



Sapere Aude

The Bishop of Winchester Academy



Prospectus



John 10:10

I came to give life - life in all its fullness

High expectations - no excuses



Sapere Aude

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 offer places to boys and girls aged between 11 and 18 years. Our 6th form opened in September 2014 and is now thriving. The most able students are coached for university from the beginning of Year 7 as part of our Grammar Stream.

The academy is aspirational, and strives for excellence in all that we do. We 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 culture of 'high expectations - no excuses'.

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 recognised by Ofsted as offering an ambitious curriculum and an impressive range of extra-curricular activities. 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 we look forward to meeting you.

I thank you in anticipation of your support and would welcome the opportunity of 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 seeks 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.

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 embed the mastery curriculum, share information and reflection.



“The team of academy leaders is passionate about the role of the school in improving the life chances of students.”

SIAMS 2019



When our students graduate from The Bishop of Winchester Academy, they will enter a 21st century world that demands individuals to be knowledge rich and equipped with specific skills.

Our highest priority is that students focus on their learning and enjoy it. We intend that every student should become an autonomous learner with a desire for and a love of learning, develop self-esteem and a confidence in their own identity and take pride in their achievements.

On entry, students are grouped according to: the levels they have achieved in English and maths, Cognitive Ability Tests and further information received from feeder primary schools. Setting is continually reviewed to ensure that students are correctly placed and high expectations are maintained for all sets.

Our knowledge rich curriculum has been designed with the key aim of enabling students to learn and live life to the full. The breadth of our curriculum means that students explore an extensive range of subjects.

The idea of mastery - acquiring a deep, long-term, secure and adaptable understanding of each subject - defines our approach to the curriculum. We plan forwards to mastery not backwards from an exam specification. Cross curricular links are explored in order to deepen understanding so that students have the best chance of mastering the depth of each subject. Concepts and skills are sequenced coherently so that they are developed over time.

All students are encouraged by the belief that by working hard all can master, with extra support and intervention, each key learning point. Students use their knowledge of cognitive theory to recognise and use the most impactful methods of revision and retrieval practice. Progress at the end of Key Stages 4 and 5 is recognised through external exams and these provide them with the national currency needed for access to further education and employment. Our excellent exam results demonstrate that the impact of the implementation of our TBOWA curriculum.

Teaching students our broad and balanced curriculum is only one aspect of helping them develop into professional and successful young adults.

All our young people are taught to develop the habits and mindset of "Bishop students", which are built around the Learning Applications or "Lapps" that students and staff share in school. By teaching them these qualities, we know we are supporting each student to fulfil their God-given potential and gain the skills and character traits that will help them live life to the full.



The 5 Houses are:

- Austen
- Brunel
- Da Vinci
- Nightingale
- Wilberforce

"Pupils remember what they have learned and make links between different subjects because teachers understand how pupils learn best."

Ofsted 2023





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'.

“Pupils at the school benefit from an impressive range of extra-curricular activities.”

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The academy offers a huge range of Enrichment Opportunities designed to support and enhance students' work during the academy day. Many students take advantage of the numerous other enrichment activities that are offered throughout the academy week.

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.



As students progress through the academy, aspects of health and sex education arise at various times as natural and integral parts of the curriculum. Throughout our science curriculum, 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 from years 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.

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.



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.

"Pupils benefit from leaders' and teachers' belief in the school's motto, 'Have the courage to be wise'."

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We like to forge strong links between the academy and home.

One way we do this is through homework. Great learning happens when great teaching is reinforced with great homework.

Homework helps to embed the knowledge learned in lessons, helping students to know more and remember more and overcome the 'Ebbinghaus Forgetting Curve'. Parental support with homework is central to this. For students seeking additional support with their homework, a Homework Club runs every day.

In Key Stage 4 students are introduced to revision and exam practice activities to extend and consolidate what they learn in lessons to help them demonstrate their mastery independently.





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.

“Pupils learn new knowledge in a logical order and build on what they already know.”

Ofsted 2023



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

Parents/carers receive weekly communications for their child's Head of Year and regular academic reports which provide information on their child's progress

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

At TBOWA 6th Form our students become fully grounded individuals, developing their talents, and Preparing to take their roles as the citizens and leaders of tomorrow. We offer 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.

It is our mission to ensure that all young people do have the courage of their own well-founded convictions to make wise decisions that will allow them to celebrate their talents, fulfil their God-given potential, and live life to the full (John 10:10). To complement the curriculum, we offer a range of exciting enrichment opportunities to broaden students' experiences and develop important skills for future life. In addition, we also offer the University of Oxford's "Step Up" programme, and have successfully supported students to secure places to study at Oxford and Cambridge, as well as many of the Russell Group Universities

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The Bishop
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