

# PROSPECTUS




Schools Curriculum Award








**ssat**  
 the schools, students and teachers network



Community of courage and commitment to success



WELCOME

I would like to welcome you to Thomas Estley Community College. I encourage you to visit us and see how students and staff live out our values in practice. We are proud of our community ethos and provision, are recognised as a flagship of inclusion within the county and have been designated a National Teaching School due to the high quality of our teaching, learning and professional development.

We hope to meet you at our Open College sessions in the Autumn Term and at our Parents' Evening. If you are unable to attend, please contact the College and we will be happy to show you round.

Mandi Collins  
Principal

"Thomas Estley Community College is a forward-looking, innovative, aspirational and ambitious College. Its excellent and inspiring senior leaders ensure the highest quality of educational provision, which in turn results in exceptional achievements and outcomes for students."

OFSTED

## VISION, AIMS, MISSION

*"Thomas Estley is a warm, welcoming College with a real family feel to it"*  
OFSTED

Thomas Estley is lead school in the Thomas Estley Learning Alliance (TELA). This is an alliance of 37 mutually supportive primary and secondary schools within and beyond Leicestershire. As a Teaching School we provide Initial Teacher Training in partnership with the Universities of Leicester, Loughborough and Warwick, School to School Support within and beyond the county, provide high quality professional development for teachers and school leaders including National Professional Qualifications (NPQ's) and engage in Research and Development into what constitutes excellent teaching and leadership. This status is a great accolade, recognising the College's outstanding work nationally and its partnerships locally.

Students benefit from our Teaching School status through best practice nationally being brought into their learning and through high quality Professional Development raising the quality of teaching and learning in their classrooms.

*"Community of courage and commitment to success" is our missions statement.*

We believe in providing the best mix of support and challenge to help your child achieve their academic potential whilst maximising their growth as a young person, ready to tackle the complex and competitive world of further study and work. Our college motto is 'A Community of Courage and Commitment to Success', and we are passionate about developing young people who make a positive difference to the society around them whilst developing their own potential and overcoming barriers. We are fully committed to a learning environment that is inclusive of all abilities and needs, personalising learning within a family and community ethos. We have high standards of work and behaviour at the college, and were delighted to receive the accolade of Ofsted Outstanding in every area at our last inspection, including teaching and learning, academic outcomes, leadership and management and personal wellbeing, behaviour and guidance. We believe that the focus for each of our children is achieving their personal best, whatever that may be, and developing their confidence and passion in learning.

Our mission statement was created by our students, summing up their views of their College:



# TELA

Growing Talent, Pursuing Excellence, Together

## KS3 CURRICULUM

“The imaginative, creative, and highly innovative curriculum instils in students a real enthusiasm for, and enjoyment of, learning. There is clever and creative interweaving of personal, learning and thinking skills and cross-curricular themes as well as literacy, numeracy and ICT throughout the curriculum. Attainment in core and foundation subjects significantly exceeds national averages. ... Progress is consistently and significantly above expected levels and the value added between Key Stages 2 and 3 puts the college among the top performing schools nationally.” OFSTED

Our Key Stage Three curriculum incorporates Maths, English, Science, History, Geography, French, Spanish, Citizenship & RE, Physical Education, Art, Design and Technology, Music, Drama and Computing, taught in appropriately organised groups to maximise learning, attainment, progress and personalisation.

Each year, our students take one full week out of their regular timetabled lessons to take part in a themed module, uniting discrete subject foci within a climate of active learning and community enhancement and enabling us to effectively tackle themes such as money and health choices, being a citizen of Leicester and Britain, future and careers, STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths), Enterprise and the global community.

Year 9 students choose a context in which to further their achievement and embed skills for life and work including teamwork, perseverance, resilience and problem solving, studied one afternoon per week. Contexts include Arts Award, Dance, Enterprise, Functional Maths, Language Leaders, Musical Performance, Programming and Computing, Sports Education and Team Challenge. GCSE readiness is also a key feature in all year 9 lessons, ensuring students acquire a solid foundation for success at Key Stage Four.

