



WICKERSLEY  
PARTNERSHIP  
TRUST.



Moving up to

# The Gainsborough Academy

A helpful guide for students and parents

# A very warm welcome to The Gainsborough Academy

The Gainsborough Academy is an 11-16 school in Lincolnshire with 700 students on roll.

We consider ourselves to be a genuine comprehensive school, catering for students of a wide range of abilities, needs, aspirations and backgrounds. The school is part of Wickersley Partnership Trust (WPT), a growing family of like-minded secondary and primary schools.

At The Gainsborough Academy, we want all students to leave able and qualified to play their full part in the world. This means that we want each student to start their lives equipped with not only the qualifications, in terms of GCSE grades, but also the skills and attributes that they will need in order to deal with the challenges of life beyond their time at school. We know that we are at the start of an exciting journey towards excellence and that this will only be possible with persistent hard work, high standards and a culture of respect.

At The Gainsborough Academy, we place a non-negotiable emphasis

**We strive for excellence**  
in everything we do.





# As adults, we know that our children will sometimes face adversity and frustration.

on our core values and ethos, which we refer to as 'The Gainsborough Way.' The Gainsborough Way allows us all to promote and model our key personal attributes that characterises us as a school and allows our students to develop their independence, their responsibility, and their resilience. It defines who we are and what we stand for at The Gainsborough Academy. It ensures you are able and ready.

We are committed to ensuring all students experience success and have the best educational experience possible. Our core business is teaching and learning through an innovative, broad, and challenging curricular and extra-curricular offer, including our Gainsborough Pledge. Our high challenge, low fear school climate that we all invest in so heavily

provides students with the right environment to be the absolute best they can be in everything we do.

Our ethos is simple - 'we would never do less for other people's children than we would do for our own'. My staff and I are dedicated to ensuring The Gainsborough Academy is a school that our community can be proud of.

## Key Contacts at Gainsborough

Mrs Skelton - Headteacher

Miss Mather - Deputy Headteacher

Ms A Bolton - Transition Lead - [abolton@gainsboroughacademy.com](mailto:abolton@gainsboroughacademy.com)

Miss Gibbons - SENDCo - [jgibbons@gainsboroughacademy.com](mailto:jgibbons@gainsboroughacademy.com)

General Enquiries - [admin@gainsboroughacademy.com](mailto:admin@gainsboroughacademy.com)

# School Day

Time	Period
8.30 - 8.45 am	Registration/Assembly
8.45 - 9.05 am	Reading
9.05 - 10.20 am	Period 1
10.20 - 11.35 am	Period 2
11.35 - 12.05 pm	BREAK 1
12.05 - 13.20 pm	Period 3
13.20 - 13.50 pm	BREAK 2
13.50 - 15.00 pm	Period 4
15.00 pm onwards	End of School / Extra-Curricular Activities

Students will receive timetables on the first day of term.

## MCAS APP

MyChildatSchool Parent App is an application enabling parents / carers to view their child or children's school data on their smartphone.

### In summary, MCAS Parent App provides:

- Access to real-time Timetable, Calendar, Attendance and Behavioural data
- An insight for parents on their child's schoolwork (homework topics etc)
- Communication facilities to improve contact between parents and schools
- Instant access to Published Reports and Letters
- School Announcements and Parent Evening information
- Examination Timetables and Results

# The Gainsborough Way

We say and do things in a certain way at Gainsborough, referred to as 'The Gainsborough Way.'

The Gainsborough Way allows us all to promote the skills and attributes you need in order to develop independence, responsibility and resilience to have a happy and successful life. It defines who we are and what we stand for at The Gainsborough Academy.

**THE Gainsborough Way**

**WE ARE EQUIPPED TO LEARN**

WE SAY PLEASE AND THANK YOU | We are prepared to make mistakes

WE ARE NICE TO PEOPLE | WE LISTEN TO OTHERS

WE TAKE RISKS | WE BELIEVE IN OURSELVES

**WE WORK HARD**

☺ ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺

We dream big

**WE ARE PROUD OF OUR ACHIEVEMENTS**

WE TAKE PRIDE IN OUR APPEARANCE

*We take responsibility for our actions*

Working together in this way will help us all to ensure that Gainsborough students leave school able and qualified and ready to play their full part in the world.







