



# St Dunstan's School

GLASTONBURY



Inspiring Minds

Inspiring Futures





**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.

# Welcome . . .



**Mrs Lynda Bevan**  
Headteacher

Our vision at St Dunstan's is to provide a welcoming environment in which all students achieve their best outcomes, whilst making a positive contribution to an ever changing world. Here, all students experience an education designed to inspire them, provide a wealth of opportunities and secure a successful and rewarding future.

In order to fulfil our vision, we instil in all students the core values of:

- Truth - seeking, speaking and critically evaluating
- Resilience - rising to challenges, practising gratitude and staying positive
- Ambition - striving to do the best for ourselves, others and our planet
- Community - working, achieving and succeeding together
- Kindness - being self aware, respecting others and sharing hope

These values are woven through everything we do as a school and allow all of us to be better together. A key strength of our school is the sense of community and being better together. We focus on the whole person to ensure that students are prepared with the skills, morals and qualifications to allow them to progress to further education and to become valued members of the wider community. Students understand that being part of our community means wearing your uniform with pride and representing the school in a positive light; they know that resilience is a key factor in overcoming challenges and developing the courage to try even when things are tough. Ambition for our students is very important - we expect everyone to aim high and work hard so that they achieve the very best of which they are capable. Above all, we expect our students to be honest, kind and morally courageous. We are tireless in our commitment to these values and to ensuring that students live them with us.

As we move forward, we continue to raise standards and expectations to ensure that all students achieve more than they thought possible. As well as being rigorous and demanding, inspiring and challenging, I firmly believe that school should be a positive experience with teaching that fosters enthusiasm, enjoyment of learning and strong relationships within the school community and beyond.

We are looking forward to building on our successes and progress as part of the Midsomer Norton Schools Partnership. This group of schools work together as a Multi-Academy Trust (MAT) in Somerset and North East Somerset and all have thrived as a result of this collaborative, supportive partnership. St Dunstan's has gone from strength to strength since becoming part of the MAT and continues to do so. We are very proud of the excellent progress our students have made over many years in their GCSE examinations; regularly above that of other local secondary schools.

I am extremely proud to be the Headteacher of this jewel of a school. I am inspired by our staff and students every day - this is a very special place to teach and to learn. I look forward to sharing our success with you and I know that our staff and students share my pride in St Dunstan's School - when you visit us, you will understand why. I look forward to meeting you.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "L. M. Bevan".





“ 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 and offered the tools to learn and grown intellectually. What more can a parent want? Parent ”

“ 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.

