



Court Fields School



Achieve | Belong | Participate

“The atmosphere when you come into the school is incredibly welcoming, it feels like you’re all working together to achieve the same goals. I feel included and part of the team and that my input is valued. It’s a very positive environment.”

Parent of Year 11 student



Welcome

I am delighted that you have decided to find out more about the opportunities available for students at Court Fields School. We are very proud of our school and our students.

Together with our staff, Governors and our wider community in Wellington, we are working to provide the very best education for our children, both academically and pastorally. Our students’ achievements include performing at the highest levels in Sport and the Arts, developing wider skills via the National Citizenship Service and Duke of Edinburgh Awards, competing in national challenges in Maths and Science, to name just a few.

Our aim is for every child to achieve, belong and participate and this is at the heart of everything we do at Court Fields School. We believe in the absolute moral responsibility we have for equipping students with the best possible exam results. We know that this opens doors for students and prepares them with outstanding attitudes and a strong moral foundation.

We are ambitious for our students and our school. We have high standards and our students reflect our expectations. Our improvement over the last 4 years has been noted by students, staff, parents, and the community, as well as by Ofsted in May 2023. Visitors to our school recognise a significant shift in culture, with a clarity of purpose and focus on high quality teaching, excellent behaviour and wellbeing. We will be relentless in ensuring that this progress continues.

Court Fields School is an academy and part of the Blackdown Education Partnership. We work closely in collaboration with schools in this partnership to share excellent practice and ensure the best outcomes for the children in our care. We develop young people with outstanding attitudes and integrity, and prepare them well for life in an ever-changing world.



I would encourage you to take advantage of our Open Days Programme this year. There will be opportunities to meet our staff team, tour the school, visit lessons, and meet the Senior Leadership Team. You will also be able to hear from our students; visitors to our school always comment on their courtesy and politeness. Our students are an absolute credit to us, themselves and to their parents and carers.

I am very proud to work with our students, staff, parents and wider community. I look forward to you and your family joining our team at Court Fields School, and seeing all that we achieve together.

Mrs Polly Matthews
Headteacher





“ There has been so much hard work over the last few years and the Headteacher has done a great job in leading the team.”

Community Feedback

Our ethos

ACHIEVE | BELONG | PARTICIPATE

“My children are thriving with the high quality of teaching, safe and happy environment and excellent extra curricular opportunities that Court Fields offer.”

Parent of Year 7 student

Every Child Achieves. Every Child Belongs. Every Child Participates.

The school's ethos is that every student at Court Fields Achieves, Belongs, and Participates in learning, enrichment and the local community. We do this by ensuring students are provided with:

- A diverse and rich curriculum that goes beyond the National Curriculum
- High Quality teaching and pastoral care
- Participation in enrichment beyond the classroom.
- As a result, every student can expect:
 - Powerful knowledge for all
 - Effective and strong relationships with adults modelling the way
 - An education that empowers students, providing them with knowledge to make sense of the world and become citizens who make a difference.

We deliver the above through:

- Exceptional pastoral care and support
- High expectations and standards
- An ambitious academic curriculum which is rich and has breadth
- Opportunities that enable students to have the power to think for themselves, shaped by what they need to know, understand and fulfil, in order to have happy, successful and prosperous lives.
- A curriculum which teaches knowledge and skills within the context of a strong personal development curriculum
- Encouragement of shared values and mutual respect
- Education and experience to become resilient and develop responsibility

We are proud of our students. Our values demonstrate a commitment to developing them as individuals, leaders, team players and advocates for those who need support. We expect hard work, tolerance and empathy from our students, embodied by our values of:

- Integrity
- Respect
- Kindness
- Resilience
- Responsibility

Our school

“I genuinely think that the past 4 years have been the best years for the school. The SLT has worked tirelessly to improve the school in every aspect and it really does show now. The school has a very special feel about it, the students are happy, engaged and hard working, they seem to genuinely enjoy their learning and look forward to their learning experiences.”

