

shs



Everything Is Possible.



# Welcome to Stroud High School

We believe that education is for life. It helps us to make sense of the world, our place within it and how we can contribute to it. But it's also about making a difference. A brilliant education bestows knowledge that brings opportunity and with it comes responsibility. We teach our students to be the best they can by providing them with the skills, support and confidence to go out into the world and help make it a better place.

Our curriculum is broad and vibrant. Our community is dynamic and forward thinking. Both are built on our values of respect, courtesy, honour and a desire to help others. We encourage difference and embrace diversity. And we never forget the importance of fun, enjoyment and inclusivity in all that we do.

We don't have a one size fits all approach or predetermined path. No matter what a young person wants to do we will prepare them to seize the world of opportunity that awaits. Most of all we are a community of like-minded students, teachers and parents. We are a mix of many different personalities but we are all on the same journey of discovery and united by the belief that we can make a positive difference to the world around us.

We believe in the strength of the human spirit, the brilliance of the human mind and, above all, that **everything is possible**.





# The Learning Experience

The learning experience happens within and beyond the classroom at Stroud High School, enabling the students to flourish and develop the skills and characteristics which will ensure they are ready to pursue any future of choice and go on to make a difference. Our curriculum is broad and vibrant, and as students progress through the school into Key Stages 4 and 5 they are encouraged in a bespoke package of subjects individual to them and their aspirations.

The teaching and learning at Stroud High School supports transition, builds confidence, encourages independence and challenges the students to achieve their personal best. Our specialist teachers across all disciplines are committed to supporting the students with the best experience: alongside our students, we teach in a climate where we constantly review our practice, develop our skills and aspire to achieve the very best for our students. As a school we not only develop our own teaching staff, but are involved in developing those across the county and beyond through delivering subject specialist training, leadership development programmes and sharing our nationally recognised expertise.





# High Performance Learning

Through teaching and learning at Stroud High School, students are explicitly taught VAAs and ACPs – skills to support them to become successful, effective learners. These High Performance Learning terms underpin the language used within the classroom, and students are given the opportunity to practise skills across subject curriculums.

Years 7&8 learn about the VAAs and ACPs in their Personal Development lessons and through the introduction to the Star Awards in tutor time as they transition into life at SHS. Years 9&10 students develop these skills and attributes further in their PSHE lessons and as part of the Empowered Learning programme. Years 11,12&13 engage with these terms in their lessons and these concepts support their scholarship work at A Level.

## Empowered Learning

At Stroud High School we want all of our students to be empowered learners who are able to understand how they learn and who are prepared for their futures. Therefore during Years 9 to 11, students will experience a mixture of taught sessions and external speakers to support this aim.



Values, Attitudes & Attributes (VAAs)	Advanced Cognitive Performance Characteristics (ACPs)	
<b>BEING EMPATHETIC</b> Collaborative Concerned for society Confident	<b>META-THINKING</b> Meta-cognition Self-regulation Strategy-planning Intellectual Confidence	<b>CREATING</b> Intellectual Playfulness Flexible thinking Fluent thinking Originality Evolutionary or revolutionary thinking
<b>AGILE THINKING</b> Enquiring Creative and enterprising Open-minded Risk taking	<b>LINKING</b> Generalisation Connection finding Big Picture thinking Abstraction Imagination Seeing alternative perspectives	<b>REALISING</b> Automaticity Speed and accuracy
<b>HARD WORK</b> Practice Perseverance Resilience	<b>ANALYSING</b> Critical or logical thinking Precision Complex or multi step problem solving	



# KS3 Curriculum (Years 7-9)

The foundations for success of our students are built in Key Stage 3. They experience a broad curriculum of discovery.

In Key Stage 3, students develop the skills to be an effective learner. They are inspired to be curious, ask questions and become intellectually confident. The curriculum encourages them to deepen their understanding of themselves and aspire to their personal best. The student experience in Key Stage 3 underpins the transition into their own bespoke curriculum in Key Stage 4.



