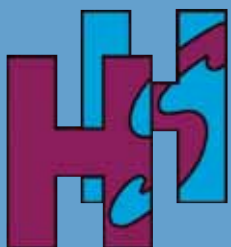


Hellesdon High School

PROSPECTUS



A Leading Edge Academy where students
Enjoy, Achieve and Succeed

A Welcome from Gerard Batty and Heads of School

Dear Students, Parents and Carers,

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome you to Hellesdon High School the founding school member of the Wensum Trust. The aim of the trust is to provide a seamless high quality education for children from nursery to 18.

Our ambitions are simple which are to reduce central expensive administration costs and put these into where it matters most, the classroom. We will provide all staff in the schools with the best quality training so that the learning experienced by all students is challenging, exciting and enjoyable. Above all we will provide the students, during their journey through the schools of the trust, a series of activities and experiences which will make them ready to take their place in multi-cultural and technological 21st century Britain and beyond.

Yours faithfully



Gerard Batty
CEO The Wensum Trust



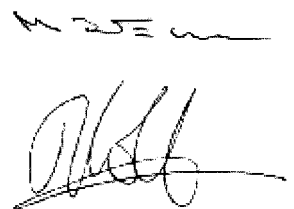
Gerard Batty

Dear Students, Parents and Carers,

Welcome to the school and the beginning of a partnership aimed at achieving success for every child.

At Hellesdon High School we provide a great variety of opportunities: academic, social and cultural in order to challenge our young people to succeed. We also believe that effective partnership between the school and parents/carers should underpin all that we do.

We are committed that every student should get the best possible opportunities and education, allowing them to succeed and flourish. Learning is at the heart of all we do. Through high quality teaching we ensure every student's talents and abilities are catered for, allowing them to excel academically and also develop skills that allow them to become more independent in their learning and prepare them for life beyond school.



Michael Earl/Tom Rolfe
Heads of School



Michael Earl



Tom Rolfe

School Aims

Our School Aims have been written in collaboration with the HHS School Council

ENJOY

Hellesdon High School will enable everyone to realise their potential and enjoy life to the full.

Hellesdon High School celebrates our differences and gives the opportunity for everyone to become successful and do well in this changing world.

Hellesdon High School is a caring community, where we show concern and respect for the safety and welfare of others.

Hellesdon High School will help everyone to enjoy their time here by showing respect for others and celebrating diversity.

Hellesdon High School will always try to provide a friendly learning atmosphere so that no-one feels left out .

Nobody should feel like they don't belong here, everyone who walks through the school gates is an equal.

Hellesdon High School is a place where everyone can be someone.

ACHIEVE

Hellesdon High School will help everyone to express and develop their individual interests, skills and gifts.

Hellesdon High School will develop the lively and enquiring minds of everyone to appreciate and seek worthwhile human achievements.

Hellesdon High School will help everyone in every way to achieve, with no target too small or too large for our help.

Hellesdon High School will do everything possible to make sure everyone achieves by making sure everyone has equal chances in everything they do.

Hellesdon High School will use education to transform the opportunities of its whole community and enable everyone to fulfil their potential.

SUCCEED

Hellesdon High School will allow everyone to succeed by offering an inspirational, innovative and creative curriculum.

At Hellesdon everyone is helped to succeed by challenging them and supporting them throughout their time here.

At Hellesdon students are prepared to be ready for the outside world.

Hellesdon High School will develop enthusiastic and confident learners who aspire to do their best.



About Us

Hellesdon High School and Sixth Form Centre is situated on the north west fringe of Norwich, on a large site in a suburban setting. We are a truly comprehensive 11-18 school with students of all abilities and strengths. At present there are over 1400 students on roll.

All teaching areas are maintained to a high standard, producing a good learning environment for our students.

Applications and Admissions

Hellesdon High School follows the Norfolk County Council applications and admissions procedures. The intake number set for this school for a year group is 250. If we are oversubscribed for places in Year 7 the Local Authority administered appeals system comes into operation.

