

## OUR COMMITMENT TO YOU

Vandyke is a successful and popular school. We were asked by the local authority to expand to accommodate additional students. The work was completed in 2015 and the new building programme has further enhanced our wonderful facilities.

Our aim is to meet the learning needs of every student and thereby help each of them to achieve their full potential in terms of academic, physical, creative, social and personal development, and to acquire a range of transferable skills in preparation for the demands of an ever-changing society. At Vandyke, we believe that the ingredients for effective learning include excellent teaching, high expectations and an atmosphere within which collaboration and good relationships flourish.

Vandyke prides itself on delivering a broad and balanced curriculum that will equip students for the world of study at university or college, for training, or for the world of work. We value the role that technology can play in assisting students with their learning and in offering new and exciting ways in which teachers can teach and students can learn. We aim to provide an education that values honesty, courtesy and kindness to others, and we seek to build a school community within which students respect others and their environment. At the same time, students should feel that their efforts and achievements in a wide range of activities are recognised and celebrated.

We have high expectations of our students, both academically and socially. We treat our students with respect and we expect similar respect and maturity in response.

Each student is encouraged to set targets for his/her progress and it is expected that all students should be clear about their own personal objectives as they progress through the school. We recognise the importance of partnership with parents/carers and seek to involve them closely in the education of their children. We also seek to build partnerships with the local community, other schools, business and industry and to share our facilities with the community. The school is supported closely by external partners, including the University of Bedfordshire, BE Aerospace (the largest employer in the town), by clubs across a wide range of sports, and through links with a large number of organisations.

Opportunities in sport and performing arts and an extensive enrichment programme are important parts of the Year 9 experience for students. We believe that regular participation in and enjoyment of a range of sporting activities, including dance, can make a significant contribution to promoting healthier lifestyles through improved levels of physical fitness, high self-esteem and a sense of well-being.

Our "V Inspired" programme also includes a wide range of enrichment activities, including our Arts Factory, popular chess teams (Bedfordshire champions 2014) and sports development through MK Dons football club and Northampton Saints RUFC among others.

In 2011, Vandyke became an academy. We believe that the autonomy that this provides is supporting our continuing school improvement.



The Sportsmark and prestigious Artsmark Gold awards were accredited to Vandyke in recognition of the school's commitment to Sport/PE and its outstanding programme of extra-curricular sport and performing arts.

We value the benefits that participation in trips and visits bring in enhancing learning, developing personal and social skills and building independence.

Each year, we publish for students and parents/carers information about planned trips and visits, allowing plenty of time for forward planning. Trips in 2015-16 included to France, Iceland and the USA, as well as a full programme of Duke of Edinburgh expeditions locally and to North Wales, Derbyshire and the Lake District, and a World Challenge expedition to Southern India in late July/early August.

Wherever possible, extended trips take place outside term-time, so that students do not miss lessons.

Over 100 students take part in the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme each year, meeting weekly and participating in practice and assessed expeditions.

In recent years, groups have travelled on World Challenge expeditions to countries including Malawi, Morocco and Tanzania and this year, Southern India.



Vandyke holds National Healthy School status: we teach our students about healthy lifestyles and want them to learn to make sensible decisions for themselves.

***"Students are very proud of their academy. They behave well and display highly constructive attitudes to their learning."***  
**OFSTED 2015**

## CARE AND GUIDANCE

As an Upper School, Vandyke combines the benefits of being "large scale" with the advantages of care and guidance that emphasise the importance of the individual.

***"Students feel safe at the academy and they learn how to keep themselves safe."***  
**OFSTED 2015**

On entry, each student joins a tutor group. The tutor groups are deliberately small, so that the tutor gets to know the students very well. Each year group is led by a Director of Year and a Head of Year, supported by the Head of Student Support and the Student Attendance Officer.



**inspiring excellence**

The school's triangular logo is a constant reminder that students' happiness and their success at school are dependent to a large degree on an active partnership between students, parents/carers and teachers. At Vandyke, the catalyst for the development of this partnership is each student's tutor, whose role is to:

- meet the tutor group every day, to check attendance, punctuality and standards of dress and behaviour;
- support each student, to enable them to achieve well in their academic study and gain the most from wider opportunities available in school;
- keep in touch with parents/carers, by sending out information (e.g. written reports), responding to all requests for information and meeting with parents/carers whenever possible.

Vandyke has a deserved reputation for outstanding care, guidance and support and we take pride in the very positive relationships nurtured across the school.

## CURRICULUM

We aim to make learning exciting and to bring it alive for all our students. In particular, the Year 9 programme includes all National Curriculum subjects and our own Learn-to-Learn course which aims to help students gain the skills we know they need to become effective learners.

