



# SIXTH FORM STUDENTS AS ROLE MODELS

Chartered College Journal Club/CATS CPD

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Claire Green

Director of Sixth Form, Northampton School for Girls

@CJGreenTeach

[thesixthformslant.com](http://thesixthformslant.com)

# AIMS

- Consider why sixth form students should be seen as role models
- Identify ways this can be embedded within school culture
- Explore the diversity of sixth form leadership



# SIXTH FORM LEADERSHIP LEFT BEHIND?

The 16-19 phase of education is the most exciting stage of secondary education

As leaders within 16-19 education we can:

- ✓ Access a wealth of research and literature about leadership in schools
- ✓ Access a wealth of shared resources on teaching and learning
- ✓ Access a wealth of shared resources on other aspects of sixth form delivery, such as PSHE, post-18 pathways or enrichment

Unfortunately, as yet, we cannot:

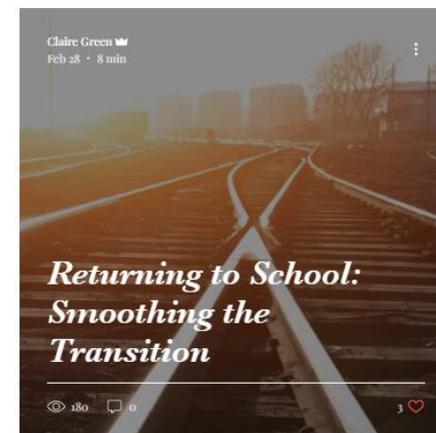
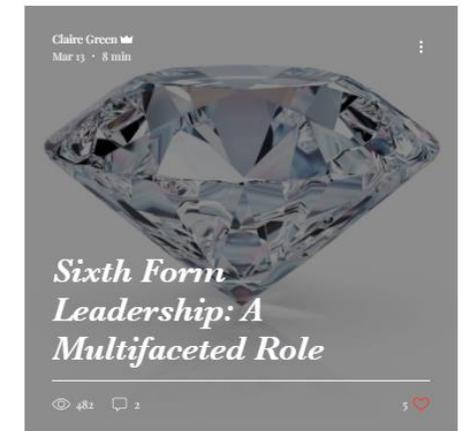
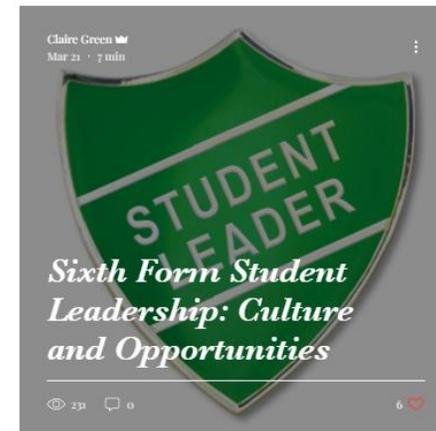
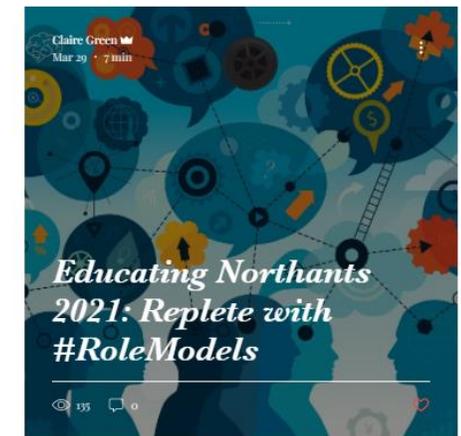
- ✗ Access a wealth of educational literature focussed specifically on 16-19 education
- ✗ Access a wealth of educational literature focussed specifically on 16-19 leadership

# THE SIXTH FORM *Slant*

*A blog for those interested in sixth form leadership*

[thesixthformslant.com](https://thesixthformslant.com)

- Open up the conversation
- Share and improve practice



## Role model

*noun*

a person whose behaviour, example, or success is or can be emulated by others, especially by younger people.

