

ORCHARD SCHOOL BRISTOL



NEW STUDENT PROSPECTUS



ORCHARD
SCHOOL
BRISTOL

INSPIRE TODAY. EMPOWER FOR LIFE

Welcome



I am delighted to welcome you to our wonderful school!

Orchard is a seriously good school, with excellent facilities and highly skilled and very well qualified teaching staff. Our GCSE results demonstrate we are going from strength to strength. Our progress targets are set to ensure students achieve within the top 20% of all schools nationally, and many exceed this to be in the top 5%.

We want our students to grow into

well-rounded, confident, ambitious young people. We pride ourselves on the excellent relationships our staff have with our students, and how we work in partnership with parents and carers. We commit to pursuing the highest standards, the highest care and the highest achievement for every single student.

Our school is a happy place in which to learn and grow. We reflect our local community as a diverse,

multi-cultural school, with all abilities represented, and where all members are equally valued. We believe in the immense potential of each of our students and we are committed to giving them every possible opportunity to succeed.

It is a privilege to lead Orchard School. I hope you find Orchard is the right school for your children, where they will feel challenged and supported, to reach their full potential.

Julia Hinchliffe, Headteacher

What makes Orchard School unique?

Our vision statement, “inspire today, empower for life” underpins all that we do. We inspire our students to live our Orchard Values, learning to be Open minded, Respectful, Creative & Curious, Healthy, Ambitious, Responsible and Determined.

We teach and encourage excellent oracy skills, to give young people confidence to speak up and have their voice heard.

We believe every child can become a leader, and we actively encourage students to take part in leadership opportunities such as School Ambassadors, Sports Leaders, Student reps in the Student Council,

Anti-Bullying Ambassadors, Healthy Heroes, Library Leaders, Digital Safety Leads, Eco Leaders, Rights Respecting Leaders, Fundraisers, Student Coaches, and Prefects.

Our staff are evidence-informed, highly qualified and passionate about the subjects they teach.

They have in-depth knowledge of GCSE courses and over one third of our teachers are GCSE examiners or moderators. All our middle and senior leaders have achieved, or are working towards, National Professional Qualifications in Middle/ Senior Leadership or the NPQH.

We are the Chartered College of Teaching Hub for Bristol.



Please read our Ofsted Report from May 2019, which confirms we are a seriously good school.



“Orchard School Bristol is a positive, calm, ambitious and purposeful environment which celebrates all the different cultures in the school, making it inclusive to all in a very supportive way. This is a true multicultural school...”

SMSC Quality Mark

Our school community is harmonious. Students learn to respect and celebrate diversity, working with children of all abilities and backgrounds, so they have the skills and confidence to manage themselves in modern society. We recognise that success depends on their ability to work with others and take responsibility for themselves.

We recognise excellence in all its forms, whether in outstanding academic work, in rapid progress, in creativity, leadership, conduct or respect. Students thrive on direct praise from teachers, achieving House points, receiving postcards, earning Bronze,

Silver and Gold certificates, Headteacher's Commendations or attending our Annual Award ceremonies.

We provide opportunities for students to think through their ideas and express themselves confidently. All students experience two years of Philosophy for Children taught sessions. We are a founding member of the Bristol Education Partnership where children share ideas with young people from independent schools and different state schools across Bristol. Students can also choose to take part in groups such as LGBTQi+, Be Her Lead, Diversity, Young Carers groups and more.



Respectful

“Lessons are calm and orderly”

Ofsted

Academic success is underpinned by respectful relationships between teachers and young people, and also through having the highest expectations of conduct in lessons.

We have a Ready to Learn behaviour system, which means low level disruption in the classroom is eliminated. We want all children to learn free from distractions, so they can enjoy high quality teaching. For any children who initially struggle to meet our high expectations, we do not lower our standards, but provide a social, emotional and mental health practitioner to support them to reflect and improve their behaviour,

and repair relationships using restorative conversations.

Our uniform reflects our high aspirations. We have strict expectations of uniform, make up, jewellery, equipment, attendance and courtesy, and expect all our families to commit to supporting this. Students are banned from using mobile phones on the school site. Our simple behaviour expectations mean our school is calm, students can learn well, and relationships between students and staff are respectful.



Creative & Curious

“The school has the pupils’ interests at heart, where pupils are given the confidence to thrive, grow, be ambitious and meet their potential, ultimately to make them stronger”

SMSC Quality Mark

The Orchard Student Charter is our commitment to providing the best co-curricular opportunities for our students. We encourage students to take part in public speaking, Duke of Edinburgh’s Award, volunteering, learning a musical instrument, involvement in a school theatrical/musical production, visiting theatres/museums, field trips, visits to college/Higher Education providers, learning to cook, First Aid training, careers talks, work experience, sports teams, competitions, School Council, Youth Council, and numerous Global Awareness Days.