We challenge students to achieve their very best and, in Year 9, students begin their GCSE-level study as part of our policy of providing a high level of academic challenge alongside excellent teaching and support.

The curriculum comprises many subjects, including English, Maths, Science, separate Physics, Chemistry and Biology, Geography, History, Design Technology – including Electronics and Product Design, Catering, Art, Drama, Dance, Business Studies, Media Studies, French, German and Spanish, Music, ICT, Computing, RE, PE and Sport, and Photography.

Heads of subject are responsible for course developments in their area and Vandyke has a reputation for developing a variety of teaching approaches and innovative courses. Details of the curriculum can be found on the school website. Exciting recent developments have included new courses including Computing and Electronics.

***"Students acquire and deepen their knowledge, skills and understanding across the range of subjects they study. The good progress they make in developing literacy, numeracy and communication skills allows almost every student to move confidently and successfully onto the next stage of their education or employment."***

**OFSTED 2015**

## SUPPORT STAFF

Vandyke has a team of dedicated and committed support staff working in many areas of the school including the school office, science laboratories, computer rooms, technology rooms, art rooms, the library and the reprographics centre. This team has been successful in enabling teaching staff to spend more time in contact with students supporting their learning.

## ACCOMMODATION

The subject departments are grouped together in different areas of the school. In addition to classroom facilities, the school has an enviable range of outstanding specialist facilities including:

- a Theatre, a Drama Studio and a Dance Studio
- a suite of Music Rooms with recording studio
- nine well-equipped Science Laboratories
- studios for Art, Design and Technology, and Catering
- many Computer Network Rooms, including a new Digital Photography Lab, and classrooms equipped with computers or laptops
- a Sports Hall
- an Activity Hall
- outside area designated for land-based studies, including a large poly-tunnel and allotments
- a large Library and Resources Centre
- Sixth-Form Study Centre
- sports pitches and tennis courts, cricket nets and separate athletics area
- a floodlit artificial turf sports pitch
- the Vandyke Café with art gallery and patio area

In August 2014, we completed the construction of ten additional classrooms and new PE changing rooms, along with a spectacular new social space for students, to support the continued growth of the school.

## LINKS BETWEEN HOME AND SCHOOL

Vandyke is committed to forging strong links between home and school. The partnership means that the school is open to parents/carers to telephone at any time during school hours. We believe in the adage that a big problem is a small problem ignored and so we do encourage parents/carers to contact us with any queries, no matter how small. Parents/carers can be sure that we will contact them if the need arises. Parents/carers wishing to see a particular member of staff should telephone to arrange a mutually convenient appointment, as it is not possible to disrupt teaching time. However, if there is a problem, someone will help immediately.

***“Effective teaching has a positive impact on learning in English, mathematics and across the wider range of subjects taught at the academy, and students make good progress as a result.”***

**OFSTED 2015**

## STANDARD COMMUNICATIONS

In addition to the day-to-day partnership with parents/carers, there is a wide range of written and face-to-face communications intended to encourage the active support of parents/carers in the interests of the students.

- *Vandyke Guide*: this is issued to parents/carers of new students and includes details of uniform and PE kit, school policies, lunchtime arrangements and how to support students during the transition from middle to upper school.
- *The Vandyke Calendar*: this is available on the school website and lists the main school events for the year ahead.
- *Vandyke Voice*: this is published on the school website every second Monday and includes details of school events and important dates, and provides a means of highlighting students' achievements. If access to the internet causes a problem, please let us know and a paper copy will be sent home.
- *Reports*: every student receives a progress update each term. The timing of these communications is included in the Vandyke Calendar.
- *Consultation Evenings*: these are organised twice per year and parents/carers are encouraged to bring their son or daughter with them.
- *School Website*: this is updated regularly.
- We carry out two formal consultation exercises with parents/carers each year, to gauge views about various matters affecting school life, in addition to any ad hoc consultations for which the need may arise from time-to-time. We feed this back through Vandyke Voice.

These surveys are followed up with focus group meetings. Feedback is considered carefully and can be seen reflected in many of the changes we have implemented in recent years.

***The quality of marking has become a strength of the academy. It is regular and thorough, and provides helpful feedback to students about how they can improve their work. Students respond effectively to the advice given.***

**OFSTED 2015**

## STUDENTS IN PARTNERSHIP

Parents/carers and visitors frequently tell us that they are impressed by the calm, well-ordered working atmosphere within the school. We aim to help our students look upon their Upper School education as a crucial stage of transition between school and higher education or employment; between childhood and adulthood; dependence and independence. The work of 'Student Voice' is of central importance in giving our students a real stake in the future of their school and a sense of ownership, belonging, pride and loyalty.

