



# NAILSEA SCHOOL

*We focus on the whole child*



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## Our School

Nailsea School is a mixed secondary school and sixth form. Situated less than 10 miles from Bristol it enjoys the benefits of a small town whilst being on the doorstep of one of the UK's most prosperous, vibrant and creative cities. Nailsea School is a community that demonstrates a common purpose – to ensure the very best for each and every one of its students.

At Nailsea School all students are valued and each individual is encouraged to be the best version of themselves: to 'Aspire, Believe and Succeed'.

## The Whole Child

The change from childhood to adulthood can be challenging and we believe that confidence, happiness and strong communication skills form the foundations for success. Our pastoral team in school advise and nurture the whole child offering support with social skills, peer problems, anxiety, home or academic issues. Experts in safeguarding, counselling and mentoring work alongside our Heads of House and tutors to support students' well-being.

The House structure's vertical tutor groups integrates year groups and encourages peer to

peer learning. This leads to strong friendships, confident relations between groups and a comfortable family base from which students thrive. Feedback from a dynamic student voice program connecting the whole school, reveals students to be happy and flourishing.

We are proud of the behaviour of our students. Visitors often remark on the studious, calm atmosphere. Staff and students work together to ensure the effectiveness of rules and behaviour policies around school to create a fair and safe environment for all through a focus on effort as well as achievement.

## A Place for Everyone

Understanding that each child is different, Nailsea School has developed a range of inclusive ways to meet individual needs including a specialised learning centre within the school for students with specific educational needs and disabilities. The Hub is a place where children access a reduced mainstream timetable to improve literacy, numeracy and social skills. The low stress setting of The Hub, within the centre of the school, provides a nurturing environment

through Key Stage 3 and 4 and children using this area are encouraged to join in with mainstream life.

Teachers at Nailsea are skilled in adapting and responding to the learning needs of all students and there is also extra support in the form of dedicated Teaching and Learning Support Assistants within lessons for those who experience specific learning difficulties.



## Transition

Relationships between Nailsea School and our primary partners is a key part of enabling students to make the next step between primary and secondary school. Primary schools regularly visit and take part in Nailsea School life – it helps younger children build confidence and puts us at the heart of the community as well as providing opportunities for staff to share good practice.

Primary children take part in workshops, activities and aspire days and have the opportunity to attend a range of events across the school calendar. By the time they join us in Year 7, students are familiar and comfortable with their surroundings, relaxed and able to concentrate on their new learning journey.

Our pastoral team work closely with parents of children moving to Nailsea School midway through a year to enable them to settle as quickly as possible.

## Partnerships

We believe for Nailsea School students to be the most aspirational and to be prepared for life in modern Britain, they need to see and be part of the wider world. We have developed strong partnerships with businesses who are actively involved in school-life, giving demonstrations, workshops and talks. These range from large multi-national corporations such as GE and Airbus, to nationally renowned charities such as Bristol Old Vic Theatre who are happy to support the varied future aspirations of our students.

As a part of the North Somerset Teaching Alliance, Nailsea School has developed excellent links with local secondary and primary schools along with Higher Education establishments. Our staff are continually encouraged to share and learn about 'best practice' within their field.

Students and staff are actively encouraged to take part in community events, and the school hosts charity days and takes part in a number of community activities.

## Curriculum and Extra-Curricular

The school offers a broad curriculum with the aim of providing a wide range of subjects and qualifications suited to the needs and requirements of all its pupils. In addition to the curriculum, we host a number of enrichment opportunities including trips, after school clubs and visits. Through our partner organisation 'The Link', students and the wider

community are also able to benefit from a range of additional activities, including sports, cooking, languages and drama. There are a number of after school and lunchtime clubs available and Nailsea School is one of the few schools whose pupils have achieved the Duke of Edinburgh Gold level Award.

