

# Sixth Form Policy

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<b>Policy ratified by:</b>	Ann Stewart	Director of Children's Services
<b>Policy date:</b>	May 2025	
<b>Policy review date:</b>	May 2026	

## **Policy on Sixth Form Provision**

### **1. Introduction**

At Sutherland House School, we are committed to providing a comprehensive, inclusive and person-centred education for all our students, including those in the Sixth Form. This policy outlines our approach to sixth form provision, ensuring that students have the necessary support and opportunities to prepare for adulthood, develop independence, and make successful transitions to further education or the workforce. This policy applies to any student in Year 12, Year 13 or Year 14.

### **2. Preparation for Adulthood**

2.1 We recognise the importance of preparing our sixth form students for the challenges and responsibilities of adult life. Our curriculum aims to develop essential skills such as communication, independence, problem-solving, and decision-making.

2.2 We will provide careers guidance, information, and resources to enable students to make informed choices regarding their future pathways, including further education, apprenticeships, or employment.

2.3 We will actively encourage our sixth form students to engage with extracurricular activities, volunteer work, and leadership opportunities to foster personal growth and enhance their employability. Career guidance will be delivered by a dedicated Careers Lead who will oversee support and opportunities for pupils preparing for life beyond Sutherland House School. Where a student is at risk of becoming NEET (Not in Education, Employment or Training), referrals and a targeted approach will be used by the Careers Lead to secure successful provision.

### **3. Use of Fob Access Around School**

3.1 Identified Sixth form students will be granted fob access to designated areas around the school, allowing them to move freely within approved spaces.

3.2 Fob access will only be granted to students to support independence and are able to move safely around the school site without adult supervision.

3.3 We will regularly review and monitor fob access to ensure the safety and security of all students and staff.

3.4 Where necessary, the use of fobs around the school will be removed if a student does not adhere to the guidelines set out when fobs are issued and signed for as part of the use of fob agreement. A written warning will be issued in the first instance and removal of fob access will occur if further incidents arise.

### **4. Independence to Move Around the School**

4.1 We believe in fostering independence among our sixth form students. While they will have access to specific areas, they will also be permitted to move independently around the

school premises during designated times which may be transitions between lessons and during unstructured times.

4.2 We expect our sixth form students to conduct themselves responsibly and respectfully when moving around the school, adhering to school expectations and displaying consideration for other students and staff members.

## **5. Use of Marchant House**

5.1 Marchant House, our dedicated facility for sixth form students, will serve as a hub of support, collaboration, and independence.

5.2 Students will have access to appropriate resources and an independent living programme to develop their independence skills. Students will be staffed 1:1 or 2:1 whilst working at Marchant House. Where risk assessments allow, students may independently travel to and from local shops to apply their independence skills.

5.3 We will ensure that Marchant House is staffed by qualified team members who are available to provide guidance, support, and pastoral care to our sixth form students.

## **6. Work Experience**

6.1 We recognise the value of work experience in developing practical skills, enhancing employability, and exploring career opportunities.

6.2 We will support our sixth form students in finding suitable work placements, including internships or voluntary work, to gain valuable hands-on experience in their chosen fields.

6.3 We will work closely with local businesses, organisations, and the wider community to identify work experience opportunities and facilitate meaningful connections.

6.4 Work experience placements will be risk assessed and appropriate safety measures will be put in place to ensure these experiences are meaningful for our students.

## **7. Links with External Colleges/Universities**

7.1 We will establish and maintain strong links with external colleges to provide our sixth form students with access to further educational options.

7.2 We will collaborate with external colleges and universities to offer enrichment programs, guest speakers, and joint activities that expands our students' horizons and enhance their academic and personal development.

7.3 We will ensure that communication channels between our school and external educational providers are open and accessible, enabling a smooth transition for students who choose to progress their studies there.

## **8. Monitoring and Review**

8.1 This policy will be reviewed annually to ensure its effectiveness and relevance to our sixth form provision.

8.2 Feedback from students, parents, staff, and relevant stakeholders will be sought and considered during the review process.

8.3 Any necessary updates or amendments will be made to reflect changes in legislation, best practices, or the needs of our sixth form students.

## **9. Conclusion**

Through this policy on sixth form provision, we aim to create a supportive and empowering environment that equips our students with the skills, confidence, and experiences necessary for a successful transition into adulthood. By maintaining strong partnerships and offering a broad range of opportunities, we strive to enable our sixth form students to reach their fullest potential and thrive in their chosen paths.

Title: Sixth Form Policy  
Applicable to: Sixth Form staff  
Date of Review: May 2025  
Procedure Owner: SHS Braithwell