St David's College

- Est. 1965 -

*Discover the*

FREEDOM TO FLOURISH

“Our mission is to develop the 'whole person' through a broad education founded on Christian principles that offers a wide choice of interests and activities, and an achievable personal programme for each pupil.”

St David's College

# WELCOME

## to a truly unique school.

Since our foundation, St David's College has pioneered teaching that enables pupils with additional learning needs to reach their academic potential, whilst allowing pupils with no specific learning needs to thrive and excel. Alongside this we aim to develop every individual's character, enabling them to gain an extraordinary range of skills and discover true self-confidence.

# YEARS 5 TO 6

*It all starts here.*

The aim is simple: to ignite a lifelong appetite for learning in every pupil.

Every pupil will be nurtured in an environment that balances fun learning experiences with opportunities to grow as an individual.

Our approach eases the transition from primary to secondary education, aiding learning continuity and social integration.

Year 5 & 6 pupils benefit from having their own dedicated classroom to learn in.

Even our youngest pupils benefit from our Outdoor Education programme and can choose from our exhaustive range of activities.

PARENT QUOTE

Our son has thoroughly enjoyed his first term at St David's and we are so pleased that he is now in such a supportive and stimulating environment. From an educational, social and personal perspective there is no doubt in our mind that our son is thriving and will continue to do so.

*Parent of a Year 6 pupil*

# YEARS 7 TO 9

*Discover and be adventurous.*

This is the time for you to expand your horizons and discover all there is on offer, both in and out of the classroom.

Learning should be fun; that is why your subject teachers aim to present their lessons in an engaging and stimulating way.

In Year 9, you will work towards achieving your Bronze Duke of Edinburgh's Award. You may take this further and be collecting your Gold Award from a member of the royal family.

Choose from a wide range of extra-curricular activities each week.
(See page 23 for just a small taste of what is on offer at St David's.)

You may need extra support with your learning. That's okay - we know how to help you understand and feel confident.

PARENT QUOTE

I am so pleased with our son's progress so far. Thank you, St David's! I am now seeing a different child with increased self-esteem and ability to communicate.

*Parent of a Year 9 pupil*

# YEARS 10 TO 11

*Realise your full potential.*

GCSEs allow you to focus on your favourite subjects but if you are undecided, your teachers will help you make the right choice.

Feel confident to face the challenges ahead as we teach you the strategies needed to cope with exam pressure.

Campus wide Wi-Fi allows you to use your laptop or tablet device to access learning resources whenever you need to.

Dedicated revision sessions and access to your subject teachers will help you prepare for your exams.

It's not all about exams and coursework; as a Year 10 pupil you will be part of an international expedition as you choose from a range of trips on offer exclusively to your year group.

PARENT QUOTE

I would like to pass on a HUGE thank you to all the teachers that have helped and supported our son. We are thrilled with his grades. So thank you once again, St David's College - you are and do exactly what it says on the tin!

*Parent of a Year 11 pupil*

# 6TH FORM

*Be ready for the next step.*

Choose from a generous and varied range of A-Level options and vocational qualifications.

Get expert career advice and comprehensive support for your university applications.

Expand your horizons and take the opportunity to work with communities in Uganda through our humanitarian charity, Link International.

Our aim is both to help you succeed academically but, crucially, to provide you with the versatile skills to make you a leader, able to deal with any challenge and confident to take any opportunity.

With our small class sizes you will receive focused support from subject teachers who will help you with coursework and examination preparation.

PARENT QUOTE

Thank you to all the teachers that gave so much of themselves and inspired them to give their best. Thank you for helping us turn out two decent and well-adjusted individuals who are ready to be of use in society.

*Parent of two former pupils*

# CADOGAN CENTRE

*Additional learning needs support and provision.*

Learn how you can make the most of the software and technology available to support your learning; on your laptop, tablet or smart phone.

Gain confidence with your reading by working alongside fellow pupils in our paired reading programme.

Our staff are constantly developing and growing their skills, all with the aim of helping you to achieve your best through the latest teaching techniques.

With 1:1 lessons co-ordinated and taught in the Cadogan Centre, you can be sure to get the dedicated support you need; this works alongside normal classroom teaching.

The Cadogan Centre staff can assist you with a personalised learning plan.

