Prospectus

'I have come that you might have life and have it to the full' John 10v10





A life-changing next step...

Twyford Church of England High School is a distinctive Christian community which aims to 'see that of God' in every student. We believe that every individual has the capacity to make a positive contribution to the world if they engage intelligently and recognise their God-given gifts. Our mission will be to create an intellectually vigorous community in which all of our students give their best at all times and work purposefully and joyfully towards their goal. We call this the 10:10 ethic and aim to live by it day by day.



Welcome to the Twyford CofE Academies Trust family...

Developing Twyford Church of England High School to be the outstanding school it is today has been a great joy. Twyford Church of **England Academies Trust schools** all share the Twyford school motto: 'I have come that you might have life, and have it to the full' (John 10v10) and we aim to live by the values and disciplines of the 10:10 ethic day by day. Twyford CofE High School is the flagship for this ethic - aiming to give students every opportunity to live their own lives to the full academically, emotionally and spiritually within a stimulating Christian setting.

Twyford CofE Academies Trust schools are upbeat and purposeful places where students learn to be proud of their gifts and develop into individuals. We believe strongly in community. Our aims at Twyford CofE High School are to be an intelligently engaged community which:

- values the gifts of all its members
- strives for excellence
- looks outward to the world

Our family values are Christian ones. We believe in a world which is lovingly and purposefully made and we believe that all people have God-given gifts to use wisely and well. At the school, we aim to create a positive ethic of appreciation for all that the world offers, and gratitude for our human capacity to do and be good. We also aim to get our students to recognise their own needs and areas for improvement and to be both realistic and resolute in addressing these. Most of all we hope that the school gives ample opportunity for students to engage fully and to stretch themselves academically, personally and spiritually. We will work to ensure that this ethic embraces all of our students, whatever their faith or background.

Dame Alice Hudson

Executive Headteacher



"Pupils' achievements are outstanding throughout the school. Pupils of all backgrounds and abilities make excellent progress in their studies. Attainment is high in GCSE and A-level examinations."

Ofsted 2012



Educating to inspire...



In leading Twyford CofE High School, my aim is to sustain an intellectually vibrant community which looks outward to the world.

Twyford is a school characterised by high academic standards and a disciplined approach to study, but also a place where curiosity, creativity and community service are central to every child's experience. Our students come from a wide range of backgrounds across West London. Most come from practising Christian backgrounds although all of the major world faiths are represented and all students are united by a commitment to living and working in a distinctively Christian community which lives out its values actively day to day.

Twyford students will not only achieve highly, they will also think and act responsibly, seeking to make a positive impact within their local and global community. We are proud that our strengths in Languages and in Science and what our exceptional Sixth Form offer make Twyford an intellectually challenging environment. This is particularly evident from the success of students in achieving places at Oxford and Cambridge as well as on competitive courses such as Medicine and Dentistry.

We now also welcome students on Music scholarships who will join our community to take particular advantage of the numerous musical opportunities offered by Twyford's many choirs and large and small music ensembles. We hope that you will enjoy reading about what Twyford has to offer your child and welcome you to find out more.

Karen Barrie Associate Headteacher



"Our son's time at Twyford had been beyond our best expectations, which are fairly high in the light of having sent two children to Cambridge. The opportunities he has had have been brilliant, and his experiences there have set him up for his adult life."

Year 13 Parent

Come and join us at Twyford...

Twyford aims to make the very most of its students. We do this by providing an education that is both challenging and fulfilling. We offer a full educational diet; not only in the formal curriculum, but also in a wide range of available extra-curricular activities!

Love

At Twyford we wish to instil a love of learning. The curriculum is broad and balanced. The core subjects of Mathematics, English and Science provide a very secure foundation for progress. With each intake of new Year 7 students we aim to build immediately on their achievements at Key Stage 2. Setting in Maths, Science and Languages starts early in Year 7 and in other subjects from the end of Year 8 when students also make their first elective choices in the creative arts and digital applications.

