



VANDYKE UPPER SCHOOL



Inspiring Excellence

VANDYKE UPPER SCHOOL PROSPECTUS - 2023-24

Young people leave Vandyke as confident and socially responsible, world-ready citizens with the skills, knowledge and courage to thrive.

OUR COMMITMENT TO YOU

Vandyke is a successful and popular school.

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, challenging and balanced curriculum that will equip students for the world of study at university or college, for training and 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.

Opportunities in sport and performing arts and an extensive enrichment programme are important parts of the experience for students. We believe that regular participation in and enjoyment of a range of sporting activities 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 extensive enrichment programme also includes a wide range of enrichment activities, including the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme.

CARE AND GUIDANCE

Vandyke combines the benefits of being “large scale” with the advantages of care and guidance that emphasise the importance of the individual.

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

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.

Pastoral care is organised on a year group basis, each year group being led by a Director of Year supported by a Head of Year, Assistant Head of Year and Student Support and Attendance Officer. Students are also part of a House. The house system operates to provide a basis for sporting competitions and other activity. House engagement contributes to students' character development.

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 in the first instance to all requests for information and meeting with parents/ carers.

CURRICULUM

Vandyke delivers an ambitious curriculum, with high expectations of learners from all starting points, to inspire students to become life-long learners. Our curriculum promotes resilience to deal with the changing world in which we live.

The curriculum is broad and balanced, keeping options open and creating paths through to further and higher education, training and employment. It reflects our “Vandyke Values”, promoting respect for self and others and developing transferable skills of leadership, organisation, resilience, initiative and communication. Modern British values are also reflected in the curriculum, which is flexible to adapt to changing demands of current issues. The people whose names are used in our well-developed house system epitomise these values.

We aim to make learning exciting and to bring it alive for all our students. In Year 9 students study a very broad curriculum encompassing 15 subjects. This includes the opportunity to begin study of a second foreign language.

We challenge students to achieve their very best and towards the end of 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.

EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

The gold School Sports Mark, Music Mark and prestigious Artsmark Platinum awards were accredited to Vandyke in recognition of the school's outstanding commitment to Sport/PE and the arts.

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

Trips in recent years have included France, Germany, Spain, Sri Lanka and China, as well as a full programme of Duke of Edinburgh expeditions locally and to North Wales, Derbyshire and the Lake District, and World Challenge expeditions to countries as diverse as Morocco, Malawi and Borneo.

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

Over 350 students take part in the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme each year, meeting weekly and participating in practice and assessed expeditions.

FACILITIES

In addition to classroom facilities, the school has an enviable range of outstanding specialist facilities including:

- Theatre, Drama Studio and Dance Studio
- suite of Music Rooms with recording studio
- twelve Science Laboratories - new in 2020
- studios for Art, Design and Technology, Photography
- two new catering/ food rooms
- many Computer Network Rooms, including a new Digital Photography Lab, Media Studies Lab and classrooms equipped with computers or laptops
- Sports Hall
- Activity Hall
- large Library and Resources Centre
- Sixth Form Study Centre - new in 2020
- Sixth Form Hub with Café - new in 2020
- Sixth Form Learning Centre - new in September 2022

- sports pitches, floodlit netball centre and separate athletics area
- floodlit artificial turf sports pitch
- full size 3G football pitch - completed in January 2023
- the Vandyke Café and patio area

LINKS BETWEEN HOME AND SCHOOL

We are 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.

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.
- Reports: every student receives a written progress update each term. The timing of these communications is included in the Vandyke Calendar.
- Subject Consultation Evenings: these are organised twice per year.
- School Website and social media: are updated regularly.

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.

We have clear policies related to all aspects of student life in school, including work, behaviour, attitude and dress. We have a code of

conduct, an anti-bullying policy and charter, a school uniform 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, Director of Year, the Deputy Headteachers 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.
- Seclusion: in some circumstances we will withdraw a student from lessons for a fixed period while new arrangements for their return to classes are agreed. In such circumstances, the student will continue to complete schoolwork in our Achievement Support Centre.
- Suspension/Exclusion: in exceptional circumstances, a student may be suspended/excluded from school for a fixed number of days, or even permanently. The level of suspensions and exclusions is low.