During examination time the Cadogan Centre will ensure you have access to the support and help you are entitled to, helping you to achieve your best possible grades.

CReSTeD
Special Provision School

Institute for Outdoor Learning
JOHN MUIR AWARD
DofE
THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S AWARD
RYA Training Centre

# OUTDOOR EDUCATION

Explore a huge range of outdoor activities with your year group. Every two weeks you will spend a whole day out of school taking part in a number of outdoor pursuits.

There is no better way to learn leadership skills and build confidence than in a fun, enjoyable and exhilarating way.

Want to do more outdoor activities? Every weekend, you will have the opportunity to sign up for extra activities.

The Outdoor Education department will help you gain your Bronze Duke of Edinburgh's Award as well as your Silver and Gold, if that is your goal.

Every year our hardworking Outdoor Education team arrange international expeditions for you to take part in; so, where would you like to explore?

GFORCE

# SPORTS

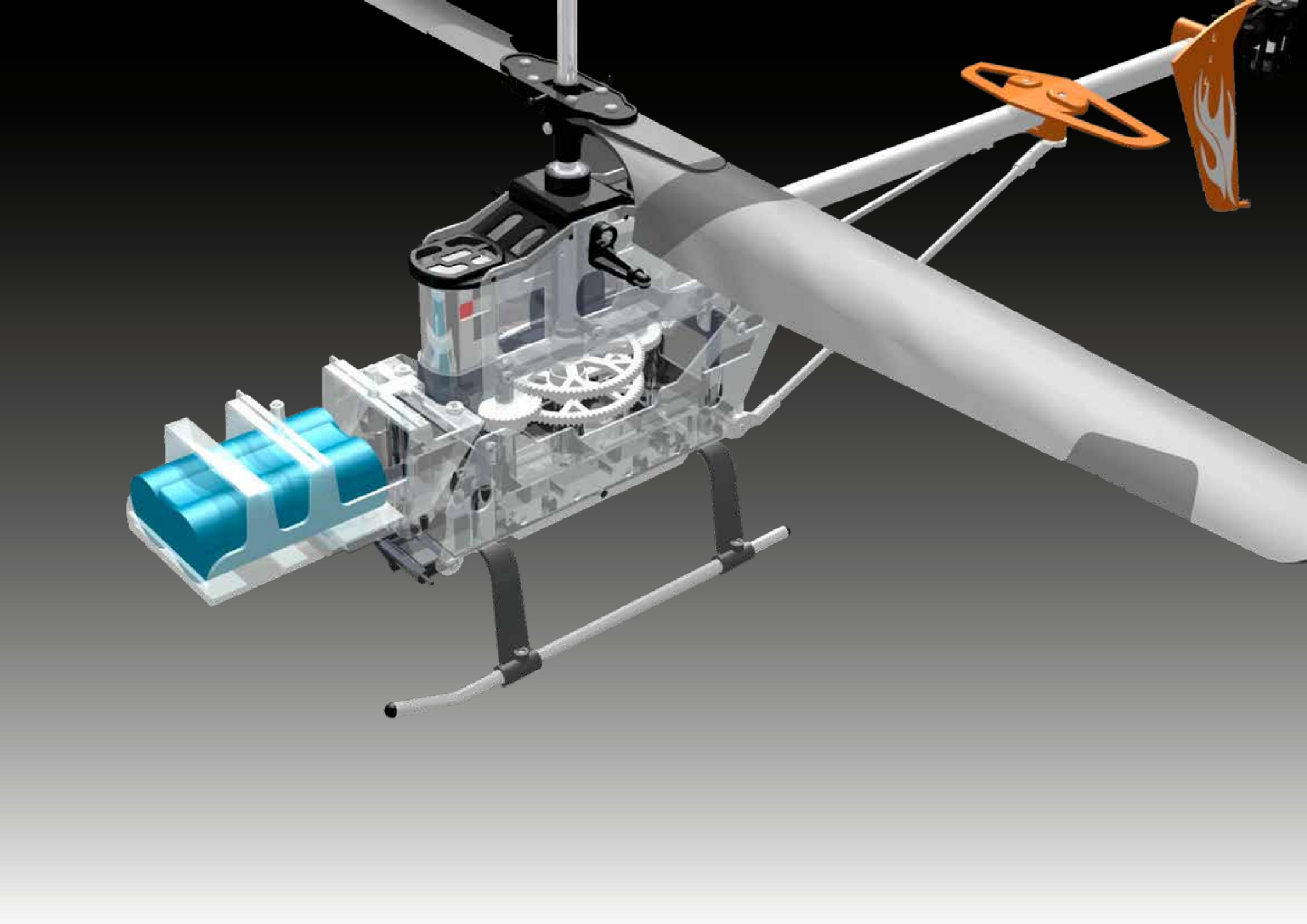
Being fit and active is an important part of life; that is why our active PE department ensure there is a good range of sports and competitive sporting events to take part in all year round.