Literacy, Language, Communication & Culture	Science, Technology, Engineering & Maths	Character, Health, Wellbeing & Social Responsibility	The world, the Past, Ideas & Spirituality	Design, Creativity, Performance & the Arts
English Language English Literature French German Spanish	Maths Science Computing & IT	Personal Development Star Awards Citizenship (incl British Values) Physical Education Future Choices Extracurricular Opportunities	Geography History Religious Education	Design Technology Art Music Drama



# KS4 Curriculum (Years 10&11)

Students personalise the Key Stage 4 curriculum around their own preferences, and are encouraged to enhance their understanding of themselves as high performance learners. Independent advice and guidance is available to support students when making curriculum choices. In this Key Stage, students study a core of English Language, English Literature, Maths and Science (combined or separate) and then an additional four choices (or three if a student is studying Biology, Physics and Chemistry as individual GCSEs).

Along with their nine GCSE subjects, students follow a programme of Personal Development, Citizenship, Physical Education and Ethics. These are key components of our curriculum that develop students as healthy, well-informed, open-minded young people prepared to make considered decisions.

Key Stage 4 students build upon the foundations of their prior learning and focus on deeper engagement with concepts, ideas and knowledge. There is a focus on study skills, developing intellectual confidence and deliberate practice.



Literacy, Language, Communication & Culture	Science, Technology, Engineering & Maths	Character, Health, Wellbeing & Social Responsibility	The world, the Past, Ideas & Spirituality	Design, Creativity, Performance & the Arts
English Language English Literature French German Spanish	Maths Additional Maths Combined Science Biology Physics Chemistry Computer Science	Personal Development Citizenship (incl British Values) Physical Education Core Ethics Future Choices Extracurricular Opportunities	Geography History Philosophy & Ethics Business Studies	Product Design Food & Nutrition Art Textiles Photography Fine Art Graphics Music Drama



# KS5 Curriculum (Years 12&13)

Stroud High Sixth Form students tailor their curriculum based on their own intellectual and creative interests. Students are able to choose from a broad selection of 26 A Level subjects. The majority of students will pursue their passions by studying three A Levels, but there is the option to study a fourth - for example Further Maths. Alongside A Levels, students will study an enriching additional academic qualification of their choice. This could be the Extended Project Qualification, Gold Crest Award or Core Maths.

Our personalised curriculum pathways offer exciting opportunities for students to work with industry specialists who will guide and mentor students on their learning journey. Scholarship lies at the heart of our Key Stage 5 learning experience. Students are encouraged to invest time in exploring their chosen subject disciplines in depth. Our structured scholarship programme aims to develop independent study. We are proud that our Sixth Form students mature into lifelong learners ready to make their mark in the world.

Literacy, Language, Communication & Culture	Science, Technology, Engineering & Maths	Personal Development & Preparing for Next Steps	Humanities & Social Sciences	Design, Performance & the Creative Arts
English Literature French German Spanish	Maths Further Maths Biology Physics Chemistry Computer Science Product Design Core Maths Gold Crest Award	Pathways Broadening Horizons Programme Scholarship & Independence Extended Project Qualification Leadership & Volunteering	Geography History Philosophy & Ethics Sociology Psychology Politics Business Studies Economics	Product Design Art Textiles Fine Art Drama Physical Education Music



# Student Wellbeing

Wellbeing at Stroud High is our first priority.

Stroud High students have daily access to our universal provision to support their mental health and wellbeing, including: SHS Wellbeing and Personal Development curriculum; a trained and experienced Pastoral Team; Student Services skilfully led by Miss Hooper and Miss Ruther and, of course, Monty our school dog!

Alongside this, as a Mental Health Champion School we have a team of trained Mental Health First Aiders, counselling provision, wellbeing workshops for students and parents, and peer support groups. We also know that parent and carers are the most critical support a young person can ever have so we are always here for you, too, if you need to talk or seek guidance.

As part of understanding how to be an effective learner and being ready to take a leading part of a community, our students have the opportunities to develop supportive personal relationships with staff. We encourage students to learn ways to develop resilience, self confidence and embrace setback with optimism and positivity.



# Personal Development

Opportunities for students to explore interests and seek new challenges sit at the heart of our broader curriculum. Our principle is simple: Making the exceptional an everyday occurrence. It is easy to forget how extraordinary our students are, as they commit to their own personal development with enthusiasm and pride.

