

OLYMPUS



# Sixth Form Prospectus



Strive Further, Reach Higher



# Wilmington Academy

is part of Leigh Academies Trust



Leigh Academies Trust is one of the country's largest and most-established multi-academy trusts operating across Kent, Medway and South East London. It contains primary, secondary and special academies and is highly inclusive and successful. Our mission is to deliver "education for a better world" by ensuring that young people in our academies have an excellent start in life regardless of their background or ability.



## Our Values

### We care -

about our pupils and their families through our human scale approach to education, our staff and their well-being and the world around us, driven by our high ideals and strong moral values.

### We have boundless ambition -

to achieve excellence for all and create confident young adults with high levels of resilience and integrity.

### We work together -

as one team because we are greater than the sum of our parts. We foster an enterprising culture through global collaboration with partners in business and education.

### We keep getting better -

using our 'can-do' attitude and research informed approach to continuous improvement and innovation.

For admission enquiries telephone: 01322 272 111 - select 5 for Post 16  
Or email: [post16@wilmingtonacademy.org.uk](mailto:post16@wilmingtonacademy.org.uk)

'Wilmington Academy is an exceptional school providing a world-class education for its pupils and sixth formers.'

Ofsted, May 2023



# Contents

Use our contents page to navigate your way through our prospectus

## Welcome

A message from our Principal

## International Baccalaureate Careers Program (IBCP)

An introduction to the IBCP

## Destinations Summer 2024

Where did our students go next?

## Your Pathways

Discover the best option for you

## Alumni

Keeping in touch with former students

## Our Values

An introduction to our philosophy

## T-Levels

The next-level qualification

## Beyond the qualifications

What we can offer you

## Making an application

Applying to study at Wilmington Academy

## Further information

More about Wilmington Academy

# Welcome



‘School leaders are highly ambitious for pupils’ education.

The principal is inspiring, passionate and determined. He is well supported by senior leaders, who are committed to improving the quality of teaching and learning.’

Ofsted, May 2023

I am delighted to welcome you to Wilmington Academy. We have created a highly successful academy where students from a wide variety of backgrounds and starting points can flourish and succeed. Our IB focused curriculum is carefully designed to meet the needs and aspirations of all our young people and we have an extensive programme of enrichment and support that provides extra opportunities for personal development and growth.

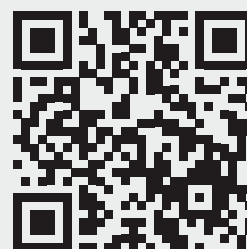
Recognised as one of the leading IB World Schools in the UK, we deliver a highly successful IBMYP & CP which provides our students with a truly world class education.

Academic excellence, hard work and good manners are expected of all our students. International-mindedness, cultural understanding and an appreciation of the benefits diversity can bring are at the heart of what we believe.

We work closely with Leigh Academies Trust, external partners and organisations to ensure we provide the educational experience our students need to succeed in an increasingly complex and ever-changing world.

Michael Gore  
Principal

[Click here](#) or scan the QR code to view our Outstanding Ofsted report





Our vision is simple: Strive Further, Reach Higher. Our philosophy here at Wilmington Academy Post 16 is to develop students beyond the qualifications. We believe that your sixth form experience should offer you every opportunity to develop into a well-rounded, insightful, citizen of the world who will be best qualified to be successful in your adult life. So why us?

We do our absolute best to help you get the most from your years in sixth form. We take pride in the support we offer our students. The provision here, judged 'good' by Ofsted, ensures that each student is given personalised care to best help them succeed. Teaching staff regularly offer extra revision sessions and out-of-lesson help and advice, ensuring you have every opportunity to be successful in your courses.

Our Post 16 provision is Ofsted graded 'Outstanding': we offer a range of academic and vocational courses including the academically rigorous International Baccalaureate Career-Related Programme (IBCP) and T Levels. This, combined with our extensive extracurricular and personal development programmes, provides a rich experience which enhances applications to universities, apprenticeship providers, and future employers. We have a proven track record of guiding our students into their preferred destinations. Furthermore, we have a dedicated Post 16 tutor team with small form groups and one-to-one mentoring sessions. Form groups help instil a sense of community, but also help develop key skills for life such as organisation, debate, critical thought, and reflection.