# #RoleModels



# SIXTH FORM STUDENTS ARE ROLE MODELS

They:

-  inspire younger students
-  inspire staff
-  become adults during the sixth form
-  make choices that will affect their futures
-  are passionate in their beliefs



# SIXTH FORM STUDENTS INSPIRE THEIR YOUNGER PEERS

- 🦸 Eldest = role models, but this is not a given; requires over-communication to all stakeholders
- 🦸 This is **both a privilege and a responsibility**
- 🦸 Leaders should create opportunities:
  - 🦸 Student Leadership Team
  - 🦸 Mentoring/teaching younger students as part of targeted interventions
  - 🦸 Assisting in lessons at KS3 or 4
  - 🦸 Ambassadors for particular causes/issues: diversity, charity, mental health etc



**Increases confidence and self esteem of sixth form students**

**AND builds aspiration in younger students**

# SIXTH FORM STUDENTS INSPIRE STAFF

- 👤 The joy of teaching a really good sixth form group:
  - 👤 High level of subject knowledge and expertise demanded
  - 👤 A dynamic which forces teachers to draw on our very best practice
  - 👤 Only then can we maintain engagement and realise academic success



**Good sixth form groups make teachers better**

# SIXTH FORM STUDENTS BECOME ADULTS DURING THE SIXTH FORM

- 🧑 Sixth formers grow up before our very eyes
- 🧑 Incremental increase in maturity throughout Years 12 and 13
- 🧑 Based on a range of factors:
  - 🧑 Friendship and relationship issues
  - 🧑 The pros and cons of social media
  - 🧑 Mental health challenges
  - 🧑 The struggle to find a sense of self/voice in the world



**To witness this process is a privilege, but to have a hand in guiding, advising, supporting and nurturing our students is a unique perk of sixth form leadership**

# SIXTH FORM STUDENTS MAKE CHOICES THAT WILL AFFECT THEIR FUTURES

- 👤 Soon after the transition from KS<sub>4</sub>, students are swamped with a raft of information about post-18 choices
- 👤 This has increased with the range of online information during the pandemic
- 👤 Year upon year they are able to navigate this plethora of choices and arrive at decisions about what to do when they leave school: a huge decision

**When do we, as adults, ever have to make a decision based on this number of possible options? They do it aged 17!!**



# SIXTH FORM STUDENTS ARE PASSIONATE IN THEIR BELIEFS

👤 When given the circumstances and freedom, they share views freely

👤 Think about the last year:

👤 Black Lives Matter movement

👤 The summer exams fiasco

👤 Climate change protests

👤 The recent Ofqual/DfE consultation on exams

...whose collective voice chimed the loudest?



**They force us as adults to crystallise our own views on the issues they find most engaging and in so doing, make us better at leading them**

# HOW TO EMBED A #RoleModels CULTURE



## • Overcommunication – to ALL stakeholders

How?

### STAFF

- INSET sessions
- Emails
- Corridor chats
- Displays
- Social media

### STUDENTS

- Assemblies
- Emails
- Corridor chats
- Displays
- Social Media
- Lessons
- Opportunities
- One-off gestures

### PARENTS

- Letters
- Information evenings
- Parents' evenings
- Social Media

### GOVERNORS

- Meetings
- Emails
- Social Media

# SOCIAL MEDIA

- Reaches all stakeholders
- Gets students talking
- Posts aimed at students best around 9pm
- Establishes culture within and beyond the school
- Marketing tool

**PROUD MOMENT**

**Emmy's VIP Life**  
29 subscribers

**WELCOME BACK! #ROLEMODELS**

**View Insights**

Liked by **northampton\_school\_for\_girls** and **31 others**

**nsgsixthform** ✨Lovely moment today... One of our fantastic A Level teachers wanted to feed back how impressed he is with our year 12 students' attendance, engagement & responsiveness to assessed work. ✨  
👉👉👉 Well done Year 12!! 🍌🍌🍌  
#NSGRoleModels  
#teacherappreciation  
14 April

**View Insights**

Liked by **nsgsixthform** and **52 others**

**nsgsixthform** ✨We are so proud of Emmy in Yr 13 who has taken #NSGRoleModels to a whole new level by creating her own YouTube channel to raise awareness around visual impairment & spread the message that anything is possible despite difficulties faced in life.  
#inspirational

**View Insights**

Liked by **nsgsixthform** and **52 others**

**nsgsixthform** ✨It has been SO lovely to welcome back our Year 12 students today and to focus on the positive things that they have done and achieved during lockdown. We looking forward to having them