Our students excel within this innovative and aspirational curriculum and our attainment and progress is consistently outstanding, with results well above national and local averages in every area.

## KS4 CURRICULUM

"The school's arrangements for Careers, Information and Guidance are similarly strong and there are opportunities in all year groups to learn about the world of work and future options. Pupils benefit from good quality independent advice in order to make informed choices about their futures. All of this combines with a broad and balanced curriculum which is ambitious in its scope and depth."  
Peer Challenge Inspection 2018

Our highly flexible Key Stage Four curriculum provides students with a rigorous education that allows students to pursue their own interests whilst opening doors to future education and careers. All Key Stage Four students study English Language, English Literature, Maths, Science, core PE and Religious Studies; with students then able to personalise their studies from a range of 21 additional GCSE options. Full details of our current offer can be found online at:

[thomasestley.org.uk/students/key-stage-four-options](http://thomasestley.org.uk/students/key-stage-four-options)

National curriculum changes entail almost all students studying both a modern foreign language and either History or Geography in the core, and we are responsive to national and parental expectations to ensure that our students will not be disadvantaged and can access and excel in all required areas of study to achieve success within a competitive environment.

We benefit as a Teaching School from access to high quality recruits and training opportunities, ensuring that all teachers are specialist, well qualified and able to deliver a high quality learning experience and outcomes.

## College Core Values

A community of courage and commitment to success

- \* Aiming to achieve our best
- \* Taking full advantage of every learning opportunity
- \* Showing resilience through our experiences and challenges
- \* Seeking out our talents and following our dreams
- \* Reaching out for opportunities to lead and encourage others
- \* Making a positive difference and celebrating success
- \* Including the whole community , sharing, caring and giving time as needed
- \* Treating each other with kindness, fairness and respect
- \* Finding space in our lives for fun, joy, praise and laughter

## CORE VALUES, PUPIL VOICE

“Students exhibit, well developed personal, social, communication and thinking skills”  
OFSTED

## Student Voice

Gathering student voice is a regular feature of our work. Our student ambassadors include representatives from every tutor group. This allows students to put forward their ideas and opinions and participate in decision making at the college and our Student Council meets regularly to bring about student-led change.

Student panels are a regular feature of staff interviews and many of our policies and procedures take student views into account.



## STUDENT CARE AND GUIDANCE, INCLUSION AND WELLBEING, THE CENTRE

*"Leaders leave no stone unturned in their quest to get the best possible care for the children under their care"*  
Peer Challenge Inspection 2018

### Student Care and Guidance

On admission, students are assigned to a tutor group. The tutor is the main point of contact for any pastoral concerns.

Our tutor groups are organised vertically. Currently students from all year groups come together for registration which helps younger pupils to settle in. Tutor groups belong to one of our four college teams each led by a Team Leader, who supports students to overcome any barriers to learning in order to achieve their full potential.



The Pastoral Team works in partnership with parents as well as other agencies to ensure good behaviour and attendance.

Positive Behaviour for Learning - 'We will act, in co-operation and collaboration, with courtesy and consideration for others at all times'