This allows students to be thoroughly stretched academically, but also to play to their strengths, majoring more on computing or electronics, graphics or drama, fine art or music as their abilities dictate. As students move up the school, their available options become increasingly varied. The Art & Design Faculty gives students experience of computer aided design, photography, animation and a wide range of fine art techniques such as work with clay and print-making. The Modern Foreign Languages Department offers Latin, French, German & Spanish classes. In Year 7, all students (except those receiving intensive literacy support) study either French or Spanish, with able linguists (half of the year group) also studying Latin. In Year 8, more able linguists are offered German

as a second Modern Foreign Language. Students start their GCSE course in their chosen language(s) at the start of Year 9. This is to enable students to obtain the best possible results at GCSE. The vast majority of students opt for at least one language at GCSE, as languages are seen by universities as a facilitating subject, and all three Modern Languages are available at both GCSE and A-level. As well as Maths and English, all students in Year 7 take Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Computing, History, Geography, Music, Art & Design, Drama and Religious Education. **Religious Education GCSE is** compulsory and is taken one year in advance of other subjects. As a church school, RE is regarded as a core subject, giving all students to develop a mature understanding of world religions and allowing individuals to develop a secure and balanced moral framework.

PSHE is taught by the RE department as well as by form tutors and also encourages students to be self-aware and socially responsible. The tutor time programme also uses Christian values as the starting point for exploration of personal and ethical issues. In all subjects we are proud to have excellent and well qualified subject staff who have devised the Twyford Trust curriculum independently to meet the needs of all our students. Particular care has been taken to ensure that the skills demanded at A-level are developed from Year 7 onwards. To this end we also focus on developing a core set of thinking skills and creative applications which are delivered across the curriculum. These are:

Intellectual Disciplines

- 1. Listen intently
- 2. Read critically
- 3. Memorise accurately
- 4. Write cogently
- 5. Explore analytically
- 6. Discern logical patterns
- 7. Form coherent arguments
- 8. Apply systems

Creative Applications

- 1. Look outward
- 2. Exercise curiosity and enquiry
- 3. Engage creatively
- 4. Act responsibly
- 5. Work co-operatively

The Arts have a very high profile at the school. In Drama and Music students learn confidence in performance which enriches their ability to learn in all other subjects. Our Music curriculum is particularly well developed – allowing students to diversify into Music Technology in Year 9 as well as developing their own individual musicianship as an instrumentalist or singer. The school also has an excellent reputation for a wide range of sports. PE lessons cover Netball, Gymnastics, Dance, Football, Hockey, Basketball, Cricket, Rugby and Athletics.

The staff of the school love to see their students succeed and have high expectations that each will do well according to his or her abilities. All students follow a core GCSE programme of English, Maths, RE and Science, however from Year 9 there is flexibility of course choice depending on aptitude. Maths teach AQA level 2 Further Maths to bridge the gap to A-level. More able students will take Chemistry, Biology & Physics as a separated Science qualification and an accelerated double Languages programme is available. At GCSE there is a range of courses to suit the aptitudes of each student. These are organised into distinct 'pathways' according to the ability

profile of the student, however subject choices are flexible within each of these routes. Individual support is given to ensure that students receive the best advice on the most appropriate subject and exam choices available to them. Students may take up Business Studies at the beginning of Year 10 or focus their energies on vocational areas such as Music Technology. Accelerated courses for more able students run outside of the normal timetable – these options vary from year to year however this year, for example, accelerated classes have enabled some students to take an additional language, Music or Computing to GCSE as well as a full programme of core and optional subjects.

Twyford is a comprehensive school and is very aware that its students have very different abilities. Our aim is to provide a learning environment that encourages all students to achieve. There are a number of support options for students who need a more modified programme. These are taught in smaller sets in order to give students more individual attention and help.

Our Spiritual Life...

