

Icknield High School



Prospectus | 2022-2023



'Raising the Achievement of All'

I would like to extend a very warm welcome to Icknield High School.

It is a privilege to be the Headteacher of Icknield High School. We are justifiably proud of our excellent reputation for academic achievement, inspirational teaching and high quality pastoral support. We have a rich history, clear identity and extremely strong community.



Educating children is both a responsibility and a privilege and, at Icknield High School, we are extremely ambitious for our students' futures and take our commitments very seriously.

We aim to ensure that our students have access to the best possible opportunities and experiences during their education, so that they can reach their full potential and are better prepared for the future. Our work is focused on developing and celebrating students as individuals and not just as learners. Every student is encouraged to: find and nurture their talents, believe in themselves and the difference they can make in the world, and seek to be the very best they can be in all endeavours. We are proud that our students leave us equipped with the personal qualities and academic qualifications to lead happy, successful lives, **often achieving more than they believed possible.**

"There is a strong culture of achievement". (Ofsted 2021)

The school is proud of its inclusive and purposeful ethos and our students are at the heart of every decision. Everything we do is about ensuring their experiences here help them to develop in a caring, supportive and safe environment with a strong pastoral structure at the centre of the school. We believe and exceptional education is about doing **the simple things that work, doing them well and doing them all the time.** We don't overcomplicate things. At Icknield High School things are simple; teachers teach, and students learn.

Icknield High School fosters a culture of high standards and expectations for all with regards to learning, behaviour and aspirations. It is our expectations that students have respect, integrity, maturity and pride in themselves and the school.

I hope that by reading our prospectus or browsing our website you get a sense of what we offer, what we stand for and what we can achieve together.

John Noble
Headteacher

Values Aims

In a world which is constantly changing it is our belief that being in a safe and secure environment within a community that cares for each other has never been more important.

What we value at Icknield is the individual person and helping each one to achieve. Their success depends on our placing learning at the heart of all we do and ensuring we care for their health and welfare.

Our values are encapsulated in the maxim 'Icknield C.A.R.E.S.':

Celebration

Aspiration

Respect

Equality

Support

At Icknield High School we invest in 'Raising the Achievement of All'.

Most Able

Staff work hard with our feeder schools through our robust transition process to identify the abilities and talents of all students including identifying the high achieving, gifted and talented students (known as Most Able) of the incoming year group as early as possible.

Once enrolled at Icknield we use the information provided by the Primary Schools, and through our own identification of students with an exceptionally strong aptitude, to ensure that all students are challenged appropriately.

Icknield High School offers many opportunities for our Most Able students to be challenged both within the classroom in all subject areas and through extra curricular activities and events. These include events at Oxford and Cambridge Universities (Years 9, 10 & 11), STEM Club (Years 7-11), Coding Club (Years 7-11), the Leadership Academy (Years 9-11), BBC School Report (Years 7 & 8), Glia Learning Workshops (Years 9-11) & the annual CERN Trip (Years 10 & 11).



Special Educational Needs

Icknield High School prides itself on being an inclusive school. We make sure that classroom and extra-curricular activities encourage the participation of all students, drawing on their knowledge and experience outside school. Teaching and support are integrated together, designed to enable all students to overcome barriers to learning and participate fully in school life.

Learning for all children is given equal priority and available resources are used to maximum effect. Icknield offers a wide range of provision for students with learning difficulties, Opportunities to take part in small group work, literacy/numeracy intervention and social skills.

“Pupils with SEND who have an education health care plan receive support that is well matched to their needs” (Ofsted 2021).

