



TOYNBEE
SCHOOL





WELCOME TO TOYNBEE SCHOOL

Choosing a secondary school is one of the most important decisions that you will make.

Your child will need to feel safe and secure and be assured they will have access to a wide range of opportunities and experiences that will shape the rest of their life. We believe at Toynbee that your child is entitled to the very best education and we offer just that.

As Headteacher, my team and I would like to welcome you to Toynbee. Toynbee is a popular and successful school. Our vision of 'Personal Best' means that we are constantly striving for the highest standards of work and behaviour.

We are a caring and inclusive school, and have high expectations of pupils, staff and parents. We pride ourselves on the importance of traditional values and the importance of academic success whilst embracing the future. Outside the classroom we offer an incredible range of opportunities that are an essential part of the journey to becoming a successful young adult.

We simply want you to be “An Incredible You”



OUR ETHOS, VISION & VALUES

Our pupils' aspirations and dreams for their future are the central focus of our work here.

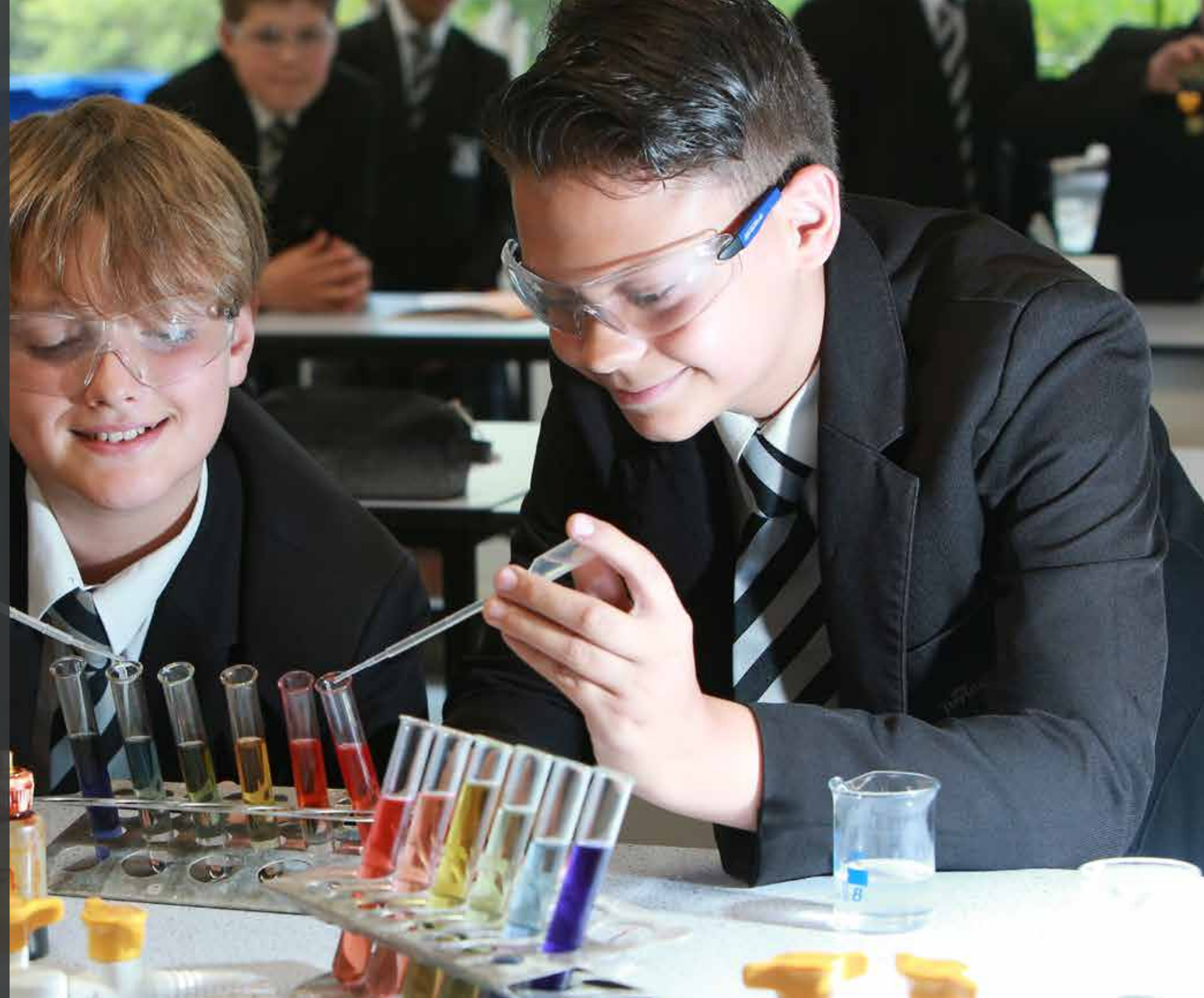
We believe that only through full participation in school life can our pupils become the most incredible person they can be. We want our pupils to thrive, developing their potential through every opportunity offered to them both within and beyond the classroom. We are proud to be a holistic and inclusive school that promotes the highest expectations of all our pupils. Our pupils will enjoy exceptional teaching and friendly and respectful support, alongside some of the best extracurricular provision the County has to offer.