**The Gainsborough Pledges are at the very heart of empowering students to be confident, well-rounded, enthusiastic, caring, happy, can-do people, ready for the wider world. The Pledges, coupled with The Gainsborough Way, develop personal skills and attributes and broaden the horizons of our students.**

At Gainsborough, we aim to send all young people into an ever-changing world able and qualified to play their full part in it. The qualified aspect of this speaks for itself; we aim for our students to achieve strong qualifications that support them in their next steps of education, training or employment.

Furthermore, a student who makes that commitment to the Pledges will develop independence and self-discipline by augmenting their participation, performance, communication, creativity and cultural capital.





## The TGA Pledges are split into three categories:

### **Active Citizenship**

Preparing you for life in modern society.

- Volunteering
- Charity
- Appreciating Diversity
- Democracy



### **Life Skills**

Equipping you to deal with a range of life experiences.

- Careers and Aspirations
- Communication
- Wellbeing
- Independence



### **Cultural Experiences**

Enabling you to learn about your local community and support diversity.

- Extracurricular
- Reading
- Out of School
- Understanding your Roots





KS3 PLEDGES		BRONZE	SILVER	GOLD
<b>ACTIVE CITIZENSHIP</b> 	Volunteering	Volunteer to take a lead role supporting your teacher in the classroom	Benefit your local community by carrying out an act of kindness	Regularly volunteer
	Charity	Take part in a school fundraising event such as the sponsored walk	Take part in a charity event in the community	Organise a fundraising event for charity
	Appreciating Diversity	Participate in a religious encounter activity	Participate in an inclusive sport	Take an active part in an Equality Month activity
	Democracy	Take part in a Form discussion about a current event	Take a Student Leadership role within school	Talk or write to your local MP or Councillor about an issue that you are interested in
<b>LIFE SKILLS</b> 	Careers & Aspirations	Research a career you have an interest in	Complete a visit or an interaction with a local employer	Interview a person from your chosen career
	Communication	Take part in a team building activity	Present to your Form or Year Group about a subject or topic that interests you	Pitch a campaign for change in school to a key adult
	Wellbeing	Complete a mindfulness exercise	Keep a sleep, exercise or healthy eating diary and analyse your choices	Take up a new activity which helps your wellbeing
	Independence	Undertake First Aid training	Create three different types of revision resources for an upcoming assessment	Show independence in the wider world, for example, book your own doctor's appointment or organise your own bus pass
<b>CULTURAL EXPERIENCES</b> 	Extra-curricular	Regularly take part in an extra-curricular activity in school or in the community	Take part in an extra-curricular activity outside of school	Take a lead role in an extra-curricular activity
	Reading	Keep a reading diary or log for a term including a comment on each book you have read	Write a report on a book you have read	Take part in peer reading within school
	Out of School	Participate in a school visit or trip	Visit a museum, heritage site or place of interest	Visit a different city and reflect on your experience
	Understanding your Roots	Research your local area and find out five interesting facts that you didn't already know	Research a faith or culture different to your own and present this to your form or class	Research your family history or the history of your school

KS4 PLEDGES		BRONZE	SILVER	GOLD
<b>ACTIVE CITIZENSHIP</b> 	Volunteering	Play a contributing role at a school event	Be a peer mentor within school to support other students	Organise an event for KS3 students
	Charity	Take part in a school or community fundraising event	Take a lead role in a school or community fundraising event	Fundraise for a charity or event for a sustained period of time
	Appreciating Diversity	Take part in a discussion at the Active Citizens' Drop Down Day	Write an article about equality as part of Equality Month	Contribute to a project or campaign that celebrates equality and diversity
	Democracy	Vote in a student election	Take part in a current affairs debate	Stand as a candidate in your local Youth Parliament
<b>LIFE SKILLS</b> 	Careers & Aspirations	Complete a careers survey	Write a detailed personal statement	Evaluate a workplace encounter
	Communication	Take part in a mock interview	Write an article for the newsletter about something that interests you	Present to a large audience on a topic of your choice
	Wellbeing	Complete a mindfulness session	Show a regular application of the Five Ways to Wellbeing over a period of time	Take a leading role in a wellbeing session or support someone else with their wellbeing
	Independence	Create a revision timetable that you will use for your revision	Plan and cook a meal on a budget	Make your own way to your Post-16 interview or open evening
<b>CULTURAL EXPERIENCES</b> 	Extra-curricular	Regularly attend an extra-curricular club	Represent the school in a local competition or event	Take a lead role in an extra-curricular activity
	Reading	Learn five quotes from each of your GCSE English Literature texts	Read at least five of the books on the WPT Recommended Reading List	Read a journal or educational article about a subject that you are interested in studying Post-16
	Out of School	Plan and go on a trip outside your local area	Attend a cultural event outside of school	Go on a residential visit and complete a diary log explaining why the trip has inspired you to visit other cultural hotspots
	Understanding your Roots	Understand more about British Geography, e.g significant towns, rivers, landmarks etc	Research three significant British role models from a variety of backgrounds	Create a presentation about the history of your local area and significant events that have happened there