'Raising the Achievement of All'

Our desire is to provide the **highest quality learning provision** to serve our community and therefore our aims are to be:

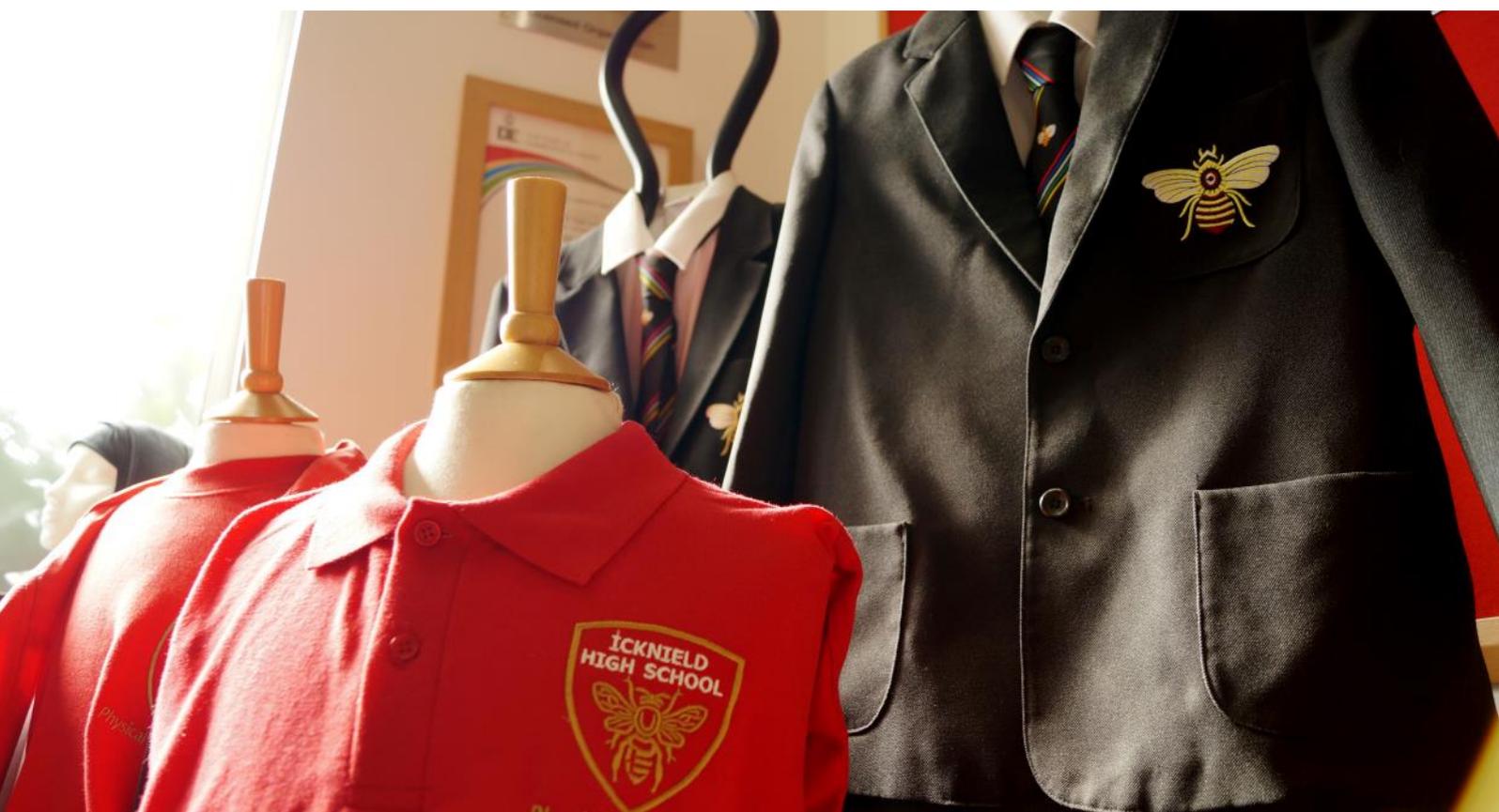
- **A Centre for Learning for the Whole Community**
- **A Centre for Academic Excellence and Achievement**
- **A Centre for Innovation in the Quality of Learning**
- **A Centre for Training and Development of Staff**
- **The First Choice for Parents and Students**



We at Icknield High School pride ourselves on being able to offer an education which places your child at the centre of all we do by combining the **'best of the old'** with the **'best of the new'**, creating a learning environment which supports and promotes the highly valued traditions of courtesy and discipline and blending them with cutting edge innovations in teaching and learning.