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 Google Classroom for communication with students and for remote learning including homework. This is also accessible for parents/carers to see the homework set and access resources.

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 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 in the last school year before Covid, 2018/19, was 95.6%, with a very low level of unauthorised absence at below 0.5%. The school will sanction absence for holiday in term-time only in exceptional circumstances. This is rare. Attendance post-Covid continues to be above national average.

THE SCHOOL DAY

The school day begins at 8.40am and ends at 3.00pm (Y9/10) and 3.05pm (Y11/12/13). Lunch is from 1.30 - 2.00pm, with a break at 11.05am. The day is divided into five periods, plus tutor time including registration and assemblies in the morning. All timings are on the school website.

TERM DATES 2023/24

AUTUMN	Tuesday 5 Sep - Friday 20 Oct 2023 (half-term week commencing Monday 23 Oct 2023) Monday 30 Oct - Tuesday 19 Dec 2023
SPRING	Thursday 4 Jan - Friday 16 Feb 2024 (half-term week commencing Monday 19 Feb 2024) Monday 26 Feb - Thursday 28 Mar 2024
SUMMER	Tuesday 16 Apr - Friday 24 May 2024 (May Day - Monday 6 May 2024) (half-term week commencing Monday 27 May 2024) Monday 3 Jun - Friday 19 July 2024

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 are also important considerations.

UNIFORM REQUIREMENTS FOR YEAR 9

- Regulation white Vandyke polo shirt with school logo on chest*.
- Regulation burgundy Vandyke jumper, cardigan or hoodie with school logo on sleeve*.
- Formal dark grey or black trousers, regulation Vandyke tailored shorts* or regulation Vandyke skirt*. Jeans, jean style trousers or

- 'jeggings' are not permitted.
- Grey, black or white socks and black shoes (trainers are not to be worn except for PE, nor any canvas shoes including Vans or Converse; shoes must be polishable plain black leather, Airforce shoes are acceptable but fabric trainers are not).

*These items are in stock at Wear-2-School in North Street, Leighton Buzzard.

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

In general, jewellery is inappropriate for school. Apart from the security issue, there are health and safety issues about wearing some items of jewellery. Large hooped earrings, tunnels and chains, for example, are not allowed for these reasons. Students must limit jewellery to:

- small sleepers or stud earrings (only one pair - multiple earrings are not permitted)
- a watch
- a maximum of one ring on each hand, (multiple rings are not allowed)
- one necklace which must be tucked inside the polo-shirt.
- One bracelet on each wrist.

The school is not insured for students' jewellery or other personal effects if these go missing.

Body piercing is strictly limited to one small nose stud (nose rings are not permitted) and ear, (ie. no eyebrow/lip/mouth or other piercings are allowed). Students arriving at school with inappropriate piercings will be given the opportunity to remove them. Failure to do so will result in disciplinary sanctions.

Extremes of hairstyle and make-up are not appropriate for school and are not acceptable. Hair colours must be natural shades only.

The standard of PE and sport at Vandyke is exceptionally high. Our teams have a record of outstanding success and there is a thriving extra-curricular PE programme. As with our dress code, the PE Department encourages a sense of pride and 'belonging' in PE by asking students to wear kit in school colours. Please ensure you name all main items of PE kit.

Vandyke hosts the Leighton-Linslade Sports Partnership supporting all 27 local schools in sports development.

PE KIT:

Burgundy polo shirt*

Burgundy sweatshirt/hoodie*

Burgundy Shorts or Skort* or plain black tracksuit bottoms

Black football socks

White sports socks (indoor)

Training shoes (not plimsolls)

Football boots

Please help the PE Department to maintain its high standards by supporting our code for PE kit.

*As with school uniform, all items are readily available at reasonable prices from Wear-2-School in North Street.

ADMISSIONS

In September 2024, Vandyke will admit up to 360 students into Year 9.