Compete in regular sporting fixtures against local schools in a number of sports and athletic competitions.

Wear your colours with pride and represent your house in one of the many house sports competitions run throughout the year.

If you have a love of sport, you can take this further by studying PE at GCSE, A-Level or through a BTEC National Diploma.

Our sports programme will help you develop your teamwork skills, build your confidence and forge long-lasting friendships.



# DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY

Learn the important basics of working with different materials in one of our purpose-built workshops.

If you have a project you would like to work on outside of your lessons, you can use your activity time to indulge your passion.

Using the dedicated CAD studio, you can develop your skills in 2D and 3D design to create industry standard work for A-Level or a vocational qualification.

Have access to the latest rapid prototyping equipment including a laser cutter, 3-axis lathe and a 3D printer.

From consumer products and industrial machinery to architecture, our pupils produce a diverse and advanced range of designs for a variety of applications; one reason why many of our pupils enter industry straight after leaving us.

# ST DAVID'S IN NUMBERS

## Facts & figures that make us unique

**9**

In one year alone, St David's organised **9** international expeditions.

**240**

On average there are around **240** students at St David's. Around half of our students are boarders.

**29**

Gloddaeth Hall, home to St David's, boasts grounds that cover **29** acres encompassing a large playing field, historic buildings and tiered gardens.

**20**

There are around **20** different activities on offer each week at St David's. There is something for everyone!

**8**

Our hard-working Music and Performing Arts departments arrange **8** major concerts and performances each year.

*Please note these figures represent average statistics and were correct at time of printing. Numbers of pupils, expeditions and sporting fixtures can alter each year.

# 97

On average, **97%** of our graduating students are offered a place at their first choice of university.

# 1.20 & 3

St David's is only **1** hour and **20** minutes by car from the international airports of Liverpool and Manchester and only **3** hours from London by direct train to the local station.

# 75%

On average 75% of our pupils go on to study in our 6th Form - selecting from the wide range of subjects and courses available

# 50

Our sports teams play on average **50** competitive fixtures each season in a variety of sports.

# 0.75

We have an average added value score of 0.75, this means that our pupils achieve above their predicted performance at GCSE and A-Level - this can usually lead to pupils achieveing one grade higher by coming to St David's College.