There are clear policies related to all aspects of student life in school, including work, behaviour, attitude and dress. There is a code of conduct, an anti-bullying policy and charter, a school dress policy and a rewards and sanctions policy. All disciplinary policies are based on expectations of courtesy, consideration and care for other people and their property. Details of these policies are available from the school on request and we will be happy to answer any questions you may have. Many of the policies are also published on the website.

## DISCIPLINE

Our aim is to treat our students as young adults and encourage self-discipline. We are committed to the development of a culture in which student achievement is recognised, respected and rewarded. Where necessary, a range of sanctions serves to help students to modify their behaviour. These include:

- *Report cards*: students can be on report to their Tutor, Head of Year, a Deputy Head, or the Headteacher. This procedure gives teachers and parents/carers an opportunity to comment on a student's work and behaviour.
- *Detentions*: a student may be detained either at lunchtime, or after school.
- *Withdrawal*: in some circumstances, we will withdraw a student from lessons for a fixed period while new arrangements for his/her return to classes are agreed. In such circumstances, the student will continue to complete schoolwork in our Achievement Support Centre.
- *Exclusion*: in exceptional circumstances, a student may be excluded from school for a fixed number of days, or even permanently. The level of exclusions is very low. In the last 3 years there has been only one permanent exclusion, reflecting the excellent behaviour in lessons and around school.

## SCHOOL UNIFORM

We believe in the value of school uniform and insist upon high standards of dress. After extensive consultation with students and parents/carers, the uniform was chosen with regard to what looks smart and is comfortable and appropriate for thirteen to sixteen year olds; cost and availability were also considered.

### UNIFORM REQUIREMENTS FOR YEAR 9

- Regulation white Vandyke polo-shirt with school logo on chest. \*
- Regulation “dark wine” Vandyke jumper or cardigan, with school logo on sleeve. \*
- Formal dark grey or black trousers or skirt of appropriate length. For clarity, these must be plain/unpatterned, tailored (not jeans, jeans-style (made of denim), or leggings; no jeans-style studs or pockets, double-stitched seams or piping on seams; no large coloured belts or buckles - a black belt is allowed.)
- Grey, black or white socks.
- Black shoes (no trainers or sports/ canvas shoes are acceptable).
- Please ensure clothing is named.

**Please refer to the green booklet on Student Uniform Policy for further information.**

\* **Standard school jumpers/ cardigans and polo-shirts, including the PE items are available from Wear-2-School in North Street, Leighton Buzzard.**

Any student not wearing full school uniform is withdrawn from lessons and parents/ carers are contacted so that the issue can be resolved promptly.

Jewellery and body piercings are inappropriate for school, as are extremes of hairstyle and make-up. A single small earring or stud (one per ear), a watch, a single necklace (tucked inside the polo-shirt) and one ring per hand only are allowed. Body piercing is limited to nose and ear, i.e. no eyebrow / lip piercings are allowed (a separate policy on piercings is available from the school). Extremes of hairstyle and make-up are not allowed. Hair colour must be natural shades only.

If in any doubt about any of the above, please contact the school for clarification.

The standard of PE and Sport at Vandyke is high. Our teams have a record of outstanding success and there is a thriving extra-curricular PE programme. Vandyke hosts the Leighton-Linslade Sports Partnership, supporting all 27 local schools in sports development.

All students are required to wear kit in Vandyke school colours.

### PE KIT

**Vandyke “dark wine”/black polo-shirt \***  
**Vandyke shorts or skort \***  
**Vandyke black sweatshirt/hoodie \***  
**Plain black jogging bottoms**  
**Plain black socks**

## HOMEWORK

Homework is important for all students, not only because it provides opportunities to extend classroom learning, but also because it allows students to become more responsible for their own work. The amount of homework set will vary from subject to subject and year-to-year.

Parents/carers are encouraged to contact the appropriate tutor, or Head of Year, if they have any questions about homework. Sometimes we find that new students, although they complete their homework regularly, do not realise how much more thoroughly they should do it and how much more time it should be given. Students always have learning work to be doing, e.g. learning vocabulary in French, reading through notes in Science, etc.

We use a piece of software called “Show My Homework”, which shows a full record of homework set. Students are given their own PIN code, which is also accessible for parents, to access their account to see the homework set.

## ATTENDANCE

Good attendance at school is vital if students are to achieve their full potential. The link between good attendance and high achievement is very clear. We use an electronic registration system and registers are taken every lesson. We monitor attendance very carefully, making first-day contact with home to follow up any absence and we will telephone parents/carers if we are concerned about a student's attendance.

