

# ELIZABETH COLLEGE

## Prospectus

*ISI Inspection*

“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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## Principal's Welcome

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

*ISI Inspection*

A very warm welcome to the Elizabeth College Prospectus. I hope it will give you a good introduction to the opportunities available and, if you haven't done so already, encourage you to come and visit us to see the College in action.

At Elizabeth College we put our students at the heart of everything we do. We want them all to enjoy their time at school; to discover, or to build on, a love of learning; to develop a mindset which enables them to rise to a challenge; to understand that failure is a part of life and is always an opportunity for growth; to know themselves better and to emerge eventually as confident, resilient and well-qualified young adults ready to make their mark in the world.

Our GCSE and A Level exam results are excellent, but our main aim is to ensure that every one of our students achieves the best results they can and develops a genuine love of learning. Every year we have students who achieve straight 9s at GCSE and others who work extremely hard to achieve their five x 5 grades at GCSE; we are equally proud of them all.

We also want our students to make the very most of themselves outside the classroom by taking part in the sporting and extra-curricular opportunities we offer. The number and diversity of the opportunities we offer are unrivalled amongst schools on the island and we actively encourage our students to find their niche in at least one area. These activities provide them with a break from academic work and also support them to continue to learn effectively as both creativity and exercise are proven to have a positive effect on their learning.

Whilst we all love the quality of life that Guernsey has to offer, we also know that it is our duty to broaden the horizons of our students so that they have an understanding of the national and global context of which they are a part. Whether students leave the College to go to University, pursue an entrepreneurial dream, begin an apprenticeship or go out to start work they will already have learnt much about the wider world, taken part in off-island trips and have supported people around the world who are less fortunate than themselves.

If you and your son and/or daughter feel that this is the school for them the next step is to register for entry to the College. A registration form can be found in the documents accompanying this Prospectus or can be downloaded via the 'Admissions' tab on the College website.

Thank you for showing an interest in Elizabeth College. If you would like to arrange a private visit or a meeting with me, or another senior member of staff, about any aspect of the school, please get in touch.

Pupils' achievements across the College are excellent

*ISI Inspection*

Jenny Palmer  
Principal

# Elizabeth College Ethos, Aims and Values

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

*Elizabeth College provides a rich, diverse and exciting experience for students 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 students 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 students to be true to themselves as individuals whilst having high personal standards and excellent manners. We also want our students 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 students can achieve, or even exceed, academic expectations.**

We want our students 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 students to find their niche.**

We want our students 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 students 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 students 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.



## Teaching and Learning

Teaching at Elizabeth College is focused on the learning experience of the students, enabling each student to be challenged and fulfilled in their studies. The teachers are subject experts and enthusiasts who seek to display an infectious intellectual curiosity. Excellent teaching and the setting of consistently high standards are key elements in this. We aim to make the classroom environment stimulating, challenging and supportive in appropriate ways to all students, whether they be able, gifted and talented or have particular learning support needs.

We do not believe that prior attainment is the only indicator of future attainment, subscribing to the power of a growth mindset as defined by Professor Carol Dweck, to encourage students to strive to achieve their best. Students are not to rely on 'talent' or a perception of their own 'ability' as being fixed, but are to be encouraged to work hard, to practise lots, to learn well and to persevere in all their endeavours and so to improve.

*"The teachers help me to learn"  
96% agree – 2015 Student Survey*

Homework is part of the programme of learning. Some subjects set homework each week, others set extended week-long research projects in the place of weekly homework. The students begin in Year 7 doing about three hours homework each week, which still leaves time for participation in plenty of other vitally important activities offered in College and on the island. Good study habits developed during the early years of Upper School stand students in good stead when the greater demands of GCSE and A Level learning programmes begin.

By the time our students leave College to head off to university or into the world of work, it is our aim that they will be effective independent learners. The subject expertise, habits of mind, intrinsic motivation and metacognitive skills required are developed over time through many and various ways, not by accident, but by design.