Form time and enrichment is a key component in helping students develop into well-rounded, mature young adults. Here at Wilmington Academy Post 16 we are confident that we are an excellent choice for students embarking on the next stage of their academic careers, and I am confident that during our Open Events you will discover this for yourself and choose to join our community.

Ian Priest  
Assistant Principal - Post 16

'Pupils and students benefit from excellent careers guidance. They are well informed about careers in the wider world, and this supports their high aspirations for the future.'

Ofsted, May 2023

# an Introduction to Our Academy



The Academy is an outstanding, inclusive learning community where everyone feels safe and valued. We aim to develop inquiring, knowledgeable and caring young people who help to create a better more peaceful world through intercultural understanding and respect, recognising that other people with their differences can also be right.

‘Leaders and staff are highly committed to pupils’ personal development, welfare and well-being. The personal development curriculum is delivered creatively and appropriately. The provision is effective in supporting pupils to become responsible and respectful world citizens.’

Ofsted, May 2023

We provide a personalised and holistic approach to learning, which helps to ensure that students have the subjects which will enable them to achieve and progress on to their preferred destinations. We take students 'beyond their qualifications' and provide a strong personal development which takes into account skills for life: we believe in team work and strive to develop empathy, tolerance, respect and trust.

We believe in:

- A strong sense of community
- Enquiry rather than lecture
- Opportunities that develop you as a lifelong learner, and well-rounded young person
- Tailored and impartial careers information, advice, and guidance

## our VALUES



## our PERFORMANCE

'Feedback is personalised with meaningful comments which pupils respond to and apply to future work.'

Ofsted, May 2023

Progress is closely monitored and communicated on a regular basis via modular reports and consultation evenings. Support is readily available whenever it is needed to ensure that every student has the best chance of success.

Wilmington Academy staff and students are proud to be celebrating another year of outstanding results, with many subjects outperforming national and international averages. Our average grade for our IB subjects is a C with **43%** of all higher IB grades were H5 or above (equivalent to B/A/A\*). **54%** of all IB subjects did better than in Summer 2023. **28%** of all vocational grades were Distinction\* (equivalent to A\*), **37%** of all vocational grades were Distinction/Distinction\* (equivalent to A\*/A) There was also a **100%** pass rate on all vocational subjects.



# The International Baccalaureate Career-related Programme (IBCP)

'Leaders have designed systems and structures that are highly effective in supporting sixth-form students.'

Ofsted, May 2023

The IB Career-related Programme and components continues to be a popular choice for our aspirational, driven young people. All students enrolled on this pathway gain the prestigious, internationally recognised IBCP Programme qualification. The IBCP Programme requires students to successfully undertake two IB Diploma courses, one vocational (BTEC or Applied General) course, and also the IB Core. The IB Core develops students beyond the academic knowledge they acquire by linking theory to practical application; students undertaking this pathway enjoy a wealth of different opportunities consisting of the understanding of another language and culture, community development, personal and professional skill development, and ethics.

The IBCP helps to demonstrate a student's versatility and consequently prepares them for a wide range of opportunities in the future, whether it is university, apprenticeships, or employment.

The IBCP Core consists of four subjects:

- Personal and Professional Skills (PPS) are a series of abilities needed in order to be most successful after secondary school, whether it's at university, apprenticeship, or employment. You will explore, develop, and reflect upon these skills both in a discrete lesson and in bespoke career-related study groups.
- Service Learning is a structured way of making a positive, systematic contribution to your community by recognising a real need. You will learn teamwork, problem solving skills, effective communication, leadership, and social responsibility. You will be supported every step of

the way, but you will also develop independence and confidence in yourself. It is this, along with our focus on academic rigour and a personalised approach to education which results in our students consistently experiencing high quality lessons and gives us a competitive edge.

- Education is about preparing young people for their future. Our students move on to the university, higher apprenticeship or career of their choice. To assist in the preparation for that future, the Sixth Form provides extensive support and careful guidance which includes access to events, Language Development is an incredibly exciting opportunity to discover a new culture through exploring its art, history, government, architecture, food, sports, values, behaviours, and yes, language - all to gain insight into a new culture, and a better understanding of what makes us similar and how our differences can enrich us.
- The Reflective Project (RP) is the culmination of all you've learned in the IBCP. It builds on the skills of the Personal and Professional Skills (ethical debate, effective organisation), the experiences of Service Learning (real job scenarios, applied ethics) with the cultural sensitivity learned in Language Development. The ethical question that frames your project is directly derivative of your Career-based study (your BTEC/ Applied General course), and is actually created with the skills learned in your academic subjects (research, analysis, independent questioning). The RP is the only graded element of the Core, and is worth UCAS points.



