

The Ilfracombe Academy

Part of the Athena Learning Trust

Welcome to The Ilfracombe Academy



Sixth Form Prospectus

Learning Together for Life In All Its Fullness



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A Welcome from our Headteacher



I am delighted that you are considering joining our Sixth Form. This is an exciting chapter in your education, where you will specialise in the subjects you enjoy while preparing for your future. As Headteacher, I am committed to building on the reputation and success of our school and our remarkable Sixth Form.

Our academic achievements continue to grow each year, thanks to excellent academic and pastoral support, alongside our students' individual drive to dream big and take responsibility for their independent learning. This dedication has allowed the vast majority of our students to secure places at their first-choice universities or higher-level apprenticeships. We are a school that is always striving for improvement, ensuring that every student is equipped for success. We also encourage our students to show kindness to their peers and teaching staff, reflecting our whole-school values and visions of learning together for life in all its fullness.

As you explore this prospectus and supplementary course guide, I hope it helps you to make an informed decision about the best Sixth Form for your aspirations. I encourage you to ask yourself this important question:

'Why would you not want to study here as a Sixth Form student?'

We look forward to welcoming you to our Sixth Form next September and being part of your journey towards a hugely successful future.

Steve Rogers, Headteacher

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Our School



Situated on a beautiful coastal site overlooking the town and the Bristol Channel, we are an 11-18 church academy. We have over 1000 students on roll including a popular and expanding Sixth Form.

Our students come from a wide geographical area stretching from the surfing beaches of Woolacombe across Exmoor to Lynton and the Somerset border.

Our Sixth Form is well established and highly successful with excellent teaching and learning at the heart of all that we do. Our students thrive in an environment that offers both high levels of support and guidance as well as an emphasis on independent learning and academic excellence.

Choosing the right type of Sixth Form is an important decision and whether joining us from The Ilfracombe Academy or coming to us from another school, the Sixth Form team is confident each student will experience an academically successful, positive and exciting two years of education.

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Our Values and Vision for Every Student



We are committed to every student reaching their full potential, academically and outside the classroom.

We believe in the highest standards of academic excellence; we are dedicated to providing the best possible education for all our students by developing the knowledge, understanding and skills essential for learning and leading a fulfilled life, and we want to enable all our our students to access their first-choice university or higher-level apprenticeship.

We are also determined to equip all our students with skills and values that will help them flourish in all of life to enjoy life in all its fullness. We provide a child-centred education that supports our community and reflects Christian values. This is achieved through promoting our core values of Hope, Kindness, Courage, Integrity, Trust, Respect, Responsibility and Resilience, as well as our aspirations to Dream Big, Take Responsibility and Be Kind. These values are central to our Sixth Form.

Every student is known and valued by our Sixth Form Team.

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An Inspirational Environment



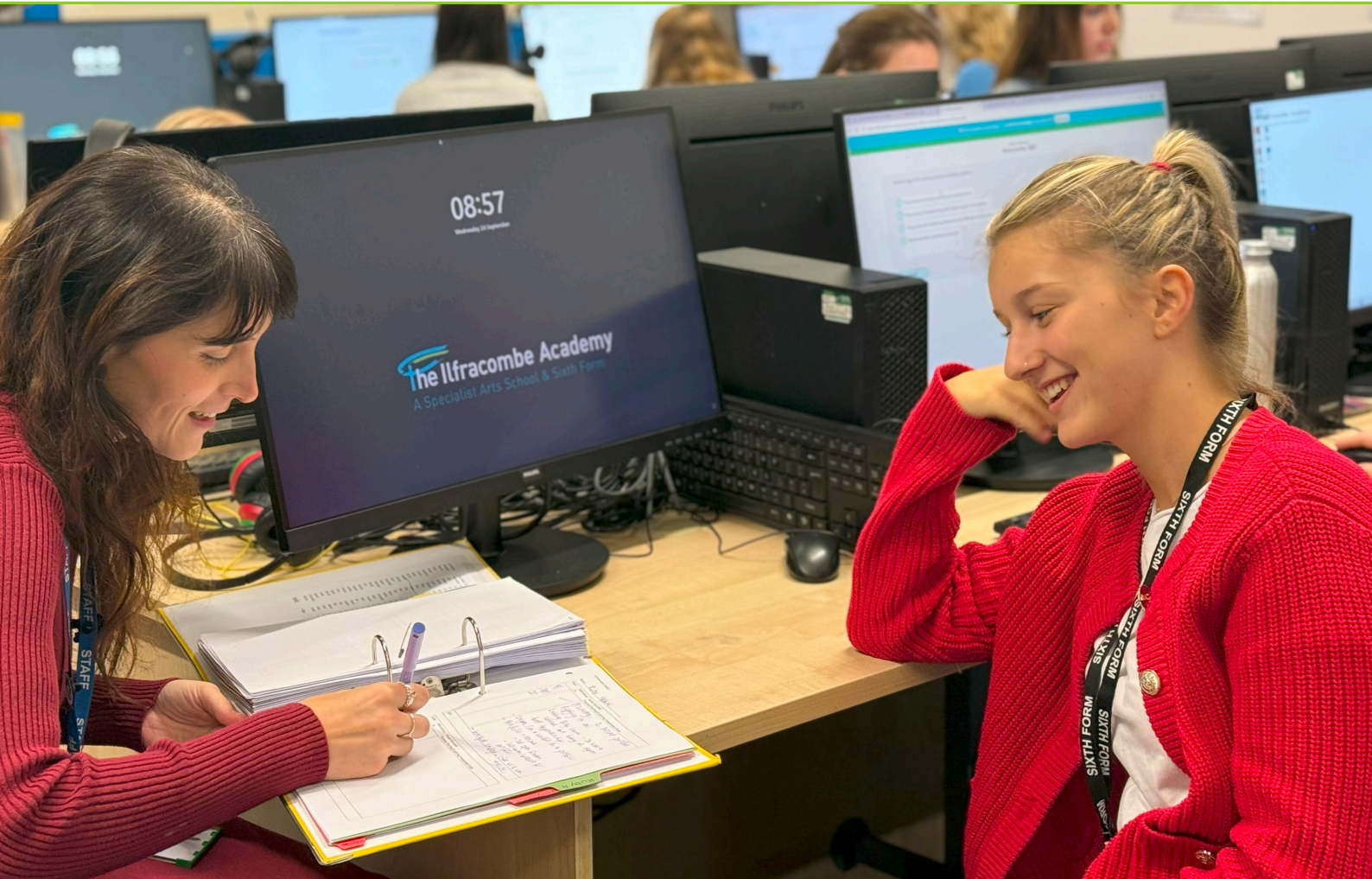
In October 2017 the school moved to a brand new, purpose built accommodation specifically for 11-18 students, and this has been recently updated to enhance opportunities for independent study.

