



## ACADEMIC COACHING TEAM

Solihull Sixth Form College has an excellent reputation and track record regarding support for students. To ensure that every student gets a consistently excellent experience tailored to their specific needs, we have a smaller and more focused team of Academic Coaches who are specialists in this role.

Every Academic Coach is responsible to a Progress Manager who reports into an Associate Assistant Principal. Each Academic Coach has a caseload of students, arranged into Personal Development groups. The Personal Development provision aims to develop students' study skills, character and wellbeing through a programme of group and one to one sessions based on the PSHE Association framework to prepare students for the next stage of their education or employment.

The Academic Coach meets each of their groups delivering pre-planned weekly sessions and individual one to ones. Work with the students is structured using processes for setting and monitoring individual targets, preparing students for applications after College, and for supporting the learning culture in areas like attendance, celebrating achievement, and behaviour management. They have the vital overview needed to manage interventions and support, ranging from serious safeguarding issues to contacting parents or monitoring/challenging poor attendance or behaviour, and celebrating success and achievement. As such their work brings them into contact with teachers and support staff from across the College.

The vast majority of our students progress to university after Year 13. Those who do not choose this route often apply for work or other training opportunities requiring similar application processes and detailed references. Preparing students for their next steps is an integral part of the programme for all Personal Development groups, especially in the second year. The College has specialist Careers staffing to support this. Academic Coaches monitor applications and prepare references for both university and employment applications.

At all stages, and in all responsibilities, the Academic Coaches are supported by the skilled and experienced Progress Managers and Associate Assistant Principals and an Assistant Principal. This team works with the Academic Coaches, both to provide support and guidance as required, and to build resources, processes and procedures to underpin the role.