The applications procedure and oversubscription rules are available on line at www.norfolk.gov.uk/admissions HHS admissions criteria are published on the school website.

For queries regarding places in the school in Years 8-11 please contact the admissions team at Norfolk County Council. The e-mail address is admissions@norfolk.gov.uk

Prospective students and parents are invited to contact the school to arrange a visit, if they so desire.

*“Students are fully involved in learning activities. There are good literacy and numeracy links across different subjects.”
Ofsted November 2012*



The School Day

“Current achievement of all students is good and improving across the school as a result of effective teaching and very thorough tracking and monitoring of their progress.” Ofsted November 2012

Our day is organised around five one hour long lessons. Students are expected to arrive on site by 8.20am. Breakfast is served from 8am and lessons start at 8.30am. Our day is structured with four lessons in the morning, two each side of a 15 minute break, tutor/mentor time or assembly before or after lunch and one lesson in the afternoon. The day ends at 2.50pm and many students stay on for after-school clubs, matches, team practice, music and to use the Learning Resource Centre which is open until 4pm on four days a week. School buses arrive by 8.15am and depart at just before 3pm. Students attending after school activities may go home on the late bus which leaves at 4pm.

Teaching and Learning – the heart of our school

On entry to Hellesdon High School, Year 7 students are placed in classes within broad ability and prior attainment groupings. Class sizes rarely exceed 30. Students who need learning support are allocated to classes where targeted help is available.

We offer a broad and balanced curriculum designed to:

- provide equal opportunities for all students regardless of gender, aptitude or cultural, ethnic or religious background
- offer a broad and balanced entitlement to all students
- prepare students for further study, the world of work and to become active citizens
- develop positive personal and social values
- provide a variety of activities which bring about effective learning, provide appropriate challenges for all students and lead to achievement for all students
- provide continuity and progression from the point of transfer to the time of leaving school.

In Years 7 & 8 students study a common curriculum comprising of timetabled lessons in Art, Citizenship, Computing, Drama, Design & Technology, English, Geography, History, Maths, Music, PE, RS, Science and MFL (French/German/Spanish).

Two GCSE options are chosen at the end of Year 8 for study over three years in Years 9 -11. A further two GCSE options are then selected in Year 9 for study over two years in Years 10 & 11.

In Year 9 students study their two selected options plus a broad core of subjects including English, Maths, Science, Computing, PE and RS/Citizenship. Students also select to study a language (French/German/Spanish), Humanities (Geography/History) and a creative subject (Art & Design/Design Technology).

In Years 10 & 11 students study their four selected options plus a broad core of subjects including English, Maths, Science, Computing, PE, and RS/Citizenship.

In Year 12 students will be able to select from a range of subjects. The option choices are designed to allow students the maximum possible opportunity to progress towards either Higher Education or a career in a suitable profession. Selected students are offered the opportunity to study for the Extended Project Qualification.



Care and Guidance

In Years 7, 8 and 9 students are assigned to a tutor group. Each tutor has oversight of the academic and pastoral welfare of the students in the tutor group. They meet the group each day, develop the vital link between home and school and encourage and monitor progress.

We invite New Intake parents/carers to meet their child's tutor before the start of the new school year, as well as in the Autumn Term and at Parents' Evening later in the year.

In Years 10, and 11 the structure of Care and Guidance changes from tutor groups to a system of mentoring. Each student is linked to a staff mentor who meets with them regularly. The mentor maintains oversight of the pastoral welfare of the student, but there is also an increased level of academic support and guidance.

Each year group is led by a Head of Year, who co-ordinates the work of the tutors or mentors and has overall responsibility for the progress of students within the year. The Heads of Year are supported by Assistant Heads of Year. Year teams and Heads of Year generally stay with their students as they move through the school ensuring continuity of care and guidance.