Attendance last year was 95%, with a very low level of unauthorised absence at below 0.5%. The school will sanction absence in term-time only in exceptional circumstances.

## THE SCHOOL DAY

The school day begins at 9.00am and ends at 3.30pm. Lunch is from 12.50 - 1.25pm Mon, Tue, Wed and Fri, and 1.10-1.45pm on Thursdays.

However, once every fortnight on a Thursday school finishes at 2.40pm for students. This is to create extended blocks of time for staff training, to further develop the quality of teaching and learning at Vandyke.

The school day is divided into five periods, plus tutor time registration and assemblies in the morning (the exception being alternate Thursdays, when there are 6 periods).

Students have 51 timetabled lessons for 54 hours per fortnight (excluding registration and assembly time).

## TERM DATES 2016/17

- AUTUMN** Tuesday 6 Sep - Friday 21 Oct 2016  
*and*  
Monday 31 Oct - Friday 16 Dec 2016  
(N.B. School closed Friday 2 Dec)
- SPRING** Wednesday 4 Jan - Friday 10 Feb 2017  
*and*  
Monday 20 Feb – Tuesday 4 Apr 2017
- SUMMER** Wednesday 19 Apr - Friday 26 May 2017  
*and*  
Monday 5 Jun - Friday 21 Jul 2017

Note: Student contact will amount to 190 days.

## ADMISSIONS

In September 2016, Vandyke will admit up to 300 students into Year 9. The following agreed admissions criteria apply:

1. all "looked after" children
2. students living in the catchment area
3. on "very exceptional" medical grounds
4. brothers and sisters of students currently attending Vandyke Upper School
5. students who will have completed Years 5 and 6 (Key Stage 2) and Years 7 and 8 (Key Stage 3) in middle schools in the local community, i.e. Brooklands, Fulbrook, Gilbert Inglefield, Leighton and Linslade

Details of Vandyke's admissions in September 2016 are as follows:

Total number of requests for places:	186
Total number of places allocated:	186

Residents of Central Bedfordshire are requested to apply for a place using the online facility at:

<http://www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/admissions>

Applications for places at Vandyke should be made by Monday, 31 October 2016. In the case of students at our partner middle schools, if parents/carers prefer to apply using hard copy forms these should be returned to the Headteacher of your son/daughter's current school. Those applying from elsewhere may not use the online facility and must complete their home Local Authority application form and send it directly to Schools Admission Service, Central Bedfordshire Council, Watling House, High Street North, Dunstable, Bedfordshire, LU6 1LF.

## VISITS

Parents/carers and prospective students are welcome to visit the school at any time - please ring for an appointment. Daytime appointments are particularly recommended, so that you can see the school at work. Most parents/carers find this informative and tell us how impressed they are by the calm and purposeful working atmosphere and the excellent relationships between staff and students. If a daytime appointment is inconvenient, an evening appointment can be arranged.

**This year we are holding our Open Evening on Thursday, 22 September 2016. After an introductory talk by the Headteacher (at 6.00pm, repeated at 6.45pm and again at 7.30pm), parents/carers and prospective students are invited to look around the school and talk to staff and students.**

**From Monday, 26 September to Friday, 30 September, we are also holding Open Mornings from 9.15am - 11.15am, when tours of the school are organised. If these times are inconvenient, please contact the school office to arrange an alternative time.**

## TRANSFER ARRANGEMENTS

Once places are finally allocated, we then begin building up a detailed profile of each student joining us. We try to ensure that the transfer from Middle School is as smooth as possible. Key features of this process include:

- each new student providing their own detailed personal profile, outlining his or her strengths, hobbies and aspirations
- the Headteacher and Year 9 staff visit students in Middle Schools to discuss their expectations of Upper School education and what students' objectives should be
- senior staff visit Year 8 staff in Middle Schools, to obtain details of individual students' needs
- parents/carers and students have the opportunity to have an individual interview with a senior member of staff and the student's new tutor
- new students come to Vandyke for 2 days in early July
- parents/carers are invited to an evening meeting in July to meet and hear from key members of staff. On this occasion, there is also the chance to purchase PE kit and school uniform and discuss transfer arrangements in detail.

A great deal of care goes into the formation of tutor groups. We try to make sure that students are able to make new friends from other partner schools and that they settle down quickly to life at Vandyke. These arrangements usually work well but, in any case, they are always carefully reviewed after a few weeks of term.

We hold an Information Evening for all Year 9 parents/carers in September and a Tutor Consultation evening in November following the issue to parents/carers of the first of three Year 9 Progress Reports.