Enrichment sessions for our younger students are built into their timetable so they can

explore their interests and be challenged to try something new every main term. Examples of recent enrichment activities include: Acapella Choir, Ancient Cultures, Architectural Drawing, Chess, Cubing & Puzzles, Chinese Calligraphy, Coding, Cooking on a Student Budget, Dance, Debate Mate, Drama with the Old Vic, Dungeons & Dragons, French Film Club, Gardening Club, Making a Bee Hotel, Enigneering Gliders, Manga Drawing, Meteorology, Robotics, Model United Nations, Origami, World Sports and Yoga.



Healthy

“High emphasis is placed upon the wellbeing of all in the school, and this is noted by the pupils, parents, staff and governors who explained that they are happy”

SMSC Quality Mark

We love sport and competing! Our Sports and Health staff lead after school clubs in all the main team sports, and we participate across Bristol Schools Competitions. Our under 13 Handball Team have been crowned National Champions.

We ensure our students have opportunities to be healthy by taking part in activities to promote wellbeing, supporting physical and mental health. As well as sports activities, music lessons and learning to cook and eat healthily, we run emotional resilience groups and first aid training.

We have invested in social, emotional and

mental health (SEMH) support with a team of three SEMH specialists and a Counsellor who support students through workshops and individual therapy.

Our pastoral care is impressive. Students belong to one of four Houses, and have morning registration and afternoon time every day with their tutor group. Tutors know each child in their group very well and are the first port of call for parents. Our Pastoral Managers support students through the day, helping them with attendance and behaviour, supporting their wellbeing and leading on safeguarding. Our students report they feel safe and happy at school.



Ambitious

“All teaching that we observed was pacey, demanding and high powered”

“Teachers expect much of their pupils, both in terms of work rate and in intellectual demand”

Ofsted

The curriculum is broad, balanced, engaging and inspiring. In Key Stage 3 (Years 7, 8 and 9) students study a full breadth of subjects, including English, Maths, Science, French, Spanish, History, Geography, Religious Studies, Philosophy for Children, Art/Textiles, Product Design, Food Technology, Digital Skills, Music, Drama, PE and some students will also take Latin. We also offer a GROW project, an extended project for students in Year 9 to learn to research independently.

At Key Stage 4 we want as many students as possible to follow the English Baccalaureate (a suite of GCSEs including English, Maths, Sciences, Humanities and a Language)

building to 8 or 9 qualifications with optional subjects which students studied in earlier years. We regularly offer Classics, Health and Social Care, Engineering, Graphics and Sports Science. For students with exceptional skills to achieve Further Maths or an additional language, this could expand up to 11 qualifications.

We are proud of our Personal Development Programme where personal and social skills are delivered alongside Relationships, Sex and Health Education, Careers Education, Equalities, Citizenship and Character Education – all brought together through Orchard Values. In Year 10 we prepare all of our students to engage in a week's Work Experience.



Responsible

“Numerous opportunities exist for the pupils to have a democratic voice within the school and to undertake leadership roles. Pupils and parents speak highly of the opportunities offered to all the pupils [...] the school has an empowering effect upon its pupils”

SMSC Quality Mark

There are very strong relationships between staff and students. Our students feel that they belong to Orchard School – they appreciate that their tutor and their teachers know them well and will support them to meet the ambitious targets we set in their learning. They also understand that they have a voice and that they are actively involved in shaping the future of Orchard School.

At Orchard we have a strong programme of leadership opportunities, as we believe all of our students are leaders of the future. The Duke of Edinburgh's Award is thriving at Orchard, and we have an active Student

Council.

We promote Oracy and our young people gain confidence through speaking in public in school competitions, assemblies and open events.

In addition, there are competitions such as cookery, debating, Pi Day, inter-House sports and quizzes, to gain House points. Older students often take a lead role in these for younger students. Students gifted in Maths enjoy the UK Mathematics Trust challenges, and we work with universities, businesses, charities and other schools to give students opportunities to take responsibility, raise awareness and represent the school.



Determined

“Pupils ... respond with energy and eagerness. They are keen to respond to teachers’ questions, to make contributions to lessons and to put their all into the tasks that face them”

Ofsted

We encourage all of our students to work hard, showing determination and resilience.

For students with additional learning needs, our inclusion team enable children to access the curriculum, and receive appropriate and effective interventions, including literacy, numeracy, speech and language, English as an Additional Language, alongside professional SEND services, as required.

If your child is gifted/has high prior attainment, teachers will provide differentiated tasks in class so they can work at a higher level and be stretched appropriately. Co-curricular opportunities

provide additional challenge so children can move on to excellent sixth forms and be prepared for top universities. For A Levels, many students choose North Bristol Post-16 at Redland Green or Cotham School, and Redcliffe, Cathedral, V6 and St Brendan's 6th forms. City of Bristol College and SGS (Filton) are also very popular choices. Some of our most successful students have received scholarships to Colston's School, Redmaids High School, Bristol Grammar School and Clifton College. Where students have a specific vocational course in mind, we support them to find apprenticeships and specialist post-16 providers.