*We encourage our students to think differently*





## 6th Form

Nailsea School Sixth Form is a vibrant learning community with a diverse range of educational opportunities targeting different levels of learning. Leaving school is a big step for many students and at Nailsea School we provide the right balance between school and college life. Students learn to work independently and are encouraged to think widely about their future aspirations.

Our self-contained sixth form area is designed to support the independent learning of our older year groups. Group and individual study areas are used daily by students to explore their subjects and develop their learning. A sixth form committee organises a program of

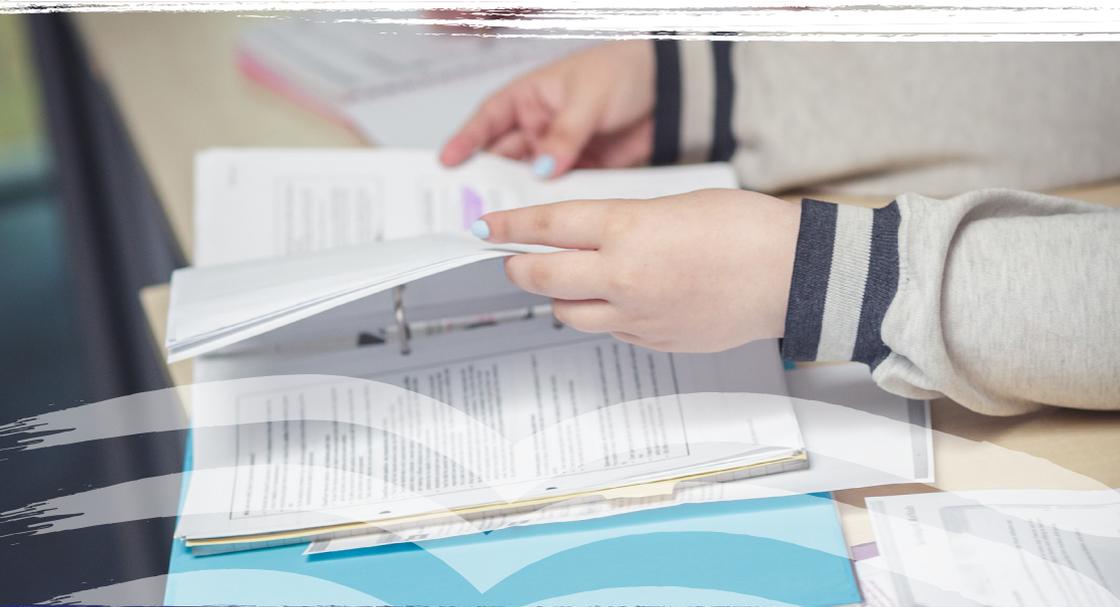
social events, fundraising activities, musical performances and sporting fixtures. Sixth form students are actively involved in mentoring younger students and leading student voice throughout the school. Opportunity for frequent career planning trips and events are backed up with activities to cultivate confidence, interview techniques and prepare students for life beyond school. We are extremely proud of our students who every year go on to excel in securing places at top universities including Oxford and Cambridge; taking up prestigious apprenticeships; fulfilling ambitions and securing work in a range of sectors from medicine to hospitality to business.



## Our Facilities

Nailsea School was re-built in 2009 and the space speaks for itself. Designed with students in mind, its free flowing structure makes navigation easy and there is a sense of calm learning throughout the school. As well as benefitting from excellent sporting facilities, including an all-weather pitch, fantastic creative arts facilities including music, TV and art studios, and technology throughout the school, Nailsea School has excellent ecological credentials. Students can

visit the DEN area – (Developing Engagement with Nature) where forest school principles are taught. Green technology has been developed throughout the school. Our main heating source is through a biomass boiler, we have sensory lighting and use solar panels to heat our water and provide electricity for external lighting. Even the toilets use recycled greywater. Our carbon footprint is improving year on year and we recycle throughout the school.



*You can't climb the ladder of success with your hands in your pockets*



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