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Thomas Tallis School Post-16 Centre Learning Agreement

Sixth form students have made a clear choice to continue with their studies and sixth form learning is very significantly different to that of the lower school. The purpose of this agreement is to be clear about the mutual expectations and obligations that exist between the school, sixth form students and their parent(s) or carer(s).

The School's Part

Tallis Post-16 will do its best to provide

- Courses that meet each student's interests and aspirations, delivered by expert, courteous, and effective members of staff, with regular setting and prompt marking of appropriate work.
- A friendly, caring, stimulating and supportive working environment where much is expected of each student but where guidance and assistance is given so that all students can aspire to and meet our high expectations.
- Well-equipped and quiet study areas and structures to assist students with their studies, such that students can reasonably expect to be able to study independently between 8 a.m. and 6 p.m. during the school week.
- Access to a wide range of paper and online resources to support study.
- Regular information about each student's attainment and progress, including aspirational target grades, together with help to make sustained progress towards them.
- A tutor who monitors each student's progress, is each student's able advocate, and is a source of any pastoral guidance and assistance as required.
- Clear attendance information to each student's parents/carers so that we can all work together at maintaining good attendance.
- The opportunity for parents/carers to come into school to discuss progress and any other issues.
- A pastoral programme which addresses
 - progression, careers and higher education guidance and advice, but which also prepares students to become valued and valuable members of adult society.
 - the management of academic pressures and exam stress through the development of a persistent approach to the challenges of advanced study.
 - the development of study skills across both Year 12 and Year 13 so that students leave us ready for further advanced study or higher apprenticeships.
 - the need for us all to acknowledge and understand our differences and celebrate our solidarity and equality with each other.
- A varied extra-curricular programme, including opportunities for leadership such as through our forum, Student Voice, which exists to express student views, act as a consultative body, and contribute to the development of the Sixth Form.
- The opportunity for each sixth form student to develop Tallis Habits and Tallis Character so that those who have studied with us are equipped as best they may be when they leave to understand the world and so change it for the better.

inquisitive • collaborative • persistent • disciplined • imaginative

The Student's Part

Our expectations for Sixth Form students at Tallis Post-16 focus on:

Being on time – we expect you to

- arrive punctually at all lessons including tutorial sessions and registrations.
- achieve attendance of between 95% and 100% for the year.
- communicate clearly and in a timely manner any planned absences from lessons to the Attendance Officer.
- not arrange holidays in term-time or bookable appointments such as driving lessons or doctors' appointments during lesson time.

Developing good organisational skills and the habits of advanced learners – we expect you to

- check your school email account daily so that information from the school is received quickly.
- develop your ability to work independently and to collaborate with others.
- show persistence and develop the ability to overcome difficulties and learn from mistakes.
- be ambitious, passionate, imaginative and inquisitive.
- work very hard in all lessons and take an active part in making lessons successful.

Working effectively and persistently – we expect you to

- be disciplined in your approach to both classwork and independent study tasks.
- prioritise your schoolwork over any paid work.
- play an active part in the collective life of the school.
- in Year 12, spend least 5 hours per week on each subject outside of lesson time, and in Year 13, longer – we know that students who achieve at their personal maximum work at least '9-5'.
- be willing to be on site in the Silent Study Area or other study spaces, before or after school, as required, to complete work.
- complete all work by deadline to a standard that befits your intellectual capacity and which shows that you are striving to excel.
- note especially in the case of BTEC courses that missed deadlines can mean a student immediately fails the qualification.
- act quickly and effectively on teacher feedback to improve work.
- prepare thoroughly for all internal and external tests and assessments.
- develop excellent ongoing revision resources as each course unfolds, including keeping folders and online materials well-organised and accessible.

Setting the standard for your peers and younger students in the school – we expect you to

- exhibit Tallis Character by
- modelling respect, tolerance and kindness to all members of the school community so that younger students consistently see you as a positive role model.

- following general school rules such as those about mobile phone use on site.
- not smoking or vaping on or near to the school site.
- not participating in illegal activities or using drugs or alcohol on site or during school activities or at any time during the school day.
- always acting when off-site in a manner that presents the school in a positive light to the local community.
- following the dress code which is posted to the post-16 website, including wearing a sixth form lanyard at all times when on site.
- being honest to yourself, teachers and parents about your progress and accepting responsibility for your actions or inaction.
- always aim to be optimistic, persistent and resilient in the face of challenge.
- only use the school internet to support learning and to consistently conduct yourself appropriately online whether in school or not.
- Understand that not meeting these expectations may result in some or all of the following:
 - parental contact, meetings, the issuing of a verbal warning about a students' place being at risk.
 - being sanctioned according to the Sixth Form Disciplinary Policy, including being placed On Report, being issued with a Disciplinary Contract (a written warning that a student's pace is at risk), or excluded from school.
 - being asked to leave the Sixth Form if the school's expectations are not met.

The Part of Parents

Parents are expected to:

- support the student in attending school punctually and persistently.
- explain any student absence in a timely way.
- keep contact details up-to-date so that the school can easily make contact as required.
- not book holidays during term-time or arrange travel abroad where self-isolation during term-time might be an outcome.
- take an active interest in the progress a student is making with their work, including by accessing online information the school makes available about each student.
- support the student in developing Tallis Habits and Tallis Character.
- support the student in developing disciplined and persistent study habits so that their work is completed to the best of their capacity.
- support the student in meeting their deadlines, particularly for BTEC submissions, where missed deadlines can mean a student immediately fails the qualification.
- attend parents' evenings and other meetings at school as required.
- accept and maintain full parental responsibility for their child, even beyond the age of 18, until a course is completed.
- accept that attendance below 90% means that a parent or carer will have to meet the school to discuss whether a student can be enrolled in Year 13.
- support the student's progression plans.

PARENTAL COPY

Date: _____

Confirmation of a place at Thomas Tallis Post-16 Centre is dependent on this Learning Agreement being signed.

Student: I _____ accept this Sixth Form Learning Agreement and agree to abide by it and other whole-school rules.

Signed: _____

Parent / Carers: I _____ accept this Sixth Form Learning Agreement and agree to support my child to meet its requirements.

Signed: _____

For the Tallis Sixth Form Team: We will endeavour to ensure that we keep our promise to you about what you can expect of us.

Signed: _____

SCHOOL COPY

Date: _____

NAME OF STUDENT (please PRINT):

Confirmation of a place at Thomas Tallis Post-16 Centre is dependent on this Learning Agreement being signed.

Student: I _____ accept this Sixth Form Learning Agreement and agree to abide by it and other whole-school rules.

Signed: _____

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