# T-Levels

T-Levels are a new type of course which have been developed in collaboration with employers, providing a balance of classroom learning and real-world experience following completion of GCSEs. One T-Level runs for 2 years and is equivalent to three A-Levels.

T-Levels are a technical option designed to meet the needs of industry and prepare students aged 16-19 for work, future training or study. Depending on their T-Level of choice, students will find that 80% of their time is spent onsite at their academy in either a classroom, laboratory or workshop environment gaining the skills that employers need. The other 20% of their time will be spent gaining meaningful on-the-job experience through an industry placement where they can put these skills into action.

For students T-Levels provide valuable experience in the workplace. For employers T-Levels provide an opportunity to see and support new talent within their industry first-hand.

Although T-Levels may seem similar to apprenticeships, they do differ quite significantly. If a student chooses to become an apprentice they will typically focus on learning a particular role, and will spend 80% of their time in the workplace and 20% in the classroom – the exact reverse of a T-Level. An apprentice is employed, and will be paid for their time at work whereas the majority of T-Level placements will be unpaid.

A-Levels are an academic option which typically leads on to further study at university or college. Similar in style to GCSEs, A-Levels are entirely classroom based.

The benefits of studying T-Levels include:

- Industry-specific technical knowledge and practical skills
- A minimum of 45 days' placement in a student's chosen industry or occupation
- Common workplace skills
- Industry-specific technical knowledge and practical skills

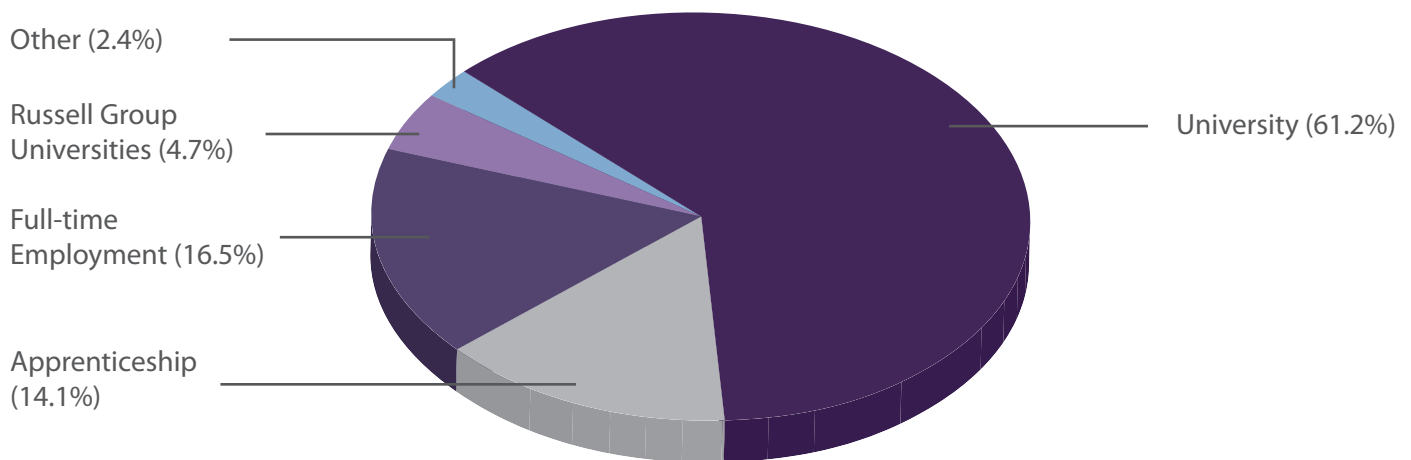
## Which T-Level courses do we offer?

