



St Dunstan's School

GLASTONBURY





Mr Alun Williams -
CEO and Executive Headteacher

It is a privilege to be the Executive Headteacher and CEO of the Midsomer Norton Schools Partnership (MNSP). Our aim as a multi-academy trust is to ensure all children have the opportunity to attend a good or better school; we believe through close collaboration, our work towards this goal is more effective. Children, staff and all those associated with the schools in the MNSP benefit from a sense of shared responsibility for the welfare and progress of children. As a group of schools we are stronger and have already seen some outstanding improvement as a result of our work together. Children and staff have benefited from increased opportunities and I have no doubt that our partnership will continue to grow, optimising life-chances for all our children.

St Dunstan's School has a great future. I have been very impressed by the positive attitudes of the children and the sense of community at the school. Focussing on improving pupil outcomes in all year groups is a key priority and with work to achieve this well underway, I am confident that St Dunstan's will once again be the school of choice for those in the local area.

Headteacher's welcome . . .

St Dunstan's School is an extremely successful inclusive school with a strong reputation in the area. In the most recent Ofsted report (February 2024), inspectors praised the strong community ethos and relationships between staff and students based on clear expectations. Inspectors also celebrated our broad and ambitious curriculum, the prioritisation of reading and the support that is in place for all students to access the curriculum. We also continue to be very proud of the excellent progress our students make in their GCSE examinations. The school remains one of the highest performing schools in Somerset and is well regarded by parents and the community.



High expectations alongside a genuine care and regard for each individual sits at the heart of everything we do. Students reflect these expectations in their work, appearance, attitudes and behaviours. We are shaping the citizens of the future, and encourage our students to be honest, fair and understanding of one another and the world around them. We are ambitious for every child, encouraging students to maximise their academic potential, make a positive contribution to the community and leave prepared ready to make their mark on the world.

Our core values – Truth, Resilience, Ambition, Community and Kindness are woven through all aspects of school life. Students are taught to uphold these values and make a positive contribution to the community. Students are happy and enthusiastic; they show genuine pride in their work and constantly strive to be the best they can. Alongside our common values and identity, St Dunstan's School also celebrates diversity. The school's warm, friendly and welcoming culture is something that makes this place a special place to be.

I am incredibly proud to lead this school and community. As a parent myself, I am acutely aware of the importance of choosing the right school for your child. You want your child to be taught in a nurturing environment where they are challenged and valued. At St Dunstan's School, we firmly believe that every child deserves an inspiring education which prepares them to become the very best version of themselves and successful young individuals.

This is a school where every child matters and is supported to succeed.



St Dunstan's School is very successful in many diverse ways. I know our staff and students share my pride in St Dunstan's School. I am sure when you visit us you will see why so many parents in the area choose St Dunstan's School for their child. Please come and visit us to experience our positive learning environments and see our classrooms full of students motivated to learn and working hard to succeed.

I look forward to meeting you.

“ The school is a caring community. Teachers know pupils well and there is a positive atmosphere of mutual respect and tolerance. ”
Ofsted

Transition Timetable

September

Open Evening

Throughout the Year

Parental Tours (*please contact the school to book a tour*)

October

Deadline for applications to LA

March

Letter from LA offering places

May/June

School liaison team visit all students in their primary schools

July

Induction days & new parents' evening for Year 6

July

Year 5 taster day

September

New Year 7 intake start full time

Supporting Our Students

Student support is a particular strength of our school. We ensure that all students receive the care, guidance and support needed to fulfil their academic potential.

We are a fully inclusive school and look after all our students well. We understand that every child matters and their future is important to us. We work with primary schools, with parents, other agencies and with the students themselves to ensure that their individual needs are identified and then supported in the best way possible. Our student support centre delivers individual and small group intervention programmes using the expertise of our staff and external professionals to ensure every student is supported to do their very best. We promote learning in a structured, consistent and positive environment where the focus is on praising and rewarding students for what they have achieved. We encourage students to take responsibility in the school and support each other through a variety of student-centred initiatives: Restorative Justice, Peer Mentoring, Student Leaders and the School Council.

We have two pastoral leaders in place to further strengthen our pastoral team. We have a clear rewards structure that values achievement, attitude, attendance and participation which runs alongside a behaviour framework that focuses on respect and care for others in and out of the classroom.