Former staff member

Court Fields School converted to an academy in January 2014 and is part of the Blackdown Education Partnership. We teach over 800 students aged 11-16 at our campus in the Somerset town of Wellington.

Wellington is a thriving market town on the Devon/Somerset border, enjoying easy access to the M5 corridor, the stunning Jurassic Coast, the Blackdown Hills (an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty) and our County town of Taunton. At Court Fields School, we value greatly the relationships in our local area and are keen to be involved in many aspects of our local community.

Our Facilities

Court Fields School enjoys a large semi-rural position, with an enviable amount of open space for students to enjoy.

Sports Facilities

The school has excellent sporting and recreational facilities, with two large sports fields, tennis courts, outdoor basketball courts, a recently refurbished gymnasium, fitness studio and an impressive modern multi-purpose Sports Hall. Planning is also underway for a new state-of-the-art 3G all-weather sports pitch.

The Arts

We have enviable Arts facilities, including a modern dedicated Music and Drama wing, refurbished in Spring 2019. This includes specialist studios and practice rooms, well equipped with musical instruments for students' use. Students have access to subsidised instrumental lessons and a developing range of music bands, choirs, dance and drama groups. There are public and in-school performances in which students can become involved as performers or in technical support roles.

Main School Facilities

Our main School Hall provides a venue for many of our school events, well equipped catering services, and a large stage for productions. We have excellent specialist Design and Technology facilities, and in-house ICT suites. In addition, we have dedicated ICT classrooms as well as Wi-Fi throughout the school site, so that students can use school or their own devices to enhance their learning. Our school Learning Resource Centre (LRC) has an extensive range of books and is used as an integral learning space, managed by our dedicated Learning Resources Manager. The English Department benefits from the purpose-built E Block, which provides a stimulating learning environment across three classrooms.

Accessibility

Court Fields School is a flat site with excellent wheelchair access. There are two lifts to the first and second floor. We are committed to ensuring that our site is accessible for all of our students and their families. We are continually seeking to improve our campus where necessary, to provide excellent facilities and opportunities for all our children.

Equality for All

We are fully committed to providing equality of opportunity and access to all of our students. Please see our Equalities Statement on our trust website: www.bep.ac



Achieve

Our aim is that every child achieves, which is realised through the excellent teaching and learning that your child will experience at Court Fields School. We have a commitment to ensuring that your child is challenged to be ambitious, inspired to learn, and equipped with the very best examination results. This will increase our students' opportunities and give greater choices in future qualifications and employment.

We aim to ensure our students achieve their full potential, and for our more able students to achieve the highest grades. Our aim is also for teachers to challenge all of our students in lessons and to encourage their ambition to be the best they can be.

Many of our students participate in at least one of the wide range of enrichment activities on offer at the school including:

- Maths Challenge
- School Council
- Prefects/Senior Student Leaders
- Go4Set Science, Technology, Engineering & Maths Challenge
- Rotary Youth Speaks, debating and public speaking
- Music
- Creative Writing
- Sporting fixtures
- Year 10 Work Experience

We have a rich programme of Careers Information, Advice and Guidance (CIAG), along with the Personal Development curriculum in line with the Gatsby Benchmarks. This enables students to take part in University visits, work experience and interactions with a range of employers. This ensures that they are fully prepared to take their next successful steps beyond Court Fields School.

Elevate

Our successful Elevate programme is designed to enrich children's school experience, develop ambitions and help to fulfil their potential. It identifies students who may benefit from additional opportunities and mentoring. Recent opportunities have included working with national organisations such as Lloyds Bank and Waitrose, and participation in articulatory workshops, author visits and the Duke of Edinburgh's Award.

Special Educational Needs & Disabilities (SEND)

Our Learning Support Department offers extra help to students experiencing a range of learning difficulties. We offer a range of support to students with social, emotional or mental health issues, physical disabilities, medical needs, communication needs and cognitive concerns. Help is available in the classroom, individually or in small groups (depending on circumstances) as well as at our Homework Club which runs after school Monday to Thursday. The team includes a range of teachers with specific SEND experience, specialist teaching assistants and school counsellors. The department is housed in a suite of bright, purpose built rooms, providing an inspiring and nurturing space for our students.