- **Health**  
Students will develop the core knowledge and skills that are needed for entry to a range of health occupations, including working within the health and science sector, principles of good scientific and clinical practice, and biology and anatomy.
- **Legal Services**  
Students will learn the core knowledge and skills that are needed for entry to a range of legal occupations, including the fundamentals of law, the professional legal environment, and project and change management approaches within a legal context.
- **Management and Administration**  
Students will develop an understanding of a broad range of issues relevant to the sector, including Business Context, Project and Change Management, Business Behaviours and Quality and Compliance.
- **Media Broadcast and Production**  
Students will learn the core knowledge and skills that are needed for entry to a range of media, broadcast and production occupations including the creative economy, audience and consumer needs, and the individual in the creative industries.
- **Design and Development for Engineering and Manufacturing**  
Students will learn the core knowledge and skills that are needed for entry to a range of engineering occupations and lead to future courses including: mechanical engineering, CAD Engineer, CAD Technician and Engineering project manager. Students will cover content in the following areas, working within the engineering and manufacturing sector, essential maths and science for engineering, managing electrical and mechatronic principles, health and safety, business and project management and delivery of a product.

For more information on T-Levels, please visit our website at [lattlevels.org.uk](http://lattlevels.org.uk).



# Our Destinations Summer 2024



Here are just some of the courses, apprenticeships and employment secured by our alumni:

- Apprenticeship: BBC - Business Management
- Kings College London: Adult Nursing
- University of East London: Physiotherapy
- University of Birmingham: Law
- Apprenticeship: Recruitment Consultant
- University of Liverpool: LL.B Law
- Apprenticeship: The Bank of England
- University of York: English Literature
- Canterbury Christchurch: Radiography
- Apprenticeship: Quantity Surveyor
- Apprenticeship: Aston Martin
- Harper Adams: Agriculture
- University of York: Physics
- Internship: John Lewis Partnership
- UCL: Architecture
- University of Middlesex: Policing
- Apprenticeship: Nursing
- Apprenticeship: Accountancy
- Nottingham Trent: Business Management
- Apprenticeship: Administration
- Apprenticeship: Stock Broker
- University of Exeter: English and History
- Canterbury Christchurch: Primary Education
- Apprenticeship: Construction Management
- Employment: Catering, Construction, Engineering, Events Management, Fashion & Retail, Finance, NHS, Public Services, Sports Coaching, UK Borderforce



## Beyond the Qualifications: Our Personal Development Programme

During our last Ofsted (May 2023), the inspection team recognised our Personal development Programme as '**Outstanding**'. We strongly advocate developing a student's sense of the world outside of the classroom, developing curiosity, ambition, and global awareness. We are proud of the supportive environment and sense of community which exists within the sixth form and the academy itself. We are incredibly proud to provide structure and aid in planning and writing personal statements, which helps our students to make informed decisions about their future Post 18. Bespoke UCAS, apprenticeship, and employability sessions enable students to choose the right pathway for them and fully prepare for the next chapter of their lives. Students benefit from dedicated personal tutors, who offer tailored advice

and guidance in order to help students progress within their chosen careers. Our two-year programme is designed to prepare students for the rigour of level 3 study, prepare them for the world of work and offer a programme of RSHE and PSHE that enables them to make sensible and informed decisions on their own futures. Students also follow the VESPA programme which enables them to become better independent learners. The VESPA model is based around 5 key components to student success, providing a framework for students to develop their vision for the future, increase effort levels, develop systems for independent study, revision and practice, and also develop a positive mindset and attitude towards their studies.

'The personal development programme is extensive and wide-ranging. Outcomes are high compared with other IB schools internationally.'

Ofsted, May 2023

Students are timetabled to encourage them to study efficiently; they only have to be on site when they have timetabled lessons and for form time. If they choose to, students can also utilise the bespoke study room during non timetabled lesson time.

We believe that this allows our students to achieve a sensible balance between the different aspects of their lives such as serve in the community, gain work experience or undertake paid part time work. We provide all Post-16 students with a free Chromebook to use in school and at home, which is loaned to them for the duration of Post-16.

## Student voice and leadership opportunities

Students should be able to raise awareness of certain issues that are affecting them in their learning and their overall school experience; this is why we offer the opportunity for students to elect representatives to talk about concerns and implement solutions. Each year, student representatives are elected from the sixth form by the whole school student body and they are key to coordinating our whole school student voice representing all students to senior leaders.



## Community Activism Opportunities

Throughout their journey here in sixth form, all students have the opportunity to make a difference, whether it be to the school, local, national, or even international communities. Many of our students choose to mentor students in the lower school and through our partnership with the National Citizens Service (NCS) students have aided both local and national charities through fundraising and raising awareness of social issues. International trips to Kenya, Sri Lanka, Peru, and Cambodia have also given students the opportunity to engage in issues on a global scale.