As a 'talking school' we believe in proactive partnerships with our parents to deliver the best education. We want our parents to join us on this incredible journey of nurturing our pupils' everyday school experiences into the reality of achieving their 'Personal Best'. We hope you visit the school, experience this for yourselves and therefore decide that Toynbee is your first-choice school.

TEACHING & LEARNING

We strive to provide our pupils with the very best environment for success so, in every lesson, our pupils will experience teaching and support that helps them to thrive.

Teachers create a positive atmosphere for learning not only through their passion for their subjects, but also through fostering positive relationships with all our pupils; ensuring our teachers maintain high standards and expectations is essential for our pupils to succeed. Toynbee's teachers engage in regular professional development, keeping up to date with the latest research regarding the most effective practice in education. Our staff are encouraged to work together to share their excellent practice, developing schemes of learning collaboratively to keep pupils challenged and engaged in their learning.



CURRICULUM

The curriculum should be the cornerstone of any school and, here at Toynbee, we have made it the very foundation on which our school is built.

The curriculum should be designed in such a way that all pupils, irrespective of background, need or ability, are able to access it, learn it and be successful in it.

Toynbee's curriculum is not only the subjects pupils are taught, the content they have to learn, or the skills they need to develop: it reflects the very ethos of our school. We have built our curriculum on these fundamental principles that reflect our values:

- We believe that every pupil should be able to access all elements of the curriculum, to be taught the very best of each subject and to be successful in it.
- We believe that the curriculum should be sequenced carefully in each subject so that pupils' knowledge and skills in the subject build as they go through their five years at Toynbee.
- We believe that the curriculum should be knowledge-led and that this knowledge will be explicitly identified and shared with pupils, with the skills required to be successful in the subject weaved throughout.

We are committed to constantly reviewing our curriculum so that it remains relevant, engaging, purposeful and rooted in the latest academic research on learning.

At all stages, we encourage pupils to follow a broad and balanced curriculum of academic, practical and creative subjects. Our aim is that our Key Stage 3 curriculum prepares and inspires pupils for their subjects in Key Stage 4, where teachers and pupils will explore content in greater depth and will successfully embed the skills that they have practised since starting at Toynbee.





DEVELOPING THE **WHOLE CHILD**

We believe that it is our core role to unlock the potential in every child by developing the Whole Child, known as Personal Development.

Personal Development is both a subject and a school ethos; it is reflected in our school motto and core value of ensuring every pupil achieves their “Personal Best”, expressing our aim that we want every pupil to leave Toynbee feeling confident and ready to achieve success in the wider world.

Our aim is to teach pupils how to succeed in life safely, happily and healthily. Young people are growing up in a world that is constantly changing and it the duty of all the staff here at Toynbee to teach our pupils transferable life skills and to consistently promote the British values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs.

As a school, we operate a whole school approach to Personal Development. Many topics are explored through the PSHCE and RS Curriculum, as well as through tutor time and assemblies.

We offer all our pupils a wide variety of activities which enhance our curriculum, both in and out of the classroom, such as subject clubs, educational visits and visits overseas. We also provide a rich extra-curricular programme that allows pupils to develop their abilities, talents and interests beyond the classroom. The programme includes a wide range of sporting and creative activities, as well as regular opportunities for pupils to develop their leadership skills through getting involved in our Pupil Leadership Teams.

We believe that it is through these experiences that pupils will grow into well rounded people, who can contribute to and appreciate the world around them.