The following agreed admissions criteria apply:

1. all 'looked after' children and all previously 'looked after' children including those children who appear to the admissions authority to have been in state care outside of England and ceased to be in state care as a result of being adopted
2. students with parents/carers employed by the school
3. students living in the catchment area with siblings at the school
4. other students with siblings at the school
5. other students living in the catchment area
6. 'very exceptional' medical grounds
7. students who will have completed Years 5 and 6 (KS2) and Years 7 and 8 (KS3) in middle schools in the local community, i.e. Brooklands, Gilbert Inglefield, Leighton and Linslade
8. students who will have completed Years 7 and 8 (KS3) in middle schools in the local community, i.e. Brooklands, Gilbert Inglefield, Leighton and Linslade
9. other students not meeting any of the above criteria

Details of Vandyke's admissions in September 2023 are as follows:

Total number of requests for places: 414

Total number of places allocated: 360

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

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

Applications for places at Vandyke should be made by 31 October 2023. Those applying from elsewhere may not use the on-line 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.

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 transfer is as smooth as possible. Key features of this process include:

- each new student providing their own detailed personal profile, outlining their strengths, hobbies and aspirations
- the Headteacher and year group 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 two induction 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 and teaching groups. We try to make sure that students are able to make new friends from other partner schools and that they settle in 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.

OPEN EVENING / MORNINGS

The Open Evening is on Thursday 5 October 2023 from 6pm, with further opportunities to visit the school on a normal schoolday between 9-11am on Open Mornings in the following weeks.

RESULTS

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 when 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 their potential and we expect all students to make very good progress in their time with us given their own starting point.

EXAM RESULTS - SUMMER 2023

375 Year 11 students sat GCSE exams in Summer 2023. Results are outstanding.

Headlines include 76% 9-4 E/M and 49% 9-5 E/M with Attainment 8 of 49.0.

Students from all starting points made exceptional progress in their time with us.

Full details of validated examination results appear in the DfE performance tables in October.

YEAR 11 GCSE RESULTS (unvalidated)

Subject	% 9 - 7	% 9 - 5	% 9 - 4
Art	24	57	74
Business Studies	10	39	64
Child Development	25	-	60
Computing	12	27	48
Drama	13	56	84
English Language	20	58	73
English Literature	21	63	76
Geography	27	49	66
History	20	52	68
Hospitality	23	-	65
ICT – Camb.	18	-	75
Mathematics	19	54	81
Media Studies	27	66	82
MFL - French	37	75	90
MFL - German	52	96	100

Music Perf.	29	-	100
PE	12	40	62
Product Design	16	37	51
Public Services	43	-	97
Science - Trilogy Award	9	41	68
Science - Biology	32	73	91
Science - Chemistry	27	73	90
Science - Physics	32	76	91
Sports Science	33	-	90

A LEVEL RESULTS (unvalidated)

160 students sat A Levels and BTECs in Summer 2023 achieving strong results.

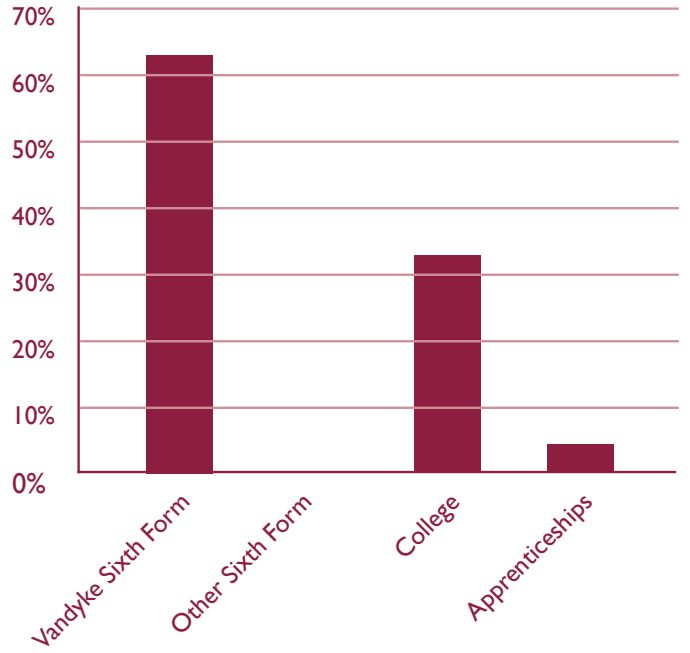
Full details of validated examination results appear in the DfE performance tables in October.

