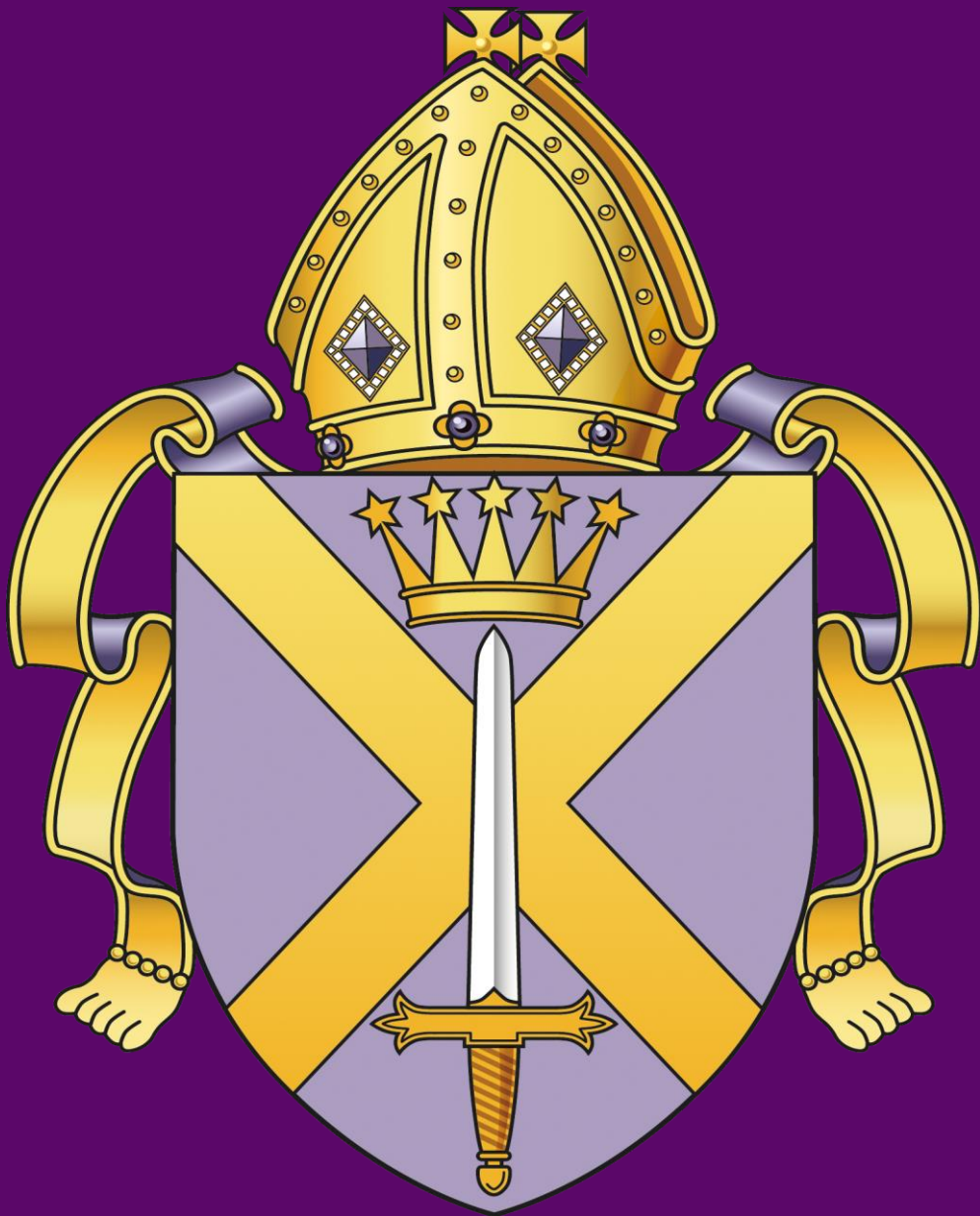


TOWNSEND

CHURCH OF ENGLAND

SCHOOL





Townsend

Church of England School

High Oaks, St Albans, Hertfordshire AL3 6DR

Telephone 01727 853047 Fax 01727 834523

Email for admissions admin@townsend.herts.sch.uk

Website www.townsend.herts.sch.uk





ACHIEVEMENT FOR ALL

RESPECT FOR ALL



Welcome to Townsend Church of England School

This school is open to everyone and you do not have to go to Church to apply for admission, children of other faiths and those of no faith are very welcome at Townsend. As the only Church of England secondary school in this area, we offer something very special to all children and families: a long tradition of a high quality education which develops the personality and talents of every child in our care.

