



HONITON  
COMMUNITY  
COLLEGE

# Prospectus

2023-24

*“One of the most improved schools in the South West.”*

*Jon Lunn – Director of Performance, TWMAT*

# Welcome

## Welcome from the Principal

Arriving in September 2022, I promised that the staff and I would work to make Honiton Community College the best destination for children in East Devon. After 12 months, our parents/carers and community can see that we are delivering. We are now in the top 10 schools in the Southwest for improved student outcomes. We have had twice as many students join our Post-16. We now having waiting lists in Year 7 and 8. Our year 11 students achieved better than national average in 2023, in 2024 our year 11 cohort are highly likely to surpass their achievements. If you want your child to achieve great things, leave with a suite of strong GCSE and A-Levels, be safe and confident, you should send them to Honiton Community College."

At Honiton Community College, all of our students are provided with the opportunities that they require to thrive academically. This is coupled with a diverse and enriching personal development offer, helping our young people develop into the best possible versions of themselves. We seek to empower our young people with everything that they require to access their first-choice career.

We understand that our young people will be entering the most competitive labour market that the world has ever known. Success in this arena, whether it be local, national or international, is not only predicated upon academic outcomes, but also founded, in part, upon kind and considerate behaviours and attitudes. At Honiton Community College, our young people understand the importance of supporting their peers.

This is partly demonstrated by the calm and focused nature of our classroom environments, ensuring that all students are able to meet their potential, free of any negative influences. However, it is also demonstrated through the atmosphere that they have helped create around the college.

I would welcome the opportunity to show you why I think that the students of Honiton Community College are the best equipped for the challenges of our modern world. Please book a tour so that I can show you around our amazing college, an integral part of the local community.



Principal, Mr Alex Kirkbride

# Our Curriculum: Success For All

The over-arching intent of the curriculum is a learning journey through a body of knowledge that is seen as a whole and not artificially compartmentalised into Key Stages.

We understand that all parents want to help their children learn, as well as to have a good understanding as to what they are learning. To facilitate this, we provide all students in KS3 with a booklet bag and booklets. These are taken home by the students so that you can see what your child has been learning, as well as how they have been progressing in lessons. The homework all follows a regular routine and has a consistent style, helping develop important revision skills as well as facilitate knowledge acquisition. The academic year is broken down into three cycles consisting of 12 weeks each. All of the knowledge and skills that are covered in the first 10 weeks are assessed, meaning that parents have the chance to support their children in succeeding in these assessments, as well as being provided with academic updates on their progress three times a year with our end of cycle reports."

We strive to provide a broad and balanced curriculum that engages, challenges, excites. The links between subjects and with the wider world are exploited so that the students can comprehend the world they live in through the knowledge they have internalised.

The curriculum is progressive and equips students with core knowledge about the best that has been thought, written and designed: balancing Shakespeare plays; the study of a broad range of history from different perspectives and scientific reasoning; achieving mastery in mathematics and ICT; giving opportunities for creative excellence in art, drama, music and design technology; contributing to healthy and responsible citizens through food & nutrition, physical education and life skills.

In Years 7-9 we are committed to developing skills and interests and sparking imagination and creativity. As students move up through the college, we encourage them to be organised, reflective, independent, and good team workers, amongst other key life skills, to help them be successful in their future studies and the workplace.

The curriculum is designed in a manner to enable students to enjoy a wide variety of subjects from Years 7 to 11. We provide different pathways in Year 10 to enable students to focus on areas of the curriculum about which they are most passionate and interested and that are likely to play a more prominent role in their futures. Above all, we believe we provide a curriculum that enables everyone to find enjoyment and succeed.



# Wellbeing and Safeguarding: Where all students thrive

At Honiton Community College, we strive to ensure that all students are academically successful. However, we also work incredibly hard to ensure that students feel that they belong to something special. This sense of belonging is developed through House Breakfasts, team building activities, enrichment opportunities, and a host of other activities and events.

We have a strong safeguarding and wellbeing offer in the school. However, we have found that with calm and safe environments around the school, there has been a marked reduction in the student requests to access these services. We know that the expectations of student behaviour is high at Honiton Community College. However, we have seen this translate to high levels of student happiness, security, and safety.