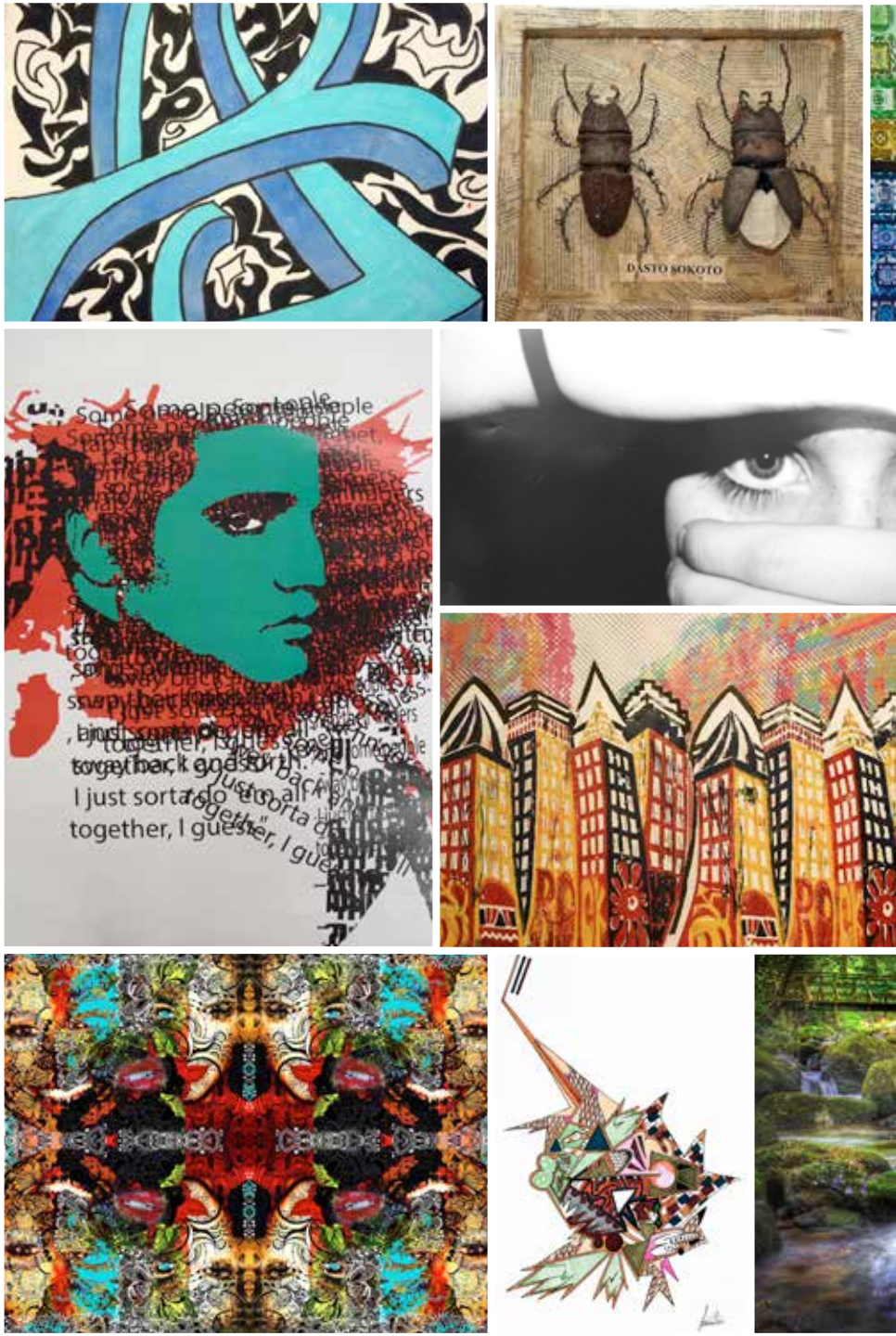
# CREATIVE ARTS

From photography, painting, and textiles to sculpture and 3D design, studying Art at St David's offers huge potential to explore your skills and talent.

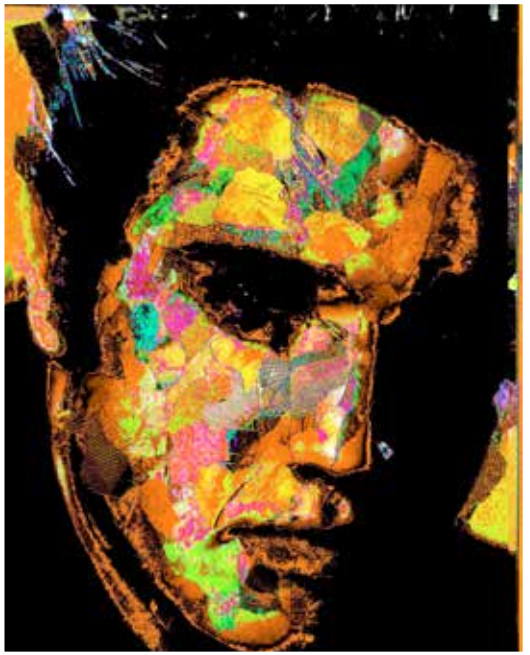
Be inspired to develop a unique approach to your work and express yourself through a range of creative processes.

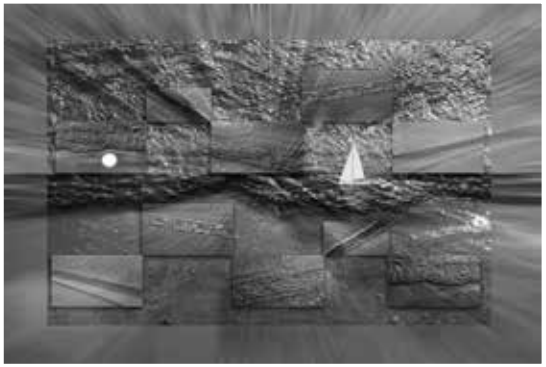
Explore a variety of techniques, theories and practices as you discover the world of creative arts.