In partnership with parents

We have a wonderfully experienced pastoral team who work with parents and carers very closely to provide the best support for children in school.

Transition can be a worrying time for Year 6 children, so we liaise closely with primary teachers and parents, and invite children in for Transition days so they feel more confident starting with us.

Our Pastoral Managers are available to help with attendance and wellbeing worries, and as non-teaching members of staff, have time dedicated to visiting families and helping resolve concerns.

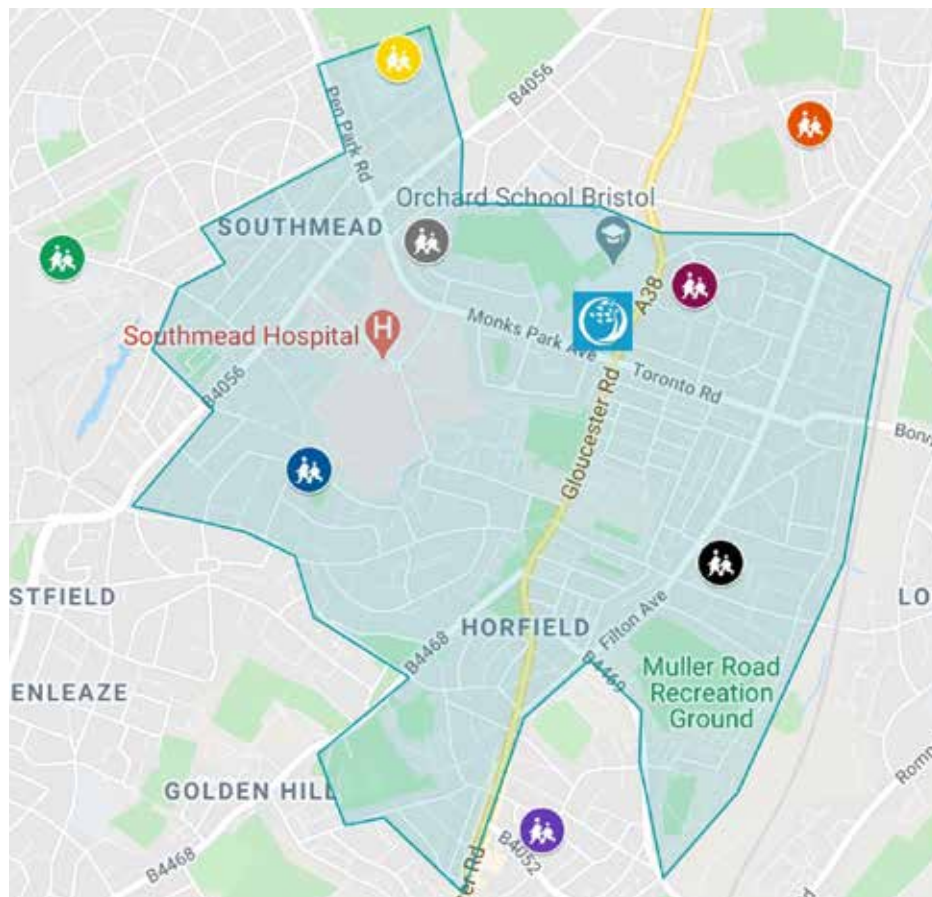
We are not a selective school and we aim to serve children of all abilities. Applications for admissions are made through Bristol City Council Admissions team. If you are a South Gloucestershire resident, you can still apply through your own Council admissions. Places are strictly provided according to our Admissions Policy on our website.











“You reach out to your local community in a very real way. Parents are overwhelmingly supportive and appreciative of your work and that of your staff”

Ofsted

Orchard is a popular school and has been over-subscribed for the past four years. We strongly encourage you to visit, meet our staff, or talk to current parents to find out why so many families are choosing Orchard School first for their children.





-  Orchard School Bristol
-  Upper Horfield Comm School
-  Horfield CofE Primary School
-  Filton Avenue Primary School
-  Badock's Wood Primary
-  Fonthill Primary School
-  St Teresa's Primary School
-  Ashley Down Primary School
-  Bishop Road Primary School
-  Shield Road Primary School

Orchard School Bristol
Filton Road
Horfield
Bristol BS7 0XZ

Contact:
www.orchardschoolbristol.co.uk
0117 377 2000
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This school has been amazing. I can't believe how well they have communicated with us, supported my child emotionally and challenged her with her learning. Any issues I raise with them are dealt with really effectively. I can see how much each and every teacher really cares for all of the pupils. I could not imagine a better place for my child's education. I cannot praise this school enough.

-Parent quoted in our Ofsted Report-



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