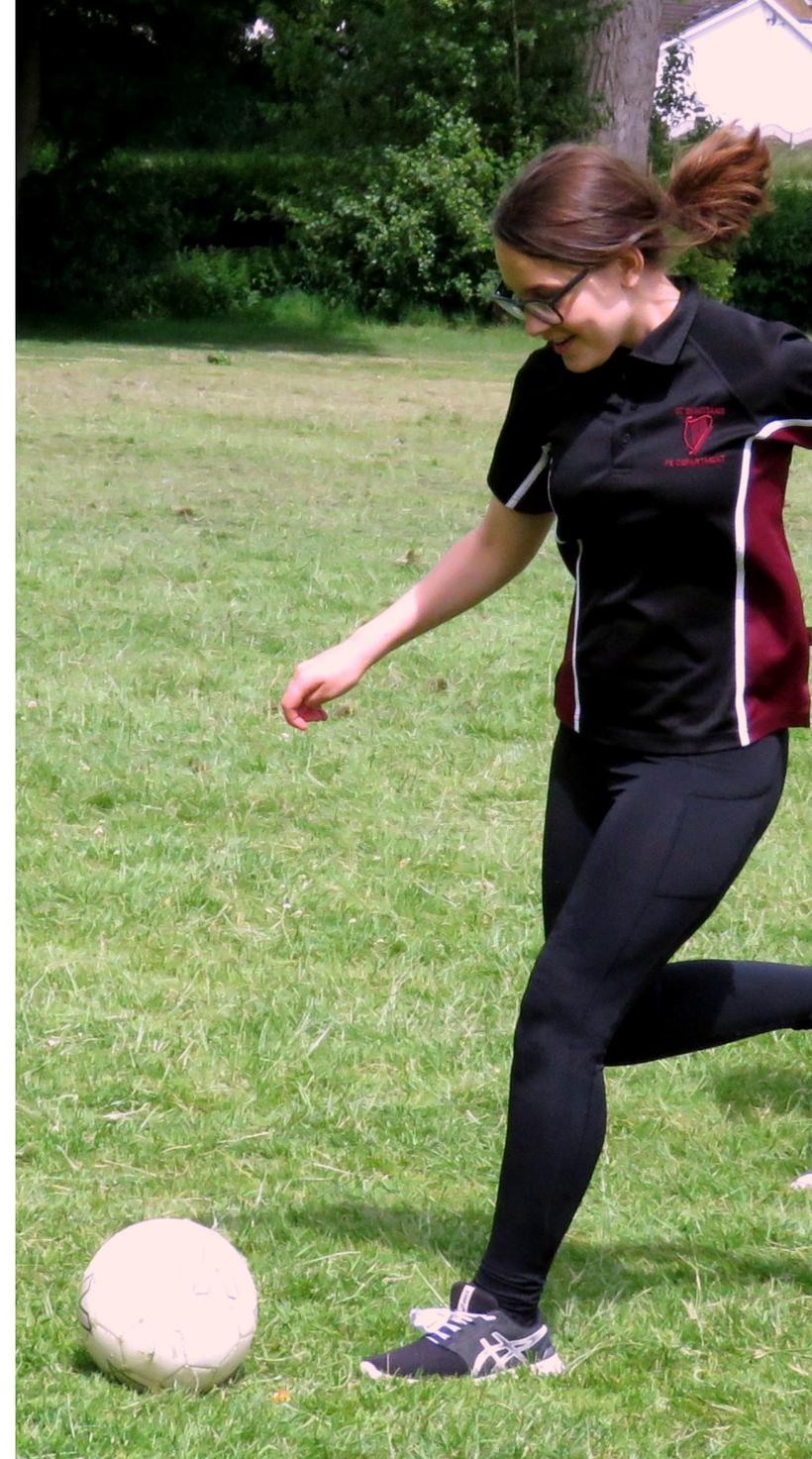
We ask that parents/carers:

- ◆ 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



# Contact Us

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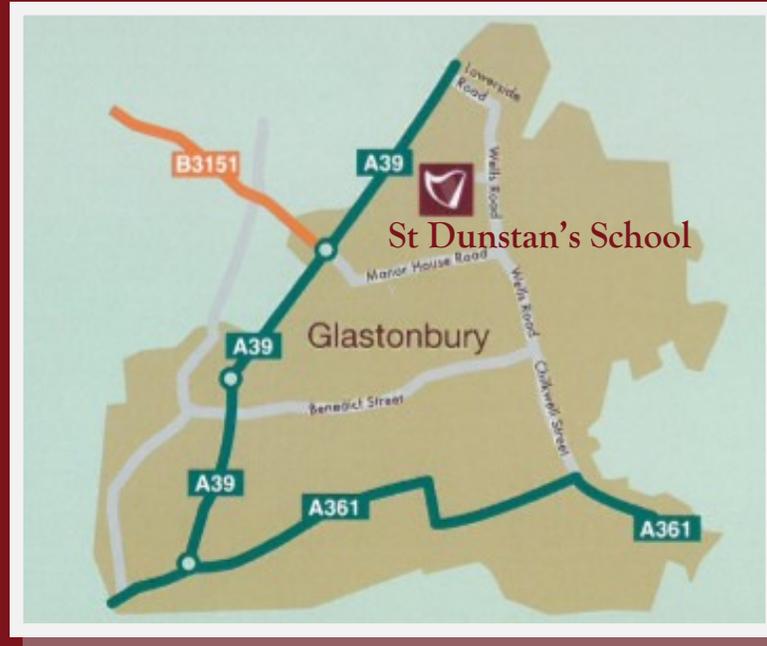
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