixth Form?

No. We have a variety of different destination pathways that our students follow. Some of our student’s secure apprenticeships, full time employment, US college courses as well as a variety of different undergraduate courses at universities across the country. Regardless of a student’s intentions, we will fully support them to secure their next steps after MHS.

8. What is enrichment and why should students do it?

We strongly encourage our students to get involved in as many different enrichment opportunities as possible. This could be a sports club, volunteering outside of school or helping with lower school students. This year we have had a number of students arrange a placement with a local first school where they have supported the teacher in class. Enrichment helps our students stand out from the crowd. It shows future employers you are willing to give up your time and become involved in the local community as well as students gaining enormously from the experience.

If you have any further questions regarding MHS Sixth Form please contact the school on 0191 2979700 or office@monkseaton.org.uk