# Gainsborough Extra

**Taking part in extra-curricular activities is a vital part of school life and at TGA we offer a fantastic range of clubs to all students.**

These activities provide students with experiences they will remember in the future and also build invaluable life skills such as determination, resilience and confidence. It's also a great way to make new friends and work in teams.

As part of a team, you will be given the opportunity to represent school at events and fixtures. All our students are expected to show the same high standards out of school, as they do in school, both in behaviour and uniform.

A lot of hard work goes into building great teams and regular participation and practice is expected in order to be selected for such events. In order to enable all students to take part in extra-curricular activities, we offer a full timetable of clubs across the week, including breaks and after school.

**Here are just a few of the clubs you could take part in:**

- Football
- Netball
- Technology
- Badminton
- Climbing
- Athletics
- Rounders
- Cricket
- Drama
- ICT
- Art & Photography
- Science club
- Games
- Film Club

# Attendance

To achieve their best, students must be on time and in school every day.

Students should only be absent if they have a really good reason for being away. Research shows that students with attendance of over 95% produce the best results at GCSE.

Therefore, being in lessons will help your child with their learning. Their attendance will appear in their school reports and is reported to colleges or employers when they leave school.

If there is a problem that prevents your child attending, there is always someone in school who you can talk to about it; your child's Form Tutor or Pastoral Team.

The Attendance Team will always help you get the support you need.

attendance  
**MATTERS**





# Behaviour & Expectations

We are all members of the school community and it is expected that everyone acts with consideration and courtesy for others at all times.

## Code of Conduct

All students are responsible for their own behaviour in and out of the classroom. They should, in each lesson, take personal responsibility for their actions and follow the necessary sanctions placed on them by staff.

### Student Classroom Conduct

- Attendance is crucial to academic achievement and students are expected to attend school every day
- Punctuality is a direct example of a student who is on message and we expected all students to arrive to school and all lessons on time
- Uniform is important in ensuring a calm and business like atmosphere in school and students are expected to attend school in full uniform without exception
- Equipment ensures all students are ready to learn. We expect all students to arrive to lessons with the correct equipment - this is inclusive of PE kit, books and as a minimum a pen, pencil and ruler
- All students are expected to line up calmly ready to enter lessons. This is to ensure a meaningful start to each lesson
- Students must remove all outer clothing on entering the classroom and get out their equipment
- All classroom teachers' instructions must be adhered to at the first time of asking
- All requests from members of staff should be carried out without argument
- No student should be disrespectful to, or show rudeness towards, anyone in school



- During lessons, mobile devices must be turned off and in your bag. They may only be taken out when instructed to by a member of staff
- Earphones or charging devices in lesson or anywhere on school site are not permitted. If seen they will be confiscated immediately and without exception
- Bullying will not be tolerated

## Classroom Teacher Expectations

All classroom teachers are responsible for behaviour for learning within their own classroom. They should, in each lesson, take personal accountability for dealing with incidents and following through necessary consequences and restorative practice to ensure behaviour is approached with consistency.

# Uniform & Equipment

All students are expected to wear school uniform. This comprises of:

- A Gainsborough Academy tie
- A Gainsborough Academy jumper/ cardigan
- A white shirt
- Plain black tailored school trousers or knee length tailored skirt (no leggings, jeggings or tracksuit bottoms please)
- Plain black school shoes

## PE Uniform:

- A Gainsborough Academy PE top
- Plain black PE shorts or sports bottoms
- Gainsborough Academy hoodie or plain black hoodie (optional) Not to be worn as part of normal school uniform

## Jewellery

Jewellery must be kept to a minimum; no more than one small earring, sleeper or stud in each ear. No other facial and body piercings are allowed on the school site. All jewellery, including ear studs, **MUST** be removed for PE lessons.