As a Church of England High school, our spiritual life is central to our way of being in community. Our expectation is that students at the school will become familiar with the Christian story and understand it alongside the stories of other traditions. We hope that this framework will support students to develop their spiritual gifts in a secure context.





Joy

The School rejoices in an exhilarating range of extra-curricular activities. Additional enrichment activities take place in a programme of after-school classes and curriculum led clubs for students to do further work in particular subject areas.

Twyford's Music specialism is very well established and the programme for individual Music tuition is extensive. Students may have lessons in piano, vocals, guitar, percussion, brass and woodwind instruments. We have an active Orchestra, a training Orchestra, a Jazz Orchestra, Wind Band, Chamber and Gospel choirs and instrumental ensembles. The Music department has extensive use of two music rooms and a Music Technology Suite complete with a Recording Studio and well equipped Performance Centre. A popular extra-curricular activity is to be trained as part of the student Audio Visual team - the 'Twyford Techies'.

The School places a very high premium on top quality performance and has a large number of concerts and events as well as competing in national competitions and festivals.

The School's sports teams (in Netball, Rugby, Football and Basketball) have an established record of success at Ealing Borough and regional levels. Full programmes of team matches and training sessions take place after school on every day of the week and on some weekends. There is tremendous scope for residential visits at Twyford and they are great fun! Year 7 start their time at Twyford with an outward bound experience at Hillingdon outdoor activities centre and later in the year enjoy camping in the New Forest, Year 8 are offered curriculum visits to France, Germany or Spain and Year 9 are given the opportunity to go outward bound in Devon where water skiing, climbing and canoeing are the order of the day. Language exchanges are on offer in France, Germany and Spain and the school also has a link school in Mozambique and organises biennial visits and link activities for senior students.

The school year ends with "Activities Week" when many of the residential trips take place. However, for students who stay at home there are exciting activities also.



Peace

As a faith school, Twyford's priority is to make space for the spiritual. The Twyford community is made up of students from all of the major world faiths (approximately 85% of places are awarded to students from practising Christian backgrounds and 15% of places go to students from other faith communities. An additional 19 places are awarded to students with particular musical aptitude, who may be from any background provided they are drawn to the Christian values and practices described). Our morning assemblies are framed with Christian prayers and readings including: a welcome at the start and a blessing and dismissal at the end. The same framework is used in tutor times which always end with time set aside for prayer or reflection and we have placed a strong emphasis on students learning to still themselves and keep silence together as a year or tutor group. The students also take part in a termly communion service. We aim to be inclusive, honouring and respecting the backgrounds of all our students - whether of other World faiths or no named faith.

Opportunity

Patience

Twyford Church of England High School is particularly proud of its pastoral systems. For students to be successful they need to be supported. There is a well established system of Form Tutors and Heads of Year which ensures that students have individual care and attention outside of the class. The Form Tutor is the first "port of call" for parents as well as for students since this member of staff sees each student twice every day. The School prides itself on the very open and positive relationships which exist between staff, students and parents. The Learning & Inclusion department also exists to give specific attention to students who need additional support with their studies. Within the team there is a range of expertise which can provide individual and small group support, whether it is to address a particular learning issue such as literacy or numeracy, or to provide counselling to address a more individual need. Groups also exist to address self-esteem or peer group issues. Older students are also trained as peer mentors and are attached to each tutor group where they can often be the very best person to offer a patient listening ear.

Kindness

Students at Twyford are reminded that they are not merely individuals but members of a community. They are encouraged to take care of each other, to discuss issues of concern openly within class and not to tolerate bullying. Year 11 prefects and sixth form student leaders act as monitors of playground conduct and of the school environment. Older students are also linked with younger year groups in order that junior students feel that they have older students they can turn to within the school. We have a student led House System which encourages community responsibility and promotes positive student role models. Senior students also hold roles of responsibility in leading the school specialisms of Music and Languages, in the Sports Department, Chaplaincy, STEM and the Creative Arts and it is their role to ensure that the views of students are taken into account in these areas. All tutor groups therefore also elect form reps and lead students for these key areas. There is an active school council co-ordinated by the Head Boy & Girl and their deputies. Sixth form students also take part in practical acts of community service as part of their programme; for example, they may help in subject areas or contribute to the training of the junior sports teams, orchestra or junior choir.

