













### Prospectus

2024/2025



## Welcome to Our School



Welcome to Wombourne High School. We are an ambitious and supportive school, committed to providing all our students with the best possible education. We believe that everyone has potential: our commitment is to help each young person to make the most of their abilities and to achieve their goals. We believe in high academic aspirations for every student, and we achieve these aspirations through our core values of hard work, positivity and kindness.

At Wombourne High School our students work hard. They are courageous and determined in the pursuit of their goals, and resilient to setbacks. We help our students to understand that effort now will help ensure their success in the future. Our students know that every step they take forms part of their journey to success, and we help them to understand that long term goals are achieved by taking small steps every day.

Through our positive environment, we always promote the highest possible aspirations for our students. At Wombourne High School we believe that anything is possible and are committed to providing opportunities and experiences that lead to happy, healthy, and successful futures. Our students are challenged to do their best and in return we insist on high standards of effort and behaviour.

Finally, and most importantly, we expect all our students and our staff to show kindness: to treat others as they wish to be treated, to be respectful, fair, and compassionate. We are privileged to help our students develop their sense of responsibility and respect for themselves and the world around them, and celebrate diversity through our inclusive culture.

At Wombourne High School we recognise the importance of good examination results for our students' future success, but we know that these alone are not enough. To secure places at the very best universities and on the most prestigious apprenticeships, our students also need to develop their wider skills and attributes so they can take their place as positive and independent members of society, ready for success in whichever field they choose. Learning at Wombourne reaches far beyond the classroom; we offer an enriched, enjoyable curriculum and encourage all students to get involved in the wider life of the school, offering extra-curricular activities in a wide range of areas such as sport and the arts and an extensive variety of educational visits and opportunities.

Our facilities at Wombourne High School are continuing to be updated to ensure our students learn in the best possible environment. A new 10 classroom Maths and History teaching block opened in September 2020, we recently unveiled our new state of the art all-weather floodlit sports pitch

which is a fantastic addition to our extensive sports facilities, and and construction of a new practical block is due to commence in the next twelve months.. These are exciting times at Wombourne High School!

Choosing the right secondary school is one of the most important decisions that you will make for your child and I hope that you will visit us to see the exceptional opportunities we offer.

Ms. Claire Powell, HEADTEACHER

#### Attainment & Achievement 2023

We are delighted to be able to celebrate the impressive results that the students of Wombourne High School achieved this year. Our students have again exceeded expectations and achieved fantastic GCSE results, particularly in the challenging context of the disruptions caused by the pandemic. We are so pleased that all of the efforts and hard work put in by students have been recognised, they should be proud of their achievements, just like we are.

Amongst those celebrating were Tia, Edie, Logan, Joe, Daniel, Lydia, and Megan who all secured at least six grade 9/8s. Special mentions also go to Juliet, Lilly, Keira-Maisey, Gabriella, and James for making outstanding progress.

We would like to congratulate and thank all our students and their families for their hard work and efforts in the run up to and during the exam period. My thanks also go to our staff for their commitment and tireless dedication to supporting our students every step of the way.

## Joining our School



We recognise that the move to secondary school can be both exciting and daunting and we have an established and successful transition programme run by a dedicated and experienced team of staff to ensure that every child receives the support that they need during this process.

Each child is visited in their primary school during the summer term and staff will talk to them and their teachers about the move. This enables us to gather academic and social information to help us plan our provision and gives the students the opportunity to talk to us about any questions they have. All students will then visit Wombourne for a two day induction which gives them the chance to find out what secondary school involves and to meet staff and other children who will be joining us in Year 7.

We also run a transition summer school during the summer holidays for all incoming Year 7 students.

Through our work with primary partners we are able to identify students who are vulnerable or have Special Educational Needs who may need extra support during the transition process. We have a range of

additional programmes which enable these students to spend more time in school before they transfer

#### High Expectations

We are very proud of our students and the positive attitudes that they show. We have high expectations in terms of standards of achievement, behaviour, attendance, appearance and attitude and have a strong pastoral system to support students in meeting the standards set out in our Code of Conduct.

#### Supporting Progress

We appreciate that any student may face barriers to their learning at some time during their school career and our Student Support Team, through their regular reviews of student progress and communications with parents, will identify students who are struggling.