Take your love of art and creativity further by choosing one of the eight areas of study available at GCSE and A-Level.




Right: A small selection of pupil work, GCSE and A-Level

this was a Rorschach drawing
I produced when I went




# MUSIC AND PERFORMING ARTS

Be a part of any number of concerts and performances that take place each year - you can sing, dance, act or play an instrument.

Learn to play an instrument and work towards musical grade examinations. There is a wide variety of weekly instrument lessons on offer at St David's.

Whether you prefer to be in the spotlight or behind the scenes, we encourage every pupil to get involved and learn about musical theatre production.

Join the school jazz band or choir and play concerts in and out of school, both in the UK and abroad.

After studying Drama and Music as part of the KS3 curriculum, you will have the option to carry on studying these subjects for GCSE and BTEC.

If you wish to stretch your theatre skills further, you can be entered for external examinations in Solo Acting and/or Musical Theatre with the London Academy of Music and Dramatic Art (LAMDA).

Learn how to record music professionally in our purpose-built recording studio using industry standard equipment and software.

# EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Our range of extra-curricular activities will leave you breathless! But don't worry, there is enough time to fit them in. Activities sessions are scheduled every week with all the options displayed on your own Pupil Hub. Being located in North Wales - one of the world's top adventure locations - we are able to take advantage of amazing facilities such as Surf Snowdonia, Bounce Below, Zip World and Go Ape Tree Top Adventures.

Below is a sample of some of the most popular activities we have on offer:

- Horse riding
- 4x4 driving
- Skiing
- Rifle shooting
- Pottery
- Kit car construction
- Wake boarding
- Climbing
- Bushcraft
- Cooking
- Needle craft
- Sports
- Wide games
- Radio controlled flight

...and much more

Have an idea for an activity? We like to give our pupils the opportunity to suggest what they would like to see added to the programme. So, what would you like to try?

GFORCE®

# PASTORAL CARE

Pastoral care is key at St David's College. Our approach is multi-layered to ensure that none of our pupils 'fall through the net'.

**We are proud of our approach to pastoral care which is the defining characteristic of St David's College and it is intrinsically linked with our ethos.**

PARENT QUOTE

I seriously know our daughter is getting the very best education possible, giving her the best chance of getting good qualifications but also much more than that... Growing up in the environment of St David's has made our daughter blossom into the confident, mature, happy, funny young lady that she is today.

*Parent of a 6th Form pupil*

## Health

The school has an on-site medical centre staffed by qualified nurses. From ensuring pupils receive prescribed medication to arranging appointments at local healthcare facilities, the medical team are on hand to ensure the continued well-being of our pupils.

## Staff

At St David's, pupils will find themselves supported by a caring team. From teachers to those in residential and support roles, St David's is a family. As such, there is a culture of mutual support and care.

## Prefects

Our pioneering work in the field of peer mediation allows our prefects to deal with conflict in a productive and positive way, maintaining harmony amongst the learning community. The position of Prefect is awarded to senior pupils who act as role models for their younger peers.

## House

Keeping all of the layers of care in focus, Housemasters will help pupils both academically and pastorally, providing both emotional and personal support. As part of one of the three houses at St David's, pupils have a sense of belonging and identity in a family environment.

## Year Group

Year group Heads ensure that all pupils are achieving their best in academic studies. Regular communication with subject teachers ensures that every pupil is supported within the classroom and is set achievable study plans.

## Chaplaincy

The school Chaplain looks after the spiritual and emotional well-being of our pupil's promoting an atmosphere of tolerance and understanding among the learning community.

# BOARDING AND COMMUNITY

Community is at the heart of everything that we do at St David's College. Belonging is key to the success of our pupils.

This sense of belonging comes from the school being a vibrant, dynamic and extended family where respect is transferred across the generations and between all areas of life within the community.

Within this environment, all contributions are valued and each individual is encouraged to share their skills and interests whilst caring for others.

Boarding gives you the opportunity to experience everything on offer at St David's, with weekend trips and plenty of activities organised by the staff every week.

