





I am immensely privileged to be the headteacher of Tiverton High School and am proud of every single student and member of staff that I serve in this vibrant secondary school.

As a co-operative trust school we hold dear the values we have created together as a school community; they permeate our school building and underpin all that we stand for, helping to shape us as life-long learners. We are relentless in our commitment to providing the highest quality education, tailored to meet the needs of all learners in our community.

In order to create this first-class learning environment I expect the best from all and won't lower my expectations, it's that simple. However, in return, what you can expect from me is a headteacher who knows my students, and they recognise the personal interest I take in them. My door is always open to welcome them. I even won most approachable female member of staff, an accolade I was very honoured to receive!

I lead my school based on positive relationships so that we can all work together to continue to raise standards for all our students. My pledge to the community of Tiverton and beyond, is that we will provide opportunities for each and every one of our students to achieve their potential whilst at Tiverton High School, and prepare them for their post 16 progression routes, whatever they may be.

Our sense of family is hugely important to us and this starts with the tutor group and House structure which is specific to Tiverton High School and is an extension of a child's nuclear family.

I have taught for over 20 years in schools across Devon but there is genuinely something special and unique about Tiverton High School. It's hard to explain until you are part of it, but once you are, it goes through your core like a stick of rock and you can't get enough of it. But don't take my word for it, come and see us in action for yourselves.

**Sammy Crook,**  
Headteacher

# A CLEAR VISION

The pursuit of the highest standards of academic achievement is at the core of our business at Tiverton High School. We believe passionately that all students deserve the highest quality experiences, and that it is only fair and proper to ensure all the young people in our care are given equal opportunities to succeed.

Our staff work tirelessly to ensure that students are encouraged, challenged and supported, making the very most of their talents and abilities.

## SCHOOL VALUES

The six key values your child will see as they move around the school were selected by our students and staff. They represent the key values that we as a school community strive to uphold, and follow many of the aims of the co-operative movement.

All students leave us as rounded, confident individuals, and everyone in the school lives by these values each day.

**Respectable, Co-operative, Fair, Resilience, Confidence, A Voice.**

# A NETWORK OF LOCAL SCHOOLS

The Federation of Tiverton Schools is collectively made up of Heathcoat Primary School, Rackenford Primary School and Tiverton High School.

Our vision is to work together to improve the opportunities and outcomes for all children and young people in the local community. Within the Federation, we are able to combine resources and time to make improvements that

will benefit students across all of the Federation schools, and support each other in ensuring all students get the very best out of their education.

Tiverton High School is one of the founding schools in the Tiverton Co-operative Learning Partnership and we work closely with our partner primary schools on many initiatives from theatre productions to school improvement.





# KNOWN, CARED FOR & UNDERSTOOD

The transition from primary to secondary school can sometimes feel daunting, but we are passionate that all of our students are known, cared for and understood, not just faces in a crowd.

Our transition staff visit all the primary schools to introduce themselves and our school, and there are transition days towards the end of the summer term which aim to give all students a taste of day-to-day life in the school.

## TUTOR SYSTEM

Tiverton High School is structured into six houses, each made up of vertically organised tutor groups. These allow students to belong to a smaller family-style group with a mixed age range. Older students offer advice and guidance, and act as role models to our younger students, ensuring they feel more at ease within the wider school community. Students really value the nurturing qualities provided by our vertical tutor groups.

# LIFE-LONG LEARNERS

At Tiverton High School we encourage everyone to be 'life-long learners' and this expectation develops from the moment someone joins the school, whether as a student or member of staff.

Real learning is interactive, and takes place in many environments, often outside of the traditional classroom or lesson times. Learning should be challenging, and we mix the best of technology and traditional methods to ensure that it is.

## FIRST-CLASS TRAINING

We work closely with high quality educational establishments including the University of Exeter and teaching schools to deliver first-class training to new generations of teachers. Many of our staff are professional tutors, supporting this new generation of teachers into the profession. Staff and students benefit from this investment and many student teachers return here to pursue their career.

# ENCOURAGING A RANGE OF GOALS & ASPIRATIONS

We offer a varied curriculum, including core academic subjects, sports and creative and performing arts, supported by a range of extra-curricular activities. The broad range of opportunities available is designed to allow students to develop their own skills and interests and aid them in their

chosen goals and aspirations for the future.

While we focus firmly on English and mathematics as core subjects, it is also crucial to support progress in other key areas such as science, humanities and modern foreign languages. Our curriculum is designed

to give all students multiple opportunities to be inspired, providing every young person the access and ability to be creative in some field. We know every child has talent; we provide the right environment for this to flourish.



# SECURING A FUTURE

We believe it is important that every child is known as an individual and not just as a statistic, which is why we ensure that there are opportunities for parents and students to meet with key teaching staff to discuss the best choices of subject to study at GCSE level.

Students make a first choice of subjects at the end of year 8, with a final decision being made at the end of year 9. This allows us to effectively deliver the rigorous GCSE courses and to secure the best opportunities for success. As well as ensuring students have the opportunity

to follow the more traditional Ebacc subjects such as separate sciences, modern foreign languages and the humanities, we also recognise that for other students their passions lie in other areas and we allow and encourage students to study these subjects at GCSE if they wish - often with outstanding results.

All students are given clear advice and guidance about potential careers and the pathways they should take towards their chosen goals. Much of this advice is delivered by specialist advisers, including Careers South West and

students from the University of Exeter in small workshops and seminars on our Development Days. We also subscribe to careers advice tools giving students access to personalised advice and guidance and information on thousands of different career pathways. We take great pride in students progressing from Tiverton High School on to a range of destinations, from local apprenticeships to degrees at some of the most prestigious universities, including Oxford, Cambridge and other Russell Group universities.