We have a range of effective programmes and our dedicated and talented team of student support staff will work closely with children and their parents to address any difficulties that may arise. Support services include; Learning Mentors, who support with improving self-esteem, organisation

and revision, an Attendance Officer who assists students with healthrelated issues and Pastoral Support Workers and Inclusion Assistants who provide support with other issues that may arise during the course of a student's time at the school. The aim of all of these programmes is to ensure that students receive the support needed to enable them to continue their learning and make good progress.

#### **Admissions**

Wombourne High School is based in Wombourne in South Staffordshire but welcomes applications from students outside of its catchment area, particularly those living in Dudley and Wolverhampton. Transport is available from these areas.

Admissions are handled by Staffordshire School Admissions Service and details of how to apply for a place can be found on their website:

#### www.staffordshire.gov.uk/admissions

Parents who wish to enquire about a place at other times during the year should contact the school directly.



#### Wombourne Curriculum

The curriculum here at Wombourne High School provides a broad and balanced learning experience that inspires pupils to learn and achieve. Our aim is that students enjoy learning. We believe in trips, visits and speakers to make the curriculum come alive, we enable students to develop a passion for the subjects that really interests them, facilitating future study and employment.

We value the key subject disciplines that have always been found in good schools including the core subjects of English, Maths and Science, as well as; the main Humanities subjects, Modern Foreign Languages, Physical Education, Technology and a range of creative subjects such as Art, Drama and Music. We also offer specialist subjects such as Business Studies and Computing, alongside vocational provision: Digital Media, Business and Health & Social Care. Pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development and, within this, the promotion of British values, are important

aspects of the school's work and are addressed through the curriculum and wider experiences that students have in school. We also provide opportunities for students to learn the importance of developing a strong work ethic, good behaviour, taking responsibility, resilience, physical, mental and personal well-being and keeping themselves safe. Our aim here at Wombourne is to create confident, well rounded young people who are ready to take their place and be successful in society.

This means that we seek not only to provide a broad and balanced range of subject disciplines, alongside key cross curricular skills, but will also develop the qualities necessary for our students to be confident and employable young people who are able to adapt to the ever changing demands of the world in which they live.









#### Years 7 to 9

The specialist facilities and encouraging knowledgeable teachers that provide the foundation for the Key Stage 3 curriculum ensure students are inspired to engage with their learning.

Years 7, 8 and 9 provide a challenging and enriching learning experience that builds upon each child's primary school experiences and develops strengths, aptitudes and interests. Our curriculum has a clear focus on the core subjects of English, Maths and Science and we also offer; Art; Computing/ ICT; Design Technology; Engineering; Drama; Geography; History; Modern Foreign Languages; Music, Physical Education, Dance and Religious Education. This broad and balanced provision is, we believe, a perfect curriculum to prepare our students for examination success and helps them to develop a thirst for knowledge and love of learning. Throughout Years 7 to 9 student progress is tracked to ensure that all students have the opportunity to fulfil their

potential. This includes those who require stretch and challenge and those who need additional intervention, particularly in literacy and numeracy, to catch up with their peers.

#### Years 10 & 11

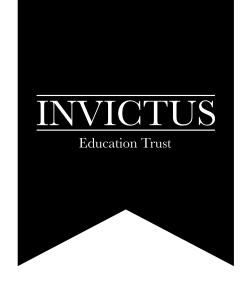
In Years 10 and 11 all students study Mathematics, English Language, English Literature and Trilogy Science, students will sit GCSE exams in these subjects at the end of Year 11. Able Science students can opt to study three separate science GCSEs. Most students study French or Spanish GCSE.

Years 10 and 11 offer students a further degree of flexibility in their choice of subjects and in addition to the subjects offered in Years 7 to 9, the options pool also includes; Business Studies, Food and Nutrition, Product Design, Health and Social Care and Digital Media. The majority of courses studied by students lead to GCSE qualifications but we also offer BTEC and Technical qualifications in Business, Sport, Health and Social Care and Digital Media.

#### **Next Steps**

Preparing students to take the next step is an important part of our provision and this includes information and guidance about subject choices for Year 9 and 10, the options available to students at the end of Year 11 and support with Higher Education, Level 1-4 Apprenticeships and careers. Expertise is available within school through our careers specialist, externally through our independent careers advice programme and online. This helps to raise aspirations and student awareness of what courses and careers are available.





