

## Introduction to Kingstone Academy Trust (KAT) and Kingstone High School

### **The Academy**

Kingstone Academy Trust comprises Kingstone High School and Kingstone and Thrupton Primary School, both rated Ofsted 'good' and both situated on the same site in the village of Kingstone.

Kingstone village is fast growing and located seven miles south of the up and coming cathedral city of Hereford. Hereford itself has just welcomed a brand new university, NMITE. The city and surrounding area offer a wonderful quality of life and many exciting places to visit. Herefordshire is increasingly being seen as a centre for tourism and its food scene. The village is within easy reach of the popular Hay-on-Wye and Ross-on-Wye as well as the Brecon Beacons and the Wye Valley.

Originally serving the local village, the two schools now take in pupils from a wide geographical area, with a good many now travelling from the South Wye area of Hereford. Preferred parental choice had meant that the schools were already growing quickly, but an increasing amount of housing developments earmarked for the area have also seen the High School allocated funding for its predicted future growth. Significant investment has gone into the schools recently, with plans for further improvements.

The two schools have been in a multi-academy arrangement since 2012, with the Board having oversight through the Executive Headteacher for both schools. The Board of Trustees is proud of their vibrant and dynamic schools, and contributes time and expertise both collectively and individually, to further enhance the high quality education provided by the schools.

The Academy has one senior leadership team across both schools of eight members, led by the Executive Headteacher, comprising the Head of Primary, a Head of Secondary, three Assistant Heads, Deputy Head of Primary and the Business Manager.

Both schools are Ofsted rated 'good', yet are ambitious for their pupils and students, and a culture of continuous improvement is evident. There is no sense of complacency, with leaders being keen to ensure that the educational experience for children and young people is the most effective for their individual goals and ambitions, and for staff professional achievement.

The schools are co-located on the same very extensive site, allowing opportunities for joint working and shared resources and facilities, and the use of many acres of outside learning, sports and leisure spaces.



### **Kingstone High School**

The school aims to prepare all its students with the qualifications, confidence and social skills that will allow them to access the career path of their choice; to be happy while they study and to enable students to become the best versions of themselves that they can be. In January 2019, the latest inspection report was published, affirming the school's 'good' grade.

The school is a genuine community of students, parents and teachers, working together to achieve a very special and positive experience for all involved. There is ambition for the students and a deep desire for them to be successful in all that they do throughout their lives.

The school offers good facilities, from the main school building that was built in the 1960s, to later additions that have been placed on the site to meet the expanding needs of the students. There are purpose-built Science, Arts and DT blocks. Classrooms are large and light and spacious and are well equipped with interactive whiteboards, linked to high quality learning resources. There are fully furnished computer suites, allowing all students to gain regular computer access. The HUB, the

school's Intervention Centre, is the base for the school's Pastoral team. It comprises of a large learning space, adjoining kitchen area, computer areas and several individual meeting rooms, an area that is widely used by students and staff. Students use this area for individual or small group mentoring, as well as counselling.

The Performance Hall has tiered seating and has staged many high quality school productions. The Art and Music block has an extensive range of facilities including a Music room, and four practice rooms. There are two large art rooms – a general purpose art room with a printing press and another with the kiln and pottery equipment. There are storage areas for resources. Both Art rooms have interactive whiteboards and printers. The rooms are close together and have a small ICT suite attached.



The Sports Hall offers a high quality and spacious venue suitable for all sporting needs. With four Basketball courts, it is also marked out for Badminton, Netball, Tennis and Five-a-side Football. The school site is the largest in Herefordshire and in its extensive grounds, there is the full range of sports facilities and pitches are maintained to a high standard throughout the season. Being located in rural Herefordshire, the school also has acres of orchards and meadows. An outdoor classroom and a specialist building are available to deliver Land-Based studies.