



Our School



Exmouth
Community
College



Welcome

At the heart of our school are the remarkable students who make ECC such a special place to learn and grow. Their enthusiasm, warmth and kindness shape our culture and create an environment where everyone feels valued and supported. It is this strong sense of belonging that defines our community and ensures that students can flourish both academically and personally.

I understand that joining a new school, whether at the start of Year 7 or later, can bring a mix of emotions. Above all, we hope you feel a genuine sense of excitement about the opportunities ahead, the achievements to come and the friendships that will be formed as part of a supportive and inclusive community. That sense of community is at the centre of everything we do. By working closely together, staff, families, governors and students, we continue to build a school that prepares young people for their future. Our membership of the Ted Wragg Trust has strengthened this further, providing valuable collaboration and support that enhances the opportunities we can offer our students.

We are fortunate to offer outstanding facilities that enrich learning and broaden opportunity. This includes a state-of-the-art theatre, modern library, well equipped science laboratories, technology workshops and IT suites, alongside extensive green spaces and continually improving teaching areas. These resources support a broad and ambitious curriculum, ensuring that students are well-prepared for their next steps beyond ECC.

At ECC, we believe education goes far beyond examinations. While we are proud of our academic success, we are equally committed to developing character, resilience and independence.

Entrusting your child's education to us is a significant decision, and one that we take seriously. We work in close partnership with families, maintaining open communication and shared support to ensure every student thrives during what is both an exciting and formative stage of life.

Although we are a large school, we strive to ensure every student is known and valued as an individual. Our experienced staff take great care to provide the right balance of challenge and support, enabling each young person to succeed. In many ways, this gives ECC the feel of a smaller school, one built on strong relationships and genuine care.

We look to the future with great optimism. Our students continue to inspire us with their resilience, determination and hope, and it is a privilege to support them on their journey. ECC is a school with a big heart and a clear sense of purpose, and we very much look forward to welcoming you to our community and working together in the years ahead.

Tom Inman,
Headteacher



Our Vision

is to enable our students to flourish through our core values of Belonging, Ambition and Responsibility.

This means putting an emphasis on experiences beyond the classroom as well as in, and focusing on broader educational goals.

Through the educational experiences we can provide both within and beyond the classroom, we will do everything possible to ensure that our students become ambitious and responsible citizens; treating others with respect and are aware of the contribution that they can make to building a safe, caring and respectful society. By expanding their horizons, and ensuring a strong sense of belonging, we will endeavour to help students build their emotional intelligence as well as developing an awareness and sense of responsibility in and of the world around them, so they are ready to play their part in a global community.

Our school offers young people an exceptionally wide range of artistic, sporting and cultural experiences which will engage and inspire them to face new challenges. Students may hike across Dartmoor; face challenges to achieve the Duke of Edinburgh award; perform in concerts and shows or perhaps present a talk to an unfamiliar audience. These and other challenges develop skills which enable students to achieve things they might never have thought possible.



Belonging

- All students feeling like they are known and valued in a school that they feel proud of.
- All students feeling safe, accepted and included, within a community that develops their self-confidence and self-worth.
- Diversity, in all its forms, being respected and embraced.
- All students being active participants, not just passengers, in their school experience.
- Everyone in our community (students, staff and families) having a voice and feel like they are part of our 'one team', pulling in the same direction.





Ambition

- Students being prepared, curious and ready to engage in their school experience.
- Students being aspirational, having high expectations of themselves and for others.
- Students developing the perseverance to reach their potential and achieve long-term goals.
- Students developing broad horizons and putting themselves in a position to make informed decisions about their next steps.
- Students developing the character to face the challenges that life will throw at them.
- Students being well equipped to lead their own lives and to lead others.

Responsibility

- All students showing kindness and respect to each other, school staff and the wider community.
- Students developing strong morals and acting with integrity.
- Students understanding their duty to others by making a contribution to their local, national and global communities.
- Students playing their part in protecting our school and the wider environment.
- Students adopting greater independence as they step towards adult life.

Our Keystones to deliver our vision:

Our Curriculum

We believe that a successful preparation for future life involves the development of a broad range of academic and wider knowledge, skills and competencies through a 'holistic' curriculum including high quality learning and experiences both in and out of the classroom:

- An ambitious and engaging taught curriculum delivered through lessons by specialist subject teams.
- A broad and exciting wider curriculum delivered beyond taught lessons, including enrichment, 'co-curricular' experiences and other opportunities (e.g. student leadership).

