

ESHER CHURCH of ENGLAND HIGH SCHOOL





“Thank you to all the team at Esher High School for all the teaching, care and support your team has given our two children over the past years. They were always encouraged to develop the skills to take forward to the next stage of their education and into adulthood.”

PARENT YEAR 11 STUDENTS

WELCOME

At Esher Church of England High School our commitment to academic excellence in a supportive environment is absolute.

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Primarily, we serve the communities of Esher, Molesey, Cobham and Claygate and know that the brilliant education that the students enjoy here will transform their individual lives, and the areas in which they live. Our school offers a vibrant curriculum, both in the classroom and beyond, which ensures that our students develop both the qualifications and knowledge they need to succeed, and the wider skills and experience to enable them to thrive. In our most recent Ofsted inspection, we were judged a securely 'Good' school. We are rooted in our Christian ethos and values, and we make sure that this is lived out with integrity whereby we support our students to learn about the actions and attitudes that this entails. We bring this to life with our motto of "Belong. Be More. Be Esher".

The School enjoys a fantastic campus with wonderful, modern facilities set in green belt land. The environment and resources support great learning and allow students to make the most of what we have on offer. We have high expectations of our students at all times, and we will work alongside parents to help the students to meet these expectations. Through this support they will become confident, ambitious and responsible citizens, ready to enhance the world around them now, and into the future.

Andy King – Headteacher



OUR VISION

The vision for Esher High School is for everyone in our school community to Belong, Be More and Be Esher.

By **Belonging** we mean that every child and adult is welcome in our school as a unique person, they have identity and are unconditionally loved.

Through **Being More** we communicate our ambition in every aspect of their development: academic, social, wider curricular, relational, so that they can flourish both now and in the future.

Being Esher reflects the way in which we embrace our responsibility to the wider world to be an agent for social equity and a thriving community.

OUR AIM AND VALUES

We are a vibrant school that serves to enhance its community through the transformation our students have here.

We are a successful school where children enjoy both a great experience and also make excellent progress in their studies and wider learning. Esher High School has four clear values of wisdom, hope, community and dignity all of which underpin our culture and the way in which our children develop. We encourage them to grow and flourish in the formal learning that is assessed as well as the skills and habits that will enable them to be successful in the world. Our belief is that this starts now, rather than when they leave school, so we pay close attention to helping this message be a strong one throughout every day. It is through this vibrant learning culture that we enable the children to thrive and so transform the communities that we serve.

"You know how they give hotels stars in reviews? Well, I'd definitely give Esher High School 5 stars out of 5"

YEAR 8 STUDENT

George RR Martin



WISDOM, KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS

Our primary aim at Esher High School is to provide great education so that students learn all they will need to prepare for their lives ahead.

KS3: Years 7, 8 & 9

We offer a broad and balanced curriculum at Key Stage 3 which fosters curiosity and creativity in our students. Departments are encouraged to work closely together in a creative and innovative manner. Curricular themes reflect 21st-century, global, national and local issues. Literacy is seen as a crucial part of the core curriculum, and we encourage students to read once a day through our tutor time reading programme. Our curriculum is designed to build on previous learning at primary school and progress seamlessly through to Year 11.

The full complement of GCSE option choices are chosen during the course of Year 9 in readiness for study to begin in Year 10. A wide range of subject trips and extra-curricular activities support our students to develop a broad range of skills and experiences.

KS4: Years 10 & 11

Students follow a curriculum based on a core of English, Mathematics and Science, complemented by option choices from the wide provision on offer. GCSE courses are offered that allow students to complete the English Baccalaureate if they choose. They follow a core curriculum in PE and RE. We offer a range of vocational courses, allowing students to build a portfolio of qualifications, tailored to their needs and interests.

Learning Support

Learning support is provided to ensure that all students fulfil their potential and the team are committed to addressing special educational needs through a programme of screening, monitoring and support. Learning support works in conjunction with colleagues across all curriculum areas, to provide a coherent and co-ordinated school-wide approach.



Learning Technology

The School has undergone a significant upgrade in the technology used to deliver learning in the last two years. We have invested in moving all our systems to be based in the Microsoft Office 365 environment. This allows all students to have access to the full versions of Office 365 products both in school and at home. We use Microsoft Teams to compliment the delivery of learning, as well as using an app called Edulink One. Edulink One is used for communication between parents, staff and students. It allows all stakeholders to see key information including timetables, achievement points, behaviour incidents, school reports, club schedules and attendance.

