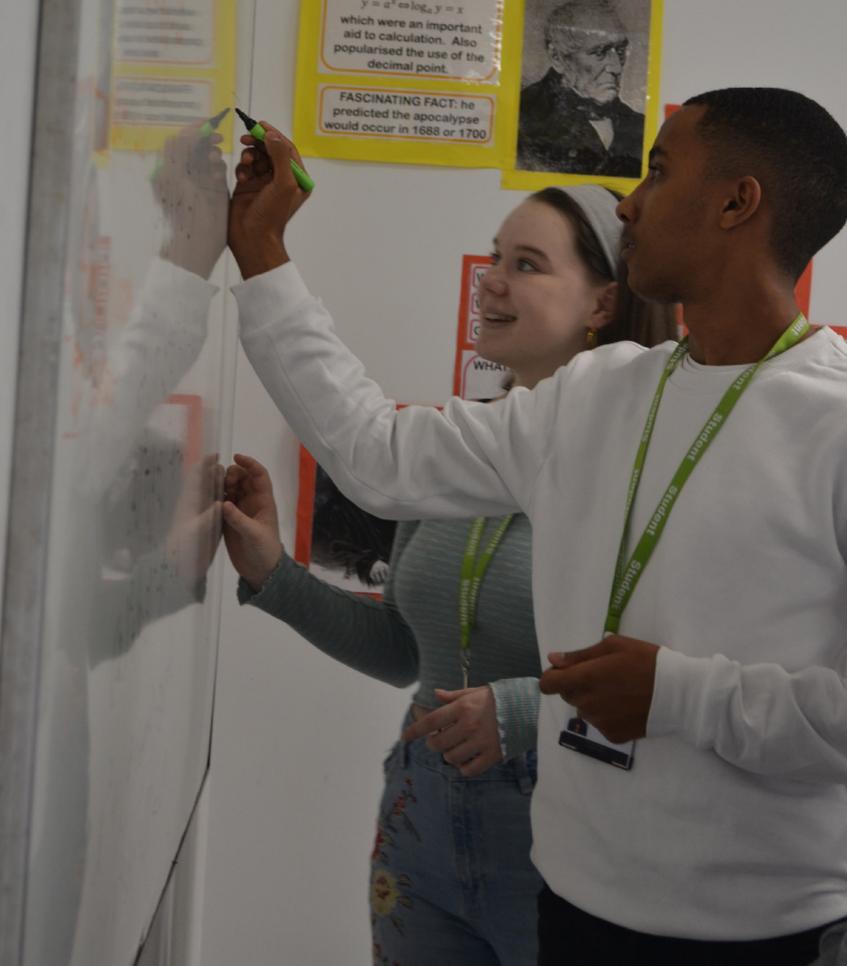


Cheney School Prospectus



Think for yourself, act for others



Head's Welcome

Welcome to Cheney School.

We are a school: we will educate a new generation to view the world critically, make their own decisions, and act in a way that benefits the wider community, not just themselves. This is summed up in our motto: “think for yourself, act for others”.

Cheney is a genuinely comprehensive school, in the best sense of the term, with a fully inclusive intake, which represents not just our catchment area, but also modern Britain. The ideals of the comprehensive movement have been met in Cheney, in a way that is very rare.

We value creativity over conformity; education over league tables; the needs of students over data; self-discipline over sanctions; nuance over simplification; curiosity over acceptance; honesty over reassurance; the judgement of our community over the judgement of the official world. We value emotional intelligence equally to academic intelligence; well-being equally to success; self-knowledge to factual knowledge; humanity to rigour.

This is not to say that the things we value less are worthless; in their place, and in their time, quite the reverse. In fact, we believe that if we get the first things right, the second will follow.



Mr Rob Pavey
Headteacher

“Your whole-school focus on improving the quality of teaching and learning has both strengthened teachers’ planning and the progress pupils make.”- Ofsted 2018



Curriculum

At Key Stage Three, students follow a broad and balanced curriculum which allows them to explore a full range of subjects including humanities, languages, technical and creative arts and PE.

At Key Stage Four students follow a combination of core and options subjects at GCSE or BTEC level. This gives students a wide range of choice and allows them to choose the subjects which most interest them and which meet their own individual needs.

During Year 12 and 13, students select their three or four choices from a wide range of A level or BTEC level three courses.

Homework

Homework plays an important part in students' success. We use Google Classroom as a platform to share resources or revision material, and to set homework.

Developing good habits of independent learning makes a significant difference to students' outcomes and prepares students for study post-school.