## Hair & Makeup

Make-up should be discreet and minimal. Extreme hair cuts / colours are not allowed. It is the school's discretion as to what constitutes 'extreme' but usually involves shaven heads, multi-coloured hair or unusually coloured hair.

## Other Equipment

In addition to the uniform students are expected to have the following items with them each day:

In a pencil case:

- 2 x pens
- 1 x pencil
- 1x rubber
- 1 x ruler
- A suitable bag to transport books, folders and PE kit to and from school



There is a Trust wide uniform bank of good quality, new and used items. This is available to support families in having essential items but also provides a sustainable way to recycle and repurpose school uniforms. Please visit the trust website for more information:

<https://wickersleypt.org/about-us/uniform-bank/>

# Data

## Target Setting

Students complete baseline tests in English, Maths and Science. We use these scores, alongside data we receive from primary schools to set targets in all subjects.

These targets are realistic, so every student is capable of achieving their target; they are also aspirational, encouraging students to strive to attain the best possible level.

## Data Collections & Progress Reports

You will receive a Data Report for your child two times per year.

In Y7-Y9, you will receive a report which includes your child's current Attainment Grades, as well as personalised targets based on objectives that are yet to be achieved. These targets are important skills or vital areas of knowledge, which will be central to your child making progress in each subject.

In Y10 - Y11, you will receive information about your child's Predicted Grade submitted by their teacher for the end of Y11. Personalised subject specific targets will indicate what your child needs to do to improve their attainment.

## Parental Consultations

Parents will have the opportunity to meet with their child's teachers each year.

This happens either in school or via virtual appointments.

## Can Do Statements

- **Entry Level:** Statements that all students should meet with ease; simple skills and knowledge within a subject. This could be Expected knowledge from previous years
- **Expected:** Statements that a student in that Year Group **MUST** meet, on a regular basis, if they are to be deemed on track to make expected progress. They are the non-negotiables
- **Greater Depth:** The aspects of the curriculum that empower students to demonstrate what they know, and are able to do beyond what is expected