Subject	% A*-C	% A*-E
Art & Design	88	100
Art & Design 3D	54	100
Business Studies	48	97
Drama /Theatre Studies	89	100
English Language	67	100
English Literature	88	100
English Lang/Lit.	73	100
French	100	100
Geography	63	96
History	85	100
Law	57	97
Mathematics	65	100
Mathematics (Further)	100	100
Media Studies	91	100
Physical Education	27	91
Photography	75	100
Psychology	65	95
Science - Biology	38	88
Science - Chemistry	23	100
Science - Physics	20	100

DESTINATIONS OF YEAR 11

Last year’s Year 11 had 375 students.

We provide students with a great deal of support and guidance to ensure that they make informed decisions about what to do at the end of their period of compulsory education in school. Alongside our own experienced careers staff, we employ independent, qualified careers advisers to provide our students with up-to-date, comprehensive careers guidance, and to support our staff in working with students and teaching careers education.



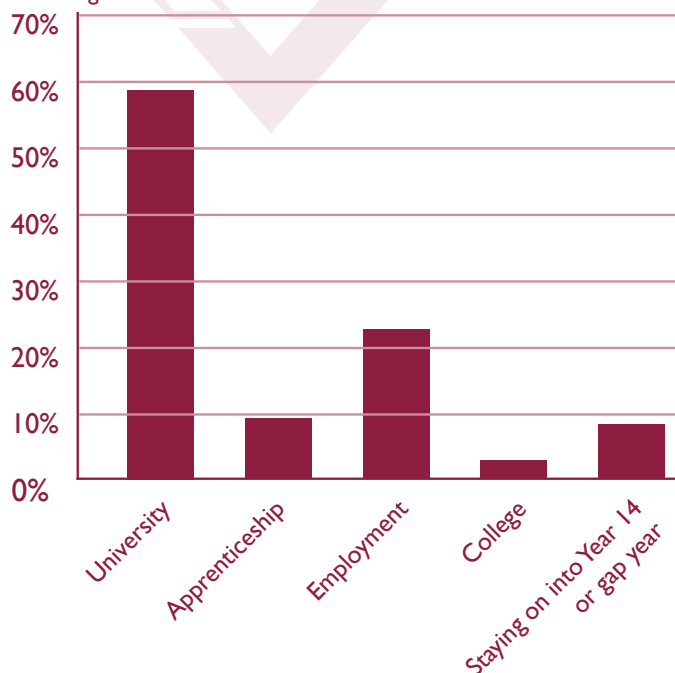
DESTINATIONS OF YEAR 13

Last year’s Year 13 had 160 students.

Students are given a great deal of help and guidance in preparing their university or college applications, including mock interview practice. Students seeking employment or apprenticeships are supported in their application process so that all students are able to move on at the end of the Sixth Form to their chosen next step.

We provide an extensive programme of careers guidance and advice to encourage students to consider all options, including higher education and the new higher level apprenticeships, some of which offer excellent opportunities. We encourage all students to “aim high”

and be aspirational in terms of their academic achievement and career goals. Consequently our students leave us to go into a very wide range of destinations. Vandyke students are currently studying at a wide range of universities across the country and abroad, including the Russell Group institutions, prestigious arts and music colleges, and Oxford and Cambridge.



“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

Vandyke employs a large teaching and support staff team. 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-seventh year.

