

Taverham High School



Taverham
High School
An 11-18 Academy

Inspire | Empower | Achieve

2023-24

“Pupils feel safe around the school. They happily engage in conversation and games at break and lunchtimes” Ofsted 2023

Welcome



**Dr
Roger Harris**
Headteacher

Welcome to Taverham High School. I am honoured to introduce myself as the Headteacher of this excellent 11-18 Academy serving Taverham as well as neighbouring communities. We are on a journey to become one of the best schools in Norfolk and a school that our local community has pride in.

Underpinning all we do is the excellent relationships between staff, students and parents/carers. Good communication, trust and respect provide the very best basis on which to nurture and develop the unique gifts and talents of our young people. We are fortunate to have first class school buildings providing the very best environment for learning; the opportunities for our students are exceptional.

We seek to develop tenacity, courage and resilience in our young people so that they become independent upstanding members of their community and beyond. We have high expectations of all our students as, not only do we want them to leave as happy and well rounded individuals but with the A-levels, GCSEs and high quality alternatives needed for the next stage in their lives.

We aim to work closely with you, as parents or carers, with open lines of communication being of utmost importance. We find there is great strength in the school and parents/ carers working together for the benefit of our young people to ensure they reach the best possible outcomes.

Our students are proud of our school, which is a happy, safe and enjoyable place to learn. We also understand the importance of offering a wide range of extra-curricular opportunities to build students' confidence, team-building skills, a thirst for knowledge and love of learning. Our students are our greatest advocates and our biggest assets; without their positive attitude the school would not be the same place.

I hope this prospectus gives you a sense of the school and the opportunities that await your young person. However, to truly gain a feel for our school, I would warmly invite you to visit us, by either calling 01603 860505 or emailing office@taverhamhigh.org. to make an appointment. My team and I would be delighted to meet with you and happy to show you our school and answer any of your questions.

We look forward to welcoming you soon.



Mrs
Susan Byles
Chair of Trustees

The role of the Board of Trustees is to ensure that Taverham High School provides a high quality of education for all students. We do this by working collaboratively with our Headteacher, the Senior Leadership Team, parents/carers and students. Together we aim to provide a learning environment which is safe and supportive whilst also being engaging and challenging. In this way, we promote the high standards which allow students to excel both academically and grow in character during their time at the school.

We are committed to offering students the opportunity to access a broad and balanced curriculum which is relevant to the modern world. The dedicated and specialist staff at Taverham High School work hard to ensure students can achieve their full potential academically and personally. Students gain the knowledge and skills they need to make rapid progress at each key stage whilst also developing their personal, creative and social skills. A carefully constructed personal development programme allows students to experience a rich diet of enrichment and extra-curricular activities, thus enabling students to develop their understanding of, and contribute to, wider society. Positive values are central to everything we do at Taverham High School, and we expect these to be modelled by

both staff and students. The school takes pride in the values displayed by students as they go about their studies. Many visitors comment on the calm and orderly atmosphere within the school and how our students are mature, polite and courteous.

As trustees, we are committed to the education of students so they may realise their ambitions and rise to the challenges they will face during their academic journey and working life. We wish them well on this journey and their future endeavours.

Resilience
Confidence
Ambition
Integrity
Compassion
Success



“Pupils benefit from an ambitious and interesting curriculum. There are high expectations for all.” Ofsted 2023

Learning & Teaching

A broad, balanced and relevant curriculum, centred on the core subjects of English, Maths and Science, is at the heart of our provision. We ensure students have access to a full range of skills, knowledge and opportunities to maximise success and to prepare them for their future.

A strong focus on literacy, numeracy and ICT throughout the curriculum embeds essential skills for life and is one of the factors that leads to the high rate of exam success, well above the national average.

The curriculum is rigorous and enables students, from Year 7, to study recognised academic subjects that will support them to advance in their learning; we also ensure students learn the skills of problem solving, critical thinking and creativity which employers are so keen to have in their

businesses of the future. As well as the traditional exam subjects we are able to offer a broad range of subjects at GCSE and A-level including Business Studies, Economics, Engineering, Child Development, Classics, French, German, Spanish and Music Technology.

Students are actively encouraged to take responsibility for their own learning, to be resilient, resourceful and ambitious. This is also true of our teachers who are encouraged to develop their practice, to provide a learning environment that is interactive, vibrant and enjoyable. The staff engage in action research to enhance their practice and we consistently review all elements of our teaching to ensure we can deliver the highest quality classroom experience for all our students.

Our activities outside the classroom are also vital for enriching the students' educational experience.

Taverham High School students are renowned for their spirit, energy and enthusiasm. With a wide range of opportunities for fun, challenge and experiences beyond the curriculum, our committed and enthusiastic staff help to enhance our students learning. We are proud of our sense of community and students are encouraged to take responsibility, to consider others and work together as a team. Opportunities include: sport, music, clubs and societies, Gold, Silver & Bronze Duke of Edinburgh, trips & visits, German Exchange, links with universities including Oxford & Cambridge, Nelsonspirit, Norwich School, guest speakers, Young Enterprise, as well as links with the business community. The school encourages students to support the local community and various charities and we are particularly proud of the money raised during RAGFEST week which is organised by our sixth form students but in which all take part.