We are very conscious of our mission to provide your daughter or son with more than just academic success. We are a school with clear principles and ideals based on a strong ethos, and this philosophy is central to our success. Our great strength is that we keep reminding ourselves of what every parent/carer knows: children learn best when they are happy.

We provide a stimulating learning environment where all children can achieve, whatever their background, ability or aptitude.

All pupils are valued as individuals and all flourish in a community that lives by the values of tolerance, love, compassion and respect for each other. We uphold the traditional values of good manners and hard work and have high expectations of all our pupils. Our teaching encourages independent learning and provides pupils with those skills and qualities which they need to take them through the 21st century.

We instil a love of learning and offer a wealth of cultural, social and sporting activities through which your child can find and develop new interests and skills. I look forward to welcoming you and your son or daughter into our lively and thriving community.

A Wellbeloved
Head Teacher





RESPECT FOR ALL

OUR PHILOSOPHY

Townsend School seeks to provide an education of the highest quality. Our 'Respect for All' policy, written by pupils and staff affirms our commitment to each member of our community as an individual and underpins all aspects of our school life. 'Respect for All' is prominently displayed at Townsend and is very much at the heart of our school life. It expresses Townsend's strong commitment to equality of opportunity and to life in modern Britain and the world that we live in. Each child is valued as an individual and encouraged to take an active part in all aspects of school life.

RESPECT FOR ALL

At Townsend we believe that every person is equally important and that no one has a right to harass, insult or cause offence to any other person for any reason.

We particularly reject the way that some people abuse others:

*because they are richer or poorer, older or younger,
because they are small or tall, thin or fat,
because of the colour of their skin,
because they are a teacher or a pupil,
because of their religion or beliefs,
because of disability or personal problems,
because of gender or sexual orientation,
because of their looks or what they wear,
because of their likes or dislikes,
because they are popular or unpopular,
because of their ability or lack of ability,
because of their nationality or accent.*

We are all individuals with differences, but we are all members of Townsend and can learn from each other.

We are very proud to be a Church of England School but as well as welcoming applications from those who are active members of the Church of England we also warmly welcome those of other faiths and those of no faith. This school is genuinely open to all and you do not have to go to Church to come here.

The school is a voluntary aided, all-ability co-educational school for pupils aged 11 to 18. Our aim is to provide a secure and happy environment where all our pupils can enjoy working and learning and in which all can develop their potential to the fullest extent, intellectually, spiritually, personally and socially in preparation for a successful and creative adult life.



ACHIEVEMENT FOR ALL EXCELLENCE IN LEARNING



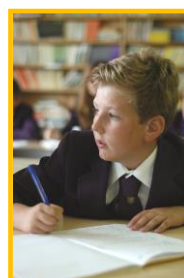
High expectations supported by excellent resources and expert teaching from qualified, professional staff ensure that all pupils have the opportunity to succeed. Rigorous monitoring and assessment takes account of pupils' different aptitudes and interests and enable all to achieve to the very best of their ability.

Every pupil is involved in setting and reviewing targets. At the very beginning of Year 7 pupils are normally taught in mixed-ability classes for most subjects, but then, for some subjects, they are placed in sets with children of similar ability as they progress through the school.

Subject staff and year teams build detailed profiles of individual progress and effort and this important information is reported to parents/carers.

The school's system of rewards helps motivate pupils to achieve their maximum potential.

Examination results are strong at Townsend and our focus on outcomes is relentless. Our monitoring of lesson quality is frequent and the progress of individual children is tracked at regular intervals.