**The Sixth Form at NSG**  
312 Tweets

**The Sixth Form at NSG** @NSG... · 19 Apr ·  
Year 12 students interested in studying/a future career in health care or #NSGRoleModels who just want to give something back: check this out ✨  
More details to follow in an email from Mrs Green tomorrow morning.  
@NghVolunteers  
Wednesday 12th May 2021  
1:00pm—4:00pm 6:00pm—8:00pm  
Follow the link or Scan the QR code to apply: [jobs.northamptongeneral.nhs.uk](https://jobs.northamptongeneral.nhs.uk)  
01604 523159 ngh-tr.volunteers.services@nhs.net  
Follow us on our social networks

**The Sixth Form at NSG** @NSG... · 3h  
Year 12 applications to join our Student Leadership Team &/or be considered for the role of School President due Weds 5th May, 3.30pm  
Fill out the application form sent by M Wynn. ✨  
So many examples of Yr12 student as #RoleModels already so we're expecting a fab team! ✨

**The Sixth Form at NSG** @NSG... · 4d  
Lovely to see our sixth form students supporting their younger peers so meaningfully and a great idea from their inspiring teacher! Thank you @MrsHolmes\_NSG #studentleadership #NSGRoleModels

**Poppy** @MrsHolmes\_NSG · 4d  
Preparing for my Y10 film lesson tomorrow: feedback on their coursework ideas from my Y13 cohort. The comments are thoughtful, enthusiasm and full of...  
Show this thread

**The Sixth Form at NSG** @NSG... · 18 Apr  
When Maximize delivered their great study skills session for Year 13 in December our students were so inspired. Turns out Maximize were equally inspired by them! Great to see our Student Leaders featured in this ad  
#NSGRoleModels

**Maximize Study Skills** ... · 12 Apr  
\*ATTENTION - SLT\*  
Want to inspire and motivate your students?  
Encourage resilience and a 'can do' attitude?...

**You Retweeted**  
**JaneMac** @janemac · 16 Apr  
Replying to @NSGSixthForm  
Emily will be the 3rd @NSGalerts student to achieve a place there in recent years. Fantastic news!

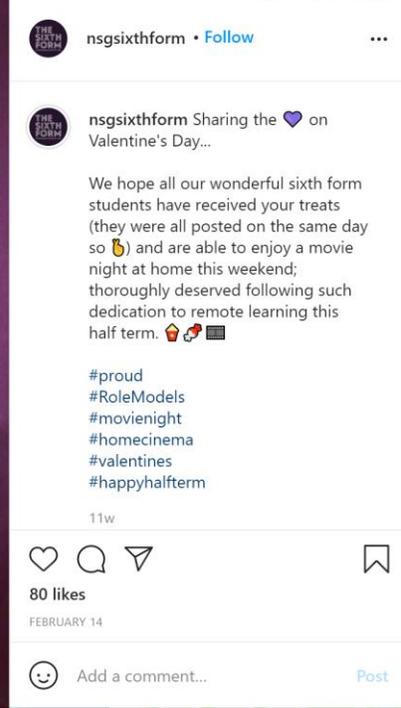
**Thank you to our parents for your support**

