



General Information about Linton Village College

THE COLLEGE

At Linton Village College everyone is a learner and every learner matters.

The following strategic priorities underpin our framework for exceptional education:

- **Vibrant learning culture:** to sustain a vibrant and inspiring teaching and learning culture that encourages a love of learning, curiosity, reflection and independence;
- **Success for all:** to deliver exceptional education and care, in a climate of high expectations and ambition, that enables all learners to thrive and flourish;
- **Rich, holistic education:** to offer an enriching, broad and challenging curriculum that nurtures talent, secures well-being and broadens horizons and experiences;
- **Productive partnerships:** to foster positive relationships, community links and partnerships that enhance standards and opportunities for all;
- **Impactful leadership:** to grow leadership that secures educational success aligned to moral purpose and wider educational goals, values and responsibilities.

Linton Village College is a well-established school with a reputation for excellence. In 2007 Ofsted judged the school to be Outstanding and in May 2012 Ofsted found the school to be Outstanding in all categories. The College serves a catchment area of attractive villages in South Cambridgeshire and in addition attracts children from out of Cambridgeshire and out of its own catchment area on the basis of its reputation. There are currently 830 on roll and the school is oversubscribed.

The College is large enough to provide a very broad and well equipped curriculum, yet small enough to allow all students and their families to feel known and part of a caring organisation where individuals matter. Students at the College have a reputation for exceptionally good behaviour and a warm and friendly manner.

Students at LVC are engaged in their own learning, hardworking and ambitious. The warm, relaxed and positive relationship between staff and students in the school is tangible and there are few incidents of poor behaviour in or outside of lessons. Students are a pleasure to teach. The school staff are positive, energetic and focused on meeting the needs of children.

School Context and History

Linton is approximately 8 miles from Cambridge. It is well placed for rail links directly to London Liverpool Street from Whittlesford Parkway. The journey to London is approximately 50 minutes, while Stansted Airport is accessible via the M11 and is 35 minutes away by road.

The College was built in 1937 as the third of Henry Morris's Village Colleges in Cambridgeshire. Morris was a visionary educational pioneer and chief education officer of Cambridgeshire, whose ambition was to bring opportunities to rural communities and lifelong learning 'from cradle to grave'. The vision of providing a hub for community learning is very much alive today in the adult education programme and Community Sports Centre that is run by the College. The College hosts a number of community groups: a Playgroup, Youth Club, The Air Training Corps, The Linton Out of School Club, and a number of local sports clubs.

LVC was one of the first schools in Cambridgeshire to gain academy status in February 2011. In April 2014, it established the Chilford Hundred Education Trust in partnership with The Meadow Primary School, Balsham. The Multi-Academy Trust is a small, cross phase, cluster based partnership of local schools which now also includes Linton Heights Junior School.

In May 2013, LVC became a National Teaching School and set up Cambridge and Suffolk Schools Alliance, CASSA. CASSA delivers the Outstanding and Improving Teacher Programmes for teachers, has a research arm, runs whole school training events and leads school to school support projects. It also offers School Direct Initial Teacher Training in partnership with The Faculty of Education at Cambridge University and Cambridge Teaching Schools Network.

LVC prides itself on providing a holistic education. The school benefits from excellent links to local industry and has been designated as an International School on four consecutive occasions. In addition, the College has a strong tradition of music, drama, art and dance which is recognised by Artsmark Gold status and an exceptional enrichment offer.

Accommodation and Facilities

The original building was built in the Art Deco style of the time and is now listed. It was designed to provide education for around 250 local children and, with its stunning setting under the local hills and the landmark of the water tower, benefited from attractively landscaped grounds for sporting and recreational purposes.

The population of the area grew in the post-war years and additional facilities were constructed to house music, English, mathematics, modern languages, science, art, technology and ICT. In 1993 the College Sports Centre was opened, which provides high quality sports facilities for the community and our own students. In 2007, an extensive building programme began which led to the opening of a new science block and dance studio in 2009. The programme was completed in November 2011 with the opening of a new reception area, offices, library and student common rooms. The school enjoys excellent facilities for sport. Apart from two large playing fields there are tennis courts, a 3G astro turf, cricket nets, a sports hall, gym and fitness suite. These facilities are widely used by community groups in the evening and at weekends.