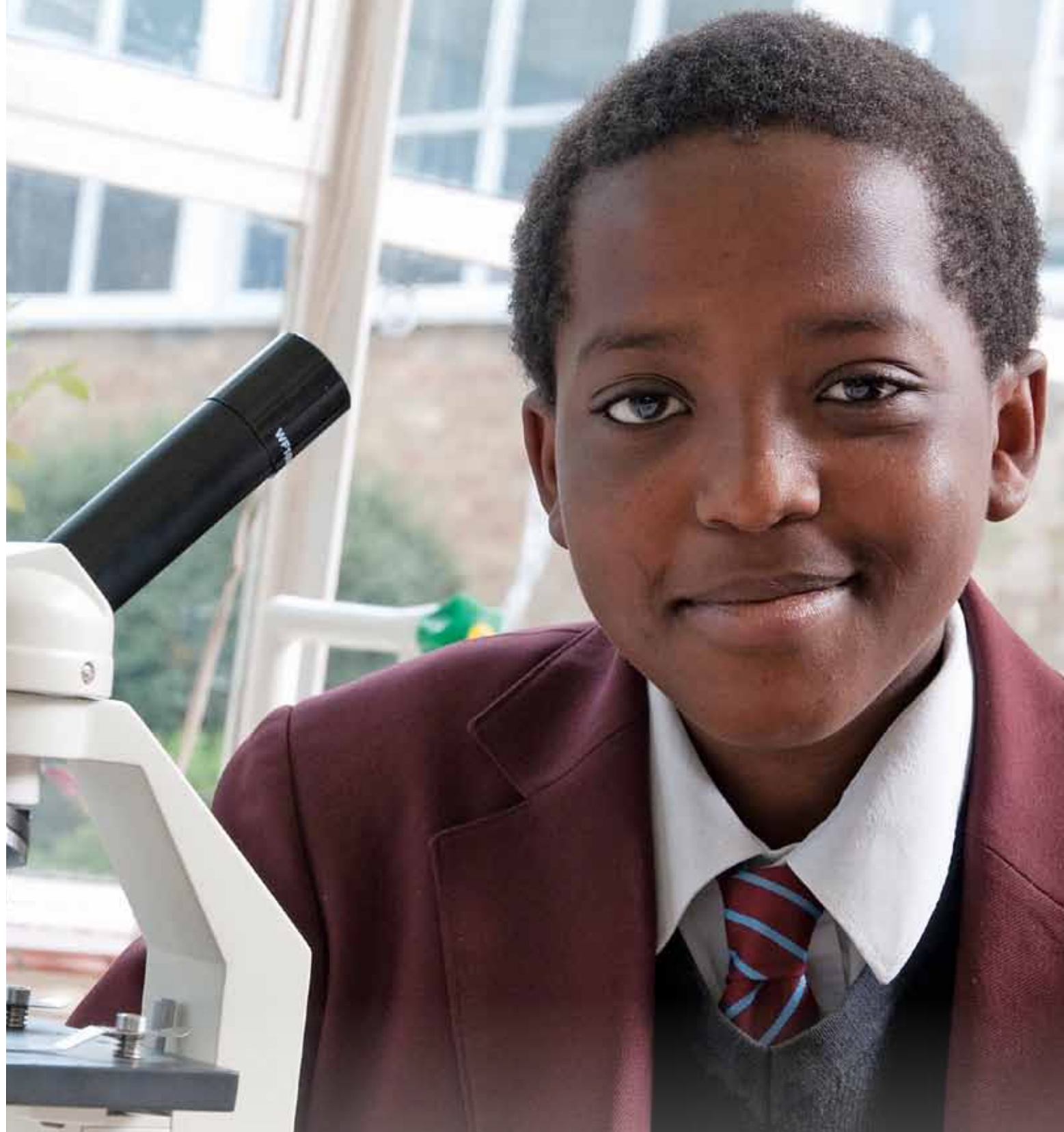
We expect and encourage our students to behave sensibly, to show respect for others, to work well in class and to take pride in their appearance by wearing their uniform correctly in school and on the way to and from school – in other words, to engage in and be part of the learning community that is Hellesdon High School. Most students appreciate that an ordered and calm environment helps them to learn. All students are expected to follow our uniform code. Those that do not should expect to be challenged.

Saying "Well done" . . .

