



## **A School For All Children**

Writhlington is committed to ensure success for all students, irrespective of a child's starting point.

The school's philosophy is that every child is unique and that there are no barriers to a child achieving their full potential. Every member of the school community works to develop each child into a confident, successful young person.

When children join the school it is the beginning of a long term partnership leading to Sixth Form study, university, training and employment. Our cohesive Key Stage 4 curriculum ensures the best student outcomes and personalised student choices with clear progression to A Level and Level 3 applied courses.

The school has the largest and most successful Sixth Form in the local community and students follow degree courses at prestigious universities across the UK, including: Oxford, Cambridge, UCL, York University, Exeter University, LSE, Durham, Bath, Manchester, Warwick, Sheffield, Leeds and Cardiff.

Writhlington School comes under the umbrella of Dragonfly Education Trust which incorporates Mendip Studio School and a Sixth Form; all are located on an outstanding modern state-of-the-art campus which has exceptional media facilities, a 400-seat theatre and includes a Community Sports Centre. We have recently welcomed a large local Primary School into the Trust and can look forward to collaborating with primary colleagues to improve practice.

Writhlington School was recognised as the best new-build secondary school in the country in 2012 by the British Council for School Environments.

### **IPad Learning Programme**

Every student, teacher and staff member, where relevant to the role, has an iPad. iPads are issued to students for use in and out of the school to enhance their learning experience. Every classroom is equipped with the latest audio/visual equipment, many classrooms have Apple TV. We also have an experienced in-house IT support team who offer a quick response time.

### **Facilities include:**

- 10 IT suites
- 4 Media suites containing Apple Mac computers
- Dance Studio, a custom built space with sprung floors and full length wall mirrors
- Art Suite
- Recording Studio
- Integrated Music Suite
- Specialist Design technology, Engineering and Biosciences Centre opening December 2016

The Science department consists of 12 versatile science laboratories (three to be completed by December 2016) serviced by a central prep-room. Each laboratory is equipped with interactive whiteboard, Apple TV, and Wi-Fi access to the internet. The department stores learning resources from across all three key stages online and these are accessed by students using their iPads whether they are in the classroom or at home.

Where appropriate, science lessons make use of the purpose built greenhouses and propagation suite to enrich and extend the teaching and learning of topics such as reproduction and inheritance, and plant biology.

Teachers in the department choose to plan and work collaboratively in the central science workroom. This allows solutions to be found to common problems and for activities and resources to be improved through joint reflection.

The 400 seat theatre has been designed to promote exceptional acoustic qualities as well as flexibility in layout with the option to remove seats to create an Orchestra Pit, extended stage, extended apron or partial thrust. It is also used as a venue for commercial conferences and shows.

Our Orchid Project is based in purpose built on site greenhouses. Recently the Eden project visited to collect their order for orchids for the new display in the Rainforest Biome. We are really excited to be working together to design Eden's first major orchid feature to take the prime spot just inside the Rainforest Biome.

As well as the new orchid display we are working with Eden to explore the impact electronic innovation by Mendip students can have on the visitor experience to the biomes.

The Sports Centre is supported by Somerset County Cricket, the LTA and FA. The school also currently runs a Cricket & Tennis sixth form sports programme associated with Bath Cricket Club & Writhlington Tennis Club. The excellent sport facilities include a four court indoor tennis facility, gymnastic centre, sports hall, ATP, four land-drained football pitches, indoor and outdoor cricket nets, cricket pitch and pavilion, fitness suite and girls/boys outdoor and indoor changing facilities.

The dining room serves a wide range of delicious hot meals, sandwiches, baguettes, snacks and drinks. Local suppliers are used wherever possible and a four week menu rotation is used. This changes three times a year. Opening times are from 8.00am until 8.40am for Breakfast Club and then at Break and Lunchtime.

The school is located on the edge of a valley with a relaxing and comfortable staff room with far reaching views of the countryside. At the end of a school day, a cup of tea/coffee and biscuits are provided for you to relax and enjoy.

We are located close to the Mendip Hills and in one of the most beautiful areas of England. Writhlington School is 45 minutes from historic maritime Bristol, 25 minutes from the Georgian city of Bath, 15 minutes from the Cathedral City of Wells and the market town of Frome with its independent, individual shops.