TEACHING STAFF - SEPTEMBER 2023

Mr Tim Carroll	Headteacher
Mrs Sally Allsopp	Team Leader – Drama; Student Voice
Mr David Bateman	Teacher of Science
Miss Jen Beckwith	Teacher of Music; Teacher of Drama; Head of Simmons House
Mrs Tracy Beckwith	SENCO; Head of Achievement & Inclusion; Assistant Headteacher
Mrs Jayme Bent	Teacher of Maths
Mr Michael Bodo	Team Leader – History
Mrs Georgia Bolden	Teacher of English; Joint Literacy Co-ordinator
Mr Jeff Bowes (JBS)	Teacher of Maths/ Responsibility in Maths; STEM Coordinator
Miss Amandine Briand	Assistant Team Leader -MFL
Mr Dan Brown	Teacher of Music
Mrs Emma Brown	Teacher of MFL; Head of German
Mr Lewis Burgess	Teacher of PE; Teacher of Public Services
Miss Lucy Bygrave	Teacher of PE; Teacher of Travel & Tourism; Teacher of Children's Play, Learning & Development
Mr Sam Cain	Team Leader - Media Studies; Teacher of English; Raising Aspirations Lead
Mr Carl Callender	Teacher of Business Studies
Mrs Hayley Capel	Teacher of Science; Human Biology KS5
Miss Anthi Chrysanthou	Teacher of Design Technology/Catering
Miss Erin Colfer	Teacher of English; Literacy Lead
Mr David Cooksey	Assistant Headteacher; Professional Tutor
Miss Megan Courage	Assistant Team Leader -Design & Technology/Catering
Miss Georgia Danaher	Teacher of PE; Head of Turing House
Ms Laura Davies	Teacher of Law;
Mrs Sarah Davies	Head of Science; Head of Biology (Year 11); PP Lead
Mr Matthew Davis	Teacher of Maths
Miss Lily Dayton	Teacher of Design & Technology/ Catering/ Fashion & Textiles
Miss Emma Disney	Teacher of English; Teacher of Media
Mr Stephen Dodkin	Teacher of History
Miss Sarah Doe	Team Leader – Music
Miss Charlotte Doherty	Teacher of History; History 2nd in Department
Mrs Jane Douglas	Teacher of Science

Mrs Katy Egginton	Team Leader - Science	Mr Paul Phillips	Deputy Headteacher
Mrs Hazel Elding	Teacher of MFL	Miss Emma Podmore	Teacher of History
Mr Scot Elliott	Team Leader – Design & Technology/ Catering	Mrs Kerry Quinn	Director of Sixth Form; Assistant Headteacher
Mrs Tara Galloway	Teacher of Science; Head of Year 9 Science; Head of Transition	Mr Kirk Redmond	Teacher of English; Teacher of Media
Mr Ian Garbutt	Teacher of Maths/	Miss Katrina Rhoden	Director of Year 10; Team Leader – MFL
Mr Anthony Gerrard	Teacher of PE; Teacher of ICT;	Miss Kate Riley	Team Leader – Business Studies
Miss Katie Gibbons	Teacher of Maths	Mr Billy Rischling	Teacher of Science; PP Team
Miss Aine Gransden	Teacher of PE; Head of Zephaniah House	Mrs Blaise Robinson	Teacher of History
Mrs Fiona Green	Team Leader - Health & Social Care/ Travel & Tourism/ Children's Play, Learning & Development; Duke of Edinburgh Manager	Miss Tammy Rose	Teacher of English
	Teacher of Drama	Mrs Hannah Sides	Assistant Headteacher - DSL
Miss Hayley Green	Teacher of History	Miss Robyn Silkstone	Teacher of English; Responsibility in English; Aim Higher Co-ordinator
Mr Shaun Green	Teacher of English; Assistant SENDCO	Mrs Danielle Simons	Teacher of English
Mrs Megan Hall	Head of Year 12; Team Leader- Psychology	Mrs Jo Sizeland	Teacher of Maths/ Responsibility in Maths- A-Level
Miss Maurlayne Hamilton	Team Leader - ICT and Computing	Mr Glen Skelton	Director of Year 11; Assistant Headteacher
Mr Toby Heley	Teacher of Science; KS4 Responsibility in Science	Ms Helen Smith	Teacher of Maths
Mrs Shuna Hodges	Teacher of Art; Teacher of Photography	Miss Libby Smith	Teacher of Geography; Curriculum Careers Lead
Mr Paul Hogan	Teacher of Science	Miss Rachel Spendlow	Teacher of PE; Teacher of Child Development; Head of Seacole House
Mrs Lisa Ingold	Teacher of PE; Head of Year 13	Mrs Andrea Strickland	Team Leader – Public Services
Miss Chelsea Jennings	Teacher of English	Mr Rupert Taylor	Teacher of English; Teacher of Media; PP Team; Responsibility in Media
Miss Tayla Johnson	Deputy Headteacher	Mr John Thomson	Teacher of Science; Head of Year 10 Science/Physics
Mr Tom Lally	Teacher of Maths	Dr Kevin Tilbrook	Head of Biology
Mr Mustaph Laroussi	Teacher of English	Miss Abigail Tonkin	Teacher of Geography; Geography 2nd in Department;
Mrs Ria Laurent	Teacher of Maths / Responsibility in Maths	Mr Joe Tuck	Teacher of English; Responsibility in English
Mr Andrew Lee	Teacher of Media; Teacher of English / Responsibility in English	Mr Lee Turney	Team Leader – PE
Miss Lucy Leeves	Art Team Leader- Photography	Miss Sam Tyler	Teacher of PE
Miss Jacqueline Lewis	Teacher of Maths	Miss Megan Williams	Teacher of Maths; Raising Aspirations Lead
Miss Jenny Marsh	Teacher of Science; KS4 Responsibility in Science	Mr Luke Winter	Teacher of Science
Miss Alice Mileham	Team Leader – Geography	Mr Michael Woods	Teacher of English
Ms Penny Monk	Teacher of PE; Vocational PE at KS4/5		
Mr Mykel Moodie	Assistant Headteacher - Timetable;		
Mrs Amy Moody	Director of Year 9		
Mrs Jacqui Moore	Team Leader – Humanities; Professional Tutor		
Mr David Murphy	Team Leader- Maths		
Miss Kayleigh Murray	Teacher of English/ 2ic English		
Miss Sarah Noble	Teacher of Art; Teacher of Photography		
Mr Nick O'Connell	Teacher of Science		
Mr Connor O'Rourke	Teacher of Geography		
Mrs Rebecca Page	Teacher of English/ Responsibility in English		
Mr Ed Parker	Teacher of PE		
Miss Amba Pears	Teacher of Maths; PP Team		
Miss Molly Pearson	Team Leader – Life Skills; Teacher of PE		
Miss Sam Peplow	Assistant Headteacher; Team Leader – English		