SUPPORT FOR ALL

FOCUSSING ON THE INDIVIDUAL



We attach great importance to getting to know pupils well and to ensuring that they are happy. Many of our pupils were the only person who came from their primary school, but from their first day at Townsend School they became part of our family. Our welcome and integration of new pupils has been frequently praised. Links with primary schools mean that all children will have met some members of staff and enjoyed meeting other new pupils during our annual 'taster day' before transferring. Parents/carers too will have had the opportunity to meet their child's form tutor and the appropriate Director of Learning (Head of Year) before their child starts in September. We traditionally recruit pupils to Year 7 from over 60 different primary schools and from a very wide area of Hertfordshire, Luton, Bedfordshire, and Barnet. Such is the quality of our work and our partnership with parents/carers that many parents/carers are happy to arrange for their child to travel relatively long distances to get to Townsend. Careful contact ensures that the move from primary school to Townsend School is smooth and that everyone settles in quickly.

We believe that pupils learn best in a calm, orderly and secure environment. Our behaviour code is illustrated in the 'Respect for All' policy and we expect high standards of conduct and courtesy. Discipline at Townsend is best described as 'firm but fair' with a range of appropriate sanctions if work or behaviour expectations are not met. We have a strict uniform policy, requiring our pupils to dress smartly and we look to parents/carers to support us in this.

A system of merits and rewards celebrates pupils' achievements throughout the year. We believe that pupils thrive on praise and encouragement, and we work hard to ensure that every pupil leaves school with enhanced life chances and ready for the modern world because they came to Townsend.





A PARTNERSHIP FOR ALL OUR PARENTS/CARERS

A child's home is one of the most important influences on any child's learning and we try to work in close partnership with parents/carers to ensure that all pupils enjoy the very best education. Form tutors build a relationship with parents/carers and there are many formal and informal opportunities each year to discuss a child's progress.

Every family is encouraged to keep in regular contact with their child's form tutor. Reports are sent home and parents/carers are always welcome to contact the school to arrange to discuss any concerns, successes, or problems.



The school has an active Parents/carers Association (The Friends of Townsend) that supports a variety of events and raising significant funds for the school. The Association is a vital and integral part of our community and all the families of our pupils are welcome to participate fully in school activities.





FACILITIES FOR ALL SUPERB RESOURCES

Surrounded by open countryside and with over 6 Hectares (15 acres) of playing fields and landscaped areas. Townsend has one of Hertfordshire's most attractive school sites. The school has benefited from much refurbishment and improvement over recent years, resulting in excellent accommodation and resources.



These include –

- ◆ *A state-of-the-art Discovery and Independent Learning Centre that also houses our library and some of our extensive computing facilities - including 50 wireless laptop computers for use in the Independent Learning Centre*
- ◆ *All teaching areas have dedicated teaching rooms and all have broadband internet access, interactive computer teaching screens, visualizers, as well as traditional specialist resources*
- ◆ *Seven specialist refurbished hi-spec science laboratories*
- ◆ *A modern, award-winning classroom suite for the English department*
- ◆ *Fully-equipped specialist rooms for art and design and including a large photography darkroom*
- ◆ *A dedicated modern Technology Centre with two fully-equipped food technology rooms and refurbished electronics and resistant material areas/workshops*
- ◆ *A drama studio equipped with specialist lighting*
- ◆ *Seven computer suites networked by fibre optic cables that run throughout the school and all with broadband Internet access. Additionally there are several hundred mobile Chromebook computers available in every area of the school. The superb computing facilities are complemented by a wireless Wi-Fi network accessible throughout the school site*
- ◆ *Dedicated classrooms for the teaching of mathematics and others rooms for the teaching of modern foreign languages*
- ◆ *Dedicated modern religious education and humanities classrooms*
- ◆ *Seminar, conference and training facilities – available for hire but available for use by our pupils during the day*
- ◆ *We have a partnership with the St Albans Music School, part of the Hertfordshire Music Service, who currently operate from our purpose built music centre and 12 music practice rooms. The Music School also supports our music teaching, our visiting music specialist teachers and tuition, and provide access to some extra-curricular music – such as choirs, bands, orchestra, and wind groups*
- ◆ *A modern fully resourced dedicated Sixth Form Centre with study rooms, computer room with broadband and Wi-Fi internet access, teaching rooms, seminar rooms, and a comfortable Post-16 pupil common room/social area*
- ◆ *A large lecture theatre with full audio/visual facilities*
- ◆ *Extensive picnic and landscaped areas with outdoor seating and two canteens, one of which serves a range of food at lunchtimes and during the morning break*
- ◆ *Many outside all weather table tennis tables and ten indoor table tennis tables*
- ◆ *A prayer and reflection room organised by pupils for pupils and available for anyone to use. There is also a purpose designed outside prayer and worship area.*
- ◆ *A large outside, all weather covered canopy area for pupils to relax in*
- ◆ *Covered walkways between main buildings for pupil comfort*
- ◆ *All pupil toilets and changing rooms have been refurbished to a high standard*
- ◆ *Double glazing, secure fencing and electronic doors throughout the school site*
- ◆ *A pupil breakfast club area and café style facilities*

