

THE COLNE
COMMUNITY SCHOOL & COLLEGE

PROSPECTUS



WELCOME TO THE COLNE



The Colne is an inclusive comprehensive school that sits within the heart of our community. Our ARK values of Aspiration, Resilience and Kindness describe the ethos that flows through our school.

Students at The Colne deserve a first class education, achieving academic success, alongside developing the whole child so they have the skills and

confidence they need to move onto aspirational pathways and careers when they leave us. At The Colne we are determined that the school remains focussed on moving forward, improving the outcomes and raising the aspirations of all the young people in our community.

At The Colne we take seriously our responsibilities to safeguard the welfare of children and young people in our care. It is vital that we are able to establish and maintain an environment


where students feel safe and secure. We ensure that our students know that there are adults in the school who they can approach if they are worried or are in difficulty.

Education must guide, improve and challenge. That is what we aim to provide for each and every student, and we are exceptionally proud of what our students go on to achieve. Independent learning, a sense of curiosity and a thirst for knowledge are all actively encouraged at

The Colne. We recognise and value the importance of the partnership between home and school, working together to ensure students are able to fulfil their potential and achieve their aspirations.

Throughout this prospectus we have tried to address as many questions as possible you may have about our school, however, if you would like to find out more about The Colne please do not hesitate to contact us to arrange a visit.





A STIMULATING AND CHALLENGING CURRICULUM

All of our students have access to a broad and balanced curriculum. Each day consists of 5 lessons, each 1 hour long. Alongside the core subjects of English, Maths and Science, students in Year 7 and 8 also study: Art, Music, Drama, Ethics, History, Geography, Modern Languages, Computing, Technologies and PE/Dance.

At the end of Year 8, students are able to choose the subjects they wish to study from Year 9 onwards, from a range of courses, and study their chosen GCSE, or equivalent, subjects for 3 years. All of our students have access to an extensive enrichment programme to support their learning and develop their interests outside the classroom.

Meeting the needs of individual students

Students are able to learn most effectively when they are happy and feel secure and we are pleased that we have created a learning environment for our students that enables them to flourish. We believe in a holistic approach to education, recognising students as individuals by supporting their learning, personal and social development.

Each student has individual strengths, needs and ambitions.

Our well-resourced Special Educational Needs & Disabilities (SEND) Department, has specially trained staff to support our youngsters with an identified need. The SEND team regularly collaborate with parents and other support agencies to create a bespoke programme to meet the needs of the individual. Parents who have a child with an Education Health Care Plan and require additional information, are welcome to contact our SENDCo directly.

We have the expertise to stretch and challenge our more able students both in class and through workshops, from the moment they enter the school. Special events are organised in conjunction with our partners and other schools throughout the area to develop confidence and the resilience to consider opportunities, including pathways to top universities and aspirational careers.

Our Sixth Form offers a wide range of courses, collaborating with other local schools and the University of Essex. The well-established VI6 Partnership allows our students access to a wider range of A Level subjects, delivered on campus, by experienced members of staff providing them with a flavour of university life.

Pastoral Care

At times, throughout our lives we recognise that on occasions we will need extra care or support and someone to provide a listening ear. Kindness is intrinsic in everything we do at The Colne. We have established a very caring pastoral team, including non-teaching Year Managers, who are always available to listen to concerns and resolve any difficulties quickly and effectively.

LEARNING AND TEACHING



Staff at The Colne are totally dedicated and committed to ensuring that all of our students receive a first class education.

This, combined with our facilities and resources, means that lessons are required to be both stimulating and creative. Homework is seen as an integral part of students' studies.

It is used to consolidate or extend topics covered in lessons. This helps to prepare students with the independent learning skills and techniques necessary for examinations at GCSE and beyond.

We have high expectations and through our teaching, we aim to challenge our students to think hard. A range of teaching styles is used, so that all students are stretched and

motivated to achieve their potential. Setting is introduced in some subjects as students move through Key Stage 3 and on to Key Stage 4.

Education is a continuum and we want to ensure that all of our students are equipped with the knowledge and skills they need to become life-long learners and access aspirational career pathways.



EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES



To complement our curriculum there are a range of extra-curricular activities.

There is something for everyone and all students are encouraged to participate whether their interests are in sports, the arts, STEM, community and charity work. Such opportunities help broaden horizons and develop a sense of community.

Sport at The Colne is high profile and mainstream sports such as football, rugby and netball are popular with both boys and girls. Outside of this students are encouraged to try new and exciting sports such as climbing, handball and trampoline. Our sports facilities are excellent with full-sized rugby and football pitches, an all-weather pitch, a fitness suite, tennis and netball courts, climbing wall plus a fully equipped state-of-the-art sports hall; there is something for all sports enthusiasts to enjoy.

Our art and performance subjects are highly regarded with regular exhibitions and performances to showcase our students' talents.

Our staff are very giving of their time and consequently the opportunities available to our students are staggering whether that be ski trips, water sports trips or the American Exchange to name just a few.





The Colne is a member of the Sigma Multi Academy Trust. A group of like-minded schools sharing the same vision and ethos, working in partnership to improve the educational outcomes for young people in the area.

Vision

Our vision is to ensure that all of our academies are at least "Good" with strong and improving outcomes and are able to demonstrate outstanding provision.

We will achieve this by:

- Establishing a local family of academies that fully embrace the mission, vision and values of the Trust.
- Ensuring that best practice becomes shared practice so that no school is left behind.
- Recognising the uniqueness and achievements of each academy.
- Enabling every school to be a giver and receiver of support.
- Developing a relationship where autonomy and accountability go hand in hand.

- Creating a centre of educational excellence and innovation within the area.
- Working in collaboration with others to enhance the educational experience of children in the community.
- Training, recruiting and retaining teachers, leaders and support staff through high quality professional development.
- Requiring that services are delivered efficiently and represent outstanding value for money.

Mission

The mission for each academy within the Sigma Trust is to ensure that no child is left behind. Education should foster in its learners a curiosity to discover who they are and what they are capable of, together with developing the resilience for them to test the boundaries of their abilities, and build the skills necessary to face the future with confidence.

To be "**Greater Than The Sum Of Its Parts**" represents the mission statement for the Sigma Trust.

We believe we are stronger and more successful working together than we would be as separate institutions.

Values

The Sigma Trust values the following attributes:

Integrity - be honest, transparent, trustworthy and true to your beliefs.

Passion - be positive and enthusiastic about what you are trying to achieve.

Aspiration - aim for your best and set high, realistic goals.

Resilience - never give up and strive to improve.

Accountability - take responsibility for your words, thoughts and actions.

Respect - for yourself, your environment and other people.



EXECUTIVE HEADTEACHER

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HEAD OF SCHOOL

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