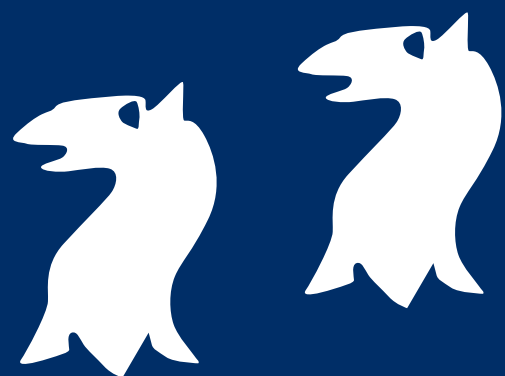


Manshead School



Welcome to Manshead School

Manshead School is a forward thinking, successful school where every student is encouraged to seek personal excellence.



We provide many opportunities for students to achieve success both in and out of the classroom. Our high quality curriculum is broad but personalised as much as possible to meet the individual needs of our students. Students are provided with high quality advice and guidance to help them make the best preparations for life beyond school and a great number of our students progress to university and further study.

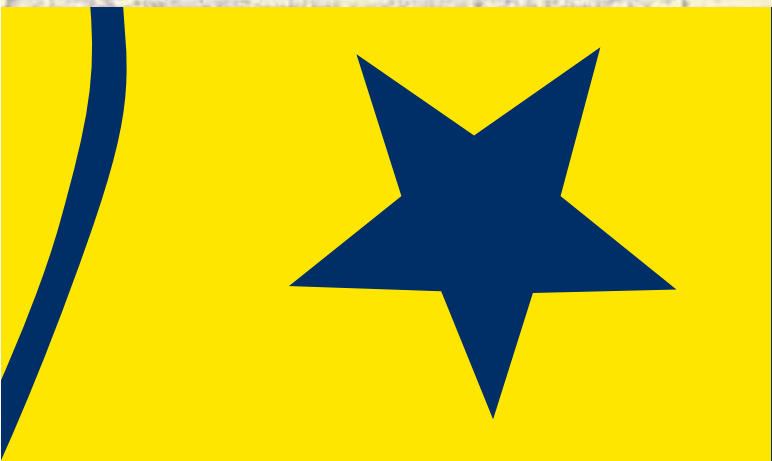
The special nature of our school is based on our emphasis on supporting each individual. Our unique College system provides the essential contact between home and school and allows parents, students and the school to monitor progress of each individual very carefully. The school is a happy and calm place and standards of behaviour are very good.

Manshead school is a Church of England School and our ethos is underpinned by our core values of respect, responsibility, faith and compassion. We are also a school that values the community we are part of and we work closely with local schools to ensure smooth transition to Manshead.

I hope that as you read this folder you will build up a picture of what Manshead can offer. Of course there is no substitute for seeing the school in action so if you would like to visit during the school day please contact the school. You will be made very welcome.



Jim Parker, Headteacher



What kind of School is Manshead?

There are two distinct aspects to the school.

- We are a School that serves our local community
- We are a Voluntary Aided Church of England School

These two aspects of our school are encompassed by our common purpose, shared values and shared aims. We place importance on all aspects of education and development not just academic achievement.

Our Common Purpose

To work together with a common purpose **'in search of personal excellence'**

Our Shared Values

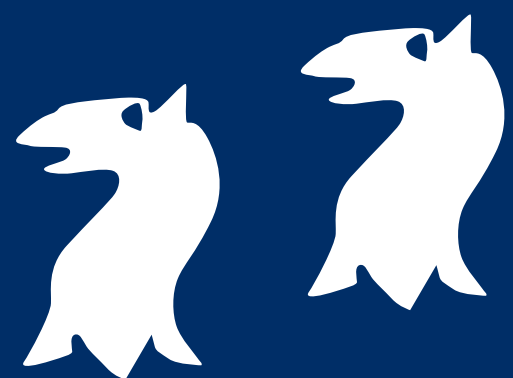
The values of Respect, Responsibility, Faith and Compassion help us to work together to form a relationship that allows each individual in our community to be in search of personal excellence.