Our core values underpin what we do at Honiton Community College. We are **kind, curious** and **resilient**, all attributes which will best equip our students for future success."

In order to be successful at school all students need to develop secure relationships which enable them to feel safe, secure and good about who they are. For this to happen, relationships need to be at the heart of our college life.

Our aim is to provide our students with as many positive relationships as possible; that way they feel supported to flourish as part of our community.



# Academic Success

At Honiton Community College we are committed to ensuring all students achieve more than they ever thought possible both academically and in other areas of their lives.

**We encourage students to lead their own learning supported by our committed team of teachers who are knowledgeable, enthusiastic and creative in their support and challenge of students.**

We work hard to ensure lessons are pitched at the right level and engaging. Lessons support focused, personalised learning happening throughout. Students are encouraged to give and seek feedback to improve – this ensures students are active participants in the learning process.

To help students meet their potential, we recognise that they need challenge in every lesson as well as other opportunities to highlight their ability. We offer a range of activities including specialist workshops, courses to enhance their talents in addition to talks and presentations provided by a variety of speakers. We understand that students shine in various areas. In order to support and challenge we closely track and monitor progress. Your child's effort and progress will be celebrated, and we will share their achievements (large and small) with you along the way.

Our aim is to ensure all learners reach and ideally surpass their targets to achieve beyond their expectations.



# Post-16

Our vision is to be an outstanding centre for Post -16 education, training and developing our students to achieve exceptional outcomes.

You will have read the comments in our OFSTED report related to the fantastic support that our students receive in Post-16. It is, in part, this excellent support that has seen our Post-16 cohorts grow by 100% in the last year. By joining Honiton Community College, your child can access a high quality education, after which, their next steps would be a high quality university or apprenticeship.

**Through the individual study programmes for each student, we develop independent, ambitious and successful individuals who set themselves high expectations and achieve or exceed their targets to enable them to take the next step after their college education.**

We believe that it is the good working relationship between parents/carers, students and staff that will help guide students' development to realise their full potential – academically, socially, and emotionally - with students maximising their achievement and success. Post-16 provides an environment in which students experience the right balance of independence, support and challenge with our students progressing to University, Higher Level Apprenticeships, or organised volunteering abroad.

Complementing the academic programme, students manage and develop many transferrable skills that will aid them in their next steps. Working as a team, developing, and widening their communication skills and increasing their own resilience are all key elements that are developed within our community. We are extremely proud of our Post-16 Students and the contribution they make to the college and local community as well as their outstanding achievements.





*“The staff are fantastic, they have such a passion for their subjects and this definitely encourages the children to want to learn.”*

PARENT

# Enrichment

We want to continue to raise students' aspirations for their future. Whether that is making a positive contribution to their local community or the wider world.

We have a range of trips for our students, ranging from 4-week excursions to Tanzania, trips to local locations of interest, and to national attractions as reward trips. When your child joins Honiton Community College, they will have the opportunity to explore the world, and learn more about the wider world.

**An important part of this is the example we set – all of our staff are active members of our professional community and committed to reflecting and improving our own practice no matter what stage of our career.**

We never stop learning, thrive off challenges and want to encourage this ethos in our students.

We believe that learning that goes far beyond the classroom is essential in giving all our students the opportunity to experience new and inspiring activities, develop their talents and help them to become independent thinkers.

Our extended school programme offers a wide range of after-school and lunchtime activities. These include: Spanish; guitar club; 'Lego'; sewing and knitting clubs, choir, Latin for beginners, Jazz band, Science and Music Technology clubs, touch typing activities, book club and Samba band. This is in addition to host of sporting activities including: Fitness, Health and Wellbeing; Netball; Badminton; Football; Table Tennis; Girls and Boys Futsal; Trampolining, Get Active clubs to name a few. Students are encouraged to take part in Ten Tors and the Duke of Edinburgh scheme as well as volunteering in the community.

These extremely popular sessions welcome everyone and take place in our specialist facilities including our first-class fitness suite, dance studio, music rooms and fully equipped Design Technology and Art rooms.





