

# ELIZABETH COLLEGE

## Prospectus

*ISI Inspection October 2015*

“The strongly pupil-centred college ethos enables pupils of all abilities to achieve high academic standards and develop excellent personal qualities”

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# Contents

|  |           |
|--|-----------|
| <b>Principal’s Welcome .....</b>                                 | <b>2</b>  |
| <b>Elizabeth College Ethos, Aims and Values.....</b>             | <b>3</b>  |
| <b>Twelve Highlights of 2016 – what makes us different... ..</b> | <b>4</b>  |
| <b>Curriculum.....</b>   | <b>5</b>  |
| Reporting and Assessment .....                                   | 5         |
| Years 7 to 11 (Key Stages 3 and 4) .....                         | 5         |
| Sixth Form .....   | 6         |
| Learning Support .....   | 6         |
| <b>Pastoral Care .....</b>                                       | <b>7</b>  |
| <b>Extra-Curricular .....</b>                                    | <b>8</b>  |
| Music and Drama .....  | 8         |
| Sport .....  | 8         |
| Combined Cadet Force and Outdoor Pursuits .....                  | 8         |
| Hobbies and Interests.....                                       | 8         |
| Community Service.....   | 8         |
| <b>Recent Examination Results.....</b>                           | <b>9</b>  |
| A Level Results .....  | 9         |
| GCSE Results.....  | 9         |
| Destinations of Sixth Form Leavers.....                          | 9         |
| <b>How Do I Register? .....</b>                                  | <b>10</b> |



# Principal's Welcome

A very warm welcome to the Elizabeth College Prospectus. I hope it provides you with a good introduction to the College and, if you haven't done so already, encourages you to come and visit us to see the College in action. If you would like to arrange a private visit or speak to a senior member of staff about any aspect of the school please don't hesitate to contact us.

The strongly pupil-centred College ethos enables pupils of all abilities to achieve high academic standards and develop excellent personal qualities  
*ISI Inspection Oct 2015*

In my experience, most parents want three key things for their children at school. They want them to be happy, safe and well-educated. At Elizabeth College we unashamedly put the pupils at the heart of everything we do. We want them all to enjoy their time at school, learn some important lessons along the way (both in and out of the classroom), develop themselves as individuals and emerge eventually as confident, happy and well-qualified young adults ready to make their mark in the world.

Naturally, we are always pleased with our excellent GCSE and A level exam results which often make us the top-performing school in the Channel Islands, but our main aim is to ensure that every pupil simply achieves the best results they can and develops a genuine love of learning. Every year we have boys who achieve straight A\*s at GCSE and others who work hard to achieve their five C grades at GCSE; we are equally proud of both!

Pupils' achievements across the College are excellent  
*ISI Inspection Oct 2015*

We also want our pupils to make the very most of themselves outside the classroom through taking part in the sporting and extra-curricular opportunities we offer. The number and diversity of such opportunities are unrivalled amongst schools on the island and we actively encourage pupils to find their niche in some extra-curricular area. Such activities provide a great break from work, help the boys to develop personally and often establish interests they will maintain for the rest of their lives.

Whilst we all love the quality of life that Guernsey has to offer, we also feel that it is our duty to broaden the horizons of our pupils and make them aware of what the UK, and the rest of the world, has to offer. Most boys that leave the College ultimately head off to university in the UK but they will already have learnt much about the wider world, gone on off-island trips and supported people around the world less fortunate than themselves.

If you like the look of what you have read and seen, the next step is to register your son for entry to the College. A registration form can be found within the document pack accompanying this Prospectus or downloaded via the Admissions tab of the College website.

A very large majority of pupils say they like being at the school  
*ISI Inspection Oct 2015*

In the meantime, thank you for showing an interest in Elizabeth College and we hope to see your son flourishing and making the most of himself here soon.

George Hartley  
Principal

## Elizabeth College Ethos, Aims and Values

We feel very strongly about providing the best possible education for your son at Elizabeth College and our Ethos, Aims and Values help us to achieve this.

