Vision statement

St Dunstan’s School and Arts College is a sustainable learning community where:

We are committed to creating an environment based on mutual respect, honesty, fairness and responsibility.

We work in partnership to deliver a wide range of high quality, relevant learning opportunities, raise standards and shape the future.

All individuals are valued and become successful, confident, responsible, supportive, reflective citizens inspired to do their best.

Principle Objectives

To create a centre of educational excellence that meets the needs and interests of all stakeholders, sharing resources and developing leading practice within the school and with other schools and their communities.

To promote an appreciation of the Arts and encourage participation in a wide range of artistic activities in and outside the classroom in order to maximise the opportunities for all learners to achieve their potential in the arts and creative industries.
Welcome to the School

St Dunstan’s is a thriving rural comprehensive school with a reputation for providing high quality educational opportunities for all our students. We have a reputation as a school that values the individual and are focused on getting the very best from each child in our care. While we hold to traditional values we are an innovative school responding to the changing needs and aspirations of our students as well as the demands of further education and employers. We provide a broad, balanced curriculum and our Specialist Arts provision enables us to expand and develop learning experiences within the school as well as with the local community of Glastonbury. Our students are valued for their individuality. We support their development both academically and socially so they leave our school as confident, successful, responsible citizens.

“an inclusive community where students feel safe and enjoy school”
Ofsted

Creating the Future

St Dunstan’s is a popular, successful and well established school which has a high reputation for serving its students and community very well.

St Dunstan’s has a team of highly committed and well-qualified staff who work closely together for the benefit of all our students. The school provides a calm, inclusive environment where learning can take place successfully. Parents and carers are kept fully informed of progress.

All students are encouraged to take on leadership responsibilities and make a difference to their school. Through joining a ‘Learning to Lead’ project team, becoming a Peer Mentor or applying to be a prefect students see the outcomes of their contributions and talents around the school.

“friendly atmosphere with good supportive relationships between students and teachers”
Ofsted
Building Learning Power

At St Dunstan’s we combine the traditional methods of teaching with innovation and creativity.

We are focused on providing high quality learning experiences that develop the talents and skills of all students. We believe that students achieve their full potential if they enjoy their work and find it stimulating and challenging. The school offers as wide a choice of learning pathways as possible, to cater fully for all levels of aptitude and ability. Lessons are engaging and take place in an orderly and co-operative manner.

As a school we are developing our ‘learning muscles’ through the Building Learning Power project.

This is an exciting, engaging approach which recognises that learning takes place in and out of lessons. It provides students with the understanding and skills required to become highly effective life long learners. All students have the opportunity to contribute positively to the ethos of the school and become a Learning Challenger, Expert, Leader or Master.

“Creating the future through the power of learning”
The Arts

It is a strong feature of the school’s philosophy to provide a range of valuable creative experiences where every student can shine.

Alongside our delivery of the core subjects we have a strong emphasis on providing exciting opportunities in the Arts, particularly Art and Design, Music, English, Drama, Media Studies and more recently Creative Textiles and 3D Creative Design. We believe the Arts represent a powerful way for our students to express themselves, whether through more traditional artistic means or one of our many innovative, challenging programmes such as Formula 1. All students have the opportunity to study Arts based subjects in extended learning experiences and specialise in the Arts as they progress through the school.

Involvement in the Accelerated Reading Scheme in the first years at the school ensures that all students have the reading skills they need to access the curriculum.

“In Years 10 and 11, students are offered a wide choice of courses, with good vocational opportunities tailored to local circumstances” Ofsted
Celebrating Achievement

We believe that celebrating and rewarding outstanding learning habits and achievement is the most effective way to motivate students towards success.

Students can earn a range of rewards such as classroom credits, house-points and achievement postcards which recognise individual successes as well as sustained effort over time. Student’s work is displayed around the school. Their achievements are reported on the school website and in the newsletter. We celebrate successes in our end of term award assemblies, and ‘Celebration of Achievement’ Evenings.

A Caring Community

In order to provide the best possible pastoral care for our students, the school is divided into four ‘Houses’.

The Houses are named after Arts personalities who have a particular link to the local area: Austen, Eavis, Piper and Redgrave. We see St Dunstan’s as extended family, with each House consisting of tutor mentoring groups which include students of all ages. The older and younger students support each other. There are plenty of opportunities to see a friendly face and share some good advice during tutor time. We try to ensure that brothers and sisters are placed in the same House as this helps us to build good relationships with the family.

We place great emphasis on ensuring that transition from primary to secondary school happens as smoothly as possible. We have close links with our feeder primary schools and all students are invited to Arts, Sports and Language enrichment activities at the School as well as taking part in our induction programme. Just as important is transition to further education. We have excellent relationships with Strode and Bridgwater Colleges who work with us and the Careers Service to ensure that every young person makes the right choices when they leave in Year 11.

“The extent to which students adopt healthy lifestyles is outstanding”

Ofsted

“The school provides a high level of commitment in the care of its students”

Ofsted
Positive Partnerships

There is clear evidence that students are more successful if parents / carers are actively involved in their education.

We keep parents/carers fully informed of their child’s progress through our Learning Habit and Progress Reports, regular Parents’ Evenings and our Parents’ Forums. We monitor absence closely, and contact parents promptly if there are any concerns.

We ask that parents / carers:

• Support the school rules
• Demand high standards of behaviour, attendance and uniform
• Maintain close contact with the school, particularly with information relating to students’ well being
• Attend Parents’ Evenings and other opportunities to meet with the staff such as our Parent Forum

“We could not have asked for more dedication, inspiration and kindness”

Year 11 Parent
How to Contact Us

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