Facilities for sport are good and include -

- ◆ *A large all-weather multi use multi-sport area and two extensive sports playing fields used for athletics, rounders, football, rugby netball, basketball and other team games*
- ◆ *A 25 metre heated indoor swimming pool*
- ◆ *An (ECB Standard) artificial cricket pitch*
- ◆ *Six hard surface tennis and netball courts*
- ◆ *A fully equipped gymnasium*
- ◆ *A sport and drama studio*



AN AUDIENCE FOR ALL

THE CREATIVE ARTS

We have a partnership with the St Albans Music School, part of the Hertfordshire Music Service, who currently operate from our purpose built music centre with twelve music practice rooms and also support our music teaching, our visiting music specialist teachers and tuition, and provide some extra-curricular music that includes choirs, bands, orchestra, and wind groups.

Drama and music are important aspects of our curriculum. Outings to theatres and visits from professional theatre companies enrich our pupils' curriculum. There are music concerts and school shows that entertain parents/carers and pupils make a significant musical and dramatic contribution to school Cathedral services. All pupils have the opportunity to join our scheme for individual instrumental tuition supervised by a team of visiting specialist teachers. Townsend pupils also have the opportunity to join any of the St Albans Music School evening and weekend provision. For those with enthusiasm there are many musical and dramatic groups and activities to join.

Townsend means 'teamwork', and one of our most impressive achievements has been the Performing and Creative Arts Displays. Pupils work across the subjects of Art, Music, Dance, Drama, Gymnastics, Modern Foreign Languages, English, and Technology to create a show of extraordinary talent. Staff also organise occasional gymnastic and dance displays and there are school shows.



The creative and performing arts may not be part of the statutory curriculum nationally but at this school, pupils have the opportunity to develop their creative talents.



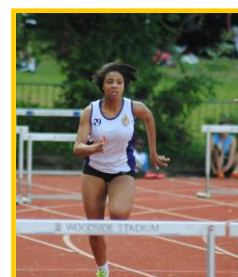
SPORT FOR ALL

A SUCCESSFUL TRACK RECORD



Townsend Church of England School is justifiably proud of its sporting success. All pupils from Year 7 to the Sixth Form participate in a varied and challenging curriculum to develop an interest, skill and enjoyment which will encourage fitness and health for life.

Many school teams and individuals from all age groups compete at all levels. All interests and skills are catered for to satisfy the most enthusiastic and dedicated sportsperson and those who are interested only in recreational activities.



During their time at Townsend pupils will have the opportunity to participate in sports such as –



<i>netball</i>	<i>gymnastics</i>	<i>football</i>
<i>trampolining</i>	<i>badminton</i>	<i>athletics</i>
<i>cross-country</i>	<i>cricket</i>	<i>aerobics</i>
<i>basketball</i>	<i>fitness training</i>	<i>tennis</i>
<i>volleyball</i>	<i>rounders</i>	<i>swimming</i>
<i>rugby</i>	<i>table-tennis</i>	<i>GCSE PE</i>

Older pupils also benefit from access to a range of activities at nearby facilities when appropriate.

Inter-form sports competitions are great events and give pupils who would not normally play competitive sports the chance to compete. There are numerous sports clubs which take place at lunchtimes and after school.