Please ask to see the school's policy on SEND, or refer to the School Offer, which is on the school website.



The Curriculum

“Pupils follow a broad and ambitious curriculum. Pupils with SEND receive the support they need to follow the curriculum successfully. Local governors and trustees are ambitious for pupils.”

Ofsted, 2023

The Curriculum

We want every young person at Court Fields to achieve their full potential, enjoy a strong sense of belonging and participate fully in the life of the school and our community. Our curriculum is at the heart of our school. It is the key driver to ensuring that we achieve this vision and our vehicle for ensuring success and equity of opportunity for all of our students.

The school ethos of all students achieving, belonging and participating, to secure the best possible qualifications in a positive and resilient way, is fundamental to our philosophy.

Our curriculum is designed to ensure that our students experience a balanced and broad range of subjects. We actively promote our students' spiritual, moral, cultural, emotional and physical development, preparing them for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of adult life.

Our aim is to provide a curriculum that is highly effective in delivering outcomes and caters exceptionally well for all our students' needs.

Subjects for Years 7, 8 and 9

All students are taught core subjects: English, Mathematics, Science, Religious Education (RE) and Physical Education (PE).

In addition, they will also be taught the following:

- Humanities subjects: History and Geography
- Modern Foreign Languages: either one or two languages from French and Spanish
- Arts: Art, Drama and Music
- Design Technology, Computing and Food

Subjects for Years 10 and 11

All students study English Language and Literature, Mathematics, Science, Religious Education and PE. Students select a further three option subjects which include:

- Modern Foreign Languages: French, Spanish
- Humanities: Geography, History, Philosophy & Ethics
- Computer Science or Information Communication Technology
- The Arts: Music, Drama, Performing Arts, Photography, Fine Art
- Design Technology
- Food Preparation and Nutrition
- Physical Education or Sports Studies
- Health & Social Care

Personal, Social and Health Education and Careers Guidance are an essential part of our students' preparation for life. These subjects are taught through curriculum lessons and enrichment activities throughout the year. We teach students to make good decisions on issues that may affect them now, such as bullying and internet safety, and in the future, such as personal finance and risk-taking behaviour.

Homework

We believe that homework makes an invaluable contribution to students' progress, and so we support them to find good independent learning habits either at home, or in the school Learning Resources Centre with its extensive IT facilities. Our ClassCharts online system is available for parents and students. This provides easy access to all homework, with resources and deadlines, to enable parents and carers to support learning at home.





The Court Fields Experience

“Thank you for organising today’s mock interview event. It was excellent and I was really impressed with students who took part and the staff who organised and ran it. It was another example of how Court Fields does everything so professionally these days.”

Member of Wellington Town Council

As part of our Personal Development at Court Fields, we encompass a wide range of opportunities for our students to experience and compliment subject specific knowledge in timetabled lessons as seen in the Court Fields Experience wheel (on the next page). All our students experience a wide variety of enriching activities, character education and personal development over their 5 years at Court Fields. From September 2022, we have been referring to our personal development as The Court Fields Experience. It is vital we prepare our students to be active learners and confident to face the wider world during their lives. As part of our Court Fields Experience, all students learn across the following aspects of their personal development during their 5 years with us. These aspects will help develop the characteristics of Court Fields students as defined through our students and staff through their feedback.