From the start of Year 7, clubs and societies are a normal feature of our school experience. By Year 9, over 90% of students undertake the Duke of Edinburgh Award. Year on year, our students rank in the top 3 schools in the South West for completing their DofE at either Bronze, Silver or Gold. Our students show concern for society through community charity work with Stroud Food Bank and Stroud Women's Refuge, as well as local conservation work through our Eco Council. They are confident in challenging societal issues such as the #metoo movement through Femsoc, and support national campaigns such as Black Lives Matters and LGBTQ+ awareness. Students are open minded, embrace difference and are inclusive in their thinking.

We develop young people with agile, enquiring minds - They develop the ability to be curious, to work collaboratively, to be proactive and receptive to new ideas. We expect them to think independently, challenge assumptions and adapt to uncertainty, whilst demonstrating a willingness to innovate and invent through problem solving and risk taking. All of these daily experiences help to create their own self-awareness and personal style. Above all, the values of effort and hard work are instilled as a key part of success.

Clubs and societies at Stroud High School include: Amnesty International, Femsoc, Turing Project, Anti-Bullying Ambassadors, Drama Club, Book Club, Chess Club, Peer Mentoring, Choir, History Society, Art Club, BioChemistry, MedVetDent Society, Eco Council, Euroscola, Debating, Chemistry Olympiad, Physics Society, CCF, Handball, Netball, Couch to 5K, Fair Trade, Cyberfirst, Gardening Club.





# Star Awards

The Star Awards are unique to Stroud High and capture the exciting opportunities that all our Year 7 and Year 8 students have once they start their journey here with us.

Our Star Awards scheme was devised around the idea that, to be an effective learner, all students focus on the skills, behaviours and characteristics they need to be confident and successful young people.

Based on the High Performance Learning principles, an educational philosophy which underpins our approach to learning at SHS, we believe all students can be successful. The Star Awards allow each student to document their own personal achievements and reflect on their own experiences at the start of their Stroud High School career.

## SHS Big Picture Thinking

The Stroud High School Star Awards enable students to identify the following in their learning behaviours, their thinking and their habits both inside and beyond the classroom;

\* meta-thinking \* strategy planning \* intellectual confidence \* intellectually curious and playful when learning \* become a revolutionary thinker \* show concern for society \* be collaborative \* be flexible and open-minded \* take risks \* persevere \* work hard \* practice to become proficient \* logical thinking \* analytical \* critical \* creative \* original \* keep learning \* be active \* give \* take notice \* connect \*





# Life Changing Qualifications

Year on year, our students achieve results that places Stroud High School amongst the very highest performing state schools in the South West, and within the top state schools in the country.

High quality examination performance has been sustained over a number of years. In any given year, A\*-B grades range from 67-80% and routinely around half of all A Level grades are at A\*/A.

At GCSE, students make exceptional levels of progress, with the Progress 8 for the school ranging from 0.7 to 1.12 since 2017. This means students make between two-thirds to a full grade's progress above students with similar Key Stage 2 starting points.

Our students go on to access a full range of Universities, to study a broad range of subjects, and highly competitive Degree Apprenticeships including:

- Oxbridge
- Medical Schools
- Veterinary Schools
- Art Colleges
- Conservatoires
- Performing Arts Colleges
- USA universities
- Renishaw
- NHS
- Dyson Institute of Engineering & Technology
- GE Aviation
- Rolls-Royce
- Vodafone





# Stroud High Sixth Form



Stroud High Sixth Form is an outstanding coeducational Sixth Form that welcomes boys and girls from over 20 different schools from across the county and beyond.

Our students follow an A Level programme of 3 or 4 subjects alongside an Additional Qualification. Students also have the opportunity to get involved in a vast array of enrichment activities ranging from foreign language exchanges, Gold Duke of Edinburgh Award, STEM Gold Crest Award and the BioChemistry club. Not to mention our excellent sports, drama, arts and music provision.

Last year, over 70 students participated in the Turing Project, forging international connections with our partner schools in South Korea and Thailand, with two groups of students spending 10 days abroad with host families and participating in cultural enrichment.



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