Invictus Education Trust was created in March 2015 by a group of like-minded schools: Crestwood, Ellowes Hall Sports College, Kinver High and Wombourne High School. Two schools have since joined us, Leasowes High School in Autumn 2016 and Pedmore High School in September 2018. Rufford Primary School became the first primary school to join us in September 2021 further strengthening an already thriving Trust.

Collaboration across our Invictus schools is integral to us. We are now fortunate enough to be in a really strong position to have a range of educational settings across our Trust: Primary, Secondary, Sixth Form and Alternative Provision. Although our schools retain their identity, we have built a successful model from which we work closely together in order to learn from each other and share good practice. Our fundamental purpose for this is to ensure our students have the best educational experience possible during their time with us. Our students also have regular opportunities to collaborate through joint learning experiences. This level of partnership makes us quite unique, in comparison to other Multi Academy Trusts, due to our locality and determination to be the best that we can be. Our innovative Invictus Sixth Form, which is open to everyone, is a perfect example of how both staff and students work together simultaneously. Invictus Sixth regularly appears at the top of league tables and leader boards for progress. All of this is made possible by our expert staff and the fact that we ensure all Invictus students are not only transported to their lessons by us but are also equipped with a free laptop and free text books for their studies, throughout their time with us.

Our Invictus Subject Directors are specialist expert leaders who work alongside Heads of Department, and their teams across all of our schools, in order to lead the curriculum and ensure our students receive a quality first education. This model also ensures consistency in learning and a wider support network for our teaching teams. The focus of the directors' work is very much linked to each individual school's context and needs, spanning from Early Years all the way through to Sixth Form! In addition to the curriculum, our Subject Directors also work hard to ensure our students receive fantastic experiences and opportunities. One recent example of this is the fact that students from each secondary school visited Arvon writing Retreat, in Devon working with published poets and authors. This was fully funded by Invictus, championing our passionate writers. Another unique feature to us is that we are the only Education Trust in the country to become an

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FI in Schools Academy

'FI in Schools Academy'. This gives our students amazing opportunities to participate in national challenges with Invictus teams entering in different divisions. In addition to this array of opportunities we are also proud to have the very best team of staff to ensure our students' education is at the very highest level. To ensure we keep abreast of local, national and even international research, training sessions for staff are organised, using expertise from both within our Trust and also using external organisations, if needed.

Apart from our academic focus, we are also committed to ensure we provide our students with excellent enrichment and extra curricular propensities. Our Invictus Sport ethos is 'Unconquerable in Sport'. Competition between our schools is tenacious, fierce but fair and when our schools come together to face other schools and Trusts we become formidable! As well as more traditional sports, our students have enjoyed access to sailing, scuba diving, golf, skeet shooting and tennis. Our students also have the opportunity to visit, and even play at times, at prestigious sporting venues such as Wimbledon and Premier League football stadiums.

Performing Arts is a huge priority for us throughout Invictus. Again, we strive to ensure that collaboration is key across our schools and that our incredible talented musicians, dancers, singers and actors have the opportunity to perform across a number of platforms to further unlock and unleash their talent!



#### **OUR SCHOOLS**





#### **OUR VALUES**

#### **Invictus Values**

Our principles and standards of behaviour.

#### Every day, in every way, our students come first

Our first and most important value.

#### Anything is possible

We focus on the challenge to identify it, our energy is spent finding a solution.

#### **Accountability**

If it is to be, it is to be me.

#### Seek and seize opportunities

We aim to deliver 'WOW' through opportunities and experiences.

#### Focus on relationships and all else will follow

Open, honest and empathic relationships with clear and simple communication are the foundations of our Trust.

#### Start with the end in mind

We identify our aspiration and put processes in place to exceed expectations. We celebrate our progress throughout the journey.

#### Think collaboratively

We always ask ourselves; can we include more students, more of our team or more of our schools in anything we do?