At Hellesdon High School we believe in praising and rewarding good effort, good work, good citizenship. We have a rewards system, celebration assemblies, certificates for good work and effort and many other ways of saying 'well done'. Our House System challenges pupils from Years 7-9 to work together and to compete for their house in a variety of competitions and activities across the curriculum

The ethos of the school is overwhelmingly one of praise and positive achievement but, as in any school, we also need sanctions – we remove individual students from a class for disrupting learning, we have a system of lunchtime and after school detentions and we also operate an Inclusion Centre. In rare cases we use fixed term exclusions and in the most exceptional circumstances we will seek permanent exclusion or the managed move of a student to another school.

The school takes incidents of bullying extremely seriously, in line with our anti-bullying policy, which is available on our website.



Assessment, Recording and Reporting

Assessment is a vital part of teaching and learning at Hellesdon High. It allows staff, students and parents/carers to track the progress students make in each subject. Target grades are initially based on students' past progress at Key Stage 2 and early on at Hellesdon High School, however these may change as students progress at different rates in various subjects. We encourage parents/carers to contact the school with any queries concerning progress or target grades.

Parents/carers receive information on progress throughout the year, as well as a full report. All parents/carers are invited to a Parents' Consultation evening.

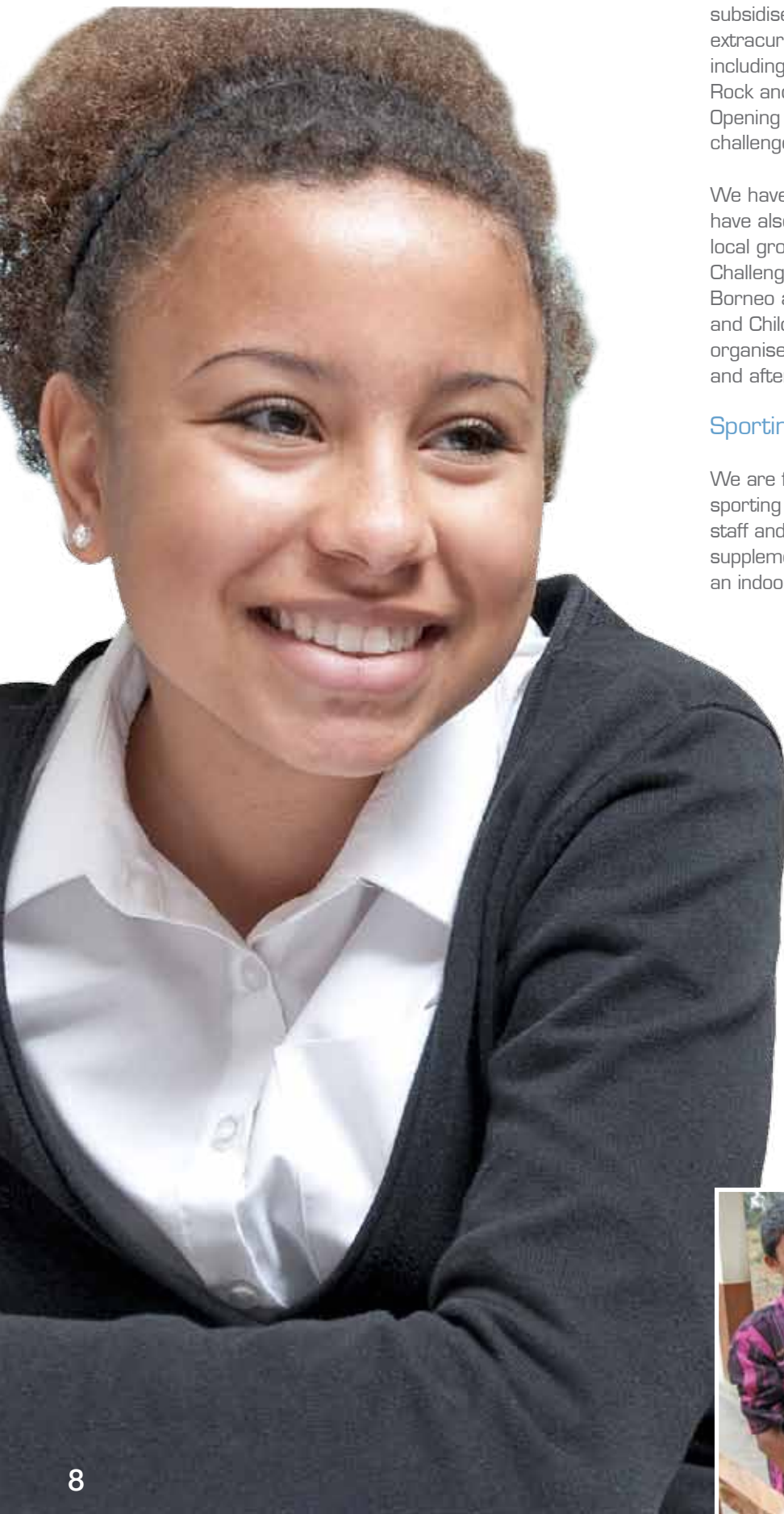
Our Learning Gateway gives parents/carers access to attendance and achievement information for their child/children in the school, via a secure website.