A BRIGHT OUTLOOK FOR ALL

A SUCCESSFUL FUTURE

We aim to provide our pupils not only with academic success but with those experiences that will develop their individuality, confidence and skills, so that they are ready to enjoy the opportunities and challenges of the 21st century. We encourage pupils to think about what they are going to do next and help them to make informed decisions at every stage of their development.



Through a comprehensive teaching programme, pupils are encouraged to think about their strengths and weaknesses and to explore possibilities for their talents. As part of our careers programme, every pupil is offered the opportunity to be individually interviewed and to receive individual guidance.



Currently, all pupils in year 10 participate in work experience which gives them a practical insight into employment. As part of the current careers education programme, consultants from industry, business and commerce are invited into the school to speak about their work and organisations.



Talks, workshops, conferences, university visits, a well-stocked library and our fantastic computer network keep pupils informed of the opportunities available.



Pupils in years 10 to 13 are offered the opportunity of taking part in the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme where they are able to develop many important life skills as well as taking part in expeditions and helping in the community. When appropriate, a link with the Hertfordshire Fire and Rescue Service has provided special courses for some pupils.



When our pupils leave Townsend, for university, further education, apprenticeships, or for employment, they take with them not only sound academic qualifications, but also an understanding of life in modern Britain, the world in which they live, confidence, kindness and the commitment to succeed in whatever they choose to do.



SUCCESS FOR ALL

THE POST-16 CHALLENGE

The number of pupils opting to stay on into years 12 and 13 (the sixth form) over the last few years demonstrates its popularity and reputation. Life in the Sixth Form is an exciting and challenging experience which allows pupils greater independence and freedom, whilst still providing a firm framework of support. As a founding member of The Alban Learning Partners (ALPS) - a very successful local post 16 consortium with five other St Albans schools, Townsend offers an unparalleled choice of courses in the Sixth Form.

Our aim is to provide as much flexibility as possible so that pupils can study a wide combination of subjects. In addition to their chosen subjects, all pupils participate in a programme of complementary studies that supports and enriches their post 16 experience.

Sixth formers have their own dedicated study centre and a large well-equipped common/social room. Staff constantly monitor and review each pupil's progress to ensure that high standards of performance are maintained.

Sixth Form pupils contribute greatly to the life of the school, supporting staff and younger pupils in many ways. For example, they lead the Pupil Council, act as form helpers, mentor younger pupils, and some train as anti-bullying counsellors. Social events, trips and study visits are organised by and for the Sixth Form to complement their academic studies.

Throughout their time in the Sixth Form, pupils are offered individual support and guidance. They are helped to assess their abilities and strengths so that they make the best decisions for their future.

We want all of our pupils to leave us confident and qualified to move on to the next phase of their lives – be that University, Further Education, an apprenticeship, or employment.





OPPORTUNITIES FOR ALL BEYOND THE CLASSROOM



Townsend Church of England School is a dynamic and vibrant community and there are many exciting and challenging activities which complement pupils' study courses, making their lives more fulfilling.



There are numerous clubs and activities which take place at lunchtimes or after school. These range from all the major sporting clubs to music, drama, art, homework, science, and computer clubs.



Field trips, visits to exhibitions, lectures and theatres, weekend or day visits enhance courses studied. There are guest speakers who visit the school and workshops led by visiting specialists.



The school has strong links with our community and pupils are sometimes involved in local projects, voluntary service, and in raising significant funds for local and national charities.





