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# A very warm welcome to Plymouth College

**Plymouth College** has been at the forefront of independent education in the South West of England since Victorian times and, whilst quietly conscious of its past and traditions, it remains forward-looking and dynamic. Today the focus is resolutely on preparing young people for the demands and expectations of the twenty-first century and for living in a world which is rapidly changing.

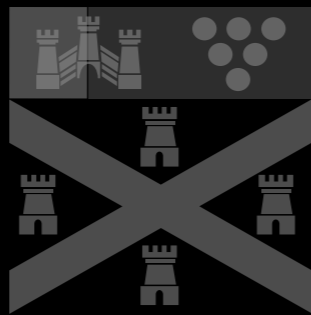
At the centre of all we do here is the individual young person. We aim to help every pupil to be happy, confident and ambitious and to value and contribute to the strong sense of community which exists here.

Small class sizes, good discipline and high-quality teaching provide a sound base for learning and personal growth. Our academic results are consistently good and we are proud of our record in this direction but we also recognise that today's education has to offer more than just paper qualifications. We are committed to the development of multiple intelligences, including sporting, aesthetic and emotional, and we seek to value and reward success across a very broad range of activities

and enthusiasms. We feel strongly that those who can balance personal ambition with a concern for others and hard work with a sense of fun will not only get more out of their time at school but more out of life generally.

The pages of this prospectus offer no more than a glimpse of what goes on here and of the values by which we stand but I hope they will encourage you to visit us to judge at first hand whether your son or daughter would be likely to thrive and flourish at Plymouth College and enjoy the many opportunities for development and success which this school provides.

I very much look forward to meeting you.



*Simon Wormleighton*

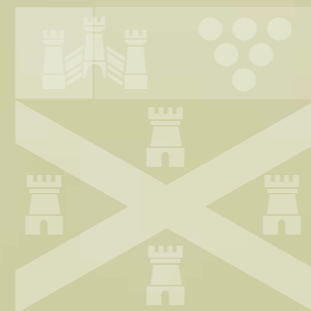
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# vision

**Plymouth College** seeks to produce happy, knowledgeable and caring young adults who gain confidence in learning and who strive to reach their full potential.

We aim to provide a diverse and enriching education that promotes self-discipline, motivation and excellence, in addition to consideration for others. This is underpinned by a belief in the importance of respecting ourselves and one another, appreciating individual differences and encouraging each other.

Above all, we wish to see our pupils become independent and self-sufficient citizens who will succeed and contribute responsibly as members of a global community.



# Location

Plymouth College is a co-educational school for pupils aged 11 to 18 years. It is based in the bustling maritime city of Plymouth with the magnificent moorland, countryside and coastal landscapes of Devon and Cornwall close to hand. With extensive grounds at Ford Park, we also have an Outdoor Pursuits Centre on Dartmoor.

Founded in 1877, Plymouth College is a vibrant and busy school with a successful history.



We believe that a good school should provide the time and space to make friends and be happy – and to that end the happiness and well-being of our pupils is of paramount importance to us.

Plymouth College is a place where friendships and teamwork are encouraged and helped to develop by a staff that is dedicated, compassionate and understanding of the needs of young people.

In all areas of school life we aim to provide a supportive, nurturing environment where fun is balanced with good discipline, and self-expression balanced with personal responsibility – a formula that helps us to develop well-rounded, successful adults.



# happiness

# learning

Our academic record is excellent. However, we feel that one of our primary goals is to instil in pupils a life-long love of learning, so that each individual is well equipped not just for public examinations but also for the challenges and opportunities of adult life.

Our teaching is based on the national curriculum and delivered by a dedicated and talented staff able to infuse their subjects with passion and excitement, and to go beyond book-based learning to a broader definition of education where natural curiosity is encouraged and hard work and ambition rewarded.

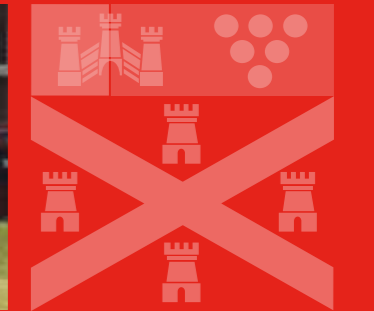




**A broad range of opportunities**, both inside and outside the classroom, enables us to create an atmosphere where pupils can channel their enthusiasm, build on their existing talents and rise to new challenges in a creative and stimulating way.

We are fortunate to have passionate and enthusiastic staff who enhance academic study with a broad range of extra-curricular activities including individual and team sports (rugby, hockey, netball, cricket, swimming, badminton, basketball, squash, canoeing, tennis, running, golf and more), a full range of opportunities in music, and an extensive choice of lunch-time and after-school clubs.

We also offer opportunities for overseas trips. In recent years our pupils have travelled to exciting destinations such as Barbados, South Africa, Grenada, Honduras, Morocco, France and Italy to name but a few. We are also proud of our Gambia aid project – each year a group of pupils visits The Gambia to undertake various building projects, as well as supporting this effort with fund-raising activities throughout the year.



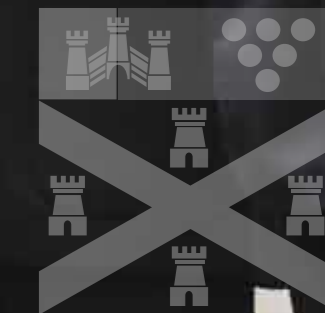
# o p p o r t u n i t y

# community

Everyone works together to build a community where pupils and staff co-operate for the benefit of all. Plymouth College is a school where everyone is valued and where kindness, caring and respect for one another are integral to daily life.

Well-developed pastoral care and a long-established house system create a solid foundation for the school community and strong staff-pupil relationships formed in extra-curricular activities and in the tutor system add to the social cohesion of the school.

While we have strong ties to the local community with many day pupils coming from Plymouth and the surrounding area, Plymouth College has an extraordinary cultural diversity with young people joining us from all over the world.



# confidence

At Plymouth College everyone is expected to participate in and make a significant contribution to the life of the school. We encourage a mature and sensible attitude in our pupils by providing opportunities to be responsible for their education and each other from an early age.

Leadership, independent thinking and self-sufficiency are promoted through positions of responsibility within the school, public speaking and through participation in extra-curricular activities.

We want every pupil that leaves us to have gained a deep sense of self-confidence and the emotional and intellectual tools to fulfil their ambitions in life. While these are developed through the shared values of the school, we also provide practical support with extensive careers advice and preparation for both higher education and the working world.





# success

Success means different things to different people and every pupil is encouraged to be successful in his or her own way.

For us success starts with providing an atmosphere where the emotional needs of every pupil are met and where everyone is given a wide range of opportunities to develop existing talents or discover new ones.

At Plymouth College we find a way to reward all children whether in academic performance, sporting triumph, artistic and musical accomplishment or in any of the activities that we provide.

However, we think our greatest success lies in our ability to help produce balanced, rounded individuals who are well equipped to deal with the wider world.