- **Careers Advice & Guidance:** We employ a dedicated Careers Advisor who works closely with students in all Years, to provide the right careers advice and guidance so that all of our students go on to further education, training or employment. Careers education is delivered across the curriculum through lessons, enrichment activities, careers interviews, university and employer visits, and we meet all 8 Gatsby Benchmarks at 100%.
- **PSHCE:** We develop students' awareness of healthy lifestyles, keeping safe and maintaining positive relationships. We teach tolerance, the importance of empathy and encourage students to be understanding and respectful of others. Students take part in discussions on ethical issues and on the different beliefs, cultures and attitudes that exist in society.
- **RSE:** We teach Relationships and Sex Education in line with new statutory guidance. As part of our Sex Education programme, we invite health professionals to work with students and we liaise closely with the local School Nursing Team. Our school nurses offer students drop in sessions to discuss any health needs and work with individuals and parents as required. If you are concerned about any aspect of this teaching, please contact the school. All parents have a right to withdraw students from Religious Education and Sex Education classes.
- **Character Education:** we use a wide variety of curricular and extra-curricular activities to provide character education, including: assemblies, subject lessons, dedicated character education lessons, sports, clubs and outdoor education activities. These opportunities help young people to explore and express their character and build the skills they need for resilience, empathy and employability.
- **Equality, Diversity, and Inclusion:** Our students describe our school as tolerant and inclusive. We encourage all our students to be fully involved in school life, to be kind, respectful of rules and to value others.
- **Extra Curricular and Wider Enrichment:** Enrichment experiences, educational visits and extra-curricular opportunities are integral to the experiences of students, and their personal development. Our aim is for every student to experience at least one form of additional enrichment to support the development of cultural capital and the life chances of all students.
- **British Values:** As a school, we have a strong tradition of participation and supporting each other. We have great respect for all individuals and we promote the core British Values.
- **Citizenship:** We develop the knowledge, skills and understanding that students need to play a full part in democratic society, as active and responsible citizens. They are taught about democracy, politics, parliament and voting. They also learn about human rights, justice, the law, media, information literacy, climate change and sustainability, personal finance and the economy.
- **Social, Moral, Spiritual and Cultural Education:** we embed SMSC in all aspects of school life, from individual lessons to extra-curricular activities and assemblies in order to support students holistic personal development. This includes explicit links with our World Views curriculum, which incorporates the statutory RE content as well as issues such as crime and punishment, identity, ethics and human rights.

Court Fields Characteristics

“Building relationships and working in partnership are key areas of strength for the school. There is a clear desire to work collaboratively and to get a holistic view of each individual child.”

Educational Psychologist

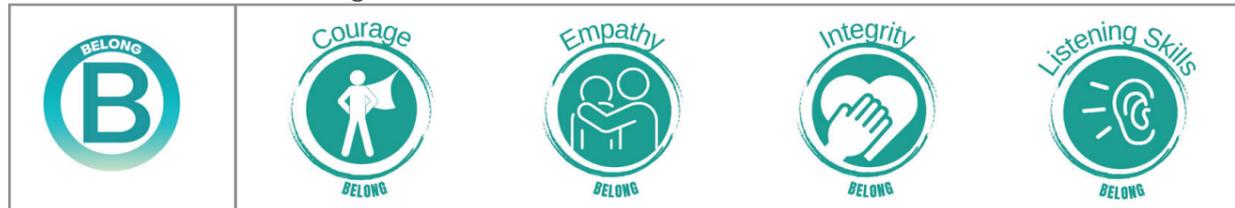
The characteristics that we develop in our students, so that they leave us equipped for success in their future, are supported by our Court Fields Experience. They enable our students to Achieve, Belong and Participate. All staff and students contributed to the identification of our characteristics, which sum up for us the attributes of successful Court Fields School students.

These characteristics are taught and nurtured through the following areas through our Court Fields Experience. There will be opportunities for students to develop and evidence the characteristics throughout their school career, including, for example, through extra-curricular and enrichment activities, things they do in and out of school, through our '100 Things To Do Before Year 11', through students leadership and so on, as well as through the wider subject curricula.

