



MEDEN SCHOOL
A TORCH ACADEMY



Prospectus

Welcome

Thank you for your interest in Meden School.

At Meden we provide a setting where students can grow, academically and socially, supported by a warm and caring staff team who are fully committed to helping every child be the very best that they can be; fulfilling their potential and leaving Meden as well-rounded successful young adults.

Our results improve year on year, and this is a testament to the hard work and determination of our students and their teachers. Learning also extends beyond the classroom, with a wide range and ever-growing list of extra curricular activities being offered to pupils from all year groups.

Our pastoral care, underpinned by our House system and vertical tutor groups, provide every child with a support network that will be there to encourage and nurture them every step of the way, helping them to thrive and ensuring that their time at Meden will be a happy and productive one.

A prospectus can only offer a flavour of the life at our school. We would be delighted to welcome you to experience our busy working community first hand.


I am immensely proud of our school and invite you to join our future success.

Janet Brashaw
Head of School

“The ‘achievement culture’ engendered by the Head Teacher and senior leaders supports teachers in setting aspirational targets for the students’ progress. Students say they appreciate what their teachers do to help them.”

Ofsted (May 2014)



A young man in a school uniform and headset is smiling while working at a computer in a classroom. A female student is visible in the background, also wearing a headset. The scene is set in a computer lab with multiple monitors.

“I started at Meden in Year 8 so I was worried about making friends and fitting in. Everyone was really friendly and encouraging, and with the support of the staff and pupils I soon settled in.”

Zia Shipman (Year 10)



Ethos

Meden School has a very clear and distinctive ethos. Our work revolves around our core values of commitment, independence and courtesy.

These values underpin the work of students and staff in everything they do, each and every day.

- We have high expectations of students and staff
- We believe every student can succeed
- We will ensure barriers to learning are challenged and overcome
- We expect teaching to be well planned, varied and stimulating
- We believe learning should be active, focussed and engaging
- We insist on high standards of behaviour at all times
- We will support staff and students to engage in effective teaching and learning

“Students of all ages are ambitious for themselves and they work hard to improve their standards. Sixth form students, for example, study at school until late into the evening. They say, ‘It’s a good place to work’.”

Ofsted (May 2014)



Transition Arrangements

We understand that the transition from Primary to Secondary education can be both an exciting and a challenging process for both pupils and parents.

Our transition arrangements are carefully planned to ensure that students are ready for a successful and enjoyable Year 7. Arrangements start in Year 5 and build up to a full school visit in the summer term of Year 6. A full programme of activities are offered to all primary schools throughout Year 6.

If you have any questions regarding transition, at any stage of the process, please do not hesitate to ask. Staff are always available to answer questions at the various events or you can e-mail the school at any time.

Meden School is increasingly popular and has become the school of first choice for students from a wide range of primary schools. As well as visiting our linked primary schools, we regularly run information evenings for out-of-catchment parents. Details can be found on our school website.

We welcome visits to the school from prospective parents and students. If you would like to arrange a visit or if you have any questions, please contact the school by phone or e-mail.

We very much look forward to welcoming you and your child to Meden School.

Step One: Summer Term, Year 5

The Head of School and a member of the Leadership Team meet prospective parents at their child's current primary school. A short talk will be followed by a question and answer session.

Step Two: Autumn Term, Year 6

Pupils and parents are invited to an open evening to look around Meden School and meet members of staff in all the teaching departments.

Step Three: Spring Term, Year 6

Data will be collected from the primary feeder schools to help arrange admissions.

Step Four: Summer Term, Year 6

A member of the Pastoral Team and the Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator will visit primary schools to talk to students and staff.

Step Five: Summer Term, Year 6

Year 6 pupils will visit Meden School with their classmates for a 'Taster Week' to allow them to familiarise themselves with the school. Pupils with Special Educational Needs may well have additional visits.

"Throughout my years at Meden, I've been able to build strong relationships with the staff. They are always there to help and support me down the right path."

Bethany Hodgkinson (Year 10)



“It was really helpful having older students in my tutorial group when I joined Meden; they looked out for me from day one and gave me support and advice. I still look to them for guidance, and they are always happy to help.”

Alex Booth (Year 7)

Pastoral

Meden is justifiably proud of its excellent pastoral reputation. The House system provides your child with the support, guidance and care they need whilst nurturing friendships and developing a strong sense of community.

House Tutors play an active role in ensuring that students are happy, well-supported and fully engaged in school life. Tutors also serve as the first point of contact between school and home.

As your child develops through Meden School, their progress and well-being will be closely monitored, ensuring that students are recognised and rewarded when they succeed and supported when things are more challenging.

Meden is a very caring community and the health, happiness and well-being of students underpins our overall ethos and philosophy.

At Meden School, we believe that examination success allows our students to make the very most of their lives and student achievement is at the very heart of everything we do.

We have developed a curriculum designed to challenge and engage students, offering them the very best preparation for examination success and the skills and confidence required to make full use of those qualifications.

Exciting, engaging and inspiring lessons lie at the centre of our curriculum and as a school, we constantly strive to provide your child with the very best educational experience.

Extra curricular activities offer a further opportunity for your child to develop the skills and understanding needed to succeed throughout their lives. A broad range of sporting, artistic and academic courses are on offer, allowing students to fully explore and develop their potential.

We have a range of support services that will ensure your child's success, whatever their individual educational needs.