Teaching

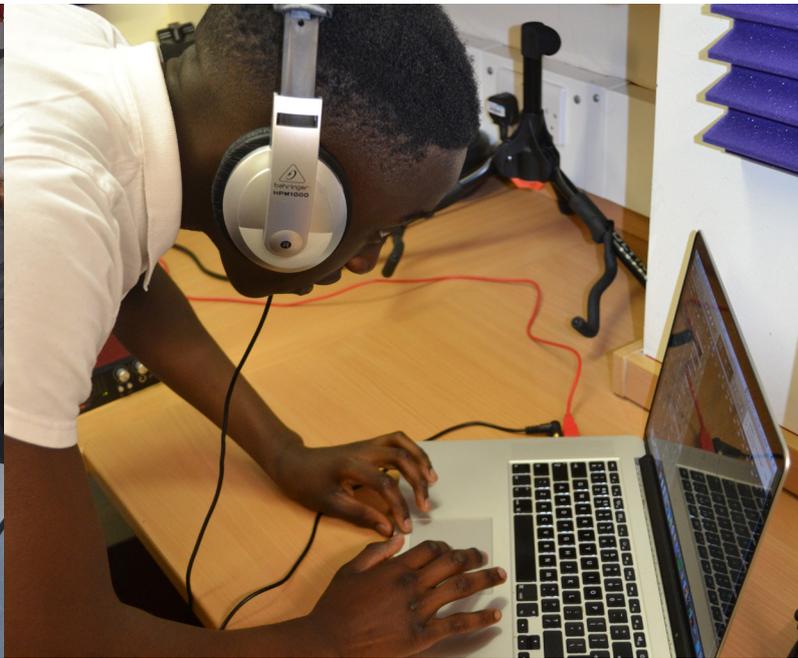
Stimulating teaching which meets the needs of all our students is central to daily life at Cheney. Our teachers are highly skilled, enthusiastic and deeply passionate about sharing their love for their subjects. Lessons are designed to be interesting and well-matched to students' needs and interests. All of our teachers and support staff are committed to providing the highest quality learning experience.

The Library plays a central role in supporting students to develop their love of reading and every student is required to have a reading book at all times. All Year 7 students take part in the Accelerated Reader programme and there is a school-wide reading initiative called the Cheney Book Canon. For students who find literacy challenging there are a range of interventions provided to meet their needs, from additional literacy lessons and support for students for whom English is an additional language, to one to one interventions.

We support the literacy development of all learners through our whole school approach to spelling, punctuation and grammar which is promoted and challenged in all lessons and in all year groups.



“The quality of provision for English across the school is a real strength.” - Ofsted 2018



Respect for Learning

At Cheney we take a positive approach to behaviour management. We work hard to teach our young people to act with integrity; to do the right thing because it is the right thing to do. This is summed up in our motto “think for yourself, act for others”. To facilitate this we have three simple but positive rules:

Rule 1 - Respect - Always be respectful to others, to our school and to our environment

Rule 2 - Ready - Be ready to learn and to achieve

Rule 3 - Best - Be the best version of yourself, make the best choices and try your best

We speak to students about our expectations so that they understand what they are and why they are important. As with every school, occasionally things go wrong. When they do, we take a restorative approach and work with our young people to understand the impact of their action and how to learn from their mistakes. Our approach to behaviour is also supported by a series of warnings called the “C System” and a range of consequences, where necessary.

“Your whole school approach of ‘Respect for All’ ensures that relationships are strong between staff and pupils.” - Ofsted 2018



Well-being and Reward

We believe in creating a positive school environment by rewarding achievement and success across the school.

Each student belongs to a tutor group that is assigned to one of our 5 Houses. This creates a sense of community and family. Students are rewarded with House Points which results in an end-of-year awarding of the House plate.

There are also plenty of opportunities to get involved in competitions and activities that are House related, including having a say in our House Student Council. Tutors are supported by Heads of Student Progress, Pastoral Leaders, Heads of House and the Behaviour Improvement Team so that if a student feels overwhelmed or needs a listening ear, there is always someone to talk to. We offer comprehensive pastoral support to those who need it.

What does reward look like at Cheney School?

- Students are awarded House Points throughout the year.
- Staff use postcards to recognise positive behaviours.
- Success is celebrated through weekly formal assemblies.
- Three times a year we have a rewards afternoon.
- We hold formal celebration evenings to celebrate a range of successes from Sport, to academic achievement, to Creative Arts.

Meeting the needs of all our Students

Higher Attainment

Cheney School is committed to extending and developing the talents of all our students. The Cheney curriculum fosters creativity, academic rigour and independent thought. Our aim is to help students discover their talents by enjoying opportunities as they move through the school. We recognise the widest breadth of student achievement and understand that different students develop different gifts at different times. We support all students who aspire to the most competitive university courses with an individually tailored programme from Year 10 through to Year 13.

What type of opportunities do we offer our Higher Attainers at Cheney School?

- Individualised three year programme for students applying to Oxbridge and Medicine.
- Breakfast talks and assembly speakers - see www.rumblemuseum.org.uk for our most recent visitors.
- Classics Centre Events with visiting authors and illustrators.
- A very active student led debating society.
- The chance to learn Latin, Ancient Greek, Mandarin or Korean.
- Rumble Museum opportunities from curation and project leadership to our breakfast talk series with world experts.





SEND

We address the needs of all our students whether this relates to learning, emotional and/or social difficulties, medical or physical disabilities. This is to ensure students are fully included in the life of the school so that they are happy, settled and attend school every day, and so they can learn, make good progress, and achieve their full potential.