COMMUNITY

We have a strong reputation and a long tradition of partnership within the local and wider community.

We have fostered close working links with many employers whether locally, nationally, or internationally and we have strong links with a variety of outside agencies, including the police, NHS, and universities.

A wide range of employers and many local companies are involved in a variety of different initiatives, including providing work experience placements and enterprise events. As part of this, pupils will receive independent careers guidance to help them choose their options and to assist with their career or further education choices, supported by our close links with colleges and training providers in the surrounding area. We also have strong partnerships with our local primary schools, who regularly visit the school to work in collaboration with our staff, access our specialist facilities and to engage with additional opportunities, such as watching our productions. We work closely with community organisations, many of which use our specialist facilities outside of school hours; this includes holiday clubs that have a range of activities for primary age pupils every school holiday to support our community of working families, also including free spaces for families in receipt of free school meals.

We are also proud to offer the Duke of Edinburgh's (DofE) nationally recognised Youth Award. The DofE programme allows participants to make a difference to their community and the lives of others through activities such as conservation projects, youth work or fundraising. We have an active group of parents who contribute to the life of the school through fundraising, shaping policies, supporting school initiatives, and building community cohesion. The core group meet throughout the school year to plan events and raise money for significant school projects that would otherwise not be possible to go ahead. We are open and transparent and believe in proactive partnerships with our parents to deliver the best education. We want our parents to join us on this incredible journey of nurturing our pupils' everyday school and community experiences into the reality of achieving their 'Personal Best'.



PASTORAL CARE

Pupil's safety and wellbeing is at the heart of everything we do. Effective pastoral care underpins life at Toynbee and there is always someone the pupils can turn to for help and advice; every adult at our school has a responsibility for pupils' welfare and safety.

Upon arriving at Toynbee, each pupil is placed in a mixed ability tutor group. Your child's tutor will be the first point of contact if your child requires help, support and advice during their time at Toynbee. Each tutor group is part of a year team who are overseen by their respective Guidance Manager. Our Guidance Managers are central to the progress and wellbeing of all our pupils; they are responsible for promoting positive behaviour and standards, whilst providing social, emotional and academic support to pupils throughout their time with us.

Our pastoral care system aims to promote our ethos of respect, tolerance and pupils always aiming for their 'Personal Best'. We are committed to a positive approach to learning and have a clear code of conduct that pupils are expected to follow at all times so that we can support pupils in thriving at Toynbee. Pupils' successes are regularly recognised and celebrated by everyone; we believe that co-operation between home and school is the key to pupils' happiness and success and we welcome working together at all opportunities. Toynbee is an inclusive school where staff work together to help all pupils achieve their potential. Pupils are supported by our Learning Support department, which consists of a team of specialist Learning Support Assistants and is overseen by our SENCO. This department will respond to the individual needs of our pupils to help overcome any potential barriers to their learning. As part of this, we run a number of different interventions for pupils aimed at both academic improvement and support for pupils' mental health and wellbeing. Every child on the SEN register will have Personalised Information Plan (PIP) that will be regularly reviewed to support pupils in achieving their 'Personal Best'.





ADMISSIONS & TRANSITION

Our key priority is to ensure that your child makes the transition from Primary to Secondary school with maximum enjoyment and minimum anxieties.

In the early autumn, we hold an 'Open Evening' for parents and pupils who may be considering Toynbee as their secondary school of choice. This event will provide parents and pupils with an opportunity to look around the school facilities, ask questions of the teachers, take part in interactive learning experiences and listen to the Headteacher's vision for the school.

Our Toynbee Pupil Ambassadors are on hand throughout the evening to take parents and pupils on tours and to share their invaluable perspective on the school.

In the Summer Term, we hold an Induction Evening for parents, offering the opportunity to meet with their child's tutor and to find out key details regarding uniform, catering and anything else that will help your child to prepare for starting at Toynbee.

All Year 6 pupils that have been offered a place at Toynbee are also invited to attend an Induction Day in July. This event provides pupils an opportunity to learn their way around their new school, to meet new friends in their tutor group and to gain a taste of what to expect in their lessons.



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Toynbee School, Bodycoats Road, Chandlers Ford,
Eastleigh, Hampshire, SO53 2PL

T: 02380269026 E: admin@toynbee.hants.sch.uk

www.toynbee.hants.sch.uk