The facilities within the Academy are welcoming and spacious and have breathtaking views of the sea and the surrounding area. The classrooms support the courses we offer with departmental suites of rooms, fully equipped workshops, large laboratories and extensive sports and performance facilities including a 3G all-weather pitch.

Sixth Form students enjoy their own dedicated area situated within the sports block with study facilities, common room and kitchen and access to our sports facilities.



A Broad and Balanced Curriculum



The Ilfracombe Academy offers students a broad curriculum to support their wide variety of interests and career aspirations.

Our range of courses cater for all students, ensuring their time in Sixth Form is both academically challenging and enjoyable. We strive to provide all our students with ample opportunities to celebrate creativity, diversity and independence.

We offer highly successful courses in a wide range of A Level subjects which support progression to university, and have a proud track record of delivering positive outcomes in even the most academic subjects.

We also offer some vocational and practical subjects at Level 3 qualifications.

Students can choose a programme of A Levels only, vocational courses only or a combination of the two, subject to meeting our entry requirements for their chosen pathway.

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Enrichment and Extra Curricular



At The Ilfracombe Academy we are absolutely committed to enrichment and life in all its fullness. We want our students to develop and better themselves in every part of life, academically and outside the classroom.

We want our students to develop into well rounded individuals who reach their potential by exploring all of their interests and talents and by acquiring as many skills and experiences as possible.

Increasingly universities and employers are expecting more of students outside of their subjects. We want to help our students be prepared for the world of work and to help them stand out.

We offer students the opportunity to be involved in student leadership, Young Enterprise, National Citizens Service, Duke of Edinburgh, Ten Tors and sports coaching amongst many others in our enrichment programme.

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Pastoral Care and Community



Alongside ensuring that every student gains the highest grades we also provide the highest standards of pastoral care.

We have a strong pastoral system and know our students very well. Every student belongs to a tutor group and they are individually known and catered for. Students are also an integral part of wider school life, taking on responsibility and leadership whilst setting an example to younger students.

Student wellbeing is at the heart of all we do and we aim to do everything we can to help each student succeed.

We know that success at this level is the result of positive partnerships between students, parents/carers and the school. It is our desire to foster these relationships and we take great pride in the many achievements of our students. Recognising and celebrating student success is a valued and regular feature of our school life through assemblies, our newsletter, the press, website and social media.

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Next Steps



We are proud of our strong record of helping prepare Sixth Form students for their next steps. We expect all students to engage in our extensive preparation for higher education, apprenticeships and employment.

The Sixth Form team equips students with the necessary abilities, characteristics and confidence to progress to higher education including Oxbridge, the Russell Group of Universities and leading Colleges of Art.

We also support students who wish to enter the world of work or join apprenticeship schemes through regular visitor assemblies, enrichment activities and trips to key exhibitions and events.

'We believe in a balanced Sixth Form, where students are nurtured yet given independence, where students are encouraged to be the best that they can be – both academically and outside the classroom'
Mr Nick Beesly, Head of Sixth Form.

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The Ilfracombe Academy
Worth Road
Ilfracombe
EX34 9JB

01271 863427

www.ilfracombeacademy.uk
admin@ilfracombeacademy.uk



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