*Elizabeth College provides a rich, diverse and exciting experience for pupils of all backgrounds, enabling them to flourish and make the very most of themselves.*

**To instil traditional Christian values, manners and a strong sense of service to others to enable our pupils to live lives that matter.**

We are rightly proud of our origins as a Christian foundation and promote strongly the moral values of **integrity** and **compassion**. We want our pupils to be true to themselves as individuals whilst having high personal standards and excellent manners. We also want our pupils to have a higher sense of purpose and strongly encourage them to contribute positively to the community.

**To engender a love of learning so that all our pupils can achieve, or even exceed, academic expectations.**

We want our pupils to be inspired by and relish their learning experiences in school, showing **creativity** and **perseverance** in working things out for themselves wherever possible. This will allow them to do the very best they can academically and help stimulate their minds through the rest of their lives. We particularly value scholarship and the great pleasures of learning for its own sake.

**To encourage full participation in the extensive extra-curricular and sporting programme thereby allowing pupils to find their niche.**

We want our pupils to throw themselves into the broader life of the school with real **passion** and **commitment**. Extra-curricular activities are enjoyable in their own right and essential in developing important character traits such as confidence, teamwork and leadership. They also allow pupils to follow their own particular interests and so develop as individuals.

**To present opportunities for the broadening of horizons and the development of future leaders in all walks of life.**

Whilst Guernsey is a wonderful place to grow up, we want our pupils to be aware of the wider world and have a **curiosity** for the experience of new places, cultures and ideas. We hope that such experience helps develop a genuine sense of **responsibility** so that they embark on their future lives with a sense of excitement, purpose and the prospect of leadership in their chosen fields.



## Twelve Highlights of 2016 – what makes us different...

1. At A Level, 42% of grades were A\* to A. Four students achieved at least three A\* grades. At GCSE, 98% of pupils achieved five grades A\* to C (including Maths and English) and 81% of the grades were A\* to B grades. Nine pupils achieved ten or more A\* grades.
2. Over £12,000 raised for charities including Tumaini, Lepra, Sports Relief, The Turi Children's Project, the Red Cross and the Refugee Crisis.
3. Winners of the Cottesloe Vase as the 'Best Small School in Britain' at Bisley for rifle shooting for the sixth consecutive year and winners of the Schools Four.
4. The Kenya 450 trip: a group of Lower Sixth Formers travels annually to the Great Rift Valley to work alongside the Turi Children's Project and to help in the local primary school. This has also led to the Kenya Scholarship fund, initiated by a Sixth Former, to pay school fees for a Turi School pupil throughout their secondary education.
5. The Gate House Gallery opened in October 2013 and has since hosted over 22 exhibitions with a mix of work by students and professional artists.
6. Over 60 off-island trips, to the UK, throughout Europe and further afield.
7. Over 30 weekly clubs and societies including modern languages and sitcoms, fencing, war games, chess, water polo and kayaking.
8. Six GB ranked athletes in athletics, shooting, fencing, cycling and sailing.
9. Over 160 cadets involved in the CCF and its associated activities (parades, adventure training, sailing, flying and training camps).
10. Sixteen different music groups take place during the school week; from Bell Ringing to Rock Bands, Jazz Band to College Orchestra.
11. Two teams represented the College at the Channel Island District Bell Striking competition.
12. The annual College Castle Swim race which dates back over 100 years.

## Curriculum

We are ambitious in challenging our pupils not only to fulfil but also to maximise their potential in their studies and their activities. Our aim is to provide inspirational teaching that extends the abilities of all our pupils, recognizing their individual needs and engendering in them a genuine love of scholarship. Encouraging individual thought and independent learning has enabled us to create a closer focus on each boy to ensure that he is understanding and progressing with his studies. We also support pupils to develop grit and determination in all aspects of their studies; we all fail, but it's how we learn from that which counts.

