


Prospectus



The Bishop
of Winchester
Academy



A Church of England Academy specialising
in Enterprise & Innovation and Mathematics



“I am delighted my son will be attending
The Bishop of Winchester Academy.
We wanted him to be part of a school
with a Christian Ethos at its heart.”

Year 7 parent

“The Principal provides the Academy with
outstanding leadership. He is supported
extremely well by senior leaders and by
outstanding governance.”

Ofsted 2013

Welcome from the Principal

I am extremely proud to introduce you to The Bishop of Winchester Academy (TBOWA). This prospectus will give you a flavour of what makes us such a popular and successful school.

TBOWA is a Christian Academy sponsored by the Church of England through the Diocese of Winchester. We are an all ability school offering places to boys and girls aged between 11 and 18 years. Our 6th form opened in September 2014 and is now thriving.

The Academy strives to be recognised as inspirational, aspiring to excellence in all that we do. We strive to cherish and nurture each individual child as they seek to establish their own identity in a rapidly changing and challenging world. We aim to instil in our students a sense of self-worth, pride in achievement, and a self-confidence to make their own decisions. We aim for all our students to live out our mission statement 'Sapere Aude' - Have the Courage to be Wise.

We are very fortunate that most of our buildings are brand new, equipped with state of the art teaching facilities suited for the 21st Century. The Academy is extremely well supported by many Bournemouth churches, and in particular the Diocese of Winchester and the Bishop. We are privileged to have our own Chaplain who offers support to all our students and their families.



Our curriculum model recognises that all students are good at something. To achieve this, all students have a personal mentor to support them and ensure their progress. Our promise is to ensure that all students leave the Academy as confident individuals, well qualified, to enjoy happy and fulfilling lives. We have established a culture of high expectations and no excuses. All students have the God-given right to "live life in all its fullness" (John 10:10).

The Academy has been judged by Ofsted as 'Outstanding' in many categories. We now strive to be recognised as a place of inspirational learning that will set a standard for others to follow. I am a traditional school Head, who believes in strong leadership and firm discipline. I am a parent myself, and would be proud to send my own children to TBOWA. I very much believe that if a school is not good enough for my own children, it is not good enough for anyone's children.

The best way to understand us is to see us at work. I will personally take you on a tour of the school should you wish. Like others who visit our school, we are confident you will be impressed by the disciplined and working atmosphere, the sheer sense of enjoyment in the learning process, and the relentless focus on achievement. We hope that you will visit us, and look forward to meeting you.

I thank you in anticipation of your support and I look forward to working with you to ensure your child is successful and happy.

Paul McKeown, Principal



Diocese of Winchester

Ethos

The Bishop of Winchester Academy is a Church of England Academy where students and staff work together in the knowledge and love of God. We try to act out our faith in our daily lives, with Christ as our example. We see education as an integral part of the mission of the Church to proclaim all that is good in human living, inspired through the work of God.

We aim to provide our students, within a Christian environment, with a high quality secondary education, which will prepare them for the challenges and opportunities of life ahead. We seek to promote and support the spiritual, moral, social, cultural, intellectual, physical and emotional development of all our students.

For students of the Christian faith, the Academy aims to provide an environment in which that faith may grow. For students who choose not to follow the Christian faith, the school aims to provide a positive experience of Christianity, so that the faith of Christianity might be respected and understood.

Equally, the Academy will show respect and act with care towards students from other world faith communities.



“Students’ spiritual, moral, social and cultural development permeates the life of the Academy.”

Ofsted 2013



“The outstanding curriculum
has a significant impact on
increasing students’ attendance
and enjoyment of learning and
on the improvements in their
achievement.”

Ofsted 2013



“Students’ behaviour is outstanding.
This is a huge success for the Academy.”

Ofsted 2013



Worship

At The Bishop of Winchester Academy we gather regularly in Acts of Collective Worship. We share a variety of experiences through words, music, silent reflection and prayer.

Whilst we are an Anglican Academy, we value and ensure that the school community gains ecumenical richness and seeks to affirm and develop our Christian beliefs in an inclusive way, which embraces those from other Christian traditions, those from other faiths and those of no faith background.

Acts of Collective Worship

Our Acts of Collective Worship are based around a theme for each week which is integrated with our Learning Applications. It is hoped that our students will explore these Christian values in a variety of ways. These themes are followed in daily Mentor Group Worship.