“ Pupils are well informed and know how to make good choices. They are aware of whom to go to for help and support and feel confident that any concerns raised will be acted on. They say they feel safe. ”
External Advisor



“ We could not have asked for more dedication, inspiration and kindness. ”
Parent

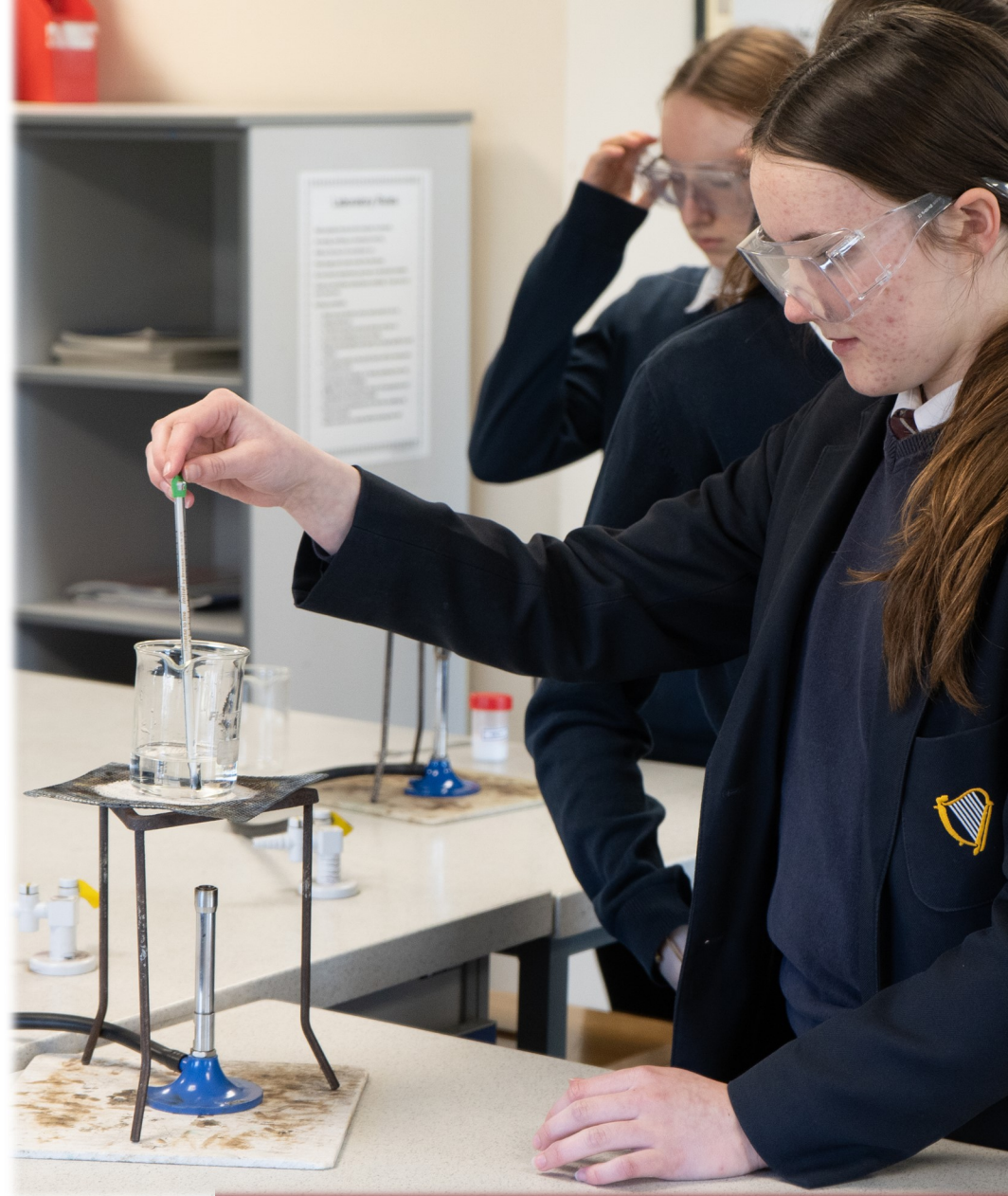
The Curriculum

Learning is at the centre of all we do at St Dunstan's School. Our curriculum is designed to support students in achieving the best that they possibly can in all areas of school life both academically and socially. We work hard to provide a firm foundation for their future, whatever their particular subject interests.

On joining our school every student experiences an ambitious, broad academic curriculum. Students are placed in class sizes which are, where appropriate, tailored to their ability. Our fervent belief is that all students can make excellent progress regardless of their prior attainment or any additional learning needs. We continually monitor the composition of our teaching groups and make adaptations where appropriate to ensure all students are suitably placed and suitably challenged.

An Accelerated Reading Scheme in Years 7, 8 and 9 encourages all students to read a wide range of books with confidence and understanding, developing the literacy skills they need to be successful in their learning. As students move into Key Stage Four they are given ample opportunity to choose a more personalised learning pathway that suits them. Alongside the core subjects, students select from a wide range of options which include GCSEs and vocational qualifications.