**THE SIXTH FORM**  
at Northampton School for Girls

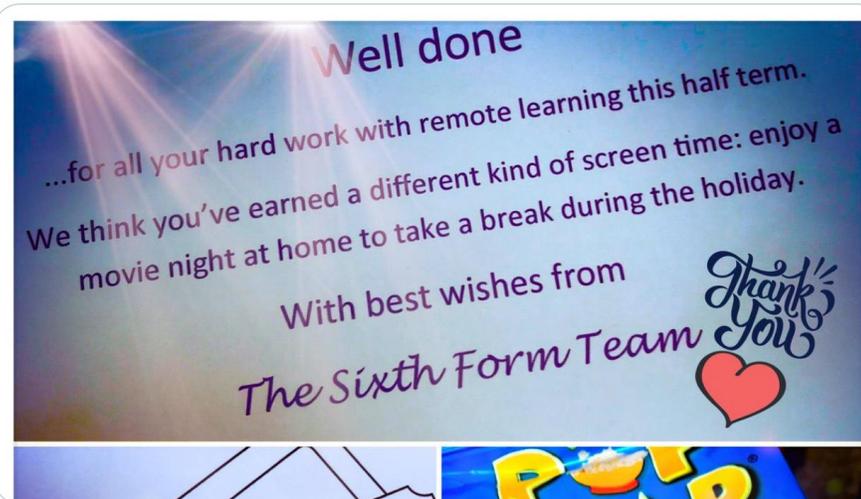
**STUDENT LEADER**

# ONE-OFF GESTURES

- Embed the message through gestures to all students



@NSGalerts @NSGSixthForm what a lovely idea, my daughter was delighted ❤️



2 2 17

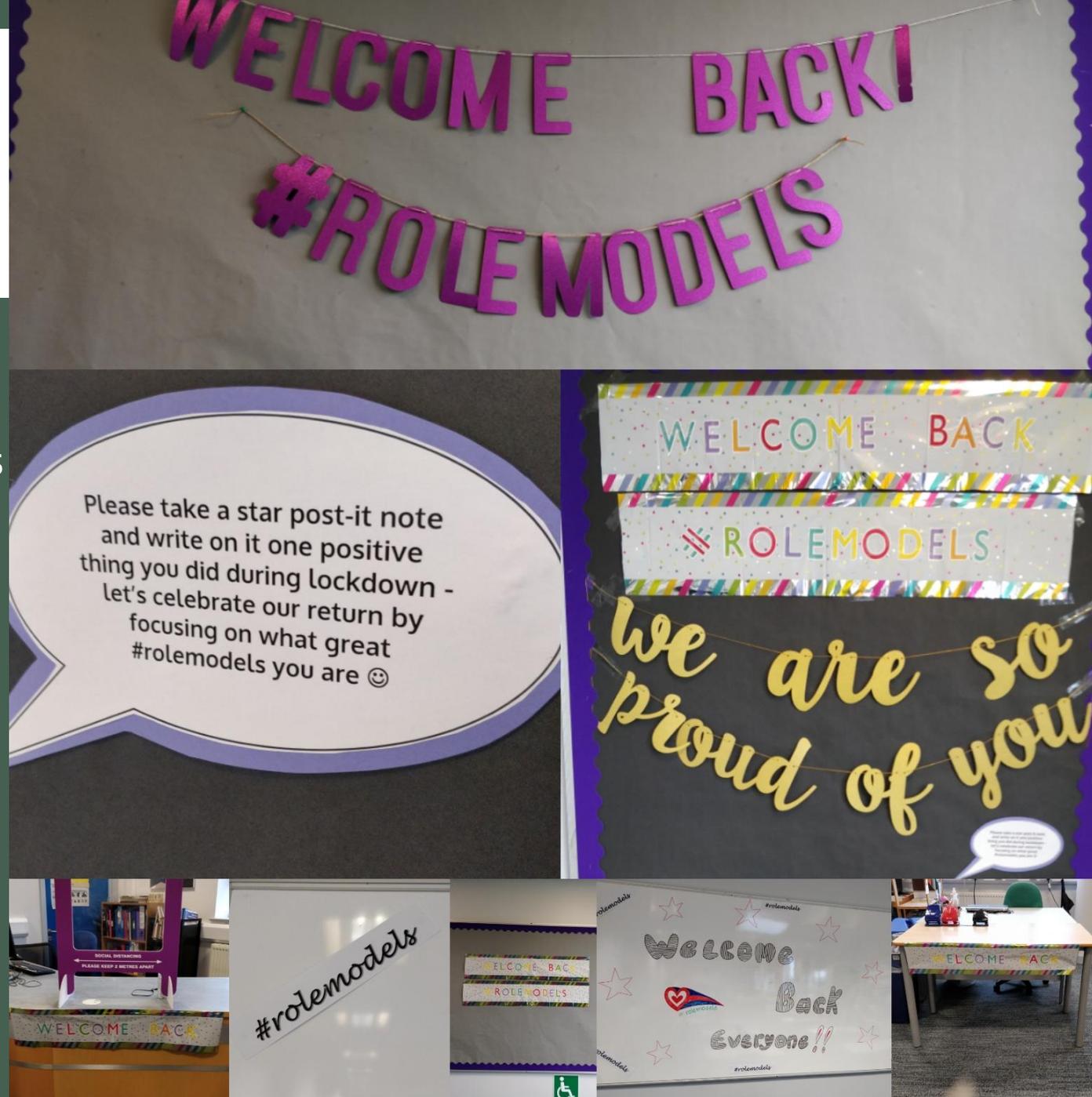
Such a lovely surprise from @NSGSixthForm Thank you so much for everything you do for us. The fantastic teachers deserve a well-earned break too. It has not been easy. 🌞