SUPPORT STAFF - SEPTEMBER 2023

Mrs Chrissie Abblett	Teaching Assistant
Mrs Yvonne Atherton	Teaching Assistant
Mrs Charlotte Bailey	Assistant Head of Year 11
Mrs Carrie Barden-Marshall	School Counsellor
Mrs Allyson Bates	Cleaning Supervisor; Catering Assistant
Mrs Gemma Biswell	Teaching Assistant
Miss Lauren Brooker	PE and School Sport Apprentice – SSP
Mrs Shelly Buchanan	Safeguarding Administrator
Mrs Nicole Buckingham	Teaching Assistant
Mrs Kate Burchmore	Senior Science Technician
Miss Saffron Butler	Teaching Assistant
Mrs Holly Buxton	Learning Mentor

Mr Wes Cameron-Hall	Student Behaviour Mentor	Mrs Domini Linney	Learning Supervisor
Miss Louiza Cassettare	Learning Mentor	Mrs Dawn Lord	Library Manager; Learning Supervisor;
Mrs Kelly Church	School Administrator		Careers/Work Experience Administrator
Mrs Farida Clay	Teaching Assistant	Mrs Christy Melon	Teaching Assistant
Mrs Kathryn Coad	Teaching Assistant	Mrs Yvette Mileham	Head of Year 10
Mrs Carolyn Cocks	Finance & HR Officer	Mr Jean Monnet	Teaching Assistant
Mrs Astrid Cook	Manager – Achievement & Support Centre	Mr Radu Morar-Rucarean	Assistant Site Agent
		Mrs Emma Morgan	Teaching Assistant
Mrs Tina Crutchfield	Student Support & Attendance Officer – Year 11	Mr Joseph Murray	Design Technology Technician
		Mrs Helen O’Connell	Finance& HR Manager
Mrs Susan Daly	Lead Learning Mentor	Mrs Malika Ogun	Teaching Assistant
Mr Tom Dexter	Assistant Site Agent	Mrs Joanne Parfitt	Receptionist
Mrs Caroline Djima	Science Technician	Mrs Hollie Parkinson	Sixth Form Learning Mentor
Mrs Angela Donnelly	Reprographics Technician	Mrs Karen Perry	Teaching Assistant
Mr Shane Draper	IT Technician	Mr Stephen Pynn	Teaching Assistant
Mr Steve Draper	Music Technician	Mrs Carol Quinnell	Teaching Assistant
Mr Ian Duncan	Learning Supervisor	Mrs Rachel Roberts	Assistant Sixth Form Manager
Mrs Alison Ellerton	Senior Science Technician	Mrs Ruth Samet	Assistant Head of Year 10
Mr Miles Ellis	IT Technician	Miss Veronica Sandivar	Learning Supervisor
Mrs Laura Ewers	Teaching Assistant	Mrs Paula Scott	Assistant Exams Officer
Mrs Clare Fahy	Sixth Form Manager	Mrs Jo Sessions	PA to Headteacher; Clerk to the Governors
Mr Andrew Ferguson	Learning Supervisor		
Ms Aleisha Fountain	Administration Assistant	Mr Stewart Seymour	School Sports Partnership Manager
Mrs Lorraine Foxley	Art Technician	Mrs Priya Shah-Patel	Science Technician
Mrs Emma Gaskell	Head of Year 11	Mrs Gill Sharman	Examinations Officer
Miss Daisy George	Assistant Exams Officer; Reprographics Technician	Mrs Chiler Spackman	Student Support & Attendance Officer – Year 10
Miss Helen Gibbs	Duke of Edinburgh Scheme Assistant Manager	Mrs Nikki Springate	Manager – Achievement Support Centre
		Miss Bronwen Starling	Learning Supervisor
Mrs Karen Gillam	Food Technology Technician	Mys Lynsey Steele	Support and Attendance Officer -Year 9
Mr Chris Gilmour	Systems Manager	Miss Laura Taylor	Teaching Assistant