Our Support

We strive to enable our students to make the most of their curriculum experience by:

- Supporting all students through our universal pastoral care provision, emphasising the nurturing role of the tutor.
- Providing additional support for those that need it (the principle of equity) and especially:
 - Those with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND).
 - Those who face economic disadvantage.
 - Other vulnerable students who face particular barriers to learning and succeeding at school.

Our Culture

Our students will thrive in a community with a strong positive culture, underpinned by high expectations and reinforced by:

- Adopting a relational approach by staff towards all students, nurturing strong relationships.
- Celebrating the students' achievements and positive contributions that they make to their community.
- Establishing approaches and systems that are caring (but not soft), certain (but not severe) and consistent (but not rigid).

Our Staff

We empower staff to deliver positive experiences for students through:

- Building and maintaining a healthy organisational culture.
- Offering high quality professional development and support.
- Working closely with educational partners beyond ECC.

Our Community

We seek and welcome the engagement of our community by:

- Working alongside parents and carers who, in turn, give the school their full support.
- Working in partnership with the wider community for the benefit of our students.





Enrichment

School life should be about far more than what happens in the classroom. A rich and varied range of experiences, both within and beyond lessons, helps our young people develop the knowledge, skills and character they need to embrace the opportunities and challenges of the future.

Our comprehensive enrichment programme offers a wide variety of activities designed to enhance students' academic, personal and social development throughout their time at school. From breaktime and lunchtime clubs to after-school activities, educational visits and memorable experiences both locally and further afield, including a range of overseas visits each year, there is something for everyone.

These experiences inspire curiosity, foster new friendships, build confidence and resilience, and help students discover new interests and talents. Through enrichment, we aim to develop well-rounded young people who are equipped to thrive both in school and beyond.





*Moving from Primary to Secondary —
a new challenge but with many opportunities.*

Transition

Moving from Primary to Secondary can appear to be quite daunting, however, at the school we have an excellent transition programme which is built upon the excellent working relationships we enjoy with our partner Primary schools.

This means that we can work closely with Primary colleagues, as well as parents and carers, to get a good understanding of your child, sometimes before we even meet them, to ensure they maintain positive friendship groups and are in a tutor group where they will feel the sense of Belonging, Ambition and Responsibility. Most students will have visited the school many times for various events, such as author visits or extra maths classes, so will become increasingly familiar with the school during Years 5 and 6. If you feel your child may require more visits, for whatever reason, then we are more than happy to arrange these for you. In July, at the culmination of this transition work, we hold a Year 6 Welcome Evening which provides an opportunity for students to become acquainted with the campus as well as experiencing a variety of lessons and meeting their tutor. In addition, on this evening, there is an opportunity to meet the Head Teacher and senior staff who will answer any questions you might have. All of this work means students take this transition in their stride and come to school in September really looking forward to all the new subjects and opportunities that our school can offer.





Curriculum

The curriculum offer of any school really matters and we are delighted that because of our size we can offer a very broad curriculum, with a wide range of subjects, at various levels, designed to meet the needs of individuals.

Our Key Stage 3 work builds on the learning provided by our partner Primary schools. This involves staff from our Primary schools meeting with our staff to look at marking and standards across the key stage. This ensures students continue to progress from the point at which they left Primary school once they join the school. We offer a very broad curriculum across Years 7, 8 and 9 that seeks to develop foundational knowledge and skills required to be successful in their GCSE exams, but also develops their talents and interests.

On top of this we also offer additional curriculum enrichment, such as Latin, as well as a 'Bridging Curriculum' for those who would benefit from additional literacy support. We run a reading programme as part of tutor time, and open the Library in breaks and after school for students to complete their homework. We have a very experienced Learning Support Team who provide additional support for students both in and out of class.

All Key Stage 3 students have the opportunity to take part in Activity Week, which offers a wide variety of activities to broaden students' horizons, opportunities and experiences.