The classrooms, studios, workshops, laboratories and sports arenas are filled day in day out with students being challenged, being taken to the edge of what they could do and did know before and then being pushed further. It is an exciting environment in which to grow up, one with high expectations leading to great rewards. The teaching and learning combines with the extra-curricular programme to ensure all students are stretched and challenged, some to perform and compete on the national or international stage in academic, sporting, dramatic or musical endeavours, others to feel satisfied that they are better at something today than they were yesterday. Success is noticed and celebrated at all levels.

## Curriculum

We are ambitious in challenging our students 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 students, 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 individual students to ensure that they are understanding and progressing with their studies. We also support students 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*

## 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. Parents are kept informed as to their child's progress and achievement through regular Gradings. These consider each student's attitude to learning, their achievement in relation to their own judged ability and their attainment in each subject; additionally, there are two reports each year which include written comments. If we have concerns, academic or pastoral, there will be contact with parents between the grading and report cycles.

"I am pleased with the progress my child makes at school"  
*96% agree - 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 child'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 students 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 students 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 Physical Education. These subjects are studied at Key Stages 3 and 4. Students also study Art, Classical Studies (with Latin), Design & Technology, Drama, Geography, History, Information and Communication Technology, Wellbeing, Modern Foreign Languages (French, German and/or Spanish), and Music.

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 students to achieve their best.



As they mature, students 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

Our Sixth Form Partnership with The Ladies' College continues to provide an excellent range of choices for students, including the chance to study additional 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. Students study three full A Levels from the start of Year 12 alongside our Colleges' Diploma, the Extended Project Qualification and all our other enrichment activities. This has allowed 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.

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

The majority of students 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 the school.

## Learning Support

We aim to support all our students throughout their time at College and our Head of Learning Support, Ms Lou Adkins, provides teachers with specialist knowledge to ensure provision in the classroom takes into consideration any special learning needs. Some children may benefit from additional specialist help, long term or temporary, which is available from our Learning Support Department within the College's own dedicated Learning Support Centre (see separate fee information). Early identification of any special learning need is important and may involve a more formal assessment which Ms Adkins is qualified to carry out. Where a special need has been identified, there is regular communication between the Learning Support Department, parents and teachers.

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 last 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*

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

The last ISI inspection emphasised the strength of pastoral care at Elizabeth College:

**“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*



## Extra-Curricular

Elizabeth College offers an exceptional range of opportunities to our students 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 students to find their niche. Students derive great pleasure from such involvement as well as developing essential life skills including confidence, teamwork, leadership and perseverance. Our extra-curricular offerings aim to provide Breadth, Commitment and Excellence.

### Friday Afternoon

A unique aspect of College life is that all students and most members of staff are involved in extra-curricular activities on a Friday afternoon. The usual academic timetable is suspended and students in Years 7-8 can opt for a wide variety of activities in ten week blocks that encompass Music, Arts, History, Strategic Games, Sport and Culture. Year 9 students are involved in an exciting mix of activities that introduces them to the Combined Cadet Force (CCF), The Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme, coding and a variety of outdoor pursuits. Students in Years 10-13 can opt to join any one of the CCF sections, gain Sports Leadership qualifications or work with local charities.

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

### Elizabethan Award

Introduced in September 2019, the Elizabethan Award scheme is available to all students in Years 7-9 at Bronze, Silver and Gold levels. Students work towards engaging in activities across six key strands: Physical, Skill-based, Cultural, Creative, Service and Reading. These aim to follow one of the main College aims for the year: Integrity, Compassion, Creativity, Perseverance, Passion, Commitment, Curiosity or Responsibility. Students are required to plan, record and reflect on their progress throughout the year.

### Investigation and Discovery Week

The final week of the summer term is a chance to opt for a variety of new learning experiences through activities. Options such as gymnastics and Parkour, paddle boarding, kayaking, table tennis, roving reporters, Myths and Legends tours of Guernsey, ornithology and RIB tours are very popular. During the week, Year 9 students have an opportunity to complete their Duke of Edinburgh Bronze expedition and members of the CCF in Years 10-13 attend CCF camps.