Choosing a school for your children is one of the most difficult decisions you will ever have to make as a parent, because it is not just a case of choosing a school but of choosing the **right school**.



Welcome to Ickniel High School

We place a strong emphasis on the basics of **outstanding behaviour, excellent attendance and good manners** as this enables us to create a learning community in which the students are well cared for and treated with mutual and equal respect. This environment allows us to adopt a 'can do' culture and to place learning at the centre of all we do.

"Lessons are calm and orderly which creates a positive environment for them to learn in. Pupils feel safe at school" (Ofsted 2021).

Learning is always at its most effective when students feel **safe and secure** with support, advice and guidance always on hand thereby ensuring our students always say 'I can do that'.

"Leaders have high expectations of behaviour and pupils rise to them" (Ofsted 2021).



We provide as broad an educational experience as possible which is why our curriculum offers every opportunity for each of our students to succeed and to progress to the next stage of their learning. We wish our students to acquire the practical skills they will need throughout their lives but also to develop as **imaginative, inquisitive, creative young adults** who are inspired by the subjects they learn and who in turn will become inspirational role models for others.

To this end we promote the Arts as being a unique feature of Ickniel and couple with the vast range of extra-curricular activities such as Sport, Music and Drama, the opportunities to engage in Public Speaking and Debating competitions and visits to other countries such as Germany and France.

We believe this results in a **comprehensive, fully-rounded education** which can meet the needs of the individual both now and in the future.



A child's happiness is key to our success and **children are happy to belong to our school**. We are privileged to welcome them here and we know the key to our success lies in the relationships we build with our parents and students; by working together in partnership, we can enable every child to realise their potential.

We believe our school provides a unique opportunity to help young people to become well **qualified, healthy, self-assured and confident** adults ready to take their place and play a full role in the future of our global community.

"Pupils of different backgrounds feel included They say 'everyone's welcome' at school" (Ofsted 2021).



Achievements and Standards

Examination outcomes 2021 - 2022

We are immensely proud of all the work and achievements of our students, especially after such a difficult and disrupted year. Our teachers have worked tirelessly to ensure students are all able to progress onto further education and study, and we look forward to seeing what they will achieve in the future.

A summary of the headline figures are listed below:

Measure	Outcomes
Attainment 8	52
Progress 8	+0.68
Pupils staying in education or employment for at least 2 terms after key stage 4	96%
Achieving 5 GCSEs including English and Maths at grade 4+	72%
Achieving 5 GCSEs including English and Maths at grade 5+	53%
% Grade 4+ in English and Mathematics	77%
% Grade 5+ in English and Mathematics	59%
% Grade 7+ in English and Mathematics	22%
% Grade 4+ English	86%
% Grade 5+ English	74%
% Grade 7+ English	30%
% Grade 4+ Mathematics	82%
% Grade 5+ Mathematics	64%
% Grade 7+ Mathematics	33%
% Two Grade 4+ in Science	69%
% Two Grade 5+ in Science	50%
% Two Grade 7+ in Science	21%
Percentage entering English Baccalaureate	51%
English Baccalaureate Average Points Score	4.5
*% Grade 9 – 4 English Baccalaureate	29%
*% Grade 9 – 5 English Baccalaureate	21%

*The English Baccalaureate is comprised of passes in GCSE English, mathematics, science, a modern foreign language and either history or geography.



Key Stage 3

The curriculum at key stage 3 is designed to build on learning undertaken at key stage 2. We address any evident gaps in knowledge when students join us in year 7. We work very closely with our main feeder schools to ensure we understand their curriculum and outcomes so no time is wasted. There is a strong focus on literacy, reading and mathematics for students of all abilities.