Where better to begin your journey of discovery and learning than in an environment that will support you with every step?

With a flourishing alumni network that same sense of belonging will stay with you for a lifetime.

GOD
BELONGING
HOLY SPIRIT
COMMUNITY
HOPE
AWE AND WONDER
PRAYER
WORSHIP
BELIEF
LEADERSHIP
BIBLE
LOVE
TOLERANCE
GOSPEL
SUPPORT
FAITH
SOLO SPACE
JESUS
THE CROSS
SPIRITUALITY
CHARITY
COMPASSION

# CHAPLAINCY

Chaplaincy at St David's permeates every aspect of school life. It is a source of guidance and support for all our pupils and the whole St David's community. Our Chaplain believes that every individual should explore his or her own spirituality, find ways of expressing their compassion, sense of awe and wonder at the world we live in and find their place of significance in it.

The Chaplaincy at St David's College will assist pupils to access worship within their chosen faith system.

Science Chart
ST DAVID'S
UGANDA

# CHARITY WORK

We actively encourage and support our pupils to start fundraising activities for whatever cause they feel strongly about.

Alongside this fundraising, our international humanitarian initiatives form an important part of the charitable work we do as a school community. Every year, senior pupils over the age of 16 are offered the chance to travel to Uganda to take part in a number of projects developed by the school. The latest work in Uganda has seen St David's pupils working on projects to bring educational support, better healthcare facilities, clean water and biogas to many communities in the country. To cover this work, St David's has established the Link International Innovation charity.

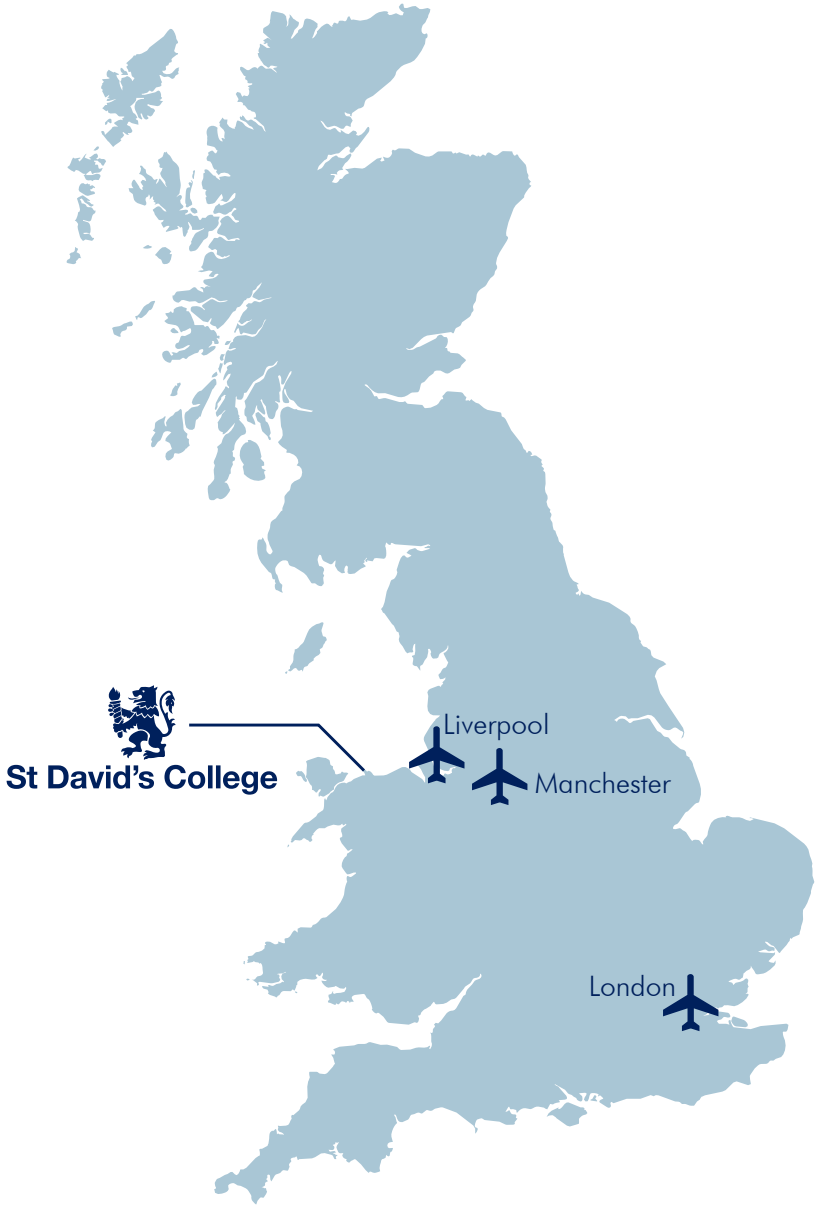
link international
innovation through creativity