“Teachers have strong subject knowledge that underpins teaching across the school.” Ofsted 2023

Celebrating Success

Taverham students consistently achieve high standards of progress both at GCSE and A-level.

The positive culture and celebrations of success are a very important, high profile element of our school. Annual evening and celebration assemblies congratulate students' efforts and application in all areas of school life, be it in the classroom, on the sports field, in drama, or music, or in leadership, or community service.

The annual Taverham Academy Awards evening is a prestigious event that celebrates the achievements of our students both within and outside of school. Staff at Taverham also understand that smaller acknowledgements of successes through verbal or written feedback and thanks, or recognition and acknowledgement of progress, is vital in building student confidence, self-esteem and enjoyment of learning. Regular newsletters, blogs, tweets and articles on the website keep parents and carers and the local community in touch with our rich array of activities and events.





“Bullying is not tolerated, and leaders act when they hear about perceived bullying concerns.” Ofsted 2023

Pastoral & Support

The behaviour of students and pastoral care at Taverham High School has been regarded as excellent for a number of years. We have a strong pastoral system and a rigorous behaviour policy which results in students feeling safe and focussed on their learning.

The students respect and care for each other and the local community, and we are often congratulated on the fact that they make fine ambassadors when we have visitors or take the students out on educational trips.

The pastoral team has overall responsibility to ensure that every student meets their academic potential and are supported during their time at Taverham. The first port of call is the Form Tutor who is responsible for students on a day to day basis. Students meet for registration in tutor groups twice a day and Form Tutors are always happy to resolve issues or difficulties. Form Tutors traditionally follow the students through the main school so that an excellent relationship is established; they know the students very well and how to best support them. When the students go into the Sixth form we have a specialist team of tutors who are experienced and provide that essential guidance required to develop the skills required for independent study, moving onto university, apprenticeships or other forms of education or training.

Student Support Centre

Within the Student Support Centre our aim is to offer young people a safe environment where they feel supported to work through challenges they may face, allowing them to achieve their full potential during their time at Taverham High School. Working within in student support we have a team of staff, who will be able to work through issues such as behavioural problems, family trauma, bullying and crisis situations. We offer supported integration back into school for students who have been away for a long period of time through illness, bereavement etc. Our aim is to work with students, parents, carers and support workers, offering a package which will include signposting to appropriate external agencies.

ELF – Everyone's Listening Friend

The ELF team is a group of year 10 peer support students who are selected and trained to listen. The role of the ELF is to support, listen and encourage positive relationships and social interactions between younger students in school. The ELFs work closely with the year 7 students during their transition so they have an older friendly face they can rely on during those first few days or weeks whilst they are settling into this new environment.

Transition

The transition process at Taverham High School is meticulously planned to ensure your child has

the best possible transfer to high school. We work with our feeder schools to ensure we have all the information required to get to know your child well and to support their learning from day one. During the main transition days, we will ensure the year 6 students will meet their Form Tutor, year 10 peer supporters (ELFs) and the other students in their form, that they have a tour of the school and experience typical lessons. We have introduced an afternoon before this day for any out of catchment students, so they can meet others in their position and make some friends before they arrive.

We also offer two other mornings for students who are worried or anxious about the transition to high school or have any Special Educational Needs. We are confident that these extra visits help us to get to know our new students well and enable us to prepare effectively for their arrival.

As a final element of the transition process we have a parents' evening in order that students and parents and carers can meet with Form Tutors and have informal conversations about any concerns or worries they may have. This is then followed by a more formal assembly involving the Headteacher, the Head of Year 7 and some of Taverham High School's own students. We constantly review our processes and tailor our programme to the needs of individuals if there are specific requirements.



“Pupils with SEND receive appropriate support, as teachers follow the adaptations specified for pupils.” Ofsted 2023

School Times

Period 1 & Registration	08.30 - 09.35
Period 2	09.35 - 10.35
BREAK	10.35 - 10.55
Period 3	10.55 - 11.55
Period 4	11.55 - 12.55
LUNCH	12.55 - 13.40
Tutor Time	13.40 - 14.00
Period 5	14.00 - 15.00
Period 6 (Sixth Form Only)	15.00 - 16.00

SEND at Taverham High School

At Taverham High School we believe in inclusion and participation for all. It is our aim to promote learning through nurturing the whole child, developing self-esteem and establishing the emotional stability of all students and especially those who are vulnerable. We aim to proactively respond to the diversity of students' backgrounds, interests, experience, knowledge and skills.

Every learner is considered an individual and we work hard to ensure that each one can play a full and active part in school life; achieving the highest academic progress possible whatever their starting point.

Students with special educational needs and disabilities are supported by a strong team of learning support assistants and teachers to enable them to fully access the curriculum available to all students.