I achieve because I am:



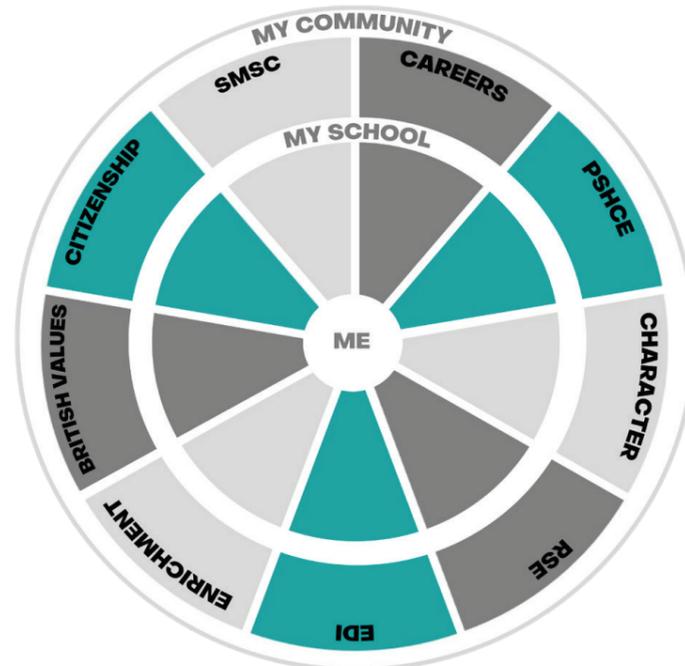
I belong because I have:



I participate because I demonstrate:



The Court Fields Experience Wheel





Personal development

“Pupils learn about beliefs and cultures different to their own and say the school is inclusive and tolerant. They receive effective support to plan their next steps in education or employment.”

Ofsted, 2023

Whilst qualifications are vitally important, we also want to equip our students with the knowledge, skills and attributes required to succeed in life. We do this by motivating students to participate in enrichment, which develops their wider skills. We also ensure that students receive a wide range of information and guidance regarding careers, further education, health and sexual relationships.

Our personal development curriculum intent is that we as leaders, staff and governors at Court Fields School want every student to access a wide range of quality experiences. We have the power to shape students future pathways so students are empowered to take on the opportunities life will offer after Court Fields. Our personal development curriculum is given the same weight as any other subject. We use the curriculum time and Court Fields experience to shape kindness and empathy, celebrate equality and diversity, delivering rich and broad experiences. We want to secure students sense of belonging and participation. Students will leave Court Fields having a strong sense of right and wrong, be ambitious for themselves and equipped with the knowledge of how to navigate the world.

Recognising success

We have high expectations of our students, and recognise and reward those who achieve success. We ensure that we reward students' effort and progress appropriately, as well as pastoral and academic improvements. These awards come in many shapes and sizes, from 'colours' awarded for sport, music, dance and drama, to achievement awards given for a student's contribution to their House. Our online system Class Charts enables students, parents and carers to see at a glance House points and rewards via the internet or a dedicated app. Our Presentation Evenings and Key Stage 3 Graduation in July recognise student progress and effort across the curriculum, as well as attendance and participation.

Student leadership opportunities

At Court Fields School, there are significant and increasing opportunities for students to take leadership roles. We also encourage students to develop their independent learning skills and self-regulation, helping them to be leaders of their own learning.

Students are supported to take on leadership roles from Year 7, with Transition Leaders assisting with all aspects of our work with our local primary schools and transition. Throughout their time at Court Fields School, students are able to take on further roles, with Prefects in Year 11 leading in subject areas, with the community or on a variety of whole school projects, as well as our Student Leadership Team, who form a key part of our strategic development.

Current leadership opportunities include:

- Year 7 Transition Leaders
- Year 11 Prefects
- Head Boy & Girl and Deputies
- Anti-Bullying Ambassadors / Wellbeing Champions
- Faculty Leaders
- Tutor and Year Representatives
- House Captains
- Sports Leaders and captains of sports teams

Mental Health & Wellbeing

We employ our own counsellors to provide additional support to individual students, as well as work with small groups of students who may need additional input such as mindfulness and anger management. We support students' mental and emotional health through the Personal Development lessons and enrichment. It is vital that we encourage a culture of openness regarding students' mental health and wellbeing. In line with this, we work extensively with our in school Counselling and Pastoral Team and external agencies to raise awareness and to support our young people.