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|------------------|--|
| • Respect | Everyone in our School is expected to treat themselves, others and the environment with respect. |
| • Responsibility | Everyone in our School is expected to understand the consequences of their actions. |
| • Faith | Everyone in our School is invited to develop their understanding of Christian belief, worship and lifestyle. |
| • Compassion | Everyone in our School is encouraged to be generous in their concern for others. |

Our Shared Aims

At Manshead School

- All students are challenged to achieve their full academic, social, spiritual and moral potential.
- All students receive the greatest personal attention
- All students are prepared for adult life and future learning
- The partnership with students, the home and school is strong and effective



How we care for students - the College System

When students join a new school one of their main concerns is how they will settle in and be looked after. Our unique College system ensures that student welfare is at the heart of what we do in school.

As Manshead is a large school we divide it up into 6 smaller colleges. Each College has approximately 170 students and is led by a Head of College. Within each College there are 8 Learning Guide Groups that are made up of about 16 students from Years 9, 10 and 11. Every student is a member of a Learning Guide Group and they are looked after by a Learning Guide. The Learning Guide is the main contact between the home and the school and is responsible for the welfare of the individual student. The older students (including Sixth form students) take on mentoring roles within the Learning Guide Group. We know that younger students are reassured that older students in their group are there to help them settle in to the school.

The Learning Guide will see their students every day during registration and have access to lots of information about each student. If there are any concerns about their progress in school the Learning Guide will deal with it. This system means that we are able to monitor each student's progress very carefully and ensure that they don't fall behind. The Learning Guide will get to know the students very well and will build regular communication with parents.

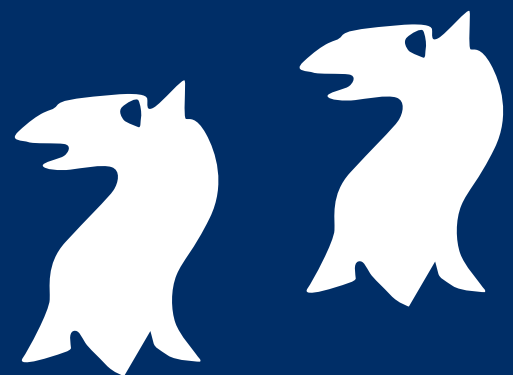
Students find the College system provides a very supportive environment that encourages them to succeed.

Our Colleges are named after famous people, Dylan, Grey Thompson, Picasso, Campbell, McCartney and King. Each College has its own identity. There are weekly College assemblies and each College has its own student council that help to run the College. There are lots of opportunities to be involved in inter-college competitions and activities. Points are won for taking part and for winning events, these contribute to the total College points for which the winning College will be awarded the College Cup. Popular College competition events include College Cabaret, a very popular drama event and College Sports.

We believe it is very important to reward students who do well at School. We operate an extensive praise system that rewards students with credits that lead to certificates, post cards home and celebration assemblies. Credits also contribute to the College Points totals so there is the extra incentive of being able to contribute to winning the College Cup.

Teaching and Learning

We believe that the quality of teaching is the most important influence on how well students learn. We are always seeking to use the best teaching techniques we can to ensure that all students make excellent progress. In lessons there is a strong focus on independent learning and teachers will expect students to be fully involved in their lessons. Teachers monitor student progress very carefully to ensure that they do not fall behind. We also update parents regularly with progress information. We have high expectations for students in the classroom and expect them to demonstrate our core value of responsibility as we prepare them for further study and learning beyond school. We also expect students to take their learning at home seriously and we have clear procedures and expectations about homework.