Year Assemblies

Students gather together with their Head of Year on a regular basis for assemblies to share information and reflection.



Eucharist Service

A Eucharist Service is held for all members of the school community to celebrate the Christian festivals of Christmas, Ash Wednesday and Easter.

Other Services

Special services are held to celebrate the major Christian Festivals. The Academy is actively involved with the local churches with students often representing the Academy at their services. We have recently established a vibrant youth club and are looking forward to opening TBOWA Church in September 2014.

Prayer Breakfast

An informal weekly prayer breakfast is held in the Chapel on Thursday mornings, 8.00-8.30am. Parents, staff and students are invited to attend. We pray for the on-going work at the Academy and requests we receive. We begin by eating breakfast together at 8.00am.

TBOWA Church

TBOWA Church combines a number of activities throughout the week (see TBOWA Connect on Facebook). Services are held in the Chapel on the second and fourth Sunday of each month at 6.00pm (parking is in the staff car park). Everyone is welcome.



A Personal Approach

When our students graduate from The Bishop of Winchester Academy, they will enter a 21st century world that demands individuals to be well rounded, with specific skills they can develop and build upon to make a difference to their own lives and the lives of those around them.

Our highest priority is that students focus on their learning and enjoy it. Within our pastoral system we are increasingly able to work with each student to set stretching targets for academic and personal achievement. Our Mentor system allows students of different ages to work together frequently each day. Younger students are inspired by older students and older students develop essential leadership skills. We work as a community, based on Christian and family values with shared goals.

We believe that our excellent exam results are a direct result of our ability to offer a personalised approach to learning.



Making lessons relevant and challenging is essential to ensuring that our students are motivated and interested. We are working closely with our partner schools and The University of Winchester researching the latest teaching and learning theories to inform our forward thinking curriculum and lesson delivery that stimulates and inspires students.

The 5 Houses are:

- Austen
- Brunel
- Da Vinci
- Nightingale
- Wilberforce

“The Academy has made great progress in improving students’ achievement, attendance and behaviour since it opened.”

Ofsted 2013



A Curriculum for 21st Century Learners

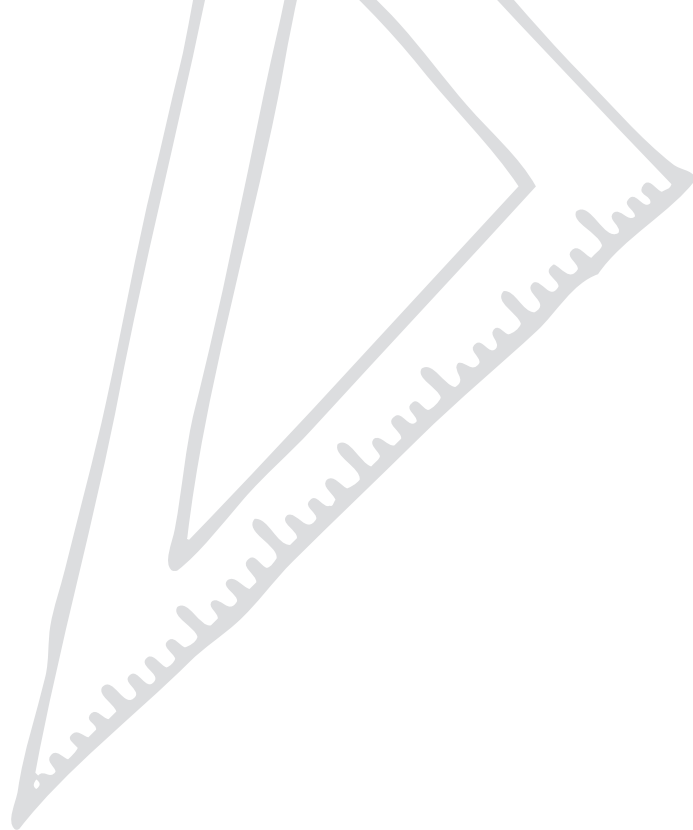
We intend that every student should become an autonomous learner with a desire for and a love of learning, high self-esteem, a confidence in their own identity and a pride in their achievements. Where this is achieved we believe that our students will go on to strive to achieve their full potential.