Belong

“If I was looking for a secondary school for my child and read the Ofsted report, I would not hesitate to send my child to Court Fields. Your hard work and commitment since you took over has always been evident, and I’m delighted for you and the whole of the school that it’s been recognised in the Ofsted judgement.”

Community Feedback

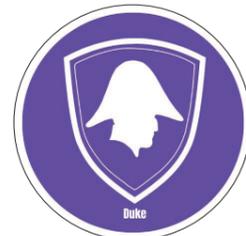
Our students, parents, carers and local community are central to the life of Court Fields School. Our role in the community continues to develop, and has recently involved our students running holiday activities for children, supporting the Wellington Street Fair, working with Wellington Churches together on transition projects, developing our ‘100 Things to do Before Year 11’ project with the National Trust and supporting our local primary schools with sports festivals.

The Houses

Our House system is an essential part of our ethos and community at Court Fields School, and was relaunched in September 2022 following consultation with parents, staff and students, including selecting locally relevant names for the new houses. Our House Co-Ordinator leads an exciting and extensive programme of inter-house competitions which culminate in the annual awarding of the prestigious and fiercely fought for House Cup. Our House competitions are wide-ranging, from chess to computer programming, singing to swimming, so that every child can contribute and display their knowledge, skills and talents. Siblings normally go into the same House on entry to the school, fostering a sense of belonging and togetherness. The House Leads promote and drive engagement across the three Houses: Blackdown, Duke and Monument. Our students, parents, carers and local community are central to the life of Court Fields School. Our role in the community continues to develop. Recently this has involved our students running holiday activities for children, supporting the Wellington Street Fair, working with Wellington Churches Together on transition projects, and developing our ‘100 Things to do Before Year 11’ project with the National Trust.



Blackdown



Duke



Monument

Pastoral System

On joining Court Fields School, students are supported pastorally by a Tutor, Head of Year and wider pastoral support staff. Students spend part of each school day with their tutor groups, which are linked to one of our three Houses, helping to develop a sense of belonging. Tutors provide valuable care, support and guidance and are the first point of contact for parents and carers. Tutors will also work with our child's Head of Year to oversee your child's progress, providing vital knowledge of their personal development. In the first term you will have an opportunity to meet with the Tutor and Head of Year to check how your child is settling in. Later in the year there are opportunities to meet with subject teachers and tutors at Parents' Evenings.

You will receive regular reports and access to online information that tracks your child's progress. We do encourage parents to contact tutors or subject teachers with any concerns. Parents, students and staff enter into a home-school agreement, which outlines everyone's responsibility in supporting the aims and values of the school.



“The staff as a whole, work incredibly hard to make the school the best that it can be, they are professional and enthusiastic, always prepared to go the extra mile for their students.”

Former staff member



Participate

“Leaders provide a varied extra curricular offer to pupils. This includes public speaking, reading and a range of sports, drama and music activities. The majority of pupils try at least one club which supports their wider development.”

Ofsted, 2023

Participation in extra-curricular activities is a vital part of life at Court Fields School. Taking part enables students to explore new interests, develop leadership skills, and pursue a diverse range of activities. We encourage students to cultivate creativity, sporting talents, travel, and musical ambitions as part of our thriving school community.

Our clubs range from public speaking, debating, drama, photography, pottery and science, through to chess, choir cooking, Maths and Eco-Club. We provide enriching activities, both in lunchtime and after school to develop students' art and craft skills, musical, dance, and drama talents, and students regularly perform in the local and national community. Our impressive new Music and Drama wing comprises well resourced, specialist studios and practice rooms for students' use. Visiting peripatetic music teachers provide one to one lessons in a wide variety of instruments.

