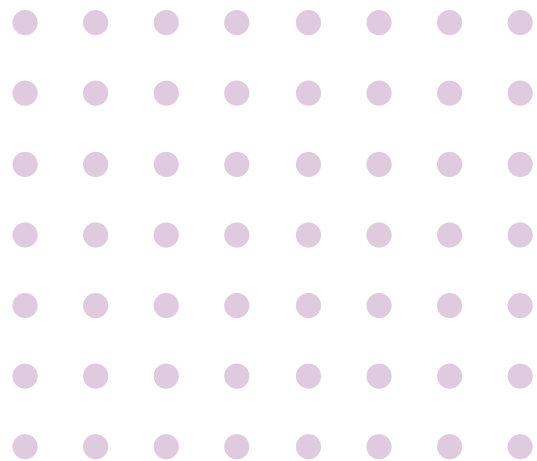




STRATEGIC PLAN

2026–2029



ACHIEVE YOUR POTENTIAL

The Sixth Form Bolton: Strategic Plan

2026–2029

1. Welcome & Vision – Message from the Principal

At The Sixth Form Bolton, we are proud to serve our diverse local community and support young people to achieve ambitious futures. As a large, specialist 16–19 provider in Bolton, we are committed to raising aspirations, improving outcomes, and ensuring every student progresses to a positive destination.



Our Strategy

This strategy sets out how we will strengthen academic excellence, deliver exceptional student support, and respond to local and national priorities, including skills development and social mobility across Greater Manchester.



Our Vision

To be an exceptional Sixth Form College at the heart of our community, where every student achieves and progresses to ambitious destinations.



Our Mission

To deliver high-quality academic and technical education that transforms lives and supports progression to university, apprenticeships, and employment.



Our Values

- Ambition
 - Inclusion
 - Excellence
 - Integrity
 - Community
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2. About Us

The Sixth Form Bolton is one of the largest Sixth Form Colleges in the North West, serving a diverse student population across Bolton and surrounding areas.

- Large 16–19 cohort with a broad A Level and applied curriculum
- Strong widening participation and inclusive ethos
- Significant progression to higher education and employment
- Established partnerships across Greater Manchester

3. Our Strategic Context

Our strategy reflects both national policy and local priorities.

- DfE focus on 16–19 achievement, retention, and destinations
- Ofsted Education Inspection Framework (EIF) expectations
- Greater Manchester LSIP priorities (digital, health, technical skills)
- Local context of deprivation and social mobility challenges

We are committed to improving outcomes while ensuring equity of opportunity for all learners.

4. Our Strategic Priorities

Priority 1: Exceptional Teaching, Learning & Achievement

What this means

High-quality teaching that enables all students to make strong progress from their starting points.

What we will do

- Invest in evidence-informed CPD and subject pedagogy
- Strengthen curriculum intent, implementation, and sequencing
- Use data and assessment to intervene early

What success looks like (KPIs)

- Value Added (VA) score ≥ 0.0 (ALPS 1–3)
- Achievement rate $\geq 92\%$
- High grades (A*–B) at A Level increase year-on-year

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Priority 2: Student Experience & Personal Development

What this means

A high-quality student experience that develops confidence, character, and readiness for next steps.

What we will do

- Deliver a strong tutorial, enrichment, and Pastoral programme
- Embed high-quality CEIAG aligned to Gatsby Benchmarks
- Strengthen mental health and wellbeing support

What success looks like (KPIs)

- Student satisfaction $\geq 90\%$
- 100% students receive meaningful careers guidance
- Attendance $\geq 90\%$



Priority 3: Inclusive Support & Closing Gaps

What this means

Ensuring all students, particularly disadvantaged and SEND learners, achieve and progress.

What we will do

- Targeted intervention for disadvantaged students
- Strengthen SEND and high needs provision
- Monitor and close achievement gaps

What success looks like (KPIs)

- Closing the gap between disadvantaged and non-disadvantaged
- Retention $\geq 95\%$
- SEND student achievement in line with peers

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Priority 4: Progression, Partnerships & Employability

What this means

Strong pathways to higher education, apprenticeships, and employment.

What we will do

- Expand university partnerships (including Russell Group)
- Increase employer engagement and work experience
- Align curriculum with LSIP priorities

What success looks like (KPIs)

- ≥ 95% students progress to known positive destinations
- ≥ 70% progress to higher education
- Growth in apprenticeship and employment progression

5. Our Students & Community

We are proud to serve the Bolton community.

- Students benefit from an inclusive, aspirational environment
- Employers gain access to skilled young people
- The college contributes to local economic growth and social mobility



6. Equality, Diversity & Inclusion

We are committed to equity and inclusion.

- Promote fair access and participation
- Celebrate diversity across our community
- Actively close achievement gaps



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7. Sustainability & Social Responsibility

We will contribute to a sustainable future.

- Reduce carbon footprint and energy use
- Embed sustainability in the curriculum
- Promote student-led social action

8. Measuring Success

We will monitor progress through clear KPIs aligned to national benchmarks:

- Value Added (ALPS)
- Achievement and retention rates
- Destinations data (DfE measures)
- Attendance and punctuality
- Student and stakeholder feedback



9. Delivering the Plan

Delivery will be driven through strong leadership and accountability.

- Clear governance through Corporation and senior leaders
- Departmental plans aligned to strategic priorities
- Regular performance reviews and data monitoring
- Engagement with students, parents, and partners

10. Looking Ahead

The Sixth Form Bolton is ambitious for its students, staff and community. Through this strategy, we will continue to be inclusive, raise standards, widen opportunities, and transform lives across Bolton.