SEND provision is tailored to meet learners' individual needs and is planned and delivered with agreement of learners and their parents/carers. It may consist of individual or small group support within or outside the classroom. Provision that is

organised outside the classroom is intended to develop vital core learning skills that are required to facilitate further learning such as maths, literacy and readiness to learn. This is delivered in a way that reduces the impact on other subjects.

During breaks and lunchtimes students who are particularly vulnerable have access to additional facilities that allow them to feel secure and develop confidence in a smaller social setting.

In 2018-2019 we were delighted to add sensory and nurture facilities to our provision. These are environments specifically designed to meet the needs of students that may find elements of the physical or social environment difficult to manage. Through the nurture room we offer small group

structured activities throughout the day in a relaxed and comfortable environment. Nurture activities are designed with nurture principles at the heart and which support the development of skills for learning in addition to providing a safe base for learners to develop stress regulation skills.

Programmes and short projects are delivered to address social and emotional difficulties such as safe behaviour choices, relationships and belonging. The sensory space (room) offers a small environment where students can use bespoke sensory stimulation to calm and regulate their emotions to become ready to re-enter the learning environment.

“Leaders encourage a wider love of reading at the school.” Ofsted 2023



The library

The library is at the heart of the school offering our students a wide range of opportunities.

Our role encompasses supporting and promoting reading for pleasure for all abilities and providing outstanding facilities and resources for study, as well as encouraging our students to be inspired by the magic of words. Students can borrow 2 books at any given time, including over the Summer break. Activities range from writing workshops to competitions, quizzes and visits by authors.

Additional activities throughout the school year include the Carnegie Medal Award, the celebration of National Poetry Day, Book Week and World Book Day. A number of clubs take place in the library including Chess club and PRIDE group. There are a number of reading interventions offered in the Library, and student progress is regularly celebrated.

Students can access our library catalogue, both at school and at home, through our online library management system, AccessIT.

Future Pathways

We are committed to ensuring that all our students have high aspirations for their future and are fully prepared for the competitive world of work. This enables our students to secure a career that is both stimulating and rewarding. Students in all key stages engage in a rich programme of personal development and guidance and we are committed to providing impartial careers advice and guidance for all of our students.



“Teachers provide tailored and individualised guidance that support sixth-form students to achieve well.”

Ofsted 2023



Sixth Form

Building excellent relationships between our students and staff is our most important objective. These relationships ensure that we personalise the Sixth Form experience and get the most out of every individual.

Taverham Sixth Form is an inspiring and exciting place of further study. We provide a learning environment of high expectations and challenge which focuses on preparing students from across Norwich for the opportunities offered in higher education, employment and training. Students stay on because, as Ofsted noted in 2023, 'Sixth-form students benefit from teaching that is closely tailored to their needs,' and the fact that 'teachers provide tailored and individualised guidance that support sixth-form students to achieve well.' New students settle quickly into the community.

At Taverham we do everything we can to help students raise and realise their aspirations. We participate in the Norfolk Higher Education Scheme and work closely with Norwich School. Visits to UEA, Suffolk and Cambridge help to broaden horizons; strong links with local universities and participation in their outreach programmes offer early experiences of university life. We offer carefully tailored support for the UCAS application process. For the last few years our students have been offered places to read at Oxford and Cambridge. In 2023 73% of our students received a

university offer. We identify those who choose to go into employment and apprenticeships as early as possible and offer them mentoring through our careers service. We have Mindset sessions and assemblies which provide students with information regarding this route. Our Future Pathways events include workshops led by employers alongside a careers fair.

We have an inclusive and holistic ethos that runs alongside our good track record of examination results. We have developed a tutor programme that equips students with the skills and attitudes required for success, fostering an A-level mind-set and cultural capital. Alongside this the tutor programme includes a well-being element that seeks to provide practical methods for avoiding stress, developing resilience and living a fulfilling life.

We believe it is essential that learning extends beyond the curriculum. Taverham has an excellent reputation for sport and outstanding sports facilities. As part of the enrichment programme students are able to participate in sport as well as assisting in lessons and representing the school in Sixth Form teams. The programme also involves a range of life skills from cooking to financial trading. In our Open Minds sessions we host visiting academics from top institutions whose lectures are then followed up by discussion forums for students. We have a fully supported programme for the

Extended Project Qualification that enables students to pursue their own academic interests. Work experience is built into the academic calendar in Year 12 and we have developed a number of unique partnerships with businesses, some of which offer opportunities to work overseas. The enrichment programme gives students a competitive edge in their applications to university or employment.

The sense of community at Taverham Sixth Form is epitomised by the annual RAGFEST. Sixth formers take a leading role in this fundraising week, which in 2023 raised a staggering £4704 for the East Anglian Air Ambulance. We have an active Sixth Form Committee comprised of our school leaders: Heads of School, leaders representing each academic faculty and school community leaders (building on the work of the 'ELFs' for key stages 3 and 4). We encourage volunteering in the community and aim to develop ties between the school and the surrounding area. Our vision is to build, realise and celebrate aspiration.

Finally, we have created a dedicated Sixth Form Centre at the heart of the school with fantastic bespoke facilities for Sixth Formers to study, collaborate and socialise.



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