In Key Stage 4 we offer over 20 option subjects, including Business Studies, Textiles, Health and Social Care and Dance (and many more). In addition we offer differentiated pathways within specific subjects. For instance, we offer both BTEC PE and GCSE PE which can again be matched to your child's individual strengths. We ensure that our Key Stage 4 curriculum also combines seamlessly with our Sixth Form offer. Therefore many of the courses offered at Key Stage 4 flow into Sixth Form with minimal disruption as well as additional new courses offered at Sixth Form such as Psychology, Criminology, Children's Play Learning and Development, and Sociology.

Those going on to competitive destinations can benefit from our Exmouth Scholars programme, which encourages academic ambition and performance beyond the classroom. These include, for example, visits to Oxford University as well as a programme of visiting speakers and experiences.

Our curriculum ensures that students are aware of social, moral, spiritual and cultural issues in addition to a good understanding of British values. This is taught through our bespoke PSHE programme.





The arts are highly valued at the school and we believe the provision, opportunities and standard of work produced by students is amongst the best of any school.

The Arts

Students are given the opportunity to study Dance, Drama, Art, Music and, in Sixth Form, Photography. In terms of Music, the school has its own jazz orchestra, senior and junior band, folk group, 'Shout' transition choir, Sing choir and Showstoppers Musical Theatre group. In addition, there are various house bands and guitar groups that students can also take part in. We hold several concerts every year at a range of venues both on and off site, in the local community.

Dance is thriving at the school and the standard of their work is exceptionally high as seen in The Blend dance productions which showcases both GCSE and A Level Dance pieces which are often choreographed by the students themselves.

Drama is massively popular at the school with large numbers of students choosing it as an option after having a great experience in Key Stage 3. Again, the department prides itself on excellence and holds a range of shows each year from large scale musicals through to more bespoke technical pieces to really challenge our most gifted performers.

Finally, Art and Photography continue to thrive at the school and enjoy huge popularity within the student body. Exhibitions of the incredible work students produce are held in various locations and come together to form our Summer Art, Textiles and Photography Exhibition which is a highlight of the year and a great showcase for the talent of our students across a wide range of media.



As with everything we do in the school we are really proud of our sporting prowess — from helping to develop elite athletes through to encouraging all students to enjoy a healthy lifestyle.

Sport

Sport plays a huge part in the life of our school. Not only do we have amazing facilities which includes two floodlit Astros, fitness suite, sports hall, tennis courts and gyms, we also have a great team of staff who are absolutely committed to making sure that every student has access to sporting experiences which match their abilities. We provide a huge range of opportunities which includes all the traditional team sports such as football, hockey and rugby in addition to our focus on other sports such as badminton, cricket, athletics and trampolining. We are very proud of our record in these events with teams regularly reaching finals and winning championships. We also have a large number of top athletes within the school who compete in a wide range of sports from Boxing to BMX to Kite Surfing.



Our Sixth Form is a thriving, successful and important element of the educational opportunities we provide at the School.

Sixth Form

Our Sixth Form provision is continually rated on their results as one of the highest performing Sixth Form providers across our region. This success is based on the fact that while Sixth Form is big enough to provide a very wide range of courses including Photography, Dance, Sociology, Criminology and Psychology, it is also small enough to mean that students really get to know each other, and their teachers really well. This makes for a fantastic ethos within our Sixth Form centre, which is separate from the main School, as well as allowing us to pick up any problems as they arise so that we can put appropriate pastoral support or academic intervention in place.

In Sixth Form students are very much treated as individuals and given far more responsibility for their own learning but within a very supportive environment. The school offers courses at both level 2 and level 3 including a range of A levels, BTECs and more vocational courses. We also offer work experience alongside some courses as well as the Extended Project Qualification.

Our students are exceptionally successful with many going to top establishments such as Oxbridge and other Russell Group universities. Students also go on to study Foundation degrees and Apprenticeships at other educational destinations.



Be ready to learn

Be Prepared

- Arrive at lessons on time
- Sit where you are asked
- Sit down straight away with the necessary equipment out ready to use
- Wear your uniform correctly

Be Respectful

- Don't speak when the teacher is talking
- Keep off task conversations for social times
- Allow others to learn, do not disrupt or distract
- Treat everyone and everything in the school with respect

Be Engaged

- Stay in your seat
- Phones and headphones should be out of sight and switched off at all times
- Try as hard as you can

Be Kind

- Listen when others are talking
- Treat others how you would like to be treated
- Help and support others

*Further detailed, and statutory information is available from our website:
www.exmouthcollege.devon.sch.uk*



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