### The Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme

Students have the opportunity to work through both Bronze and Gold Awards. There is a dedicated member of staff to oversee expeditions and encourage students to complete all strands, with other members of staff assisting with overnight expeditions. Students can start the Bronze Award from Year 9 and the Gold Award is available to Sixth Form students.

## 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.

## Sport

Sport has a high profile at the College and students perform at an outstanding level in our current 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, 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 nine 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 students 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. Students may opt to join the Army, Navy or RAF branches. Outside of the CCF, outdoor activities available to the students include kayaking, lifesaving, climbing and mountaineering. These often form part of the programme for the Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme which offers many opportunities for growth and development to a large number of College students.

## Hobbies, Interests and Trips

Many clubs and interest groups, catering to a wide variety of tastes, operate at lunchtime and after school. Clubs range from bell ringing, debating, comic book, pottery, DT 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. Destinations in recent years 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 - Pupil Survey*

## Community Service/Subject or Activities Support

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 students 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 students 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
2019	17.3%	40.0%	61.1%	84.9%	99.5%

- 2 students achieved a fantastic 4 A\* passes plus an A\* in their Extended Project Qualification (EPQ)
- 40% of grades achieved were A\*- A and 84% A\* - C
- There were a huge number of excellent individual successes with 16 students achieving at least three A\*/A grade passes

### GCSE Results

	9	9 – 7	9 – 6	9 – 4	5 x 9 - 4 (inc Eng/Maths)
2019	11.6%	41.7%	61.8%	94.1%	96.2%

- 21% of our Year 11 students gained 9 or more passes at grades 9 - 7
- 2 students achieved an impressive 11 passes at grade 9
- 96.2% of students achieved 5 or more passes at grades 9 - 4, including English and Maths

### 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 students are strongly encouraged to follow their own paths and passions. Over recent years the most popular universities have been Durham, Oxford, Bath, Exeter, Plymouth and Brighton and the most popular courses History, Geography, Medicine, Engineering, Economics, Architecture and Graphic Design.

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. Our Careers and Higher Education Coordinator, assisted by highly experienced members of staff, provides a high level of support for students with their choice of university course and/or careers.

## How Do I Register?

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

If you wish to register your child to take our entrance assessment please complete a registration form (included in the registration pack or can be downloaded from the College website via the Admissions tab) and return it to the College Office at Elizabeth College together with a non-refundable registration fee of £110.00. The fee may be paid by cheque payable to Elizabeth College or by bank transfer (details on application from the College Bursary T: 01481 712542).

The entrance assessment for Year 7 entry is now held on a Saturday during the November prior to the date of entry in order to give parents earlier notice of the school their child will be attending. The date of the assessment will be published on the College website as soon as it is available. Approximately two months before the entrance assessment we will contact you (by email) asking for confirmation that you still wish your child to take the Elizabeth College entrance assessment and requesting your permission to obtain a report from their present Head Teacher.

The assessment takes the form of a suite of online tests that assess a candidate's reasoning (thinking) abilities in four key areas of educational development and academic attainment: verbal, non-verbal, numerical and spatial. These tests provide a standardised measure of cognitive reasoning ability, without reference to curriculum-based material and regardless of previous achievements, with the basic aim of ensuring candidates will be able to cope with the College's curriculum. It should be noted that there is no expectation that candidates will revise or prepare specifically for the assessment.

The assessment for entry to Year 7 in September 2021 will be held on the morning of Saturday, 14 November 2020 at Elizabeth College. If space permits, there may be an opportunity for re-assessment or late entries towards the end of Lent Term 2021. Please see the College website for details.

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 Sam Potter, T: 01481 726544, or email [spotter@elizabethcollege.gg](mailto:spotter@elizabethcollege.gg).



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