School Profile

Academic Achievement

Linton's excellent reputation stems, in part, from its outstanding academic performance. In 2016 100% of the students achieved 5 A* to G grades, 76% of students achieved A*-C in English and Maths and we achieved a Progress 8 score of +0.5, placing us in the top 6% of schools nationally.

Teaching and Learning

The school has a reputation for excellent teaching. We have high expectations of ourselves and our students and place great importance on the quality of the children's daily learning experiences.

The growth of CASSA, our Teaching School Alliance, provides staff with very many professional learning opportunities: as SLEs supporting subject leaders in other schools, in leading training programmes, contributing to Teach Meet events, and in mentoring teacher trainees each year in partnership with the Faculty of Education at Cambridgeshire University. We are also engaged in research and development and are a pilot school for the Relational Schools project.

The Curriculum

All students follow a broad and balanced curriculum that allows every child to achieve to the best of their ability while inspiring a love of learning.

The core Key Stage 3 curriculum (years 7 and 8) consists of a range of subjects that nurture the interests, skills and talents of all students while developing their wider knowledge base in preparation for Key Stage 4. This is complemented by exciting and innovative learning strands such as our Language Futures syllabus for some students in years 8 and 9. In year 8, students may select options from a range of Business & Enterprise and Sports & Arts subjects to study in year 9. Year 9 is a GCSE foundation year, allowing students to begin to develop styles of working that they need in the years that follow. Additional support in literacy and numeracy is available to students who require it, in order to develop the study skills that they will need as they progress towards Key Stage 4.

At Key Stage 4 (years 10 and 11), students are able to choose courses which develop their strengths and prepare them well for future studies and careers. All students follow a core curriculum including English, maths, science, RS and PE but the variety of GCSE and vocational courses on offer enables all students to choose more traditional subjects alongside carefully selected applied and vocational courses that allow for challenge and excellence at all levels of ability.

Enrichment

The College is committed to broadening young people's horizons by taking them out to explore the wider world and giving them experiences beyond the curriculum. A week in June each year is given over to residential trips and visits and for Year 9, including national and international experiences. There are Camps International trips for Year 11 leavers to far flung places such as Mozambique, Borneo or Cambodia. We have run ski trips, windband tours to European countries and French immersion trips to a Chateau.

Within school there are many extra-curricular clubs and activities: sporting and athletic, a full range of music ensembles, a whole school production, a Shakespeare for Schools performance, dance and drama clubs, science and debating societies. The school competes in Enterprise, Magistrates Court and debating competitions plus the Maths Challenge at various levels. Year 10 students have the opportunity to complete the Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award and the Arts Award at Bronze and Silver level are offered. We have Artsmark Gold status as recognition of our high quality provision and the profile of the Arts at Linton Village College.

Student Support

Students are arranged into year based tutor groups and then placed in mixed age houses. The tutors in their house generally teach in the same Faculty area. There are five Houses/Faculties. Each house has a Head of Faculty and a Lead Tutor. The Head of Faculty leads the subject teachers, the Lead Tutor leads the tutors. In addition a Student Support team, based in an area called The Henry Morris Centre, provides support for matters such as pastoral care, attendance, behavioural issues or additional family support. One student support worker is attached to each student house and liaises closely with the Lead Tutor.

Life Beyond LVC

Students in years 10 and 11 receive information, advice and guidance on their post-16 choices, including further education, apprenticeships and work. As a member of the Cambridge Area Partnership, LVC has close links with post-16 providers in Cambridge, including Hills Road and Long Road Sixth Form Colleges and Cambridge Regional College. Most of our students move on to one of these Colleges when they leave LVC.

The Staff

There are, at present, 48 full time equivalent teaching staff and over 70 support and administrative staff, including a highly skilled and well-qualified team of Teaching Assistants who support children with SEN and a team of Student Support workers who provide pastoral support and guidance to young people and families.

Leadership

The Senior Leadership Team consists of the Principal (Executive Principal), a Deputy Principal, four Assistant Principals and the Director of Finance. There are five Heads of Faculty who each work with five Lead Tutors and the individual Subject Leaders or Programme Leaders. There are regular meetings between SLT and Heads of Faculty, Lead Tutors and Programme Leaders.

Conclusion

Linton Village College is a very special place. It is a successful, dynamic and innovative school with a warm and friendly atmosphere. We welcome applications from ambitious people who are committed to providing an outstanding all-round education for our community of students.