# Creative Arts

The Creative Arts and Design & Technology (CreATE) department subjects are at the heart of the development of the individual.

**We aim to nurture confidence and enthusiasm in our students as they explore and develop a wide range of creative and technical skills.**

We believe it is the right of every individual to participate with confidence in their cultural heritage. To ensure our students develop their cultural and practical knowledge to enrich their cultural fluency and wellbeing for life, whatever their future career pathway may be.

Our curriculum supports students to develop expertise as they find and grow their talents, whilst nurturing the personal, social and emotional aspects of creative making, thinking, and performing. We aim to engage our students with education that supports them to achieve self-understanding and develop their own voice within their local and global community.



# Empowered for the future

Honiton Community College is committed to providing a programme of careers education and information, advice and guidance (CEIAG) for all students in years 7–13.

**To help every student be successful in their next stage of education, training and employment.**

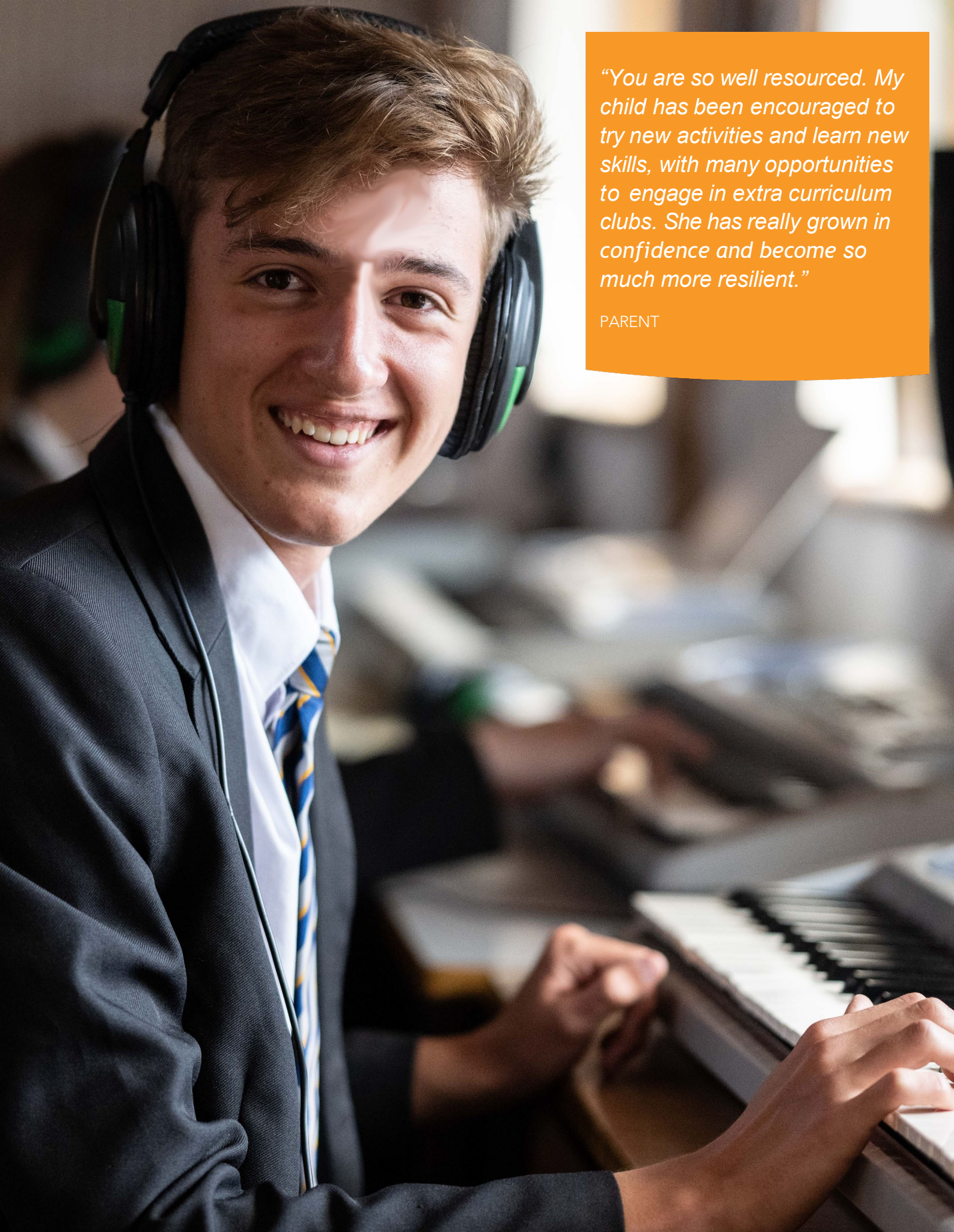
Our students begin their careers education in Year 7 and work through a careers programme. Enterprise skills, financial capability and well-being topics are explored through the Aspire and Life Skills programmes, helping students learn about the world of work and preparing them for adulthood. We stress the importance of informed choice and provide impartial CEIAG throughout a student's time at Honiton Community College. We inform students about the different career pathways available and help them make sound, informed choices at key milestones in years 9, 11 and 13.