## EXAM RESULTS 2016 - SUMMER

There are many ways in which we measure our “success” as a school. The most important is providing students with the knowledge, skills, self-confidence and attitudes that they will need, together with the very best qualifications, to take the next step in their lives after leaving school.

Achieving the best GCSE and A Level exam results that each student is capable of is a top priority and all students receive a high level of support and guidance alongside excellent teaching, to ensure that they can achieve their best.

We understand that each student is different and has their own starting point in joining us in Year 9. We have the same high expectations of all our students, which is to say we agree challenging targets for each student according to her or his potential and we expect all students to make very good progress in their time with us given their own starting point.

**“Students achieve well in a wide range of subjects at Key Stage 4.”**

**“Students are well prepared for life in modern Britain.”**

**OFSTED 2015**

Results in 2015 were very strong, with students making outstanding progress at GCSE and A Level.

2015 DfE performance tables: GCSE and A Level value-added in top 25% of all schools nationally

GCSE: A\*-C in English & Maths - 60%  
5+ A\*-G – 99%  
EBacc – 31%

A Level: Average points per entry - 216 (nat'l average 212)  
Pass rate - 100%  
A\*-B - 45%

In summer 2016, results are again excellent.

GCSE: A\*-C in English & Maths – 63%  
5+ A\*-G – 99%  
EBacc – 30%

A Level: Average points per entry - 221  
Pass rate - 99%  
A\*-B - 52%

Value-added measures at GCSE and A Level will again be very strong. (DfE performance tables are usually published in November.)

### YEAR 11 GCSE RESULTS

Qualification Name	Entries	A*-A %	A*-C %	A*-G %
ART	100	20	54	100
BIOLOGY	63	41.3	100	100
BUS STUDIES	76	6.6	65.8	100
CATERING	36	11.1	63.9	100
CHEMISTRY	63	27	96.8	100
CHILD DEV.	42	11.9	66.7	100
COMPUTING	36	2.8	44.4	97.2
DANCE	19	26.3	68.4	100
DRAMA	39	7.7	61.5	100
ENG LANG.	257	20.2	63.8	100
ENG LIT.	257	19.5	74.7	99.6
FRENCH	90	15.6	76.7	100
GEOGRAPHY	122	25.4	69.7	99.2
GERMAN	23	13	82.6	100
HISTORY	177	29.9	67.8	98.9
ICT CAMBRIDGE N	46	8.7	47.8	89.1
ITALIAN	1	100	100	100
MATHS	258	15.1	67.8	96.5
MATHS FURTHER	20	30	85	85
MEDIA	49	12.2	61.2	100
MUSIC	19	26.3	100	100
MUSIC PERF.	12	16.7	58.3	100
PE	67	16.4	62.7	100
PHYSICS	63	30.2	96.8	100
PROD DESIGN	55	14.5	60	100
SCIENCE ADD.	193	3.6	60.1	100
SCIENCE CORE	192	1.6	49.5	100
SPANISH	29	17.2	44.8	100

### A LEVEL RESULTS

Qualification Name	Entries	A*-B %	A*-C %	A*-E %
A2 APPLIED SCIENCE	6	50	83.3	100
A2 ART	6	50	83.3	100
A2 BIOLOGY	13	46.2	61.5	92.3
A2 BUS STUDIES	12	50	75	100
A2 CHEMISTRY	4	100	100	100
A2 DANCE	4	75	100	100
A2 ECONOMICS	9	66.7	100	100
A2 ENG LANGUAGE	20	20	60	100
A2 ENG LIT.	6	66.7	100	100
A2 ENGLISH	12	50	100	100
A2 FOOD TECH.	5	40	60	100
A2 FRENCH	5	80	80	100
A2 FURTHER MATHS	5	60	80	100
A2 GEOGRAPHY	12	66.7	91.7	91.7
A2 H & S CARE DBLE	12	25	83.3	100
A2 H & S CARE SG	4	75	75	100
A2 HISTORY	40	60	80	100
A2 LAW	25	40	68	96
A2 MATHS	16	87.5	93.8	100
A2 MEDIA STUDIES	7	14.3	71.4	100
A2 MUSIC PERF.	5	60	100	100
A2 PHOTOGRAPHY	5	40	60	100
A2 PHYSICS	9	44.4	66.7	100
A2 PROD DESIGN	5	0	60	100
A2 PSYCHOLOGY	14	50	78.6	100
A2 THEATRE STUDIES	5	20	60	100

## DESTINATIONS OF YEAR 11

We provide students with a great deal of support to ensure that they make informed decisions about what to do at the end of their period of compulsory school.

Alongside our own experienced careers staff, we employ qualified careers officers to provide our students with up-to-date, comprehensive and independent guidance, and to support our staff in working with students and teaching careers education.

