

Introduction

From the Headteacher, Nigel Willingham

It is my privilege to introduce the St Clement's High School prospectus. I trust it will help you gain an insight into a school which has a strong focus on academic achievement and progress within a caring, small school environment.

St Clement's is a friendly school at the heart of its community. Teachers pride themselves in knowing the students as individuals and visitors frequently comment on the friendly, ordered atmosphere and the politeness of our students.

St Clement's High School works within the West Norfolk Academies Trust. This means our students benefit from working in a close, mutually beneficial partnership with Springwood High School, Marshland High School and Smithdon High School. The Trust has a clear, strategic vision for the future, based on four key areas;

- World class standards of student achievement
- Strong community engagement
- Excellent standards of Teaching and Learning
- World class resources for our school community.

Our school was inspected by Ofsted in 2017 and we were proud to be judged as Good in all areas.

Pupils commented that 'The best thing about this school is the staff; they make the school what it is.'
Ofsted 2017



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Teaching & Learning

"Pupils feel that staff are vigilant and dedicated to helping them. Pupils said that staff 'go the extra mile' to support their academic and personal needs." Ofsted 2017

St Clement's High School has a great team of staff who work closely together to ensure the highest quality of teaching and learning. They work hard to ensure that students make progress in every lesson. In the lower school students are taught in ability groups to ensure work is accessible but challenging. Students are then guided through the options process at the end of Year 9 and begin their chosen GCSE courses at the beginning of Year 10.

"The curriculum offers pupils breadth in their experiences. Leaders ensure that pupils' needs and aspirations come first when deciding on their provision" Ofsted 2017

While we are a small school we offer a broad range of GCSE and equivalent courses alongside the core subjects of English, Maths and Science, including...

- Geography
- History
- Religious Education
- Citizenship
- Music
- Drama
- Design and Technology
- Hospitality and Catering
- Business Studies
- Retail Business
- French
- Physical Education
- Information Communication Technology
- Fine Art
- Photography

The majority of students will study Combined science, while the top scientists in each year take Triple Science and gain specific GCSEs in Biology, Chemistry and Physics.



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Creative Arts

The Arts are recognised as a strength of the school and we are keen for students to foster their creative talents. In recognition of the excellent opportunities offered by the school in this area, the school was awarded the Gold Artsmark in July 2020.

We are fortunate to have a well-equipped Drama studio with a sprung floor. The teaching in this area has been recognised as outstanding and the GCSE course is extremely popular. Several students have recently progressed to study at some of the country's leading Drama schools.

Each year we hold an exhibition of Art and Photography to showcase the final pieces from the GCSE courses and display the work of the younger year groups. Students enjoy the freedom to work on large scale pieces and work in the fully equipped photography studio and dark room. The grades achieved in Art and Photography at GCSE have long been recognised as outstanding and a visit to our permanent gallery space is often a highlight of school tours.

We strive to give all pupils an exciting and relevant experience both inside and outside of the classroom. To become confident with their skills and ideas, enabling them to take ownership of their work and progression and ultimately to fall in love with the aesthetics of the visual world.

Together Music, Design and Technology, Drama, Art and Photography form the Creative Arts Faculty with the aim of developing our students' self-expression and creative skill.



**Artsmark
Gold Award**
Awarded by Arts
Council England



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Pastoral Support

"Pupils enjoy the atmosphere of the small, caring community. Diversity is welcomed and embraced in the school." Ofsted 2017

St Clement's is a small and caring school where we aim to get to know each child as an individual. Every student is placed in a year based tutor group and they meet with their tutor each morning. Both the upper school and the lower school have their own Pastoral Support Officer based in the centre of the school. The PSOs are available to help students with any issues that might arise during the day and parents can also contact them directly with any queries or concerns they may have. Our pastoral team also includes our Student Welfare Manager, who works to ensure our students are getting the support they need to be happy, healthy and successful in school.

"The school is a welcoming and vibrant place, where happy pupils are developing into caring young adults." Ofsted 2017

The relationship between home and school is really important to us and to aid good communication all teachers are available by appointment every Thursday after school to meet with parents. This means any concerns can be quickly addressed. Support for homework can be found at the homework club which runs every day until 4.30 in the Library.

"The support for pupils who arrive in Year 7 is a strength of the school. The efforts that staff make to induct and support new pupils is highly regarded by many parents." Ofsted 2017

In recent years students have driven such projects as toilet refurbishment and additional pathways, demonstrating the value of getting involved in our student voice opportunities.



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Extra-Curricular Opportunities

Although academic progress is at the core of a successful education it is also vital that every student is engaged in the other areas of school life. In addition to all our sporting opportunities St Clement's High School offers a full range of extra-curricular activities.

Those students with a particular interest in Science and Technology may take the opportunity to become involved in the Technology Tournament, or demonstrate their scientific knowledge at such events as the British Aerospace Science Roadshow.

At St Clement's we believe school trips provide a great opportunity for active learning and foreign residential trips can be a great way to broaden students' horizons. Bi-annual ski trips to Austria have been a popular feature of our calendar for many years. The Creative Arts trip to New York has become a regular event and in 2019 our students made the 6000 mile Journey to Japan. These longer trips sit alongside our annual History and Language visits to France and Germany. Each year we have groups visiting the Houses of Parliament, West End theatres and national galleries.

Students with a musical interest may take up piano, guitar or drum lessons. A range of seasonal clubs such as the popular Christmas Cake Club occur throughout the school year.

For the more adventurous students the Duke of Edinburgh scheme provides an opportunity for them to pit their wits against the elements and prove they can rise to any challenge.



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Sport

Physical education plays a major role in the life of our school and all students have the opportunity to take part in competitive sport through our House Match and extensive extra-curricular programme. Alongside the more traditional sports students can also participate in activities such as archery. Started at the request of students and developed with support from parents we even have a successful fishing team. Students often have the chance to watch elite level sporting events such as basketball, rugby & netball and visit sporting establishments like Loughborough University.

Students have the opportunity to gain half and then full Sporting Colours by representing the school in a range of sports. The achievement of full Sporting Colours is recognised with the presentation of a Sports Tie, a much sought after accolade, worn with great pride.

Students complete the Sports leader award during Year 10. This requires them to organise and run an annual sports festival for children from our local primary schools. Each year the event has grown and most recently saw over 300 primary students taking part. This has become a key event on all the participating schools' calendars and is much loved by those involved.

Each year the PE team host a special presentation evening to recognise the sporting achievements of our students. New school records are celebrated and personal bests acknowledged, along with the achievements of the many school teams run during the year. Over the last eight years many accomplished sports personalities have delivered inspiring speeches and helped to motivate the next generation of St Clement's sports men and women.



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