An excellent curriculum, carefully planned and sufficiently adaptable to meet well the needs of individual pupils *ISI Inspection Oct 2015*

### Reporting and Assessment

Communication is fundamentally important to us. We welcome feedback and will contact parents if there are any concerns with progress. Regular feedback about academic performance is provided by careful and consistent marking of work, by comments to individuals and groups, in discussions with parents and in formal reports. At each half-term, parents are informed as to their sons' progress and achievement, though if we have concerns there will be contact sooner. These mid-term gradings provide immediate information on student performance with brief comments if required. Each term ends with a fuller written report and grading.

"I am pleased with the progress my child makes at school"  
96% agree - 2015 Parent Survey

Annual Parents' Evenings provide the formal opportunity for parents to meet with subject teachers. However, we urge parents who are concerned about their son's performance to make immediate contact with the teacher, tutor or Head of Year rather than waiting for the next parents' meeting.

Homework is introduced quite gently initially, as we are keen to establish good habits of independent learning without overloading boys to enable them to participate in the wider life of the College. Learning to work to deadlines, to think independently and to research topics are important skills which continue to be developed at higher levels throughout the school as boys study for exams at GCSE and A level.

### Years 7 to 11 (Key Stages 3 and 4)

Our core curriculum consists of English, Mathematics, Science, Religious Studies and a Modern Foreign Language (French, German or Spanish). These subjects are studied at Key Stages 3 and 4. Boys also study Art, Classical Studies (with Latin), Design & Technology, Drama, Geography, History, Information and Communication Technology, Wellbeing, Music, Physical Education and Games.

We introduce some ability setting gradually in core subjects and review the groupings regularly. This allows us to deliver the most effective targeted teaching to enable boys to achieve their best.

"The teachers help me to learn"  
96% agree - 2015 Pupil Survey



As they mature, boys discover where their strengths and interests lie and so which directions they want to pursue with their education. We encourage them to study more than one Modern Foreign Language, and to develop their abilities in Creative Arts. At GCSE, they will select up to five options for study in addition to the core curriculum, making decisions as to which Modern Foreign Language and whether to study a combined science course or individual sciences.

## Sixth Form

Pupils of all ages have excellent attitudes to learning  
*ISI Inspection Oct 2015*

Our Sixth Form Partnership with The Ladies' College continues to provide an excellent range of choices for students, including the chance to study "new" subjects such as Economics, Film Studies, Photography and Psychology. The introduction of new A level exam specifications nationally has given us the opportunity to review our provision. We have decided that students will study three full A levels from the start of Year 12 alongside our Colleges' Diploma, Extended Project Qualification and all our other enrichment activities. There will be increased teaching and study time for students freed from the tyranny of over-examination and more chances to participate in the broader curriculum that we value.

The majority of boys go on to study at University, many at Russell Group Universities, with some choosing to undertake more vocational training or enter the workplace locally. A comprehensive programme of careers advice and support is delivered throughout Years 10-13.

## Learning Support

We aim to support all our boys throughout their time at College, recognizing their different strengths and learning styles. Those who have particular learning needs which may not so readily be served only in the classroom may benefit from additional help from our Head of Learning Support, Mrs Jody Odlin. The College also has its own dedicated Learning Support Centre, with visiting teachers from the Dyslexia Day Centre.

Early identification of any learning needs is important and may involve a more formal assessment. Elizabeth College identifies three levels of support which have varying responses according to the need. The wishes of the boys and their parents are, of course, fundamental in the support we offer and any provision is kept under review, with regular communication between the Head of Learning Support and parents.

Elizabeth College applies the National Association of Special Educational Needs (NASEN) principles that a child may have a learning difficulty as a result of one, or a combination of conditions, which may be temporary or long term, mild or severe. Likewise, we recognise that all children and young people are of equal value; they have the same basic emotional, social and educational needs regardless of their gender, ethnic origin, ability or disability. However, some children and young people will have additional needs that require extra help and resources.

