

CLAVERHAM COMMUNITY COLLEGE

PROSPECTUS



INTRODUCTION

Dear Parent,

Welcome to Claverham Community College. I hope you find that this prospectus offers you an informative look at the life of the College.



I know that a good school has a vital contribution to make in the development of a young person through the values and attitudes which it embraces and by its level of expectation for each pupil, both academically and socially.

Our most recent Ofsted inspection confirms the fact that Claverham Community College is a great school, which has a myriad of opportunities to offer our pupils both in and out of the classroom. The outcome of this inspection is backed up year on year by our very high standards in public examinations.

These achievements and the high personal standards of our pupils do not arise by accident. We believe that our achievements come from a distinct philosophy based on high expectations, hard work, traditional values and relationships and a sense of individual worth. Pupils are encouraged to develop intellectual curiosity and gain a rich diversity of experience through all that the College has to offer. We view the College very much as a community with all members working together towards our common goals in ensuring excellent outcomes in all areas.

The provision on offer at the College is underpinned by our high standards of teaching and pastoral care together with an impressive range of facilities.

We know that the process of choosing a school is a very important one and we invite you to visit the College in session, to experience at first hand the quality of education available to your child at Claverham.

We look forward to meeting you.



Mr P Swatton





DISTINCTIVE QUALITIES

Our overall aim is to develop pupils who will have the confidence, qualifications, qualities and independence to succeed in the ever changing world. It is with this aim in mind that we have structured the curriculum, pastoral programme and the many varied activities that take place both in and out of school.

We strongly believe that children need the security of clearly defined and consistent boundaries within which their personal and intellectual growth may flourish.

Our conviction is that effective teaching and learning can only be achieved and maintained within a well ordered school community. Pupils and parents need to be aware of our priorities in this respect. This view is central to all aspects of our College life.

We attach a great deal of importance to the personal appearance of each pupil and expect school uniform to be strictly adhered to and correctly worn. This is an essential part of Claverham's ethos.

"The Principal, senior leaders, and governors work well together to instil high expectations across the school."
Ofsted 2018

PARTNERSHIP WITH PARENTS

The school can only achieve its aim of developing the full potential of each pupil with the support and involvement of parents. Communication between school and home is therefore vital and takes place on a day-to-day basis through the homework diary.

The school regularly reports to parents about their child's attainment, attitude to learning and behaviour. Parents have the opportunity to discuss their child's progress with staff at consultation evenings.

There is an active Parents and Teachers Association at the College to which all parents automatically belong. The Association arranges social events and activities which raise funds to be used for the benefit of all pupils.

Parents are invited to contact the College whenever they wish to discuss any questions or concerns they may have.

"The school's information on parental views, as well as Ofsted's online questionnaire, Parent View, shows that parents believe the school is well led. The vast majority of parents appreciate the information provided to them on their children's progress."
Ofsted 2018



FORMAL CURRICULUM

We offer a curriculum which is balanced & broadly based which:

- Prepares pupils at the school for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of later life.
- Promotes the physical development, moral, cultural, mental and spiritual well-being of pupils at the school and of society.

The school curriculum comprises all learning and other experiences each school plans for its pupils. Therefore, the national curriculum forms only one part of the school curriculum. Our school curriculum is published online, annually, by subject and academic year.

At Key Stage 3, pupils experience lessons in English, Drama, Mathematics, Science, History, Geography, Music, Art, Design Technology, Food and Nutrition, Information Communication Technology, at least one modern foreign language (from French, German and Spanish), Physical Education and World View Studies.

In Years 10 & 11, all pupils study English Language and Literature, Mathematics and Science (either as three separate subjects or as a combined award). In addition, pupils select from Option subjects which include (at GCSE): Geography, History, Religious Studies, Computer Science, French, German, Spanish, Physical Education, Music, Media Studies, Latin, Drama, Psychology, Dance, one of 2 different Art courses, Food and Nutrition and Design Technology and (at BTEC or Level 2 equivalent): Business Studies, Music Technology, Child Care, Information Communication Technology and Sport.

Every pupil follows a course of Personal, Social, Health and Economic Education. This programme includes aspects of Health and Wellbeing, Relationships and Living in the Wider World.

The College offers a variety of curriculum enhancements to challenge and stretch our pupils.

Pupils with Special Educational Needs are well catered for using varied approaches tailored to their individual needs. Close liaison with primary schools alongside information provided by parents and class teachers ensures that identification of such need is both prompt and efficient. We have a dedicated “nurture group” intake class for pupils who need a different approach to enable their smooth transition to secondary education.