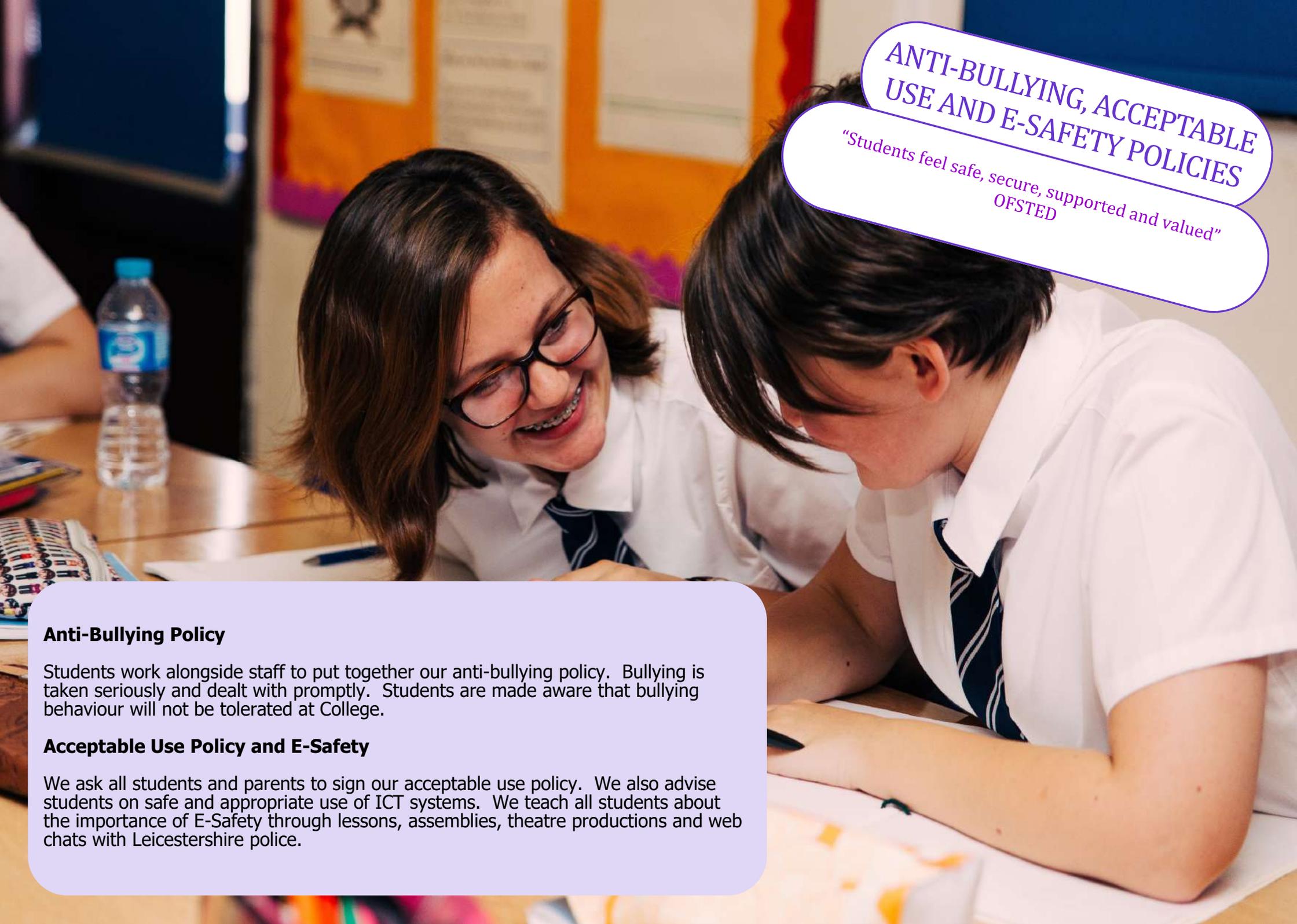
### Inclusion and Wellbeing

Our aim is to ensure that every child, whatever their individual needs, has access to the full curriculum and that provision is made to help young people feel that they are in every way a part of the life of the College.

### The Centre

We are proud of our longstanding and strong partnership with the local Special School, welcoming young people into mainstream classes and activities. Our unique provision incorporates a permanent base. The Centre is a beacon of excellence for inclusion both locally and nationally.





## ANTI-BULLYING, ACCEPTABLE USE AND E-SAFETY POLICIES

*"Students feel safe, secure, supported and valued"*  
OFSTED

### **Anti-Bullying Policy**

Students work alongside staff to put together our anti-bullying policy. Bullying is taken seriously and dealt with promptly. Students are made aware that bullying behaviour will not be tolerated at College.