## Pastoral Care

We are very proud of our growing reputation for outstanding pastoral care and were delighted that this was recognised in the recent ISI inspection, **“Pastoral care is excellent. Teachers provide high-quality support and guidance for the pupils... this being reinforced by the excellent relationships which exist between teachers and pupils and amongst the pupils themselves”**.

Excellent pastoral care  
*ISI Inspection Oct 2015*

At the heart of Elizabeth College is a compassionate and caring environment based firmly on Christian values. Teaching and learning are most effective when students feel valued, secure and happy to be at school. It is our aim that every Elizabeth College student comes to school each day knowing that they will be able to enjoy their learning experiences. We aim to develop confident and reflective young men who develop a love of learning and embrace the opportunities that an Elizabeth College education affords.

The happiness, well-being and success of each individual are central to all we do at College. We believe every pupil should enjoy and make the very most of their learning in the classroom but should also be actively encouraged to find their niche beyond the curriculum. A good education will encourage children to take risks, to participate in new activities and to be open to new ideas. They should leave with the confidence and skills to play leading roles in society.

*“The school promotes worthwhile attitudes and views”  
99% agree - 2015 Parent Survey*

We aim:

- To create a caring environment where pupils are valued for who they are, not only for what they currently contribute.
- To ensure every pupil has the self-confidence to tackle both academic and personal challenges.
- To provide pupils with opportunities for involvement, leadership and service.
- To encourage pupils to exercise individual and social responsibility.
- To establish and maintain excellent communication with every parent, so that together we can help prepare pupils for adult life.

The strength of our pastoral system was recognised in the last ISI inspection which found:

**“Personal development is excellent across the college. Pupils’ spiritual, moral, social and cultural education is of high quality. The college makes exceptional efforts to ensure that all pupils... benefit from broad cultural experiences. This strong personal development is supported by excellent arrangements for welfare, health and safety, and excellent pastoral care.”**

Relationships between staff and pupils and amongst themselves are particularly harmonious  
*ISI Inspection Oct 2015*





# Extra-Curricular

The College offers an exceptional range of opportunities to our pupils that is not available elsewhere on the island. We strongly believe in the merits of a broad education and therefore encourage full participation in the extensive extra-curricular and sporting programme that College offers, allowing all pupils to find their niche. Pupils derive great pleasure from such involvement as well as developing essential life skills such as confidence, teamwork, leadership and perseverance.

## Music and Drama

The College has a proud tradition of musical accomplishment. In addition to the taught programme, up to 16 different music groups take place during the school week; from the Recording Club to the Jazz Band to the full Orchestra. Drama also plays an important role in the life of the school, with regular College productions, often in conjunction with The Ladies' College.

The College offers an attractive enrichment programme, developing the whole child strongly  
*ISI Inspection Oct 2015*

## Sport

Sport has a high profile at the College and students perform at an outstanding level in our major sports of football, hockey and cricket. Teams tour schools in England and have an enviable record of success. Many other sports are on offer including fencing (in which we have been national champions for seven years in a row), athletics, badminton, basketball, cross-country running, golf, rugby, sailing, shooting (winners of the Cottesloe Vase as the 'Best Small School in Britain' for the last six years), squash, swimming and volleyball.

## Combined Cadet Force and Outdoor Pursuits

Of all of our activities perhaps the most celebrated is the Elizabeth College Combined Cadet Force (CCF) which was founded in 1902. Membership is optional and open to all pupils in Year 10 and above. The CCF offers students a chance to develop leadership skills, engage in a variety of challenging pursuits and enjoy a special sense of team spirit and camaraderie. Outside of the CCF, outdoor activities available to the boys include kayaking, lifesaving, climbing and mountaineering. These often form part of the programme for the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme which offers many opportunities for growth and development to a large number of College students.