On entry students are grouped according to the levels they have achieved in English and Maths and from discussions with primary schools and parents. Setting is continually reviewed to ensure that students are correctly placed and high expectations are maintained for all sets.

The increasing breadth of our curriculum means that students can explore an extensive range of subjects. Encouraging students to apply their knowledge, be resourceful and investigative, to be enterprising and innovative, is a key aim in every subject area, as is the development of independent learning.

“Our curriculum model recognises that all students are good at something.”

Paul McKeown, Principal



Our specialisms encourage our students to become more enterprising and innovative ultimately leading to successful communication, leadership, team-work, risk taking and confidence.





Inspiring Enterprise and Innovation

We want every student to leave the Academy with confidence and a belief that learning is a positive, lifelong experience. We want every student, through a rich range of enterprising and innovative experiences, to develop high self-esteem and to make a valuable contribution to society.

We emphasise the many different ways in which people learn and the pleasure and empowerment that learning brings. A wide range of extension and Enrichment activities at the Academy, in the local community and through our international links, help our students to develop their passions, gain new experiences, and further their understanding of themselves and the contribution they can make to the world.

Students will work with a variety of businesses and enterprises using their own innovation and problem-solving skills to tackle 'real life' situations, thus developing their understanding of the 'real world'.

We define Enterprise & Innovation as 'the successful exploitation of new ideas'. Enterprise & Innovation is not simply about new ideas, it is about the use of those ideas to impact positively on our community and the lives of its members.

An Enterprise & Innovation Specialism is about new ways of learning, new ways of thinking, new processes, new attitudes, new ways of engaging the community, new ways of adding value to the lives of our students and the community. This is as relevant to a local context as a global context, as relevant to community regeneration as to global citizenship.



Mathematics

Mathematical thinking is required by all members of society; for the 21st Century Mathematical thinking needs to become a habit of mind.

Mathematics can be creative; it is an international language. It transcends cultural boundaries. Mathematics can inspire students to want to learn for the sake of wanting to learn; to solve a problem simply for the pleasure of wanting to solve that problem. Few subjects can claim the breadth of Mathematics; a subject that is rooted in all subjects.



Enrichment Opportunities

The Academy offers a huge range of Enrichment opportunities designed to support and enhance students' work during the Academy day. All students will commit to Enrichment sessions. Many students will want to take advantage of the numerous other Enrichment activities that are offered throughout the Academy week.

Activities cover a wide range:

- Enterprise & Innovation
- Sport & Leisure
- Creative & Performing Arts
- Media & ICT
- Science & Technology
- Gifted & Talented
- Residential Experiences

In addition to these opportunities the curriculum is rich in trips, visits and participation in special events. We believe that students benefit their learning most when they see the connection between the classroom and real life.

“The maturity, teamwork and creativity shown by older students provides outstanding role models for younger learners to aspire to.”

Enterprise and Innovation Partner



Homework and Independent Learning

We would like to forge strong links between the Academy and home through learning, and engage a wide range of skills and aptitudes in our students both through the daytime curriculum and learning that takes place at home. Quality learning is motivating for students and we recognise that independence and high learning skill levels will better prepare students for later and more advanced study.

Students will be set a variety of extended homework tasks that aim to stretch young learners far more than shorter repetitive tasks. The emphasis will be on quality and not quantity. These core tasks will be published by departments in booklet form and will be available on the website.

Mathematics and Modern Foreign Languages will set homework in the traditional sense as this fits best with the accepted notion of best practise in these areas.

All homework can be viewed on 'Show My Homework' website.