All students receive an extensive interview with their tutor and a senior member of staff. Every student who needs to, receives at least one careers' interview with an external, independent careers adviser.

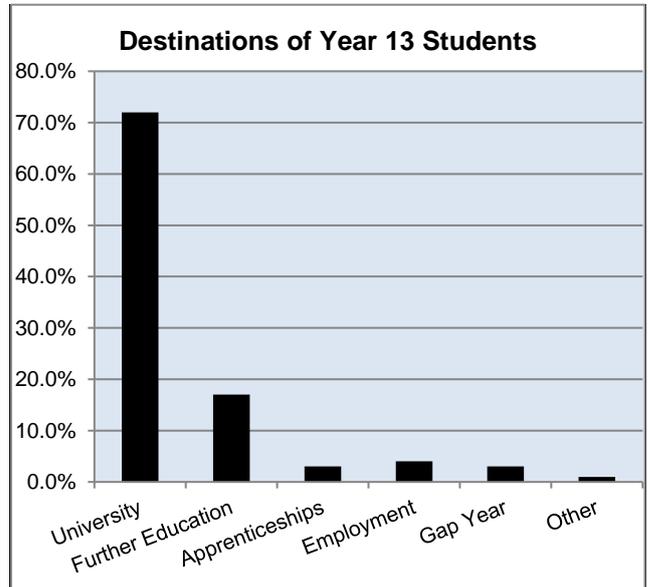
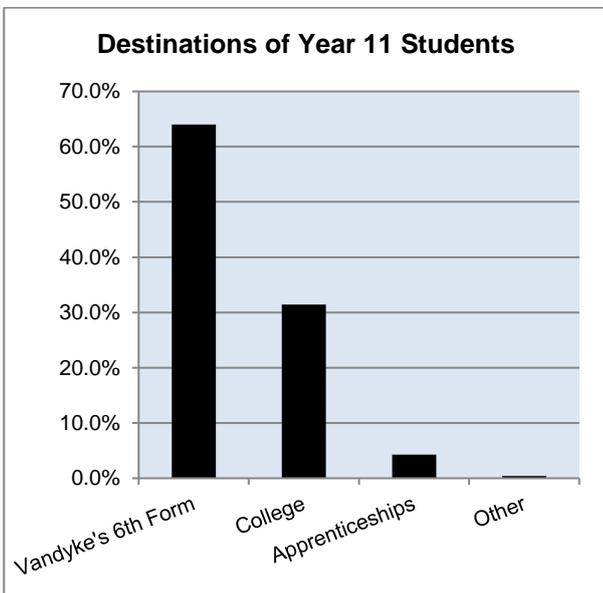
We also have good links with local colleges which offer specialist vocational courses, with apprenticeship providers, as well as a school library containing extensive careers guidance information. We also provide each student with full access to "Career Planner", an excellent on-line careers planning tool.

## DESTINATIONS OF YEAR 13

Last year's Year 13 contained 116 students, from which 103 went on to higher education. Students are given a great deal of help and guidance in preparing their applications for university or college including, as in Year 11, opportunities for mock interviews.

We provide an extensive programme to encourage students to consider higher education and high quality advanced apprenticeships, and to "aim high". Vandyke students are currently studying at a wide range of universities across the country, including Oxford and Cambridge and Russell Group universities.

***"Students receive high quality support and guidance when preparing applications for entry to university. This helps a high proportion to be successful, with some securing places at highly selective universities, including Oxford and Cambridge. Guidance and support is also of high quality for those who decide to enter employment or undertake further training."***  
**OFSTED 2015**



**STAFF**

Vandyke employs 66 teachers and 53 support staff. The staff are well-qualified, friendly and caring. This is not just our view. Each year, the school sends out an anonymous questionnaire to a random sample of parents/carers asking for their views on the school. "From the start you feel a warm and friendly welcome", and "Teaching staff do their utmost to assist students", are two fairly typical examples of the comments made by parents/carers.

The school is able to recruit such strong staff, because it enjoys a high reputation within the education world for its curriculum development work, facilities, in-service training programme and for its genuine commitment to comprehensive education. Hence, competition for posts at Vandyke is generally strong and experience gained at Vandyke is often a stepping-stone to further promotion. The strong support that staff at Vandyke enjoy is evidenced through the outcomes of our Annual Survey - now in its twenty-first year.