Home Learning

As part of the high value we place on academic process we constantly support our learners in every way possible to realise their individual ambitions. One of the ways in which we do this is through Home Learning. We are committed to developing independent learners who are able to manage their own time, approach problem solving with a growth mindset and take full ownership of their academic progress. We aim to set tasks that are challenging, relevant and purposeful.

Our research has taught us that Home Learning improves students' thinking and memory, helps students develop positive study skills and habits that will serve them well throughout life, and teaches students to work independently.

Potential High Attainers

Students identified as aspiring to selective universities are supported in a range of ways all of which aim to provide opportunities for them to extend their learning beyond the classroom. A co-ordinator is dedicated to overseeing provision for these students, enabling links to be made with local colleges, universities and businesses. Through this we ensure that they have the best chance to gain the qualifications and experiences required to achieve their goals.

"Thank you all for how much you do for the twins. It feels massively reassuring to have such a professional, caring team guiding them through such an important time in their lives and I am really grateful for all that you all do"

PARENT YEAR 10 STUDENTS



COMMUNITY AND LIVING WELL TOGETHER

Schools are complex places where people from many different backgrounds and contexts come together with a single purpose; to learn. We want every student here to know that learning is a collective endeavour where they are closely linked to others in the school.

Parental Partnership

At Esher High School, we believe in strong partnership with parents and guardians, to enable working together for excellence. Home-school agreements are established in Year 7, providing a clear statement of standards and expectations which are revisited as students progress through the school.

Parents' evenings are held once a year for each year group, allowing parents and students to meet teachers to discuss overall progress. Parents will receive reports throughout the year, tracking their child's progress, and they are also encouraged to follow the learning and progress of their child through their exercise books. Using the Edulink One app is a valuable link between school and home. Parents are also kept up to date with information through our interactive website and newsletters. Parental focus groups provide support and feedback on a variety of school issues, including the development of school policies.

Wider Community

At Esher High School we recognise that education is not the only important factor helping to ensure that our students are happy and healthy. Opportunities for learning and support extend beyond the traditional school day. A wide range of activities are offered after school, alongside family learning opportunities and information workshops for parents and guardians. Links with the Diocese of Guildford, nearby schools and colleges, local business and voluntary organisations place the school at the heart of the wider community.



A Church School

We are proud to be a Church School, under the auspices of the Diocese of Guildford. Christian attitudes and values are central to our community, guiding our spiritual and moral education. Christian festivals are celebrated throughout the school year in regular acts of worship, often led by the local clergy at the school or at Christ Church, Esher. Worship and reflection take place through assemblies and 'Thought for the Day'. We encourage students to reflect on the spiritual dimension of their lives, to consider their beliefs and support their personal welfare.

Esher High School has close relationships with our local primary and secondary schools. We are a member of the Esher, Cobham and Molesey cluster of schools that work collaboratively to ensure delivery of high-quality services and activities for students from 5 to 16 years of age. This ensures as smooth a transition as possible between primary and secondary school for the children who join us.

An Academy

Esher High School was the founding school of the successful and growing Enlighten Learning Trust (ELT) a Multi Academy Trust. As a trust, ELT aims to build a secure and stable foundation with a growing group of schools that share a common ethos.

The Trust's points of distinction are as follows;

- Academies can aid partner academies to be mutually supportive in raising attainment
- A genuine belief that every child can succeed and flourish
- Excellent staff development opportunities
- Highly capable and enthusiastic trust leadership team to draw on
- The Trust works in the interest of children by fostering interdependence
- Curriculum innovation and development
- We have a clear Christian vision underpinned by community engagement

“You have worked tirelessly with our son and endeavoured to make him the best version of himself. I am so grateful as I know you have always considered his best interests in all the decisions the school has made. I think Esher High School is a great school!”

PARENT, YEAR 9 STUDENT





HOPE AND ASPIRATION

Our students all have ambition and aspirations. We will stretch, develop and support them so that they can contribute positively to the society that they are growing into.