SPIRITUALITY FOR ALL

THE CHURCH CONNECTION

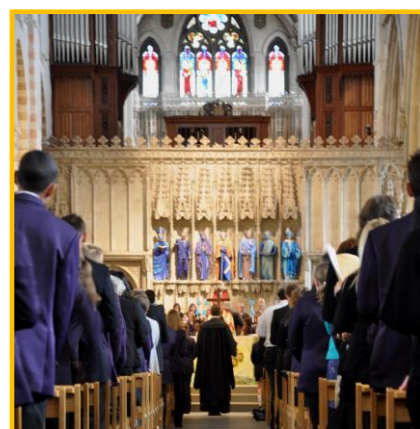
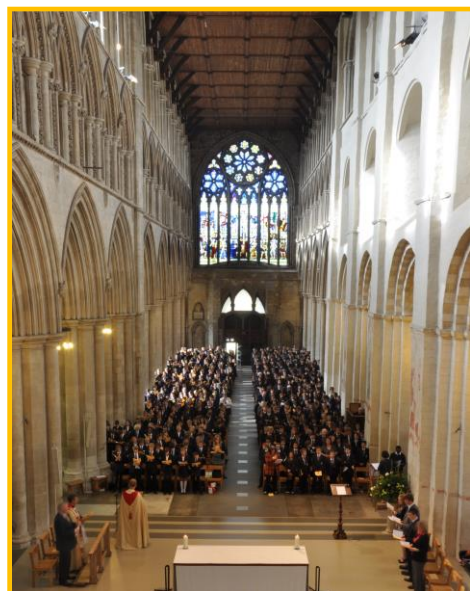


Townsend is a Church School but you do not have to go to Church to come here, however, you will need to be in sympathy with our ethos and traditions. Children of all faiths and with no faith are welcome at this Church school.

Religious Studies is an important part of our curriculum. An academic subject in its own right, it is also an integral part of each pupil's day, helping them to explore their understanding of God and to reflect on their relationship with him, each other and the world they live in. All pupils have lessons in Religious Studies to examination level.

There is an emphasis is on worship and celebration. There is a time during every day for an act of collective worship, either in form groups, year groups, or multi-year group gatherings. This school has a long association with St Albans Cathedral and Abbey Church and there are four annual services held in the Cathedral that all pupils attend. There are also voluntary opportunities during each term for pupils to attend Holy Communion services if they want to and there are other worship activities held in school. A faith youth group for those interested meets regularly to worship and pray together in a friendly and informal atmosphere.

Our Christian beliefs form the cornerstone of everything we do. We aim to stimulate lively, enquiring minds as pupils examine the development of religious belief and think about moral and ethical questions. Our 'Respect for All' code, fund-raising for charity, and voluntary services to the community are examples of the practical opportunities our pupils have to live out Christian values.





ACHIEVEMENT FOR ALL GOOD OUTCOME FOR ALL

Ofsted and Church Inspections

As Townsend is a Voluntary Aided Church of England School we are inspected twice!

The two inspections are carried out under Section 5 and Section 48 of the Education Act. Ofsted send in inspectors and so does the Church of England.

Parents/carers, staff, pupils, and governors are all pleased to know that absolutely everything inspected in the three latest inspections was graded as good or outstanding.