# A SIMPLE IDEA; A PROFOUND ETHOS.

In 1965, an idea was formed from the minds of a young visionary and a team of inspired Christian people. That young visionary was our founding Headmaster, John Mayor; that simple idea was St David's College. At St David's every individual would find success and fulfilment by exploring as many opportunities, challenges and experiences as possible. Ahead of its time, this 'whole person' approach had a single aim - to bring out the best in every child.

Since those pioneering days, St David's College has thrived and grown into the school it is today - a community where every individual is encouraged to celebrate his or her unique qualities, explore who they are in a truly supportive and caring environment and begin a journey that will lead them to achieve their full potential.

Though St David's has seen many changes throughout its history, at its heart remains that same simple idea – the idea of developing the whole person through a broad education founded on Christian principles. From this foundation, confidence, self-esteem and a sense of purpose and identity inevitably flourish.




# HOW TO GET TO US.

## BY CAR

St David's College is conveniently located just 3 miles from the A55 coastal expressway. After joining the A55 at the Welsh border, simply leave the expressway at Junction 19. Exit the roundabout to join the A470. Follow this road for 3 miles, straight over 3 roundabouts. Immediately after the third roundabout, on the right you will find the entrance gates to St David's College.

## BY TRAIN

Our nearest train station is Llandudno Junction, referred to as LLJ on train ticket booking services. This station is serviced by regular direct rail links from London Euston and other major train stations across England and Wales. On arrival, St David's College is only a short taxi ride away and we are happy to help visitors arrange taxi pick-ups.

## FROM IRELAND AND THE ISLE OF MAN

Holyhead Port is around 50 minutes away by car. The A55 coastal expressway provides a direct link to St David's College. Regular train services from Holyhead to our nearest station, Llandudno Junction, are also available.

## INTERNATIONAL

The international airports of Manchester and Liverpool are within an hour and a half's travelling time from our campus. From these airports St David's College can be reached via rail services, airport transfer or by car. We are happy to advise on local hotel accommodation for those who may require it for their visit.

# ADMISSIONS GUIDE

St David's College is not academically selective so there is no entrance examination. Places are considered following an interview with the Headmaster and are offered based on the success of that interview in conjunction with information gleaned from recent school reports and information from other educational professionals, where appropriate. We generally offer places to pupils who demonstrate good character and have a desire to learn.

## STEP 1: INTERVIEW WITH HEADMASTER

This takes the form of a friendly conversation with a prospective pupil which helps us get to know an individual better. We may ask for recent school reports, Educational Psychologist reports or any other educational references.

## STEP 2: OFFER LETTER SENT

If we feel a prospective pupil is a suitable fit for St David's College, and vice versa, we will send you a letter offering a place; this letter will also include instructions for securing your place.

## STEP 3: PARENT CONTRACT AND DEPOSIT RETURNED

To secure your place we ask that the signed contract plus the initial deposit is returned as soon as possible to the school.

## STEP 4: NEW PUPIL PACK SENT

Once everything is in place we will send out a pack containing all the relevant information for starting at St David's College, including uniform requirements, pupil handbook, equipment needed and more.

St David's College

- Est. 1965 -

bsa BOARDING SCHOOLS' ASSOCIATION

CReSTeD Special Provision School

Supporter of the British Dyslexia Association

Estyn

RYA Training Centre

UK BOARDING SCHOOLS Impartial help and advice for parents

Institute for Outdoor Learning

Dyslexia School Search

Discover St David's College today. Arrange a visit by contacting us:

## Call 01492 875 974 or Visit stdavidscollege.co.uk

St David's College, Gloddaeth Hall, Llandudno LL30 1RD • Email: headmaster@stdavidscollege.co.uk