**TEACHING STAFF – SEPTEMBER 2016**

Mr S Adams	Deputy Headteacher
Mrs S Akers-Jarvis	History
Mrs S Allsopp	Drama
Mrs S Arif	Business & Economics
Mrs A Ashall	Team Leader - Food Technology
Mrs T Beckwith	SENCO Head of Achievement & Inclusion; Director of Year 9; Asst HT (Ach. & Incl'n)
Mr L Bennett	Team Leader - Art
Mr M Bodo	History
Miss C Boland	Maths and PE
Mrs E Brown	Assistant Team Leader - Modern Foreign Languages
Mrs L Brown	Biology
Mr S Cain	Team Leader – Media Studies
Mr G Carr	Science
Mr T Carroll	Headteacher
Mrs L Carter	English
Mr M Clarke	Head of PE
Miss L Clough	Science
Mr D Cooksey	Director of Year 10; Asst HT (English)
Miss G Cosstick	Design & Technology
Mrs N Davies	Lead Practitioner for SEN
Miss S Doe	Music
Mr S Downey	Director of Sixth Form; Asst Headteacher
Mr C Duffy	PE & Vocational Sport Coordinator
Mr M Edwards	Head of Music
Mrs K Egginton	Head of Science
Mrs H Elding	Modern Foreign Languages
Mrs A Fatemah	Law
Mrs T Galloway	Science
Mr I Garbutt	Team Leader - AS/A2 Maths
Mrs C Green	Head of English
Mrs F Green	Head of Health & Social Care
Miss M Hamilton	Head of Year 13; Psychology / Health & Social Care
Mrs J Hargreaves	Team Leader - Design & Technology
Mr T Heley	Head of ICT & Computing

Mrs S Hodges	Assistant Team Leader in Science
Mr M Ingle	Team Leader - Post 16 Business Economics & Finance
Mrs S Kelby	Assistant Headteacher (Professional Tutor)
Mrs E Lawrence	Modern Foreign Languages
Mr A Lee	Maths
Miss L Leeves	English
Mrs C Melly	Science
Mr D Mitchell	Art
Ms P Monk	Geography
Mrs J Moore	Team Leader - Geography
Mr R Moore	Maths
Miss K Murray	Literacy; English
Miss L Nemeth	PE
Miss L O'Keefe	Team Leader - Dance
Mrs R Page	English; Head of KS4
Miss A Pears	Maths
Ms S Peplow	Head of KS3 English
Mrs K Quinn	Team Leader - History
Mrs A Readhead	Maths
Mr K Redmond	English
Miss K Rhoden	Team Leader - Modern Foreign Languages
Mrs S Rushton	Head of Biology
Mrs G Salgania	Head of Business Studies
Miss R Silkstone	Head of Year 12; English
Mrs J Sizeland	Maths
Mr G Skelton	Director of Year 11; Assistant Headteacher (Maths)
Mrs A Smyth	Geography
Miss A Symington	Head of Life Skills; English
Miss A Tonkin	Geography
Mr L Turney	Head of KS4 PE
Mrs S Vecchi	Modern Foreign Languages
Mr M Woods	English

**SUPPORT STAFF – SEPTEMBER 2016**

Mrs C Abblett	Teaching Assistant
Mr K Adams	Assistant Site Agent
Mrs A Bates	Cleaning Supervisor; Catering Assistant
Mrs B Britton	PA to Headteacher; Clerk to the Governors
Miss L Buckton	Teaching Assistant
Mrs C Butler	Teaching Assistant
Miss L Cassettare	Learning Mentor
Mrs D Chaplen	Administration Assistant (Cover)
Mrs E Cherry	Teaching Assistant
Mrs C Cocks	Assistant Finance & Personnel Officer
Mr M Collier	Learning Supervisor
Mrs S Collins	Teaching Assistant
Mrs A Cook	Teaching Assistant
Mrs S Daly	Head of Year 11
Mrs A Donnelly	Reprographics Technician
Mr S Draper	ICT Technician
Mrs A Ellerton	Senior Science Technician
Mrs C Fahy	Sixth Form Manager
Mrs E Gaskell	Head of Year 10
Mr C Gilmour	Systems Manager
Mrs V Grainge	SSP Enhanced Sport Premium Officer
Miss H Green	Teaching Assistant
Mr P Hanlon	Assistant Site Agent
Mrs S Harding	Attendance & Pastoral Administrator
Mrs S Harrington	Achievement & Inclusion Support Officer
Mrs L Hicks	Art Technician
Ms A Hirst	Assistant Examinations Officer
Mrs L Humphreys	SIMS and Data Manager
Mrs S Humphreys	Assistant Finance & Personnel Officer
Mr J Josey	Senior Site Agent
Mrs D Lord	Library Manager; Learning Supervisor; Work Experience Administrator
Mr D McMillan	School Business Manager
Mrs G Mason	Food Technology Technician
Mrs Y Mileham	Head of Year 9
Mrs L Murray	Student Welfare Officer (Medical Room)
Mrs J Muskett	Science Technician
Miss A Nieto Wooll	Learning Supervisor
Mrs H O'Connell	Senior Finance & Personnel Officer
Mrs J Parfitt	Receptionist
Mrs A Pickles	Assistant Finance Officer
Mrs L Rae	Learning Supervisor
Mrs V Ruston	Head of Student Support; Designated Child Protection Officer
Mrs R Samet	Student Attendance Officer
Mr S Seymour	School Sports Partnership Manager
Mrs G Sharman	Examinations Officer
Miss F Shepherd	SSP Enhanced Sport Premium Officer & Satellite Club Hockey Officer
Mr K Smith	Design & Technology Technician
Mrs C Sykes	Science Technician
Mrs T Tucker	Teaching Assistant
Mrs M Turnbull	Food Technology Technician
Mrs C Ward	Achievement Support Centre Manager
Miss C Waters	Teaching Assistant
Mrs J Yeoman	Assistant SENCO