Sport and PE

Court Fields School has a strong sporting reputation at county, regional and national level. Our current students and alumni include rising and established stars in football, women's football, rugby, shooting, to name just a few. We have a very popular lunchtime and after-school club system, catering for a huge range of sporting abilities and interests. Our clubs range from the traditional sports (rugby, hockey, football, netball, cricket, rounders, badminton, basketball, tennis, and athletics), to more diverse activities such as futsal, trampolining, and dodgeball. We also ensure that we promote healthy lifestyles and wider participation in physical activity with initiatives such as yoga and #ThisGirlCan.

Community links

Our students are encouraged to make a positive contribution to the community in school and in the wider Wellington area, such as raising money for local charities and participating in local exhibitions, performances and sports clubs. Over the last 12 months, students at Court Fields School have raised over £8,500 for a range of charities, including Children in Need, Save the Children and Comic Relief. Students regularly approach us with initiatives to fundraise for charities close to their hearts, raising money through sponsored events, cake sales and more. We encourage our Year 11 leavers to take part in the National Citizenship Service, through which they volunteer and fundraise for local and national projects. To enrich our students' experience and knowledge of the wider world we have developed strong links with local businesses, charities and community leaders and we regularly invite speakers, lecturers and performers to the school.

One of our wider projects involves our links with communities in Madagascar. Over the last 10 years, Court Fields School has raised over £30,000 for this project alone. This has been used to develop water projects in three separate villages, build a primary school and extend the school for use by older children. Our students have also visited our link school in Madagascar to be part of the development process, and this will continue over the coming years.



Clubs, activities and expeditions

We offer a wide range of outdoor education and teambuilding activities for all students, starting with Year 6 to 7 Transition.

This helps to develop a collective spirit and enables students to easily settle into their new school. We run a camp in Year 7, including adventurous activities and water sports, and reward students' progress into Year 11 with a teambuilding day and BBQ. Other Year groups enjoy an extensive menu of outdoor activities such as horse riding, mountain biking, coastering, fishing, surfing and kayaking. Learning new skills outdoors in a safe environment allows students to build resilience and confidence, supporting their pastoral and academic development.

The school actively promotes the Duke of Edinburgh's Award scheme, which gives an invaluable opportunity for older students to experience a physical and mental challenge, and develop their team and leadership skills.

Over the last five years, we have consistently been recognised as a Champion School by the National Citizenship Service, with a significant proportion of our students taking part in this excellent programme of leadership development, voluntary work and community fundraising.

Other opportunities for travel include skiing trips to Austria, France and Italy, a trip to Spain, and community development in Madagascar, as well as various other activities such as ballet, opera, theatre and more. Regular visits are organised through subject departments, both within the UK and abroad, which enable students to enrich their curriculum or cultural experience. (subject to the latest government guidance and travel restrictions).

We also continue to develop links with our local community to provide enriching activities for students. Examples of these are the Wellington in Bloom, Youth Speaks and the Rotary Club Young Chef and Young Writer competitions.



“Thank you so much for taking my daughter surfing on the Year 7 trip. There’s a lot of us parents seeing and appreciating the efforts you all put in to our children. We are so happy to have chosen Court Fields.

Parent of Year 8 student

“Our son, who was a quiet lad, is growing into himself, gaining confidence and volunteering for extra curricular clubs and projects now. He is doing well and we thank Court Fields so much for that.”

Parent of Year 8 student



Joining the school

“In every visit and interaction that my wife and I have had with the school, its staff and its s, we have come away impressed by the enthusiasm and dedication displayed.”

Parent of Year 8 student

Open Days Programme

Choosing your child's secondary school is a key decision for every parent. You will want to ensure that it reflects your child's academic, sporting and creative ambitions, and that the culture suits their individual needs and personality. More than that, you will want to know that it 'feels right' for your child.

That is why we encourage every prospective parent and student to visit us during one of our open mornings. Our students will give you a tour during a normal school day. This way parents can imagine their child attending lessons, making friends, using the library, playing sports, and enjoying our clubs and activities.