# VALUING CREATIVITY

We fully understand the value of creativity, and we encourage students to be inquisitive, imaginative and independent. This focus helps to develop young people who can be successful in the modern workplace.

Art, design, drama, dance and music continue to be valued parts of our teaching at Tiverton High School, and we strive to celebrate successes in each of these subjects.

We have a proud tradition of musical theatre productions that are widely praised for their ambitious scope and professional accomplishment. In recent years Tiverton High School has worked with our wider community to provide summer productions of outstanding quality, and more than 400 young people from partner primary schools routinely join our performers to provide entertainment of a professional standard.



# SPORTING ACHIEVEMENTS

Co-operation and resilience are important qualities, and we work hard to promote the value of sport and physical education. Our sports facilities include a sports hall with multi-gym, gymnasium and dance studio, astro turf, tennis and netball courts, as well as extensive playing fields.

We are proud to have a number of individuals and sports teams that are successful at county and national level and we find every opportunity to celebrate their success.

# ACTIVITIES TO CHALLENGE

Our core focus is on learning and we believe it is important to offer each student the opportunity to explore the world around them and engage in activities that stretch, challenge and reward in equal measure beyond the classroom.

Each year we field several teams in the Ten Tors and Exmoor Challenge events, and we also take part in the Duke of Edinburgh Awards scheme. At the start of each year we hold an annual Fresher's Fair where a large range of sporting and extra-curricular clubs are available for students to join.

## Y7 OUTDOOR EDUCATION PROGRAMME

During their first year at Tiverton High School, all students take part in a two-day programme that includes canoeing on the Grand Western Canal and exploring Dartmoor through scrambling, climbing and abseiling. These activities give our students an early opportunity to work co-operatively and to understand the importance of building resilience.



# EXCITING OPPORTUNITIES

During the latter part of the summer term, students in Years 7, 8 and 9 participate in Activities Week, where a wide range of exciting residential and non-residential visits and activities are available to choose from.

We strongly believe in the personal, social and educational value of Activities Week and the benefits that such visits generate. Students and staff tell us how enjoyable these experiences are, and how they have helped individuals to develop their confidence and self-esteem.





# BALANCED UNDERSTANDING

Academic, creative and sporting success needs support from a balanced understanding of the wider world. Our programme of Development Days throughout

the year ensures that the aspects of personal, social and health education are delivered to a high standard as part of a carefully planned curriculum.



# REWARDING SUCCESS

We believe celebrating success is a crucial part of nurturing our students, and we reward those who demonstrate a positive attitude to learning with ClassCharts points that can be collected in every lesson. The points can be accumulated and used to purchase rewards in our ClassCharts shop. The rewards are chosen by the students, and given out by the Ambassador team.

## AWARDS PRESENTATIONS

Every term we hold presentation assemblies for each year group, in which subject awards, badges and postcards are awarded for each subject. In addition to this, we hold three awards evenings at the end of each academic year, where we celebrate the best of both academic success and outstanding effort with students and their families. We constantly strive to ensure that our young people are recognised for their efforts and achievements.

# LISTENING TO OUR STUDENT BODY

## STUDENT SENATE

Our Student Senate is invaluable, and is essential in guiding many areas of our school development. Through the Student Senate, school leaders are able to listen and respond to the views of the student body.

Outside of the Student Senate and Ambassador team there are numerous other opportunities for students to develop their leadership skills.

- Our national award-winning Interact Club organises charity events throughout the year, creating awareness and raising funds for those in crisis.
- The House Leadership Team forms a key part in house identity; leading house assemblies, house events, running sporting events and supporting students as they start at Tiverton High School.
- The Tiverton High News channel gives budding reporters opportunities to film and comment on exciting news events each week.



# STUDENT LEADERSHIP

## AMBASSADOR TEAM

Our Ambassador team forms the link between Student Senate, the school leadership and governors. Each house has a number of Ambassadors who are the public face of our school and attend school and local community events.

Each year the Head Boy and Head Girl are selected through a rigorous appointment process from the newly appointed Ambassador team.

The Head Boy and Head Girl regularly represent the Ambassador team at Senior Leadership meetings, raising issues that the students have identified.

From the moment they step through the doors, many of our students aspire to be an Ambassador, and we are proud of the contribution they make to our community each year.





# PART OF THE WIDER COMMUNITY

Tiverton High School is an important part of the local town and rural communities, but we also recognise our place on a wider scale. We work collaboratively with our local Rotary Club and we are members of the national Co-operative Schools Network and Devon Co-operative Schools group. These provide mutual support, advice, and the opportunity to share knowledge and expertise between schools.

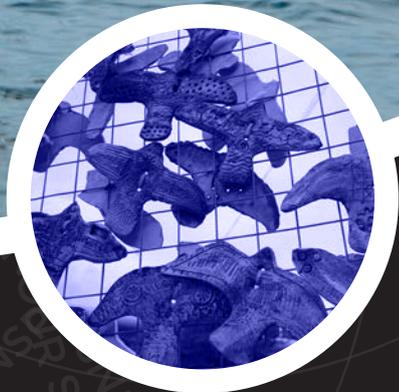
**FUTURE FIRST**  
Through our leavers' network with Future First, alumni work alongside present students. We have a thriving leavers' network with ex-students from all walks of life, who want to continue to be a part of the Tiverton High School community.



## GET IN TOUCH

We are more than happy to speak to any parent, current or prospective, about any questions you may have.

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