## GOVERNORS

Governors have a large amount of responsibility for the running of the academy and its long-term development. They control the expenditure of the academy and have to set a balanced budget. They appoint all staff (although this in practice is delegated to the Headteacher). They are also responsible for the maintenance of the academy site. They set the admissions policy and are involved in serious disciplinary matters. They have to provide, by law, certain returns to the Department for Education, which are used in the compilation of local and national statistics.

The full Governing Body meets once every half-term. Because of the complexity of a large academy, much of the detailed work is carried out in smaller committees.

<b>Chair of Governors</b>	Mr D Packer
<b>Headteacher</b>	Mr T Carroll
<b>Staff Governors</b>	Ms S Peplow Mrs R Samet
<b>Parent Governors</b>	Mrs A Ashwell Mrs S Daly Mr M Feinhols Mr D Hook Mrs J Preston Mr W Stiller
<b>Co-opted Governors</b>	Mrs M Brown Mrs A Gomersall MBE Mr J Hassall Mrs S Howley MBE Mrs A Packer Mr R Turner Ms D Yates
<b>Clerk to the Governors</b>	Mrs B Britton

If you wish to write to any Governor, send your letter addressed to them and marked "Private and Confidential" to the school.

If you wish to speak to a Governor on the telephone, please contact the school office and arrangements will be made for you to be contacted.

## USEFUL ADDRESSES

Vandyke Upper School  
Vandyke Road, Leighton Buzzard, LU7 3DY  
Tel: 01525 636700  
Email: [office@vandyke.cbeds.co.uk](mailto:office@vandyke.cbeds.co.uk)  
[www.vandyke.beds.sch.uk](http://www.vandyke.beds.sch.uk)

For admissions:  
Central Bedfordshire Council  
Watling House, High Street North, Dunstable, Bedfordshire, LU6 1LF.  
Tel: 0300 300 8037  
[admissions@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:admissions@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk)  
[www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk](http://www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk)

Copies of school policies and further information are available on the school website, or from the school office upon request.

## **AMENDMENTS**

The contents of Vandyke's Prospectus refer to arrangements as they exist at the present time. The school may make changes to both the curriculum and general regulations as circumstances demand.

## **SCHOOL CHARGING AND REMISSIONS POLICY**

Under the Education Reform Act, the school is not at liberty to charge for any activity that takes place during the school day. However, a voluntary contribution may be requested to help offset any costs incurred. Where parents/carers wish to keep their son/daughter's work, a charge may be made for the cost of materials. Full details of this policy are available on request.

## **RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**

Religious Education and the Collective Act of Worship are non-denominational in character. Parents/carers may, if they wish, withdraw their son/daughter from these arrangements, although this is very rare. Requests must be made in writing to the Headteacher.

## **SEX EDUCATION**

Sex Education is included within the broad Life Skills programme, which is provided for all Year 9, 10 and 11 students and continues into the 6<sup>th</sup> Form. The syllabus covers a wide range of topics, such as the family, puberty, adolescence, relationships, marriage, contraception, and sexually transmitted diseases including HIV and AIDS. All teaching takes place within a framework which encourages students to have regard to moral considerations and the value of family life. Details of specific content are available from the school upon request. Parents/carers have the right to withdraw their son/daughter from sex education lessons (although this is very rare). Such requests must be made in writing to the Headteacher.

## **COMPLAINTS PROCEDURE**

The school has a clear complaints procedure and this is set out in a leaflet available from the school office. Should a parent/carer have a complaint regarding any aspect of the school, this should be brought to the attention of the Headteacher, in writing, as soon as possible. Parents/carers may also seek guidance from a Governor by contacting the Clerk to the governing body, at the school.