## Work Experience

All Year 12 Post 16 students participate in a two week work experience placement in July. Work experience provides a fantastic opportunity for students to find out more about their chosen career and complements additional employability-focused sessions including CV and application writing, mock interviews, and networking.

We encourage students to engage in a number of charity events and become positive role models for the younger members of our community. Throughout the year, members of the sixth form also have the opportunity to volunteer to help younger students to develop their literacy, oracy and numeracy through weekly one-on-one mentoring sessions. This is an incredibly beneficial experience for both parties: they help develop key skills that will prepare students for their future pathways.

# Your Pathways

To be successful, students need to choose the right course for them. Here at Wilmington Post 16, we offer a wide range of vocational and academic courses to suit all Level 3 learners. We have purposely kept a multitude of study pathway options, to give our students choice in what they study.

Pathway	
The International Baccalaureate Career-related Programme (IBCP) Pathway	This pathway will see you study a vocational based subject, which is linked to your future career aspirations. You will then supplement this by studying two IB Diploma courses, and also the IB Career-related Core Programme, which includes language development, personal and professional skills, reflective project and service learning. The minimum entry requirements for this pathway are five 9-5 grades, including English Language and Maths (there may be individual subject specific grade requirements).
The Vocational Pathway	This pathway will see you choose to study three vocational based subjects. Vocational based subjects include Level 3 BTEC courses or an applied course such as Food and Nutrition. The minimum entry requirements for this pathway are five 9-4 grades, including English Language and Maths.
The Blended Pathway	This pathway will give you the choice of studying a mixture of IB Diploma and vocational based subjects. The difference between this pathway and the IBCP pathway is that you will choose two vocational based subjects (single award) and then one IB Diploma course. The minimum entry requirements for this pathway are five 9-4 grades, including English Language and Maths.
The Common Academic Pathway	This pathway will see you study three IB Diploma courses. The minimum entry requirements for this pathway are five 9-5 grades, including English Language and Maths (there may be individual subject specific grade requirements).
T-Level Pathway	This pathway will see you combine classroom learning with 'on-the-job' experience. The entry requirements for this pathway are five 9-4 grades including English and Maths.

# Making your application

When making your application, it is important that you research your options carefully - discuss the subjects that you are interested in with teachers and your family. Find out which type of course would be the most suitable for you: the more examination-based subjects or the subjects which offer an equal balance between examination and coursework.

We encourage applicants to submit an application to us by December 2024, however we do accept applications throughout the academic year. Please apply online via Admissions+ at [wilmingtonacademy.applica.com/sixthform](http://wilmingtonacademy.applica.com/sixthform).

As part of our application process, all applicants will be invited to attend an interview where a member of the Post 16 team will discuss your strengths and help you to make the right choices.



For admission enquiries phone:  
01322 272 111 option 5 or email:  
[post16@wilmingtonacademy.org.uk](mailto:post16@wilmingtonacademy.org.uk)

## Alumni

Wilmington Academy values the opportunity to keep in touch with former students, celebrating achievements and successes, both personally and professionally. As part of Leigh Academies Trust, we are keen to foster a thriving community of former students who can help to shape the lives and experiences of current students.

By joining our alumni, former students are offered the opportunity to network with old friends as well as keeping up-to-date with all the news and events from the academy.

If you are interested in joining our alumni, please email us at [post16@wilmingtonacademy.org.uk](mailto:post16@wilmingtonacademy.org.uk).

# Further INFORMATION

Please visit our website:

[Wilmington Academy](#)

## Post 16 Transition

Your future starts here!

[Visit our Post 16 Transition Google Site](#)

## Arrange a visit

To arrange a visit, please email us at  
[post16@wilmingtonacademy.org.uk](mailto:post16@wilmingtonacademy.org.uk).

## Dress Code

Please visit us to see more information.

[Visit our website](#)

## Open Evening

Visit us at our Post 16 Open Evening  
on Thursday 7th November 2024.

## Student Support and Wellbeing

Please visit us to see more information.

[Student Welfare](#)

[Wellbeing Service](#)



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**LEIGH**  
Academies Trust

Education for a better world

Chief Executive: Simon Beamish BA (Hons) MSc PGCE NPQH NLE FCCT

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