You 2 2 24

# DISPLAYS

- Place strategically at high traffic points
- Encourage students to interact with displays
- Encourage photos of students
- Update regularly





# MORE REASONS TO LOVE SIXTH FORM LEADERSHIP

Sixth form leaders are required to lead on KS5:

- Teaching and Learning, including delivery of statutory PSHE etc
- Monitoring and evaluation
- Curriculum
- Data
- Enrichment
- Post-18 advice and guidance
- Recruitment, retention and destinations
- Pastoral support, behaviour and safeguarding
- Finance

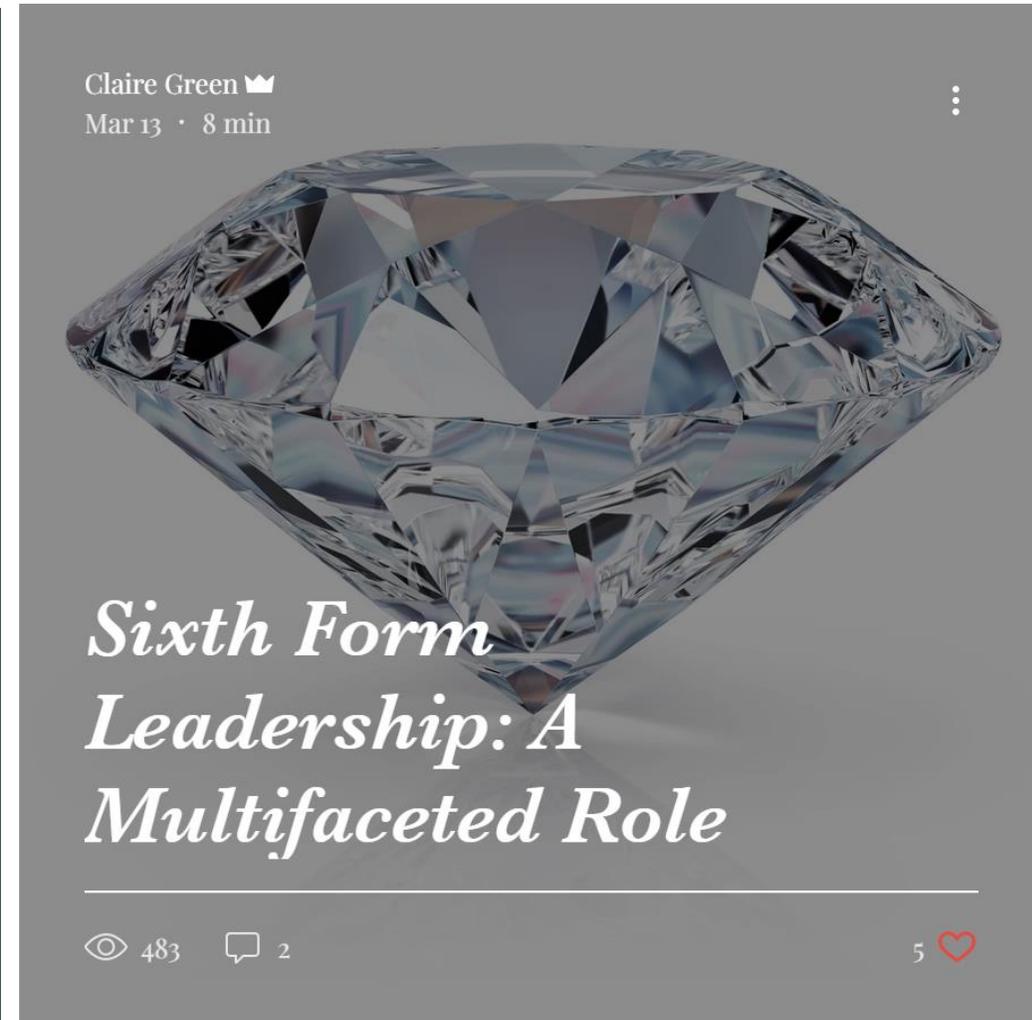
**No other leadership role  
(below the Headteacher!)  
at secondary level is as multi-faceted**

**A suitable 'step up' for  
all middle leaders**



# SIXTH FORM LEADERSHIP: A MULTIFACETED ROLE

It really is a gem of a role



# Thank you for listening



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[thesixthformslant.com](https://thesixthformslant.com)