The College has an experienced and extremely well-qualified staff which together with the facilities that are in place ensure the delivery of a high quality education. The effectiveness of the teaching at Claverham has been recognised by OFSTED as well as the Universities of Sussex and Brighton, who have selected the College as a partner in their teacher training programmes.





PASTORAL CARE

Claverham is a caring community in which each child is seen as unique. We recognise that the emotional and physical well-being of the individual is essential for effective learning and personal development.

“Pupils’ spiritual, moral, social and cultural development is embedded throughout the curriculum. This forms a large part of the personal, social, health and economic education which pupils receive as part of their timetabled lessons. Topics are delivered sensitively and in age-appropriate ways. As a result, pupils are well prepared for life in modern Britain.”
Ofsted 2018

The pastoral organisation of the College reflects this philosophy and is built around a traditional house system. On entry to the College all pupils are allocated to one of the Houses and join a tutor group. The House Tutor, Head of House and a dedicated Pastoral Assistant know the individual pupils well and are always available for consultation. It is their particular responsibility to look after your child. Each pupil is nurtured in a safe environment.

“Pupils feel safe and are well supported by staff. Pupils know who to go to if they need help and they appreciate the high-quality care that is available to them.”
Ofsted 2018

The College expects excellent behaviour which creates the atmosphere in which our students reach their full potential.

“Pupils behave well. During social times, pupils socialise harmoniously. They treat each other with respect.”
Ofsted 2018

The transition from primary school to secondary school is a crucial period in a child’s education. We have well established links with our local primary schools and a carefully prepared transition programme for the children. This process begins before the children arrive at Claverham. Staff visit primary schools to meet individual children and discuss their educational and social needs with their class teacher.

During the last half of the Summer Term, intake evenings are held, at which House staff meet parents and children. Following this, pupils visit the College to experience the working atmosphere in the secondary school environment.

At the age of 16, our pupils continue into further education. To facilitate this transition we have a carefully planned programme of counselling, advice and visits, organised by the College and our Careers Advisor.



EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

We feel that the development of wide ranging skills and interests is important to a child's education and therefore we offer an extensive programme of extra curricular activities at lunchtime and after school.

There are excellent facilities for sport: a sports centre with a dance studio and fitness suite, a gymnasium with a climbing wall, a state of the art artificial pitch and playing fields. These enable us to provide an impressive range of activities for the pupils.

Throughout the year there are individual and team sports competitions, three College Inter-House weeks and a College Sports Day to which all parents are invited. In addition, there are College teams in most sports, at all age levels, and these compete against other schools on a regular basis. Claverham pupils also represent the College in both county and national teams.

Drama and Music thrive at Claverham and children have regular opportunities to perform. Those involved in Drama at the College gain an appreciation of the performing, practical and technical skills required to stage a major production. This is in addition to experiencing the enjoyment of working successfully as part of a large team.

There are also opportunities for pupils to enhance their public speaking skills both in school and through inter-school competitions.

There is a choir, A-cappella group, many rock bands and an orchestra at the College. These groups take part in our regular programme of College concerts, as well as joining with other schools to perform at local venues. The College also stages an annual musical production.

Towards the end of each school year we organise a Community Week for the whole College. This has included international and literary projects, links with industry and off site visits and a residential camp.

There are also further residential opportunities. In recent years there have been: ski trips to Europe, geography field trips to Iceland and USA and modern language trips to Germany and Spain. We have a large Duke of Edinburgh programme and a team entering the Ten Tors challenge event and various other outdoor pursuit trips to Snowdonia and the Lake District.

Pupils at the College are regularly involved in charity fund raising events supporting charities both locally, nationally and internationally and demonstrating their awareness of the needs of others at a range of levels.

"Pupils readily participate in the wide range of leadership opportunities available. This enables them to develop their self-confidence."

Ofsted 2018





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From our Ofsted Inspection (November 2018)

“Improvements in teaching, learning and assessment have led to a rise in attainment and progress across all subject areas, particularly in English and mathematics.”

“Pupils are increasingly ambitious in the courses they choose when they leave school. By the end of Key stage 4, they are well prepared for their next steps because they make good progress across a range of subjects.”

“Teachers share leaders’ high expectations. Strong relationships between teachers and pupils ensure that pupils confidently improve their knowledge and understanding. As a result, pupils make strong progress.”

“Pupils behave well in lessons and around school. They are respectful towards each other and staff.”

“Teachers regularly use insightful questioning to stimulate thought-provoking discussions and debates. Because of this, pupils deepen their understanding of complicated issues.”

The College was graded as Good in all respects by the inspectors.



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