

The Stonehenge School

STRIVING FOR EXCELLENCE, EXCEEDING EXPECTATIONS



"This is a good school."

[OFSTED 2011]



Welcome to The Stonehenge School

The school is a mixed comprehensive school, reflecting the world as it really is. Located near to the centre of historic Amesbury, and just 2 miles from the Stonehenge World Heritage Site the school is situated in 11 acres of green, open space surrounded by trees. It is a calm and welcoming environment where the sense of community is exceptionally strong and students feel safe.

The school has a history dating back more than half a century, and in all that time the best examination results ever achieved by the school were in 2011. The excellent results this year coincided with another successful Ofsted inspection where, for the third time in a row, Ofsted judged us a Good school. We have been a specialist Mathematics and Computing school for several years and this has enabled us to make substantial investment in a modern ICT network, which both teachers and students use extensively as they explore increasingly creative and imaginative ways of learning.

The school has advanced and embraced the opportunities offered by new technologies, but in other ways we believe in a quite traditional approach to education. Our uniform is formal - yet practical - and we have high expectations of good behaviour

and appropriate manners. Visitors frequently comment on the courtesy shown to them by our children and of their obvious pride in their school.

We serve the community of Amesbury and many of the surrounding villages, and about one eighth of our children come from families in the armed forces on Salisbury Plain. Mid-year admissions are very common owing to the deployment of nearby service families, and the influx of additional residents into the new and expanding Archers Gate housing development. Prospective parents and children who are looking for a secondary school are therefore made very welcome, and tours and informal visits can be arranged at any time during the year and on all days of the week.

Do have a browse through our website. I hope you are interested by what you find.

Nigel Roper B.Sc. (Hons), PGCE, NPQH.
Head Teacher.

Michael Bayliss
Chair of Governors



INVESTORS
IN PEOPLE

The Schools
Network™
The Specialist Schools and Academies Trust



"Students make good progress."

[OFSTED 2011]



A Diverse School



We are a truly comprehensive school, catering for both boys and girls. We have students across the entire ability range and we offer special provision for Gifted and Talented students as well as those with learning difficulties or disabilities.

We have a specialist centre for the hearing impaired. We are a leading school in the use of Soundfield technology which enables everyone in a learning area to hear clearly.

We are continuously investing in Information and Communication Technology, and the school is a specialist Mathematics and Computing college. Students and teachers experience a broad range of teaching and learning activities, with access to more than 330 pentium processors. Interactive whiteboard technology is used in every teaching room.



"The school fosters an exceptionally strong sense of community among its students."

[OFSTED 2011]

Academic organisation



From Year 7, students are set by ability in the great majority of subjects. Set placements are reviewed every year to ensure children are taught in an environment where they learn best. Students are assessed regularly and parents receive two progress reports and one full written report every year. All students are set clear targets for their academic progress in consultation with parents.

The Stonehenge School provides a breadth and depth of study that extends beyond the National Curriculum. In the early years of secondary school we place great emphasis on developing the essential skills of ICT, literacy and numeracy.

All students receive regular homework, from Year 7 onwards. Students record their homework in a school planner which we ask parents to sign and check weekly.



Provision in the Upper School

We offer both academic and vocational courses in Year 10 and Year 11. The Key Stage 4 curriculum is tailored to the individual needs of each student through a pathways model. We aim to prepare students for adulthood with the capacity and enthusiasm for lifelong learning.

The majority of students study GCSE courses in mathematics, English Language, English Literature and Core and Additional Science. The highest performing science students follow a triple GCSE course in the separate disciplines of physics, chemistry and biology.

GCSE options currently offered include:

Drama, Art, Philosophy and Ethics, Resistant Materials, Textiles, History, Classical Civilizations, Geography, Music, French, German and Spanish

BTEC courses are equivalent to GCSE qualifications but are more practical and vocational in style. Some are double awards, equivalent to 2 GCSE qualifications and we offer a small number of triple award courses as well. BTEC courses include:

Information & Communication Technology, Physical Education, Art & Design, Business Studies, Health & Social Care

Vocational, work related NVQ courses are available in conjunction with Wiltshire College at Salisbury. These currently include Hairdressing and Motor Vehicle Maintenance.

All Year 11 students participate in Work Experience organised through Trident.



"Students feel safe in a school which takes good care of them."

[OFSTED 2011]

"Specialist school designation has been highly successful in promoting good achievement."

[OFSTED 2011]

Support and Guidance

We are committed to educational and social inclusion. To be an effective learning environment it is essential the school provides support and security for everyone.

Students with special learning requirements are supported by specially trained teachers, excellent teaching assistants and with specialist facilities, including 'talking computers' and Successmaker. We have an enhanced and refurbished Skills Development Centre, provided to enhance both learning skills and behaviour of students requiring support.

We work closely with all our feeder junior schools so that students are fully prepared for the transition from Year 6 into Year 7. All students belong to a tutor group where the form tutor is the daily point of contact between the family and school. Tutor teams in each of the five years are, in turn, led by an experienced Progress Leader.



"The school offers high quality care to its most vulnerable students."

[OFSTED 2011]





Preparing for the future

Qualifications are highly important, and our examination results reflect our commitment to this. However school is also about preparing students for their future career and roles in the larger community.

Students are offered many opportunities to develop team working and leadership skills. The prefect team in Year 11 is led by the Head Boy, Head Girl and their deputies. Students can initiate projects and share decision making through an active School Council. Other students work as library monitors and all students are given the opportunity to work as a junior receptionist.

Careers guidance is provided in Years 10 and 11, and we have strong links with the Connexions service and with several colleges of Further Education, and Sixth Form colleges, in both Wiltshire and Hampshire.

"Students are well supported on transition from primary school."

[OFSTED 2011]





Activities beyond the curriculum

The Artsmark Gold award from The Arts Council recognises the school's commitment to the areas of music, dance, drama and art. A large number of students enjoy taking part in activities throughout the school year, including drama productions and musical concerts. Individual music tuition is provided to over a hundred children.

We have excellent sporting facilities on site and at Amesbury Sports Centre, as well as exclusive use of the 22 acre playing field on Holders Lane. We run many sports teams and offer a number of extra curricular sporting clubs, including rugby, netball, hockey, football and cricket. Special reward trips are

organised regularly for students who display a consistently positive attitude to learning.

Trips and visits are run regularly; Year 9 can visit Pencelli Activity Centre in Wales and older students may take part in the annual ski trip to Europe. There are regular Geography field trips and the Languages department arrange annual visits to France or Germany. History students have the opportunity to visit World War 1 battlefields in Belgium. A thriving Young Enterprise group offers students opportunities to participate in commerce and industry, and each year students organise a range of activities to raise money for charities nominated by the school council.

"Students behave very well.... they are proud of their school, and are polite and courteous to visitors."

[OFSTED 2011]







The Stonehenge School

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