Ivybridge Community College



Rachel Hutchinson **Principal**

Ivybridge Community College is a high performing and popular Community College of over 2000 students on roll, including 626 Tertiary students. The College opened in 1958 as a small Secondary Modern School of 400 students and has benefited over the years from an extensive programme of new buildings. In the Autumn Term of 2010, the College was amongst the first wave of early converters to Academy Status.

The College is in a rural location on the southern edge of Dartmoor National Park, in an area of outstanding natural beauty and draws its students from thirteen partner primary schools, covering an area of more than 120 square miles. Approximately 50% of the children come from lyybridge, which largely consists of owner-occupier housing developments built over the past twenty-five years and the remainder come from smaller villages and communities in an area that stretches from the coast to the moor.

Our success is reflected in our track record of endorsements from outside agencies. These have taken place over a number of years, such as the Charter Mark for Excellence, Arts Mark Gold, Sportsmark Gold, Investors in People, Investors in Careers, Silver Travelwise Award, Healthy Schools Award, ICT Mark Award, as well as special recognition by the Ofsted Inspectorate as one of the Best Schools in Britain and recognised as High Performing by the DfE. In addition we were designated a DfE High Performing School with Gifted and Talented status.

In 1997 the College was awarded its first specialism status as a Sports College. This was further followed by specialisms in Mathematics with Science, Modern Foreign Languages, Training School and as a Leading Edge School.

We are extremely proud that the College has maintained its Outstanding status for nearly twenty years across all areas and this has resulted in receiving a number of accolades. This includes, in January 2005 being named in Ofsted's Honours List of the most outstanding schools in England and whilst in October 2013 the College achieved its fifth consecutive 'Outstanding' Ofsted report, in 2011 the English Department gained an 'Outstanding' Ofsted subject report.

Therefore we are committed to providing an excellent education for ages 11-18. Inherent in everything we do is a culture of high expectations and aspirations. Students are encouraged to develop a love of learning, to think for themselves and to maximise their full potential.

Consequently, we actively appoint teachers with a strong sense of moral purpose and desire to help all students. We firmly believe that education can make a difference to the life chances of all young people.

Our strengths in Staff Development and Initial Teacher Training led us to becoming in September 2011, one of the first 100 Teaching Schools in the country, highlighting the value we place on the importance of Continuous Professional Development and a coherent programme from NQT to NPOH is available. In addition, our regular Teaching and Learning Forum meetings ensure that our staff remain up to date with regard to current educational thinking, as well as opportunities to take part in twilight training sessions, by national presenters, such as Phil Beadle, Author of 'How to Teach', Jim Smith, Author of 'The Lazy Teacher's Guide', Sue Cowley, 'How to Get the Buggers to Behave', Caroline Bentley-Davies Author of 'How to be an Amazing Teacher', Jackie Beere, 'The Perfect Ofsted Lesson' and most recently Sir John Jones 'The Magic Weaving Business'. Also, all of our Teachers undertake small research projects to continue to develop their teaching skills.

We are proud to have over 200 hours of extra-curricular activities. In addition, the "Lively Ivy" holiday programme offers a wide range of opportunities for both primary and secondary children, including theatre and creative arts workshops, as well as a comprehensive selection of sporting activities.

For further information please refer to the College's website: www.ivybridge.devon.sch.uk

Opportunity • Endeavour • Excellence • Achievement at Ivybridge