Our Curriculum

In Year 9 students follow a broad curriculum that comprises the Core subjects of English, Maths, Science, ICT, PE and RE. All students follow a programme of Foundation subjects that include History, Geography, Art, Languages (students take two languages in Year 9). Students can choose two Technology options from Graphics, Food Technology, Textiles and Resistant Materials. Year 9 students follow a Performing Arts programme that includes Dance, Drama and Music. Students develop competencies such as teamwork, leadership, problem solving and presentation skills that are essential for Y10 study and beyond.

During the latter part of Year 9 students choose their pathways for Year 10 and 11. Here we personalise the curriculum further. There are several pathways available that include a range of GCSE, BTEC and vocational options. We recognise that the choice they make is important and we use specialist advice and guidance to help them make their choices. The core subjects continue and all students will study Maths, English, Sciences, ICT and RE. We also offer a range of alternative provision including courses at College that allow students to take specialist practical based courses in Hair and Beauty, Engineering and Construction. Additional opportunities are available to have extra study time and supported programmes for students who may struggle with the demands of Y10 and 11.

Students of all abilities are catered for well in our curriculum and we are effective in meeting all students' needs.

We also provide a range of other curriculum opportunities and experiences to ensure that all aspects of personal development are met. We hold Innovation days that develop work related and enterprise skills as well as Personal, Social and Health Education (including sex and relationship education). We have very good careers provision and students are genuinely prepared for life beyond school.

Many of our students progress to the Sixth Form where we are able to offer a wide range of A-Level and BTEC courses. We work closely with other local sixth forms to provide a greater choice of high quality courses. We have a separate Sixth Form prospectus that explains the Sixth Form provision in more detail. A large percentage of our Sixth Form students progress to University.

Special Educational Needs

Our Special Educational Needs Policy fully meets the current requirements of the Code of Practice and ensures that every student with special educational needs is identified and their needs assessed. Provision is made to ensure that identified students have access to a relevant and personalised curriculum. Progress is regularly reviewed and parents are fully informed at all stages.

Information for students with disabilities

An audit of access to all areas of the school has been undertaken from which the school has developed an access improvement plan. All ground floor teaching spaces are wheelchair accessible which includes all specialist teaching rooms.

Wider opportunities

Manshead prides itself on the quality and breadth of its extra curricular provision. We encourage students to take part in as many activities as they feel happy with as we know that these experiences really contribute to students becoming well rounded individuals.

The list of activities is too long to include here but there are lots of opportunities for students to take part in. Our drama activities (including our famous annual school musical production), sports clubs and teams, inter-college activities and various lunchtime and after school clubs are just some examples. Our Music provision is very strong and students can take individual instrument lessons and be part of a range of ensembles and choirs.

We also run a number of trips and visits to support the curriculum and each year, in Year 9, we run an outdoor activity residential trip which is very popular. We run the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme which provides another opportunity for students to develop outside of the school curriculum.

Working with Parents

We recognise that the relationship between the school and parents is a vital one. We have a home school agreement that we attach great importance to, as it outlines how the school and parents can best work together, to support the needs of students, and to ensure they make the most of their time in school.

The key to success is communication. The Learning Guide is the first point of contact if parents have any concerns about their child's progress. We encourage parents to be in regular contact with the Learning Guide. Likewise if we feel that your child is not making good progress or seems unhappy in any way we will contact parents.

At three points in each year parents will receive a progress report that indicates how their child is working towards their targets and also rates their attitude to learning. There will also be an opportunity for parents to meet with the subject teachers at the annual parents consultation evening.

We find that the regular informal communication with Learning Guides and parents coupled with the more formal reports and consultations is effective in ensuring good progress is made.

We also publish a fortnightly Newsletter which keeps parents and students up-to-date with events at school. We make use of a school wide communications system that can deliver important messages to parents by email and text message.

School uniform

Every student in Years 9, 10 and 11 is expected to wear school uniform. We believe that uniform and appearance are important to help create an ethos of high achievement and to encourage students to develop a sense of identity with the school. A detailed description of the uniform is available from the school and is also available on our website.



Manshead School

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and Maths College