Year 7		Year 8 & 9	
Subject	Hours	Subject	Hours
English	8	English	8
Maths	8	Maths	8
Science	6	Science	6
MFL	4	MFL	4
Geography	4	Geography	4
History	4	History	4
Visual Arts	4	Visual Arts	4
Physical Education	4	Physical Education	4
Design Technology	1	Design Technology	1
Food Technology	1	Food Technology	1
Computing	2	Computing	2
Ethics and Philosophy	1	Ethics and Philosophy	2
PSHE	1	PSHE	1
Music	1	Music	1
Extra Literacy	1		

Key Stage 4

At key stage 4 the curriculum builds upon the foundation work undertaken at key stage 3. We do this by ensuring that students develop a deeper and more insightful understanding of the core knowledge underpinning their subjects. Whilst academic rigour is at the heart of our curriculum, we also recognise the importance of students continuing to access the wider curriculum beyond the restraints of the GCSE specifications. There continues to be a strong focus on Literacy, Reading and Mathematics for students of all abilities at key stage 4.

At key stage 4 all students follow a core curriculum which includes: English, Mathematics, Science, Core Physical Education, PSHE and a Visual Art subject of their choice. The following option subjects are also available for students to select as an open choice: Business Studies, Computer Science, Design Technology, Food Technology, French, Geography, German, Health & Social Care, History, Spanish, Sport science, Sport studies and Music. Based on students' performance during key stage 3 students are placed on the most appropriate pathway to ensure all students leave with the best possible outcomes.

An overview of the curriculum for all subjects across all year groups can be found in the curriculum section of the website.

Curriculum

The curriculum at **Icknield High School** encompasses every aspect of a young person's learning from personal well-being and social skills to the promotion of strong academic rigour across a wide range of subjects. The curriculum is designed to be **well sequenced, contextualised/inclusive and ambitious** and promotes the best standards of behaviour based on our values of mutual respect.

Our curriculum is designed around 25 one hour lessons each week on a two weekly cycle. In addition to this all year groups begin each day with a 30 minute session with their tutor groups. At Icknield High School the role of the form tutor is extremely important and recognised as being crucial in supporting our students development, both academic and personal, throughout their Icknield career.



Information

At Icknield High School our curriculum is underpinned by our overriding philosophy of 'raising the achievement of all'. We believe that every student, regardless of background, should be afforded the same opportunities to be successful and that nothing should hold a child back from pursuing their talents and passions. We have consistently high expectations of our students and encourage excellence which is reflected in our curriculum design.

We ensure that students have access to powerful knowledge in all subjects and do not narrow our curriculum at either key stage. This means students are given the opportunity to gain a secure foundational base before developing a deeper understanding of each subject over time, both in the classroom and through our varied enrichment activities. This includes students appreciating how knowledge was established, its degree of certainty and how it continues to be revised by scholars.





Personal Development, Behaviour and Welfare

Starting a new school is challenging for both students and parents. We work closely with our feeder schools to ensure a smooth transition by providing opportunities for students to visit the School, meet teachers and familiarise themselves with their new environment. All families are given the opportunity to attend the New Intake evening and meet their child's tutor.

All Year 7 students participate in an extensive induction programme to enable them to settle into High School life. Students will be required to abide by the School rules. Clear expectations about standards regarding behaviour, punctuality, attendance, uniform and attitude to learning are made clear from the start; parental support is vital in achieving and maintaining high standards.

Students' behaviour is exemplary and students in all year groups feel safe at school. The relationships between teachers and students are very good and students are proud of their school community.

"At Icknield High School, pupils are polite, respectful and enthusiastic" (Ofsted 2021).





Our Support and Care

We have 1475 students on roll with 295 in each year group. Each year group has its own tie colour which they keep for the entire five years.