We aim to make the School an outward-looking community which takes an informed interest in the needs of the world. Our Houses (Truro, Wells, York, Fountains, Ripon, Durham and Canterbury) each have a house charity and the sixth form student leaders of each House work with lower school students organise exuberant and entertaining events to raise money for these. The school also undertakes an annual sponsored walk to raise money for our link school in Mozambigue and tracks the impact of this money through **PSHE** lessons.



"The school, through it's distinctive Christian character, is outstanding at meeting the needs of all learners."

"The consistency with which the school's Christian ethos is interpreted and applied across all aspects of school life has a transformative effect on the community it serves."

Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools (2016)



"A personal thank you for what has been a wonderful year for our child. He has had a fantastic time and his first year at Twyford has exceeded even my expectations - no mean feat given they were already pretty high!"

Parent of a Year 7 student













Gentleness

The School relies considerably on the support of parents and on the church community in order to maintain its high standards. Staff are very grateful for the gentle insistence which parents keep at home, checking uniform, signing homework diaries and ensuring school deadlines are met. The School is equally grateful for the feedback it receives from parents on areas where they feel further progress can be made. The relationship between parents and the School is maintained through regular parent's information and consultation evenings, a termly magazine (The Twyfordian) and fortnightly news-sheet. Parents also have online access to key information relating to their own child and to details of his/her curriculum for the year. Contact is also made with local parishes, and local clergy are regularly invited to be part of school activities.

Self-Control

Twyford High school is a highly disciplined environment but not a repressive one. Our 10:10 ethic places emphasis on students knowing themselves, understanding where they have weaknesses and being prepared to improve. Classroom conduct codes are very clear and consistently applied across the school. Students must be able to be silent and concentrate as required and understand the impact of their conduct on others. They must complete lesson prep which is set at the end of each lesson in preparation for the next. This is in addition to longer pieces of written work which they may be given a longer time deadline to complete. Maintaining a work ethic of this sort requires self-discipline. Our aim is to build this over time using positive reinforcement wherever possible to help students recognise good conduct and to motivate them to do well. Positive conduct points are awarded for good work, behaviour, effort and engagement and these are measured for each individual and for a student's House. Students are therefore encouraged to take mutual, as well as individual responsibility for their behaviour in class, in the playground and on the way home from school. Positive performance is celebrated in assemblies and students receive public recognition from staff and from their peers. However, where students fail to live up to expectations of conduct, negative conduct points can also be awarded. A clear system of sanctions is applied. Parents are encouraged to keep a regular check on their child's conduct record via students homework planners and the online portal.

"The quality of teaching is exceptionally good. The outstanding curriculum and wide range of courses available help to ensure that work is very well matched to pupils' needs. Teachers' excellent understanding of their subjects and their pupils, and the use of engaging activities, motivate pupils and facilitate their learning and progress."

2010

Ofsted 2012

The story behind our marque

Mitre

10:10 Ethic

The Bishop's mitre represents our connection with the London Diocesan Board for Schools. We are a strong faith school and practise our faith during daily meditation in prayer and through weekly services to celebrate all faiths present in our community.

X:X in Roman Numerals represents our ethic of life lived to the full. It comes from John 10v10; 'I have come that you might have life, and have it to the full'.

Crown

The crown represents our geographic connection with the historic county of Middlesex. We are very proud to be a local school for local people.

Acorn

The acorn symbolizes good luck, survival, growth and perseverance. We are a strong unit as a school family, we grow and develop constantly, persevering in times of struggle. We strive to be the best that we can be.



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