## Hobbies and Interests

Many clubs and interest groups, catering to a wide variety of tastes, operate at lunchtime and after school. Clubs range from bell ringing, debating and war gaming to kayaking and climbing. In addition, members of staff are encouraged to lead curriculum-based and extra-curricular trips to the UK mainland and abroad. Recent destinations have included Iceland, Germany, Italy and Dubai. There is also an annual trip for the Lower Sixth to Kenya to work in a local primary school and children's project in the village of Turi, in the Rift Valley.

"I can join in a good range of extra-curricular activities"  
*96% agree - 2015 Pupil Survey*

## Community Service

Students can opt to become part of the College's Community Service Group which offers assistance to a wide range of island people. This includes the Sports Leadership Programme which involves many boys helping the island's primary schools with their PE and games activities.

## Recent Examination Results

To aid comparison these results are presented as percentages. In assessing these figures please bear in mind that the intake into Elizabeth College comprises a wide spread of ability, including many pupils who did not pass the 11+, and that year groups can vary significantly in terms of overall ability.

### A Level Results

|                | A*  | A* – A | A* - B | A* - C | A* - E |
|----------------|-----|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| 2016           | 18% | 41%    | 66%    | 83%    | 98%    |
| 5 year average | 15% | 41%    | 69%    | 88%    | 99%    |

- Highest ever % of A\* achieved 18% (UK average of A\*% = 8%) (marks of over 90% in final exams are required for an A\* grade).
- An average points score of 327 UCAS points per student - the equivalent of ABB at A level.
- 27% of all of students achieved at least one A\* grade with one achieving four A\* grades plus a star grade in his extended project and three achieving three A\* grades.

### GCSE Results

|                | A*  | A* – A | A* - B | A* - C | 5 A* - C | 5 A* - C<br>(incl Eng/Maths) |
|----------------|-----|--------|--------|--------|----------|------------------------------|
| 2016           | 24% | 54%    | 81%    | 95%    | 99%      | 99%                          |
| 5 year average | 25% | 53%    | 79%    | 94%    | 98%      | 96%                          |

- 99% achieved 5 or more passes at grades A\* to C including English and Maths.
- Nine pupils achieved at least 10 A\* grades and over a quarter of pupils achieved at least 10 A\*/A grades.
- 81% of passes at A\*-B grade.

### Destinations of Sixth Form Leavers

The great majority of our students go to university in the UK when they leave the College. The destinations and courses they choose are very diverse as the boys are strongly encouraged to follow their own paths and passions. Over recent years the most popular universities have been Durham, Oxford, Bath, Birmingham, Exeter and Southampton and the most popular courses Biology, History, Geography, Medicine, Engineering, Computer Science and Architecture.

A number of students every year also choose to go straight into employment and such leavers are always in great demand on the island. Typical professions entered over recent years have been accountancy, finance, the armed forces, the police and journalism.



All students undertake work experience placements of their choice in the Sixth Form which help them to determine their future careers. We have two experienced members of staff who provide a high level of support for the boys with their choice of university course and/or careers.

## How Do I Register?

Boys attending Elizabeth College Junior School (Beechwood) are already registered and their parents need take no further action.

If you wish to register your son to take our entrance test please complete a registration form and return it to the College Office at Elizabeth College together with a non-refundable cheque for £110.00, payable to Elizabeth College. Your son's name will then be added to our list.

At the beginning of the Lent Term prior to the date of entry we will write to you asking for confirmation that you still wish your son to take the Elizabeth College entrance assessments and requesting your permission to obtain a report from his present Head Teacher.

The assessments for entry to Year 7 in September 2017 will be held on the morning of Saturday, 4 March 2017 at Elizabeth College. If space permits, there may be an opportunity for retesting or late entries in May/June.

If you have any further questions or would like to arrange to speak to the Principal, please do not hesitate to contact the Principal's PA, Mrs Sandra Beaton, by phone (01481) 726544, or email [sbeaton@elizabethcollege.gg](mailto:sbeaton@elizabethcollege.gg).

