

<Welcome page>

Welcome

Our aim is for every child to achieve, participate and belong, and this is at the heart of everything we do at The Castle School.

Rated as 'outstanding' by Ofsted, we remain one of the top performing schools in Somerset for academic achievements. But equally important is nurturing every student's potential outside of the curriculum.

Whatever your child's ability, our teachers go the extra mile to help them find their strengths and talents. In addition, our popular house system fosters a sense of belonging, which eases the transition from primary to secondary school, and gives every student an opportunity to develop personal and leadership responsibilities.

As a renowned Sports College, we have exceptional facilities that help many students compete at regional and national level. But we've equally impressive and vibrant activity in music, IT, drama and the arts.

As well as reading this brochure, please come in to see us. We run regular open mornings, when students can show you around the campus and answer your questions.

We look forward to seeing you.

<signature>
Headteacher

<Our approach excerpt>

Our approach

Achieve, belong and participate

Aims and ethos

Our aims are simple. We want every child at Castle School to achieve their true potential, participate fully in school life and enjoy a strong sense of belonging. We achieve this by delivering high quality teaching and learning, a broad and balanced curriculum, and a safe and structured environment where all students can thrive.

We also encourage personal development and improvement by promoting values that celebrate:

- Leadership, motivation and commitment
- Integrity, loyalty and teamwork
- Trust and respect for each individual
- Self-discipline and personal responsibility

These are values that enable students to leave school able and motivated to make the best possible contribution to society.

Sample from The Castle School prospectus

Audience: Prospective pupils and parents

Working together

We actively involve students, parents, carers and members from the local community in the daily life of the school, cultivating a vibrant hub of activity that resonates beyond the school gates.

Parental involvement

In Year 7, we introduce you to your child's form teacher and the head of house who will oversee your child's progress. From there, you have opportunities to meet regularly with staff at parents' evenings and evening study groups.

You'll receive termly reports and access to online information that tracks your child's progress. But if you have any concerns, you're welcome to arrange a private meeting with relevant staff.

Parents, students and staff enter into a home-school agreement, which outlines everyone's responsibility in supporting the aims and values of the school.

Our house system

On joining The Castle School, students are allocated to one of six 'houses' - Balmoral, Lancaster, Caernarvon, Buckingham, Windsor and Sandringham, and they'll spend part of each school day with their house tutor group.

This system not only creates a culture of support and belonging among house members of all ages, it provides valuable pastoral support. House tutors will normally oversee your child for the full five years, providing vital knowledge of their personal development.

Local community links

Our school is at the heart of life in Taunton, and we encourage students to make a positive contribution to the community here, such as raising money for local charities and participating in local exhibitions, performances and sports clubs.

To enrich our students learning, we've created strong links with leaders in local business, industry, public service and the arts. We regularly invite speakers, lecturers and performers to the school, and valuable work experience is available for students.

<Personal development excerpt>

Personal development

While qualifications are vitally important, we also want to equip our students with the knowledge, skills and attributes required to succeed in life.

We do this by motivating students to participate in the running of the school, informing them of choices for careers and further education, and encouraging learning and discussion on ethics, health and sexual relationships.

<end of sample>