If you would like to find out more about our Court Fields Open Days Programme, please visit our website www.courtfields.net and follow us on our social media channels (Twitter: @CourtFieldsSch or Facebook: CourtFieldsSchool). To book a place on any of our Open Morning Tours, please email: opendays@courtfields.bep.ac.

Year 7 Transition

We work very hard to ensure that the transition to Court Fields School feels as smooth as possible. We know that it can be a stressful time for students and parents/carers. With this in mind, we have a dedicated specialist team leading on Year 7 Transition. Our Year 7 Transition Leaders support our local primary students on a regular basis at a range of events, so they are familiar faces to our new students.

All students joining us for Year 7 in September spend two days at the school during the summer term, and we hold a Welcome Evening for parents. If your child has special needs, we liaise with you and your child's primary SEN Team throughout Year 6 to discuss their requirements in more detail and plan effectively for their transition.

Our teachers also work closely with staff at our local primary schools to devise appropriate projects to bridge the end of primary and a student's first few weeks at Court Fields School, This helps to provide continuity and confidence for our students and enables teachers to effectively plan for challenging lessons.

Our Transition Leaders provide an additional level of peer support for our new students as they embark on the Court Fields journey. They act as guides, buddies and mentors, and many of our new students will go on to become Transition Leaders themselves.

Admission to the School

If you would like to apply for a place at Court Fields School, Somerset County Council operates a co-ordinated admissions process for the Year 6 to Year 7 transfers in September. Parents and carers should visit the Somerset County Council website (www.somerset.gov.uk/admissions) where information and an application form are available.

For in-year admissions, please contact the Admissions Officer at the school. Further information is available on our website, along with our Application Form for In-Year Admissions.

Prospective parents are encouraged to learn more about Court Fields School by visiting our website at www.courtfields.net, joining one of our tours, and particularly talking to our staff. We would love to talk with you and give you the opportunity to discover for yourselves how much Court Fields School has to offer your child.

The safety of students

At Court Fields School, the safety and welfare of our students is paramount. There is nothing more important to us than the physical and emotional health and well-being of our students and staff alike. As such we have created, and work hard to maintain, a vigilant climate in which staff, students, parents and governors feel able to articulate concerns comfortably; safe in the knowledge that effective action will be taken, as appropriate.

We work closely with other agencies such as Children's Social Care, the Police and health professionals to ensure we provide the most effective early help and support for our community. If any student or adult has a concern about a child's safety, they should please contact Mrs Westwood, Assistant Headteacher and Designated Safeguarding Lead.

We take Child Protection very seriously and all allegations or concerns will be fully investigated. There are links on the SAFE section of our website to take parents or students straight to the Child Exploitation & Online Protection (CEOP) website, Childline and other sources of help and support if anyone, (child, parent or staff member) feels uncomfortable with any safety concerns.

Communication

Parents are kept up-to-date with the achievements of our students and detailed information about our school through our website:

www.courtfields.net and via our online system, **ClassCharts**.

Parents/carers and students can view detailed information regarding attendance, rewards, behaviour, homework and more via this easy online portal or app.

Our Parent Bulletin, 'What's Happening at Court Fields School' is published every Friday. This updates parents on key dates for the week ahead, celebrates our successes and supports parents with important information. We use text and email regularly to inform and remind parents of events and we publish news and events on our website and social media pages. We also publish a termly school magazine packed full of news, information and feedback about all aspects of school life.

For day-to-day aspects, our tutors are the first port of call for parents regarding their child's schooling. They are easily able to answer routine questions or escalate appropriately should the need arise.



“The school has been totally transformed in the last 4 years and is very inclusive, with great pastoral support, great staff and brilliant community engagement.”

Parent of a Year 8 student

“The Headteacher has built a team who, with her and her leadership team, have so obviously worked incredibly hard to build a secondary school that we are so fortunate to have here in Wellington.”

Parent of Year 10 student



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