Working together

We value our partnership with our parents/carers very highly and work hard at Hellesdon High School to ensure regular and worthwhile contact between home and school. Students are issued with a planner at the start of each year and this can be used for day to day contact. Students record homework in their planners and we ask parents/carers to check and sign the planner weekly. The main switchboard is open from 7.45am to 4pm should parents/carers wish to contact the school. Meetings can be arranged with Heads of Year and Senior Staff by appointment.



Developing Talents and Spreading Wings



Learning does not just take place within the classroom. It is wonderful to see students trying new activities or developing skills and talents across the wide range of opportunities on offer here. Performing Arts are popular and our school musical gives students of all ages and abilities the chance to work and perform together. Our links with the Theatre Royal in Norwich extend opportunities in the Performing Arts. Students are able to achieve qualifications through Arts Award, Rock School and ABRSM. The school employs eight professional peripatetic tutors who deliver one to one subsidised lessons on a range of instruments. We also offer extracurricular opportunities to be part of music ensembles, including keyboard club, woodwind ensemble, School of Rock and music theory. The school is also proud of its Opening Night Ensemble (O.N.E) a performing arts club that challenges students to sing and dance at a range of events.

We have received the 'Eco-School' Green Flag award and have also achieved 'Healthy Schools' status. We work with local groups on community projects and through World Challenge students have worked in Namibia, Amazonia, Borneo and India. We also support and visit Hope School and Children's Home in Andhra Pradesh, India. Staff organise a wide range of clubs and activities at lunchtimes and after school . . . there is something for everyone!

Sporting and Physical Education Activities

We are fortunate to have excellent indoor and outdoor sporting facilities which are used and enjoyed by students, staff and the community. Our extensive playing fields are supplemented by a floodlit all weather pitch, 5 tennis courts, an indoor swimming pool, gymnasium and superb sports hall.

Student participation in sport is high. We have over 35 competitive teams that compete locally and nationally, including; rugby, football, basketball, cricket, netball, athletics, and golf. The provision for Physical Education in the curriculum is supplemented by specific 'Highest Performers' programmes and extra-curricular clubs such as swimming, table tennis and dodgeball. Our Duke of Edinburgh programme is thriving.

Our expertise and commitment within Sport and Physical Education is recognised through

- Sainsburys School Games Mark Award
- FA Clublink Award
- Community Rugby Development School Status

Staff from our PE department are heavily involved in facilitating competition and sporting opportunities. We run cluster festivals and competitions for all years, which feed into the Norfolk School Games.