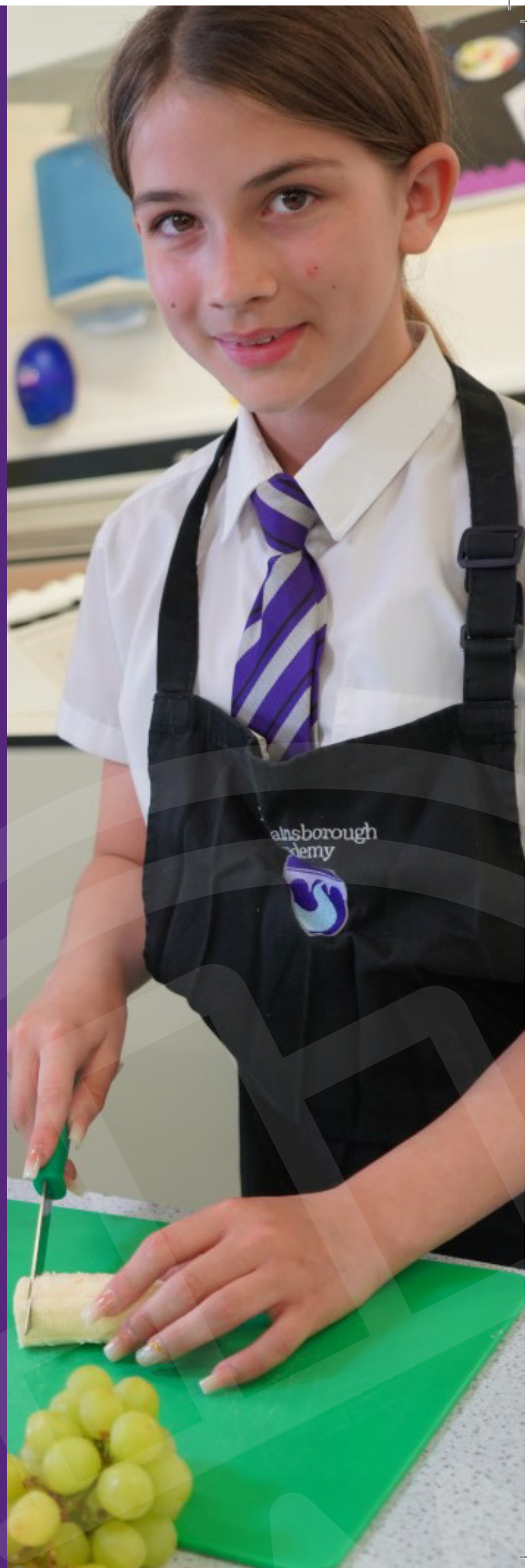


## Effort

Alongside attainment data, students receive an Effort Grade in each subject from their teacher. Effort is graded as: Excellent, Good, Requires Improvement or Poor. This gives you an insight into your child's behaviour and attitude in lesson.

All students are capable of achieving 'Excellent' for Effort, regardless of ability. Students are also given an 'Effort Rank' - this is a clear indicator of how hard your child is working relative to other students in the Year Group.

For example, in a Year Group of 100 students, a student with an "Effort Rank of 1 out of 100" has Excellent Effort in all of their subjects. If there are 30 students with Effort Rank 1, a student with "Effort Rank of 31 out of 200" will have mostly Excellent Effort with one Coasting effort. "Effort Rank 100 out of 100" indicates that Effort must improve in all subjects. Students should always strive to be top of the Effort Rank.





# Rewards

## Effort Ranking System

The Effort Rank will be displayed around school for students who have been ranked Number 1 for the longest amount of time. In addition students who are Number 1 in the Effort Rank will receive letters and phone calls / texts home. Students who are recognised for Outstanding Effort and Improved Effort have photo rewards that are sent home to parents.

## Cause for Praise (CFP)

Our simplest and possibly most effective method of praise is the CFP. When a student has gone above and beyond the usual high expectations, staff complete a 'Cause For Praise' which is shared with Form Tutors, HOY and, as often as possible, parents.

## Subject Awards

Each term, teachers across school choose a student from each of their classes who is deserving of a 'Subject Award.' These can be won by any student in Y7 - Y11 who consistently goes the extra mile in their subject.

## Awards Assemblies

The Awards Assemblies take place at the end of each academic year and celebrate the success of students from Year Groups 7-10. The assemblies celebrate the achievements made by our students over the course of the last 12 months both in and out of school; in particular those who have excelled in subject areas, improved their Effort or demonstrated Outstanding Effort consistently. The assemblies also celebrate attendance and hard work. Parents are invited to these.





# Curriculum

At Wickersley Partnership Trust we want all students to leave able and qualified to play their full part in an ever-changing world, through an ambitious, creative and innovative curriculum which empowers students with the skills, knowledge and attributes to allow them to succeed with the challenges of life beyond their time at school (in their next phase of education and their working life).

**We aim to engender a love of learning, self-belief and aspiration through four key intentions:**

## **Intention 1 - Removing Barriers to Learning**

Four common barriers, if left unchallenged, will limit the progress, engagement and development of our students. We therefore remove barriers to learning and support students' ability to access the curriculum through the development:

- Literacy and Language Acquisition
- Numeracy
- Oracy
- Vocabulary







## **Intention 2 - Developing Knowledge and Skills for Learning in a Range of Subjects**

Each curriculum area intends to grow mini subject specialists through the development of subject knowledge and skills. Subject knowledge and essential learning go hand in hand.

## **Intention 3 - Developing Personal Attributes**

The Gainsborough Way allows us all to promote the attributes our children need in order to develop their independence, responsibility and resilience to have a happy and successful life. We promote a high-challenge low-fear environment, where students and staff are encouraged to have a go without fear of making a mistake.

## **Intention 4 - To Enrich Students' Experiences and Broaden their Horizons**

We have designed a curriculum that values the development of the 'able' as much as it does 'qualified'. At TGA we believe that both are equally important to our students so that they can play their full part in the world.