Master classes are also enjoyed by KS3 students. Here, students get the opportunity to experience a wide range of enrichment activities. This allows our students to broaden their horizons through cultural capital, increasing aspirations, and learning new skills and knowledge in preparation for an ever changing world.



Staff show diligence and care for the children, they are happy, behave well



“We value the Curriculum Enrichment Days and feel we gain a breadth of understanding about a range of issues from these.”

Student quote

Our Learning Culture

At St Dunstan's School traditional methods of teaching are combined with innovative and creative approaches to produce memorable learning experiences.

We work together to provide high quality learning experiences that develop the talents and skills of all students. We believe that students achieve their full potential if they enjoy their work and find it stimulating and challenging. Lessons are engaging and take place in an orderly and stimulating learning environment. Students at the school develop the skills to be lifelong learners. They are encouraged to work in teams and take account of the contributions of others; to work independently to develop their own ideas; to explore needs and opportunities; to reflect on what they are learning and how to apply this to different situations. The school community is a key component with teachers and students fostering strong, positive working relationships.

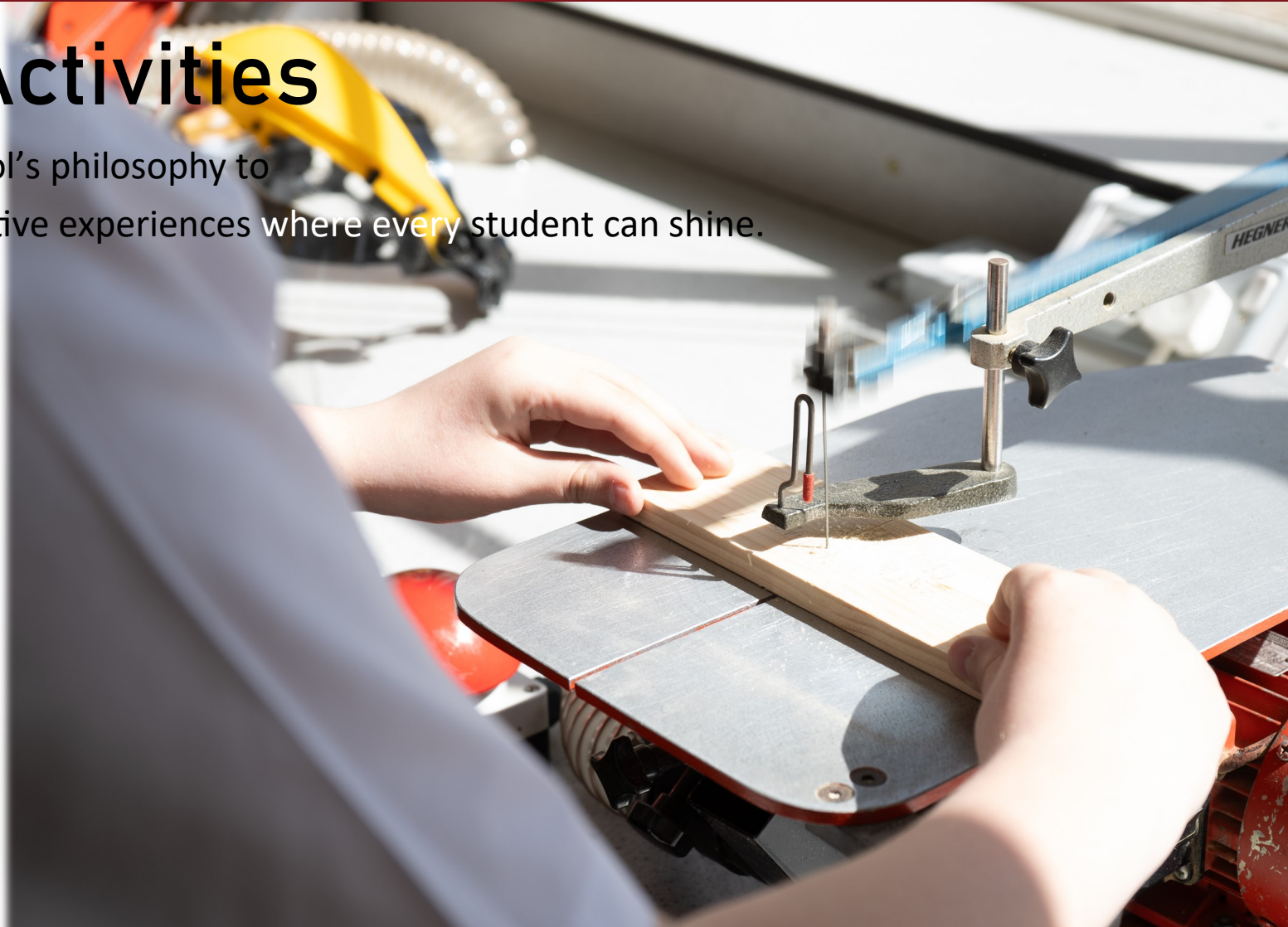
“Spiritual, moral, social and cultural development is good and well supported through community arts events.”
Ofsted

Enrichment Activities

It is a strong feature of the school's philosophy to provide a range of valuable creative experiences where every student can shine.