*“The teachers’ support and faith in the students gives them the confidence to believe in themselves. Enabling them to truly believe they are capable of much more and encouraging them to focus on their goals.”*

*“You are so well resourced. My child has been encouraged to try new activities and learn new skills, with many opportunities to engage in extra curriculum clubs. She has really grown in confidence and become so much more resilient.”*

PARENT



# Sporting Excellence

Physical Education is vital in maintaining student's health, fitness and well-being. Sport and PE are used to improve mental health and well-being for all our students.

**Our Sports Academy and PE Highly Able Programme provides opportunities for our elite athletes to excel in their field.**

Sport and Physical Education plays a huge part of College life, we have fantastic facilities and a great team of staff who are committed to giving all students as many opportunities as we can. We offer a huge range of sports including traditional team sports such as Netball, Football and Rugby in addition to other sports such as Swimming, Dance, Fitness, Table Tennis, Badminton, Gymnastics, Trampoline, Athletics and Rounders.

The purpose of the PE curriculum and enrichment programme is to provide opportunity for high quality teaching and learning; improving students knowledge and ensuring lifelong participation and enjoyment in sport, physical activity and fitness.

Underpinning the curriculum design is the college mission statement "Success for All". Our curriculum is inclusive for all abilities, supporting students with potential to become elite athletes and support more reluctant students in finding a sport and/or activity they can commit to and enjoy.

In recognition of our outstanding provision, we have been successful in achieving the School Games Silver Mark.



*“I think what is so special about the PE Department at Honiton Community College is that you give everyone a chance whatever their ability.”*

PARENT



# Joining our Community

We recognise that making a successful transition between schools is critical for students and their families.

**At Honiton Community College we invest in providing a smooth and supportive process to ensure our students join the College ready to learn and take advantage of the new opportunities available to them. This process starts during the child's primary school years through our work with the Honiton Learning Community.**

Collaboration and cooperation with local primary schools is critically important to us. As a member of the Honiton Learning Community, we work closely with our partner primary schools ensuring numerous opportunities for both staff and children to collaborate, learn together and grow together. The aim of this partnership is to secure high achievement and maximise outcomes, aspirations and well being for all children and young people in the learning community.

Throughout the year children in local primary schools have the opportunity to take part in a variety of events in curriculum time, in addition to an array of extra-curricular activities and competitions. These activities have dual impact: they provide role models for the primary school children, raising motivation and improving confidence whilst also developing the core leadership skills of the Honiton Community Students.

For those children moving from local primary schools, there is an opportunity to meet with the Head of Year 7 during the Summer term. This gives them the opportunity to discuss what the children are looking forward to and ask any questions they may have. Any worries or concerns can be identified and addressed prior to the start of the new academic year.

Each year we welcome students into other year groups from secondary schools and colleges both in the UK and abroad. Individual tours can be arranged and for those students that require additional support settling into College life, there is an extensive support network to work closely with both the student and their family.



*“The HCC students all have such a warm and friendly manner, our primary pupils appreciated the kindness and support given.”*

VISITING PRIMARY TEACHERS





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For all enquiries, please call our main reception  
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**Tea**  
Wragg  
Trust