**Our pastoral curriculum is planned for progression and identifies milestones in personal development and opportunities for social, cultural and career experiences.**



# Entitlement

At Gainsborough we believe that all students should leave able and qualified. Our curriculum is therefore designed to ensure all students have access to a broad, balanced and ambitious offer that is beyond the national curriculum including:

- First Aid training through PE, Science, Technology and Food
- Money Matters training through our Maths curriculum
- Careers curriculum in its own right that is delivered through PSHE, Form Tutor time, Drop Down Days and subject areas
- Peripatetic Music lessons as part of our Music curriculum
- School Pledge initiative
- Outdoor adventurous activity
- Charitable events, for example, sponsored walk
- Work experience







# Notes

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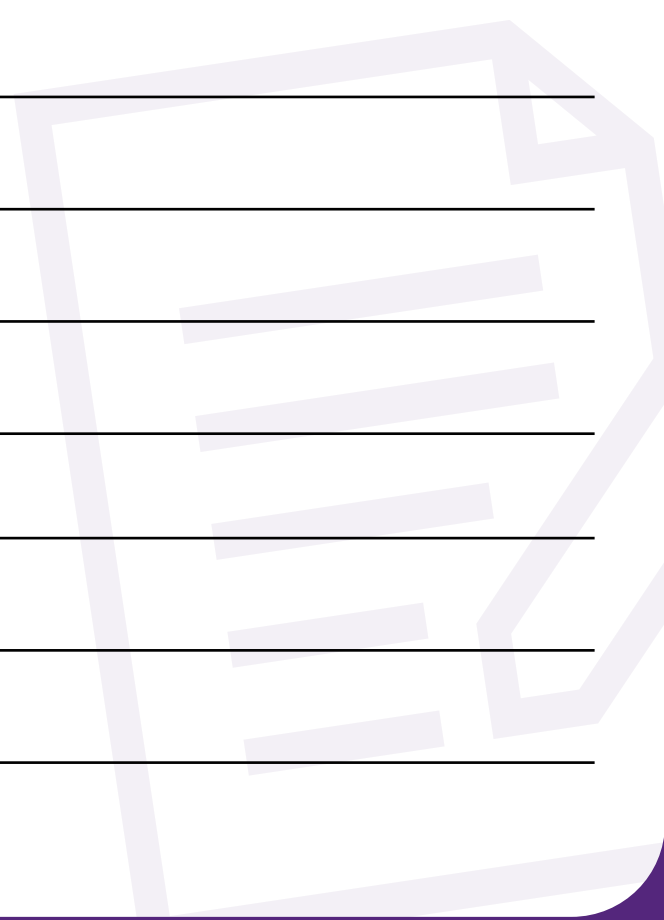
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# Information For My Child:

Form Group:

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Tutor:

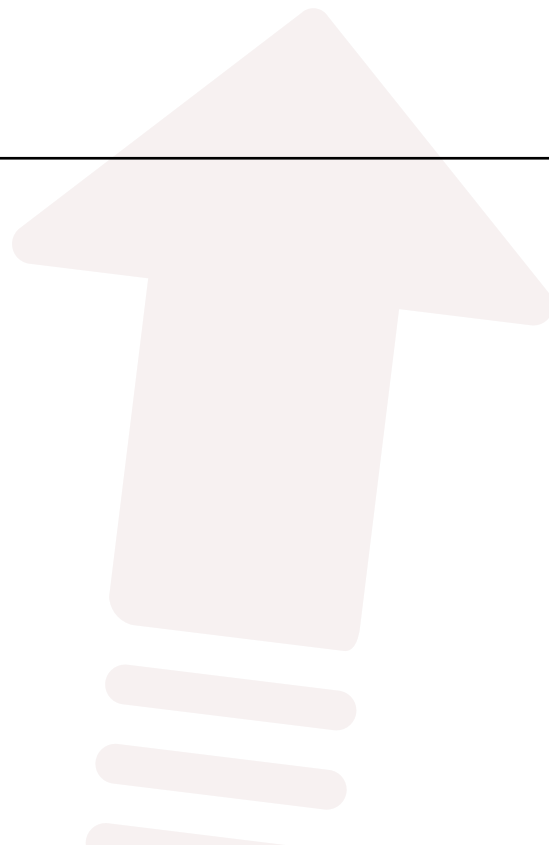
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Tutor Email Address:

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Non Teaching Assistant Head of Year:

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A proud member of  
Wickersley Partnership Trust



## The Gainsborough Academy

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**Headteacher:** Mrs R Skelton