Mrs Angela Goodger	Welfare Assistant (Medical Room)	Ms Jackie Turner	Learning Mentor
Mrs Alison Gorst	Finance & HR Officer	Mrs Louisa Tomlinson	Teaching Assistant
Mr James Grant	Assistant School Games Organiser - SSP	Mrs Michelle Verrier	Student Welfare Officer (Medical Room)
Mrs Becks Hadley	School Administrator (Cover)	Miss Kara Weygood-Beasley	Teaching Assistant
Mr Paul Hanlon	Assistant Site Agent	Mrs Katherine Whitaker	Learning Supervisor
Miss Samantha Harding	Assistant Head of Year 9	Mrs Ola Wilson	Learning Supervisor
Ms Ann Hirst	Data Manager	Mr Paul Wilson	Teaching Assistant
Mr Tim Holmwood	Learning Mentor	Ms Carla Williams	Head of Year 9
Mrs Sam Humphreys	Finance & HR Officer	Mrs Andrea Wood	Display Technician
Mrs Vicky Hunt	SEN Administrator; Communications Officer	Mrs Maggie Woolhead	Finance Officer
		Miss Beckey Wright	Teaching Assistant
Mr Stephen Indge	Design Technology Technician	Mrs Hayley Wyatt	Sixth Form Learning Mentor
Mrs Kerrie Jackson	School Administrator	Mrs Jackie Yeoman	Assistant SENDCO
Mrs Shelley Jardine	Food Technology Technician		
Mr David Johnston	Senior Site Agent		
Mrs Angelika Julien	Learning Supervisor		
Mrs Brenda Kelly	Assistant Site Agent		
Mr Chad Killoran	Art Technician		
Mr Keith Lavery	Facilities Manager		

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

Chair of Governors	Mr D Packer
Vice Chair of Governors	Mrs Sue Howley MBE
Headteacher	Mr T Carroll
Staff Governors	Miss S Peplow Mrs R Samet

Parent Governors	Mrs P Bazalgette Mr D Groves Mrs M Johnson Mrs K Olson Mr B Thomas
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Community Governors	Mrs A Ashwell Mrs K Clay Mrs R Garcia Mrs N Haines Mr J Hassall Mrs S Lee Mrs A Packer Mrs H Shapter Wheeler Mr A Warner
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Clerk to the Governors	Mrs J Sessions
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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
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
www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk

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

SCHOOL CHARGING & 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 children'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 child 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 Sixth 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 child from sex education lessons. Such requests are very rare and must be made in writing to the Headteacher.

COMPLAINTS PROCEDURE

The school has a clear complaints procedure and this is set out in a policy available on the school website or 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.



VANDYKE UPPER SCHOOL



Inspiring Excellence

Vandyke Upper School

Vandyke Road

Leighton Buzzard

Bedfordshire

LU7 3DY

Telephone: 01525 636700

Email: office@vandyke.cbeds.co.uk

Website: www.vandyke.beds.sch.uk

Headteacher: Tim Carroll