We do our utmost to ensure that students' needs are met in the mainstream classroom wherever possible. The Learning Support Department works with teachers and other colleagues in all subjects to ensure that work is differentiated and appropriate, and with a range of professionals outside of school to support individual students' needs. Staff are given strategies to support each individual student with extra materials and a detailed programme of staff training is provided each year.

“Leaders ensure that pastoral and teaching staff work closely together to support vulnerable pupils.” - Ofsted 2018



Extra Curricular

At Cheney we place great emphasis on educating the whole person. Education extends beyond the classroom and we provide many opportunities for young people to develop key skills and thrive in many different ways. We are proud of our stimulating extra-curricular programme which encourages each student to follow their individual interests and to work with other students from across the school community. The extra-curricular activities we offer vary throughout the year and cover the broadest range of activities and interests. Students with a personal interest are encouraged to start a club and engage their peers with their specific interests.

A small selection of the clubs we offer at Cheney School

- Basketball, Football and other sports
- Orchestra and Choirs
- Summer and Christmas shows
- Drama performances
- Art Exhibitions
- Museum Council and Museum Project
- Creative Writing
- Debating
- Rowing
- Duke of Edinburgh
- Combined Cadet Force (joint with Magdalen College School)
- Language clubs (Latin, Korean and Mandarin)

Transition

We appreciate how daunting the change from primary to secondary school can be. Cheney School's aim is to make that transition as smooth and worry free as possible for our new students and their families.

We maintain a continuous dialogue with primary schools, the transitioning students and their families in the year before students start with us. As part of that we offer many opportunities for students and their families to engage with Cheney including:

- Open events throughout the year for everyone to attend, meet staff and have tours of the school.
- Transition visits by pupils and staff to primary schools to share their experiences of Cheney and answer questions new students have.
- A transition evening - an opportunity for families to meet tutors and fellow students.
- Transition days where students will experience a broad range of what's on offer at Cheney.



“Do not worry; the school may look big but after a week you will know where everything is and the teachers are really friendly.” - Lily, Year 7

Cheney Sixth Form

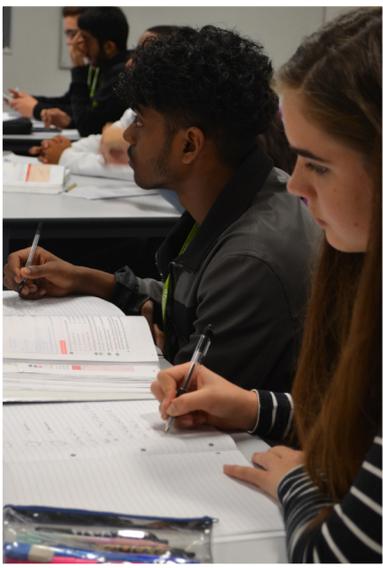
Our Vision

Cheney Sixth Form is a vibrant and diverse community where staff, students and parents/carers support each other to be confident, resilient and successful. We all take pride in, and responsibility for, our Sixth Form and value its power to raise aspirations across the school and beyond.

Cheney offers excellently taught academic and vocational courses, and an enrichment programme that we tailor to the needs and preferences of our aspirational intake. Our students always come to school excited by their opportunities and ready to learn. Our staff provide increasingly personalised support to students, beginning from the moment they start considering their future post-16, through the applications process and their life in the Sixth Form, to receiving their final results.

We are serious about having fun while we grow. We all challenge ourselves to continually improve and our work with key partners and experts ensures our provision is cutting edge and inspirational. Students take an active role in volunteering and their extended curriculum which balances academic studies with the development of practical, emotional and social skills. Students leave us equipped to take responsibility for their future successes, their well-being and the well-being of others.

“The school presents us with plenty of opportunities for extending our knowledge of the world around us and helping us think about possibilities of what we could do after school.” - Marie-Therese, Sixth Form Student



The Rumble Museum

Cheney is a Museum School. Our Museum has large displays in the Library and Brighthouse, as well as artefacts spread throughout the school site in imaginative, informative and accessible ways. We have a wide and interesting collection of artefacts ranging all the way from stone age tools to very modern items.

As well as displays and exhibitions, Cheney School students and the wider community are able to attend workshops, talks, courses and events on archaeology, artefacts and important events in history. We have two very active student Museum Councils, who work on projects and help curate our collections. We have also launched our first Museum Studies course for students.

Learning about the past through objects has the ability to engage children and adults from all backgrounds, and to bring history vividly to life - we work closely with local museums and the University of Oxford to provide a rich and stimulating experience of archaeology and the many areas of life it connects with. In 2020, we became the first school museum in the UK to be awarded full Museum Accreditation by the Arts Council.

You can find out more about The Rumble Museum at: www.rumblemuseum.org.uk



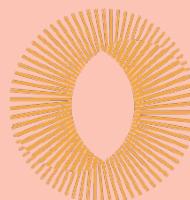
“Your drive and determination to improve the outcomes and well-being of your pupils is making a real difference.” - Ofsted





Cheney School
Cheney Lane
Headington
OX3 7QH

Telephone 01865 765726
Email: office@cheney.oxon.sch.uk



Community Schools
Alliance Trust

*Improving Every Learner's
Life Chances*