



St. Crispin's
Excellence for all



Welcome

As Headteacher, I am delighted to introduce St. Crispin's School to you. Choosing the right school for secondary education is a very important decision; I hope that our prospectus conveys our strong school ethos and what we can offer your child. The information within this prospectus and on our school website (www.crispins.co.uk) should answer most of your questions – but I would also encourage you to visit the school on our Open Evening or Open Mornings, so you can meet and talk to the staff and current students. This will give you a real flavour of the atmosphere in school, along with a chance to see our resources and facilities.

First impressions are always very important. You may be surprised to learn that St. Crispin's has Grade II listed building status! It is famous as the first of the Ministry of Education's prototype prefabricated schools built in the austere years of the 1950s! We were one of the first schools where students influenced the design. Their advice to the architect was "inside is more important than outside" – which explains our rather plain, functional exterior but beautiful listed original murals inside the building. Our 1950s students were right in another respect: buildings are one thing but it is what happens inside the building that is vital. I believe that when you visit our school, you will be struck by the really positive relationships between the staff and the students. This is a very friendly school. We pride ourselves on building strong relationships and staff will get to know each student as an individual. There is an outstanding pastoral care system in place and we are immensely proud of our record of being an inclusive school. At the same time we are a high-achieving school. Our academic results are excellent, as our staff work exceptionally hard to get the best possible results for every student.

One of the many strengths of our school is the opportunity for students to take part in a wide variety of enrichment activities. There is a termly "trips" day for every student with a wide range of special events, both in the UK and abroad. Students are encouraged to take part in outdoor activities; opportunities within the Arts are superb; sports teams enjoy success both locally and at county level; there are programmes for Gifted and Talented students and many exciting trips and activities relate to specific subject areas. We are a wholly inclusive and fully comprehensive school and I would not want it any other way!

In essence, St. Crispin's is a school that offers students of all abilities and interests the opportunity to be the best they can be. Our school vision statement **Excellence for All** encapsulates our intention to do the very best for every one of our students.

Ginny Rhodes, Headteacher



Support & Guidance

The relationships between teachers, students and parents are fundamental to helping students be happy and enjoy school. We work in partnership with students and their families; to support this engagement we offer an online attendance, achievement and behaviour tracking system which allows you to monitor your child's performance at school (in real time) from home, workplace or mobile.

Working together, we support students to enjoy their time at St. Crispin's: work hard, make good progress and leave us as responsible, well-qualified, mature young people, ready to make a valuable contribution to society. We believe that for students to prosper academically they must feel happy and secure. Students will join a tutor group in Year 7 and will remain with the same peer group and tutor until the end of year 11. The pastoral care of each year group is overseen by a Head of Year who has the experience to help students settle into their new school.

Our expectations of our students, in terms of their achievement and behaviour, are very high. We expect all members of the school community to uphold the values of respect, tolerance, courtesy, and cooperation. Our community is inclusive and diverse and we take pride in celebrating that diversity at every opportunity.

This is what we provide for students; in return we expect our students to come to school on time, in the right uniform, with an open mind, ready to learn and do their best.



Learning

Learning and teaching are our highest priority; we are committed to providing students with the best learning experience. Students are taught using a wide range of techniques and resources to engage and support them. Teaching staff take an active and imaginative approach to teaching and learning, sharing good practice in order to promote student progress. Working with their teachers, students are given opportunities to build skills and confidence to enable them to become active and independent learners.

To support learning in and out of the school, St. Crispin's has a highly developed online virtual curriculum. This enables students to extend their learning out of lessons and at home through the use of the internet. Our school website provides you with lots of other information that I think you will find useful. This includes:

- **An overview of our curriculum**
- **Examination results**
- **Links to external reports and OFSTED**
- **Times of the school day**
- **Uniform**
- **School policies**

On-going assessment assists students to achieve their full academic potential, enabling them to learn from constructive feedback. Feedback to parents through termly interim reports and reviews at parents evening allows parents and students to meet with teachers of subjects studied to discuss targets, progress and strategies for improvement.



Developing Potential



We want all young people to bring to St. Crispin's a positive attitude, a willingness to contribute, a respect for others and a determination to give of their best. We expect all students to behave well, to work hard to develop their talents to the full and to pursue the highest levels of achievement. It is also here that effective teamwork is often built. We demand high standards of work from students to encourage them to develop a good work ethos. Staff create a nurturing environment both within the classroom and around school, where Excellence is expected from all students in all areas of life. We are dedicated to learning and development; we offer a curriculum and activities to help all students learn about how they work best, both as individuals and with others.

At St. Crispin's we have a nationally accredited Able Gifted & Talented programme. This recognises that gifted and talented students are a diverse group with a varied range of attainments and skills, and that giftedness is not simply the ability to succeed in tests and examinations. Being gifted and talented is not a one-off fixed state; students may develop outstanding qualities at any point during their time at St. Crispin's and may demonstrate leadership qualities, high level practical skills or a capacity for creative thought.





Beyond the Classroom

We provide many, varied opportunities throughout a student's time at St. Crispin's and we offer a huge range of unusual, interesting and challenging enrichment activities. For example:

We welcome into school visiting speakers and specialists from the fields of business, sport and academia to inspire students. This gives students the opportunity to develop and identify skills for future study and the work place. We also provide career guidance with access to careers advisors, the opportunity to carry out work experience and a bespoke annual careers fair.

Students are invited to take an active part in shaping the way the school operates: we have a thriving student council, with each tutor group electing a member to sit on the year group council and whole school council.

St. Crispin's has a rich and flourishing artistic and cultural life. The Art and Technology department put on a summer exhibition each year, and the Performing Arts department perform a sell-out annual production, showcasing the acting and musical talents of students. Well-acclaimed recent productions include: Les Miserables, We Will Rock You and Chicago. There are also annual spring and winter concerts, demonstrating that St. Crispin's really does have talent!





St. Crispin's School

Ginny Rhodes, Headteacher

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Additional information is
available on the website:
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