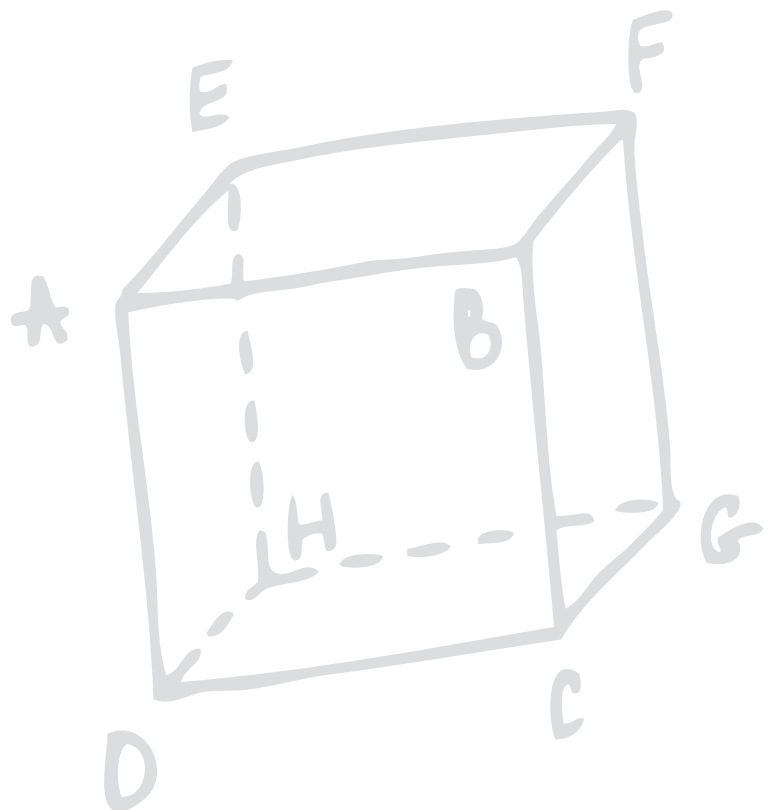
Health & Sex Education

As students progress through the Academy, aspects of health and sex education arise at various times as natural and integral parts of the curriculum.

During Year 9 Science lessons, students are given a straightforward factual account of the way in which all creatures develop, including reproduction in human beings.

The Christian attitude towards stable married and family life and personal relationships generally is explored in Religious Education lessons.

Sex Education is delivered as a coherent package throughout the Academy years from 7-11. Questions which arise are dealt with in a clear moral framework in which the students are encouraged to consider the importance of self-restraint, dignity and respect for themselves and others.



Getting Organised

The Bishop of Winchester Academy planner is an essential tool in preparing your child for the school day. We ask parents and carers to check the planner daily - to ensure that important items, such as the PE kit, are brought to school on the right day.

The student planner contains your child's timetable, including extension activities. The planner is also used to record the homework for each subject and the date for completion. Please encourage your child to establish the good habits of checking the planner daily and packing the school bag the night before.

The Academy operates a strict uniform policy. For details about the requirements, please refer to our website.

Transition from Primary School

The Academy works very hard to give our new students a smooth, positive transition to secondary school life.

Before starting at TBOWA, all parents are invited to meet with the Principal to discuss their child's successful transition to the Academy, and to make clear the high expectations TBOWA has of all students. It is the signing of the home-school agreement that underpins these shared understandings. These meetings ensure that the crucial two-way partnership between home and school is established to guarantee all students are successful. We work closely with primary schools to get to know our students and to understand their academic and social needs.



Assessment and Reporting

Regular assessment ensures that students' progress is carefully monitored and underachievement is addressed in a timely manner.

This is achieved through:

- Close scrutiny of class work and homework
- Moderation of student work against national standards
- Modular tests at regular intervals throughout a subject course
- End of term tests prior to the writing of interim reports
- Progress tests in English and Mathematics for students who achieved below Level 4 at Key Stage 2
- Regular testing of reading and spelling

The information collected forms an ongoing student profile. Individual progress, both academic and social, is carefully monitored and reviewed. After consultation with personal mentors, targets are set for the year ahead.

A Partnership with Home

At the Academy we recognise the importance of making and maintaining strong home-school links and we always endeavour to work closely with home.

At the end of each half term parents/carers receive an interim report which records their child's level or grade for each subject.

Meetings with parents, to agree appropriate support are held for students identified as underachieving.



Post 16

TBOWA 6th Form life is one of excitement and challenges.

We provide a diverse curriculum personalised to individual needs, providing students with an academic route into university and the professional world, as well as qualifications tailored to ensure successful apprenticeships. The Academy is proud of its partnerships with Bournemouth School for Girls, the University of Winchester, Rockley Watersports and Paragon.

6th Form students are actively encouraged to enjoy life to the full. To complement the curriculum, we offer a range of exciting enrichment opportunities to broaden students' experiences. These include the opportunity to develop leadership skills, complete local community projects and strengthen entrepreneurial skills, as well as launching and running clubs of their own.

For more information on the TBOWA 6th Form, please visit our website: www.tbowa.org



“Most students make at least good progress... An increasing number makes outstanding progress.”

Ofsted 2013





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