Success Through Performance

Performing Arts is a core part of our curriculum, and as such, it forms an important element of school life. We are proud to be an Arts Award Centre and have been officially recognised by Arts Council England for 'making the Arts come alive'.

Both the range and quality of Performing Arts activities that we offer outside of the classroom are superb – from 'centre stage' drama club and street dance to more traditional music ensembles and choirs. Students also have the option of taking up a variety of instruments through our peripatetic music scheme and the school production is one of the highlights of the school calendar. To help expand the Arts curriculum, we offer international trips which allow our students to perform in local communities and learn about Arts within other cultures.

Success Through Involvement

An extensive programme of sporting activities is on offer for all years, both in curriculum and extra-curricular time, allowing our students to succeed in a variety of areas. Clubs and fixtures are offered in a range of sports, including football, netball, rugby, basketball, cricket, rounders, athletics, badminton, table tennis, gymnastics, trampolining, fitness and dance. The school competes in a wide range of activities and has enjoyed success at local, regional and national level. The Senior Dance Company were previously invited to lead in the Young Dance Makers Project, at the Rhoda McGraw Theatre in Woking. We also have a wide range of other extra curricular activities beyond sport and the arts. There are opportunities for students to take part in cooking, journalism, science, design and technology, robotic, the Hub (Library) and gardening clubs.

We have also enjoyed both team and individual success at district and county level for football, rugby, athletics and trampolining as well as singing. The opportunity to travel and contextualize learning is important and we have a regular winter sports trip to the Alps, a biennial performing arts tour of Italy and a visit to New York among our offer. The Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award and Sports Leaders Award are also promoted to students throughout their time at Esher High School.

Guidance for Success

Alongside form tutors, careers education is provided, with the opportunity for students to book individual careers guidance sessions. A fully stocked careers library is situated in The Hub. Esher High School also has close and well established links with local colleges. Esher College holds guaranteed places for students from Esher High School achieving a minimum of 5 GCSEs at level 9-4, with at least a grade 4 in English Language and Maths. We have various collaborative links with other schools and colleges enabling continuity through to post 16 Education.

Our facilities are excellent and continue to be developed and improved to provide a high-quality learning environment. We have a wonderful sports hall, a state of the art science block as well as the recently refurbished library. These facilities complement our existing facilities, including the stand alone Arts Centre. ICT provision extends to every area of the school, with digital projectors and interactive whiteboards available in every classroom.

DIGNITY AND RESPECT



We believe that every person in our school is of unique worth. The basic principle of human dignity underpins all we do and as such we want all our students to appreciate their own, as well as others', value.

Student Wellbeing

We place particular importance on ensuring that all students at Esher High School have their wellbeing carefully and sensitively managed. Any student joining the school is well cared for and supported throughout their education. Our systems are built around our pastoral aims and school values, which closely reflect the ethos of developing the whole person. This is achieved by an exceptional student services and inclusion team, who devote boundless time, energy and expertise to developing, encouraging, advising and leading students. All students are assigned to a tutor group, helping to give a sense of identity and belonging, with the form tutor playing an important role in a student's time at the school and providing a point of contact for parents. Personal, Social, Health and Citizenship Education (PSHCE) is delivered throughout the school, enabling students to understand themselves and develop as responsible, tolerant citizens. The House System, the Student Leadership Team, the prefect and peer mentor systems provide opportunities for students to represent views and support others in the school.



Rewards and Praise

Rewards and praise remain at the heart of teaching and learning at Esher High School. We believe it is vital that students at our school have their effort and progress recognised and celebrated. Our 'Ethic of Excellence' is central to our culture of achievement and runs through all assessments and feedback. We proudly display examples of student work throughout the school and encourage parents and students to admire these exemplary pieces of work. Praise occurs daily through the use of verbal feedback and achievement points. At the end of each term the Heads of Year lead rewards events, and at the end of each year there is a formal whole school celebration of academic and sporting success.

The school "provides a curriculum that is ambitious to all pupils" and "pupils feel safe and well cared for" with a "strong sense of community."

OFSTED MAY 2022

SCHOOL ETHOS

The school is committed to providing a happy and secure learning environment, in which all students have the right to learn and achieve, uninterrupted by others. We place emphasis on all members of our community co-operating with others politely, considerately and honestly, promoting an understanding that right and responsibility go hand in hand.





Esher Church of England High School

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