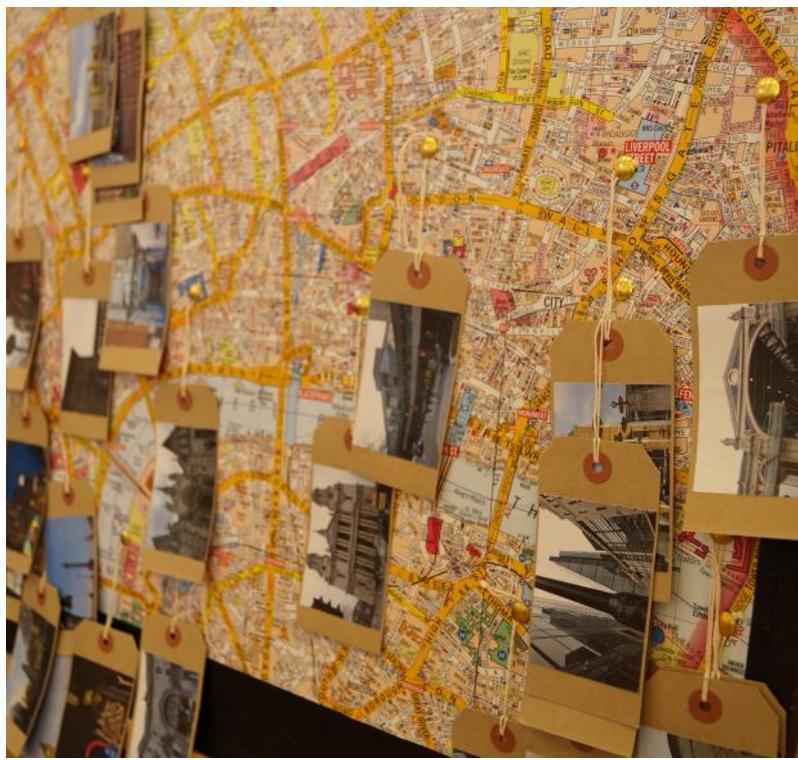
The pastoral system is the bedrock of the School. Each student will be in a tutor group with approximately 30 other children. The tutor is the first point of contact for parents as they see the students on a daily basis. Each year group has a pastoral leader and pastoral support officer, who lead a team of ten tutors. We also have a transition officer and a family support worker.

SISPO (Student Individual Support Plan Office) provides a unique facility that is run by highly trained staff offering a range of support for students. We have a trained counsellor on site 3 days per week and use a variety of external agencies to support our students.

There is a strong culture of 'fairness' and 'justice' in the School – our CARES values are embedded and understood. Students are given a wide breadth of information, guidance and support strategies to help them develop as responsible citizens – making them fully aware of equality laws, anti-bullying, e-safety, personal safety, CSE/FGM and radicalisation issues. In addition to support our diverse demographic catchment, we promote tolerance for different cultures and a respect for 'Fundamental British Values'; bullying and racism are not tolerated.

“Pupils feel safe at school” (Ofsted 2021).





Partnership with Parents

We aim to develop a strong partnership with parents, working together to uphold the School ethos and values and providing a first - class education for your children.

Home-School Agreement

All students and their parents are asked to sign a home-school agreement committing to support the School's aims, values and expectations and to take an active part in your child's education.

Consultation Evenings

There are two formal consultation evenings a year when a parent can meet teachers and the tutor to discuss students' learning and progress. The meeting provides the opportunity to discuss your child's learning and next steps in their education. Progress is reported on three times a year with a 'Progress Check'.

Information and Celebration Evenings

Various information evenings are held throughout the year where we inform parents about new initiatives or give information about your child's education and well - being. We also hold award ceremonies which celebrate students' achievement.

Parent Governors

Our Parent Governors have an important role to play in the continued success of our School. Parent Governors represent the views of parents and ensure parents have their say in the strategic decision - making of the School.

Parental Surveys

Surveys of parents' opinions are carried out annually; feedback is important to us.



Extra-Curricular Opportunities

Students have the opportunity to participate in a wide range of activities whilst at Icknield which include:

- Trips abroad
- Sports Tours
- School musical performances & concerts
- Fundraising and charity work
- Sporting fixtures and competitions
- Sports Leaders Award
- Duke of Edinburgh Award
- Eco Leaders Award
- Homework clubs
- Science clubs
- Debating society
- Arts and media clubs
- Student Voice
- Educational visits
- Breakfast club
- Games club
- Literacy mentors
- Learning Resource Centre
- Various lunch-time clubs including Science, Music, English







Ickniel High School

Riddy Lane,
Luton,
Bedfordshire
LU3 2AH

Telephone: 01582 576561

Fax: 01582 561533

E-mail: info@ickniel.beds.sch.uk

Web: www.ickniel.beds.sch.uk

Twitter: [@icknielhigh](https://twitter.com/icknielhigh)