Special Educational Needs Provision

The school policy for students with Special Educational Needs follows the Government's New Code of Practice. Early identification of children with Special Educational Needs allows our students to make good progress. Our SEND policy and SEND information report can be found on the school website and a hard copy can be obtained from the school office. We meet with Year 6 teachers and students in the term before they join us at Hellesdon High School and work together to arrange appropriate support. Advice is provided which supports the work of departments within the school and a team of Learning Support Assistants work with students who need extra help, both in the classroom and on a more individual/small group basis through a range of intervention programmes. We meet with parents/carers of students with SEND regularly across the academic year to review the provision we have put in place. We have a diverse curriculum designed to meet the needs of all our students. To find out more, please visit our department website by following the links for parents on the school website and clicking on SEND.

Safeguarding/Child Protection

We are committed to promoting the safety, health and welfare of all our students. We comply with Safeguarding legislation, follow the procedures laid down by Norfolk Children's Services and work closely with professionals to ensure the best possible care and support for our young people.

The school has designated Child Protection staff, a Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator and a designated Child Protection Governor. A copy of our Safeguarding Policy can be obtained from the school and the HHS website.

"Students are proud to be part of the school. They attend well and feel safe in and around the school."
Ofsted November 2012



Hellesdon High Sixth Form

As an 11-18 school Hellesdon High Sixth Form is the natural choice for Hellesdon High students when they progress beyond Year 11. We are large enough to be able to offer a wide variety of Post-16 courses, at both Advanced Level and BTEC, but small enough to support and challenge all students effectively.

The Sixth Form Centre itself is well equipped, having undergone a recent refurbishment. It now boasts a state of the art Study Centre, with space for computer work and individual quiet study, as well as a comfortable Common Room. The Sixth Form is very well placed to grow over the coming years.

Present Sixth Form students are very active within the Main School, being involved in a number of ways, such as supporting teachers, including acting as mentors to younger students and helping to run sports teams. The Head Boy and Head Girl for the school are selected from Year 13 and work across the whole school delivering assemblies and speaking at all parental events and Open Evenings.

Students who join Hellesdon High School in Year 7 have plenty of contact with Sixth Formers throughout the Lower School and will be encouraged and guided to make an application to the Sixth Form during Year 11.

Details of the Sixth Form and the application procedure are given in a separate prospectus. Copies can be obtained on request from the Sixth Form Office (e-mail Mrs. C. Fiddament at cfiddament9nr4@nsix.org.uk), or by writing to Hellesdon High Sixth Form, 187 Middletons Lane, Norwich NR6 5SB. A copy can also be downloaded from the Sixth Form website, accessed from the main school website.

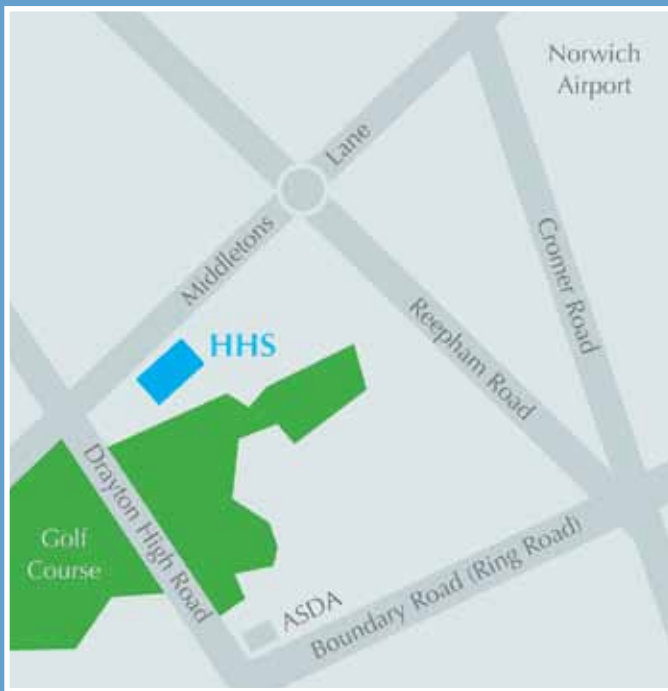


*"Students have a wide range of opportunities to develop responsibilities to support the running of the school and make contributions to the local community."
Ofsted November 2012*



Hellesdon High School

A Leading Edge Academy



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PROSPECTUS



WENSUM TRUST

Hellesdon High School