## Sport at Wombourne

The brand new 3G pitch that opened in May 2022, combined with our own swimming pool and other specialist sports rooms, allows students to excel in their sports studies. There is an extensive and engaging range of sports available through lessons and extracurricular clubs. All students are encouraged to get involved as part of our commitment to health and well-being and our highly qualified and experienced sports staff make very good use of our excellent facilities to cater extremely

well for those who play for fun and those who are talented. Students who wish to inspire and motivate others to participate have the chance to train as Sports Leaders and work with staff in school and local primary schools to support with practices and events. We are proud of the school's sporting reputation and students have enjoyed team and individual success in school, county, regional and national competitions.









## Performing Arts Excellence



West Side Story in April 2023 was a roaring success, the audience thought they were in the West End and the experience for all students taking part was transformational. School shows, musical competitions, participation in the Shakespeare Schools Festival are central to the life of the school. Visits to theatres are frequently organised and students also have access to the production and technical side of the subject through our theatre standard

facilities. Music is an important part of school life and talented musicians have a wealth of opportunities to perform. Students who wish to learn or continue to play a musical instrument can have lessons from one of our instrumental team. The school has an excellent reputation for Art and the annual Art Exhibition has been very well received. Students have the opportunity to visit galleries and exhibitions as well as going out into the

community to seek inspiration and ideas for their own work. Opportunities within the Arts are being further developed through the Trust. In addition to having the chance to perform and attend workshops in other schools, high quality experiences are also available. For example, The Invictus Choir has performed at the Royal Albert and Symphony Halls as well as local venues.









## Unique Opportunities & Elite Experiences

#### Trips and Visits

Trips and visits are an important part of school life and help to broaden student experiences of education beyond the classroom. Various trips are organised throughout the year such as study visits (in the UK and abroad), cultural visits (including Rome, Italy, Washington, Paris, Boulogne, Berlin), Erasmus+ programme visits to Europe, foreign exchanges, residential and reward trips.

#### Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme

Wombourne has been running the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme very successfully for the past 11 years and we are now a Directly Licensed Centre. The scheme has a really positive impact on students and with its challenges and experiences is one of the most well-respected awards amongst further and higher education institutions and employers.

#### Wombourne Cadet Force

We were delighted that the detachment decided to re-locate itself to the school site in July 2016 and have welcomed the opportunity to build a mutually beneficial partnership. Becoming an Army Cadet gives young people the chance to take part in exciting and challenging activities such as field craft, adventure training, first aid, music, sports and shooting, to name but a few. In addition to making new friends, cadets get the opportunity to go on annual camp and may even get to go on expeditions in the UK and sometimes abroad.







## Welcome to Invictus 6th Form

Invictus Sixth Form brings together the very best teaching, learning and achievement from six successful schools; Crestwood, Ellowes Hall, Kinver, Leasowes, Pedmore and Wombourne.

We are committed to providing a high quality, forward looking and caring educational experience which enables all our students to fulfil their potential. We recognise and value achievement within all aspects of Sixth Form life, be it in an academic, sporting, creative, personal or social context and are keen to celebrate our students' many successes.

We offer a wide variety of advanced level courses and our small group sizes ensure that each student has the support and challenge needed to be successful. All students receive regular academic mentoring and pastoral support as well as support with careers and university applications. We have an extensive enrichment programme which complements our students' academic studies, providing them with opportunities to develop new skills, make new friends, gain additional qualifications and settle into Sixth Form life.

Each taught at campus within Invictus Sixth Form has its own sixth form area. We believe that this allows our students the freedom and independence to develop their own sense of identity and confidence as well as providing the support and challenge needed to ensure that they can meet the demands of Sixth Form study.

We have high expectations of our students in every sense. Studying at Invictus Sixth Form is demanding and advanced level work can be challenging as well as exciting, rewarding and fun. Students are expected to work independently, manage their own time and balance the many demands placed upon them. If you find such a prospect attractive it is likely that you will enjoy and gain enormously from becoming an Invictus Sixth Form student.

We welcome applications from Year II students within Ellowes Hall, Crestwood, Leasowes, Kinver, Pedmore and Wombourne High Schools as well as from other schools within Wolverhampton, Dudley, Stourbridge, Halesowen or further afield. After 5 successful, enjoyable years at your school we look forward to welcoming you to Invictus Sixth Form.



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Emily Morgan
Director of Sixth Form





# Every day in every way our students come first Anything is possible Accountability Seek and seize opportunities Focus on relationships and all else will follow

## Start with the end in mind Think collaboratively