We provide a range of enrichment activities to enhance the learning opportunities available to our students both in and out of the classroom. These range from curriculum focussed trips and Curriculum Enrichment days to College and University visits which inspire students to seek the best opportunities for themselves. Our enrichment programme is supported by a broad range of external contributors including local employers, subject specialists and experts in a variety of fields including STEM.

In addition, we offer a multitude of opportunities for students to take part in extra-curricular clubs and events including professional drama productions; theatre trips; school bands; art workshops; participation in UK Maths and Engineering challenges; sports teams and student leadership training. We also have links with Millfield School which allow for an ever greater depth of experience. We believe that all students should participate as much as possible in school life, and in the local community, to add value to their learning experiences at St Dunstan's.



Positive Partnerships

There is clear evidence that students are more successful if parents/carers are actively involved in their education.

We keep parents/carers fully informed of their child's progress through our termly Progress Reports, Parents' Evenings, our Parents' Forums and through the Parent Portal. We monitor absence closely, and contact parents promptly if there are concerns.

We ask that parents/carers:

- ◆ Support and follow the school policies and procedures
- ◆ Demand high standards of attendance, behaviour, uniform and learning
- ◆ Maintain close contact with the school, particularly with information relating to students' well being
- ◆ Attend Parents' Evenings and other events such as our Parents' Forum to keep informed of what is happening

We place great emphasis on ensuring that transition from primary to secondary school happens as smoothly as possible. We have close links with all our local primary schools and all students are invited to Maths, Science, Languages, Arts and Sports enrichment activities at the school as well as taking part in our induction programme. Just as important is transition to further education. We have an excellent Careers Service, which works well with local businesses and Higher Education providers to ensure that every young person gets the best route for them when they leave at the end of Year 11.

“ Students recognise the needs of others well and this is reinforced by the systems which develop the meaningful involvement of students in the life of the school and wider community. ”

Year 11 Parent





The Autism Resource Centre (ARC) specialist resource base provides a personalised curriculum for a small number of pupils with autism. This is tailored to an individual's exact needs and ambitions.

Ofsted



The ARC

ARC (Autism Resource Centre) is a specialist resource base linked to St Dunstan's School. All of the students in the provision have an Education Health Care Plan (EHCP) and have a diagnosis of ASC (Autistic Spectrum Condition).

As of September 2023, the base is a new building within the grounds of St Dunstan's School.

Students at the base have blended learning opportunities with some lessons taught by specialist staff in the base as well as attending some mainstream lessons and other activities.



Contact Us

St Dunstan's School

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Glastonbury

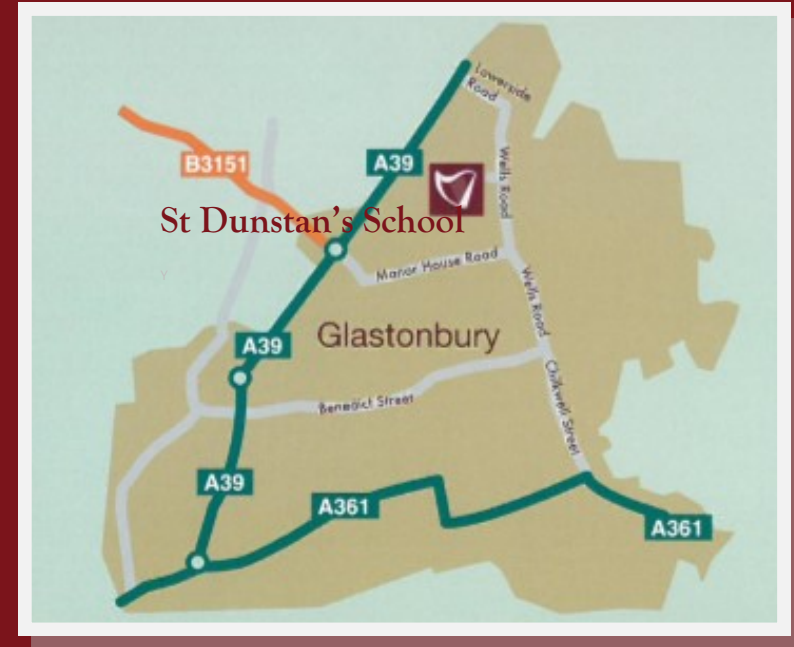
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Connect with us:



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