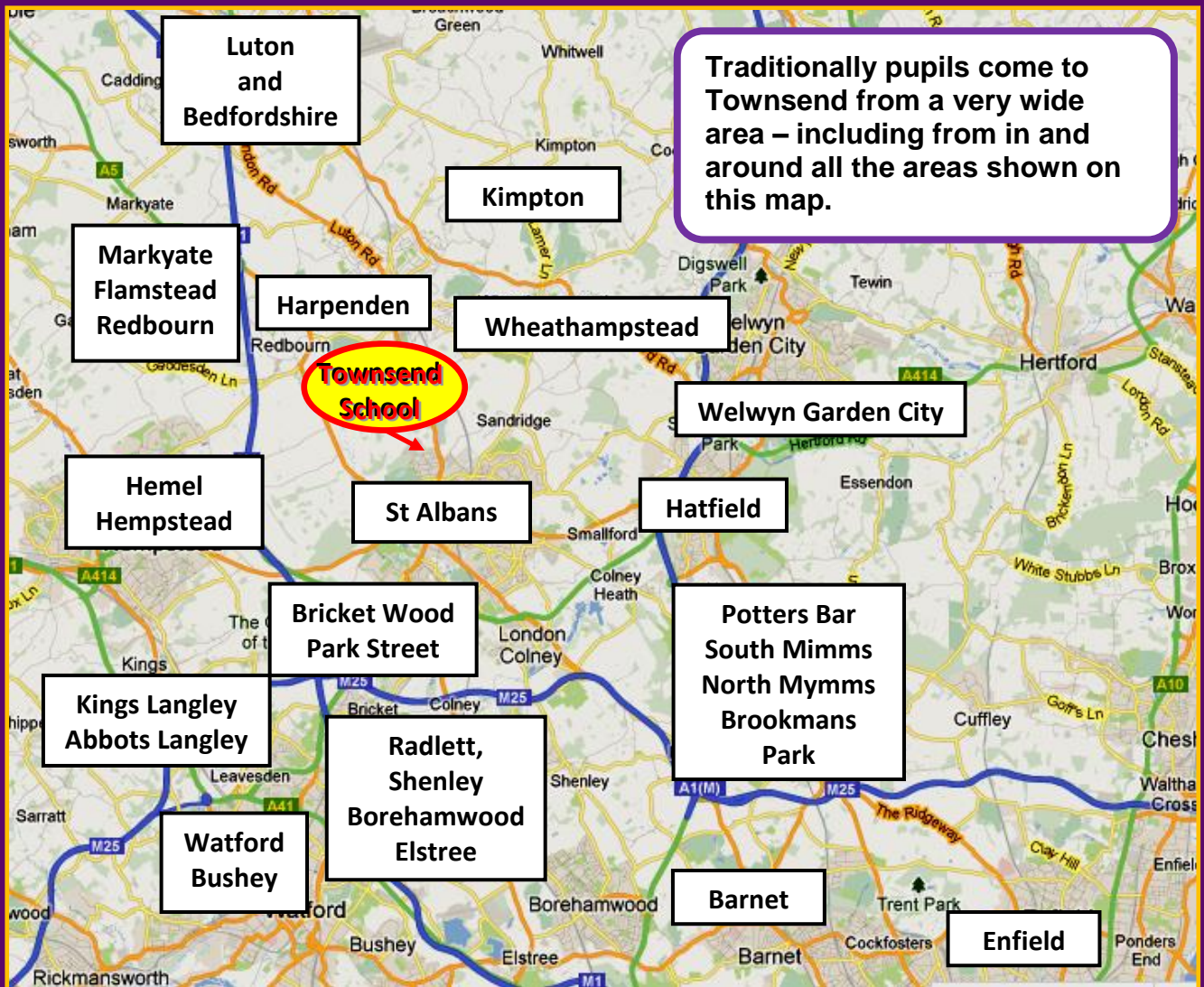
The inspection reports tell you a great deal about our school and about our delivery of a successful education for young people so that they may take their constructive place in society. Pupils leave us well qualified and with strong values to guide them through life.

In all recent inspection reports you will read about our care for our children and about the way that we help them to achieve their potential. Helping children to learn well while caring for them as individuals are strengths of this school.

Our inspection reports can be viewed on our website (www.townsend.herts.sch.uk) or directly on the Ofsted website or the Church of England website. The inspection reports are a very strong endorsement of our work and we hope that you enjoy reading all recent inspection reports as together they provide an excellent overview of our school.

The inspection reports are a very positive affirmation of our core values. They affirm the quality of what we do and are a great reassurance to parents/carers that pupils attending Townsend School are well taught and well cared for.





Townsend Church of England School

High Oaks, St Albans, Hertfordshire AL3 6DR

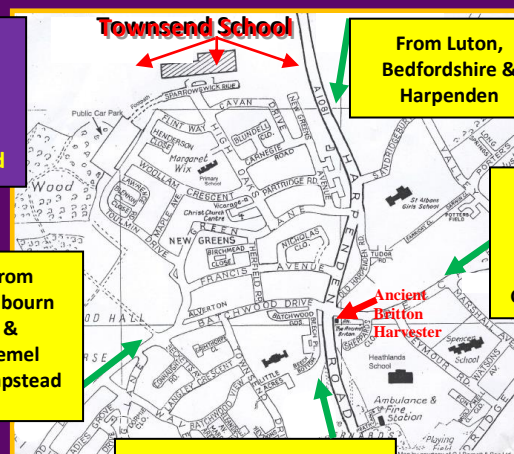
Telephone 01727 853047

Fax 01727 834523

Email for admissions admin@townsend.herts.sch.uk

Website www.townsend.herts.sch.uk

Everyone
is
welcome
at
Townsend



From
Hatfield
&
Welwyn
Garden City

From St Albans City Centre