### **Acceptable Use Policy and E-Safety**

We ask all students and parents to sign our acceptable use policy. We also advise students on safe and appropriate use of ICT systems. We teach all students about the importance of E-Safety through lessons, assemblies, theatre productions and web chats with Leicestershire police.

## EXTRA CURRICULAR

“The College is very good at encouraging my child to be independent and face new social and other challenges with confidence.”

PARENT COMMENT



Students have the opportunity to become involved in a wide range of extra curricular activities on offer throughout the week. Thomas Estley is a hive of activity at lunchtime and after the college day. We believe participation in the extra curricular life of the college rewards students with confidence and independence that they can apply in their studies and into the world of work.

We really do have something for everyone; from Computing Club and Language Leaders to Arts Award and the Thomas Estley Radio. We have experienced national and local success with our sports teams and have competitive and non-competitive clubs available at lunch and after school. There is a thriving music and drama scene in the college and every curriculum area encourages students to attend extra-curricular learning.

Our students have the opportunity to develop and enhance their own leadership qualities through our accredited programmes such as SSAT Leadership Scheme, Sea Cadets, D of E and National Citizenship Service.

A whole array of events, opportunities, trips and residentials allow your child to explore their interests and to develop their skills for a successful future.

The college runs its very popular in-house cafe offering healthy and nutritious food at both break and lunchtimes. Students access this through the cashless catering facility with parents paying in advance through an online system.

Year 7 students who bring a packed lunch have access to a designated room.

For key stage 4 students there is a designated social base to use at lunchtime.

In addition, students have the opportunity to become involved in a wide range of exciting and inspiring extra-curricular activities on offer throughout the week. From sports to the arts, from design to Minecraft. All students are actively encouraged to participate in other areas of college life. There is a variety of opportunities for students to have support for their learning during lunchtimes too. Curriculum areas, personalised homework clubs and IT rooms are also available.



## BREAK AND LUNCH TIME ARRANGEMENTS

“The exceptional quality of care, guidance and support students receive, the rigorous and thorough monitoring of their progress, the sharply focused interventions and the excellent quality of teaching, all play a major role.” OFSTED



PRE SCHOOL, AFTER SCHOOL, EXTENDED SERVICES, YOUTH

“The College values and promotes life-long learning”  
OFSTED

“Staff have an excellent knowledge of how children learn in a rich environment. Children make rapid progress in all areas of their development” PRE-SCHOOL OFSTED 2013

### Extended Services

We believe in lifelong learning. At Thomas Estley all age groups learn within the same setting. This promotes a sense of belonging and community cohesion.

We work in close collaboration with our family of schools to provide all five areas of extended services:

- **Quality Childcare** - Our very popular Pre-School and Out of school Club gained Ofsted outstanding status in 2013.
- **A varied menu of Activities** - Activities range from Magistrates competitions to family learning.
- **Parenting Support** - is provided through courses such as 'Living with Teenagers' and 'Fun and Families'. In addition, parents have access to E-Safety Training, Wellbeing and our Parent Forum.
- **Swift and easy referral** – to a wide range of specialist support services.
- **Community Access to College facilities** – including amongst others, Adult Learning, Youth Groups, Affiliated Groups, Walking Group, Sea Cadets, Tea Dance and Senior Citizens Luncheon Club.



**CONTACT THOMAS ESTLEY**

Check out our website at: [thomasesstley.org.uk](http://thomasesstley.org.uk)

Follow us on Facebook at:  
[www.facebook.com/thomasesstley](https://www.facebook.com/thomasesstley)

Find us on Twitter at: @ThomasEstley

If you would like to arrange a visit please  
contact us on:  
[PAtotheprincipal@thomasesstley.org.uk](mailto:PAtotheprincipal@thomasesstley.org.uk)