Examination results provide a good indication of how well a school is serving its students. Meden School has a sustained track record of continuous improvement, but to fully serve our community we will continue to strive for outstanding achievement for all.

“Students know what is expected of them and respond positively. In lessons students work well together, listening to each other's views and challenging each other in ways that help them to develop their knowledge and understanding.”

Ofsted (May 2014)

“The majority of people believe school is the most important part of a person's life. Therefore, people have to make sure they choose the right school for them and their future. Meden has helped me to achieve a lot and put me on course for a great future.”

Sam Fairweather (Year 9)



Achievement

Curriculum

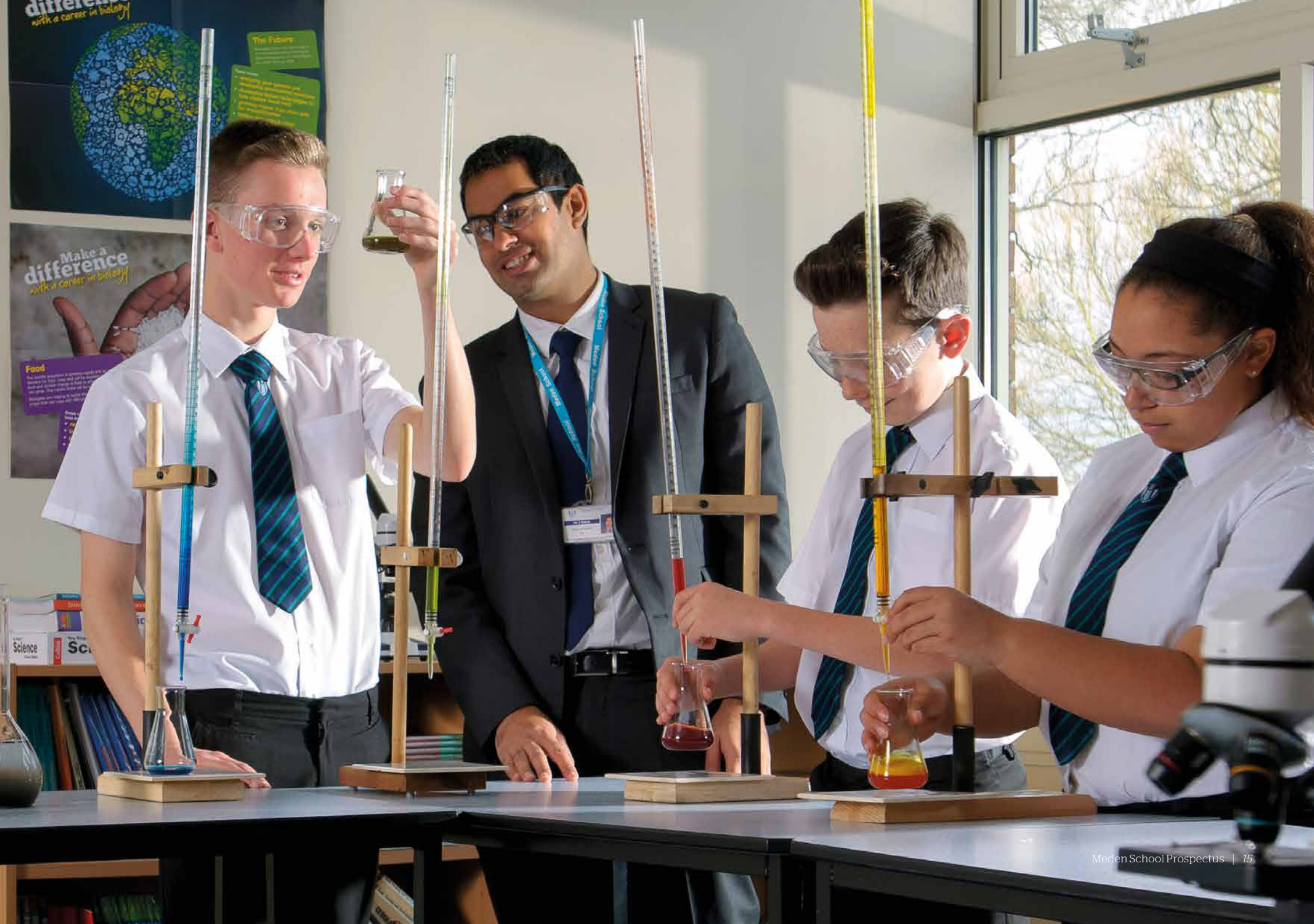
Our curriculum follows National Curriculum guidelines and aims to provide a broad, balanced learning experience for all.

At Key Stage 3, our two-year programme covers all the National Curriculum subjects. Students are taught in ability groups in the majority of subjects, ensuring that every child is taught at a level that matches their ability.

There is a three-year programme for Key Stage 4. All students study a core consisting of English, Mathematics, Science, Physical Education and Religious/Personal/Social/Health Education. All students must study at least one subject from; a language, History, Geography or Computer Science. This is supplemented by a wide range of optional subjects, including Visual and Performing Arts, Technology and Social Sciences.

We expect most of our students to achieve at least 8 passes at grades A*- C, including English and Mathematics. Every student is actively encouraged to work towards the new English Baccalaureate standard, invaluable for university applications.

Meden College offers a range of pathways for students to continue learning with us during Key Stage 5. We pride ourselves on our A Level provision and promote the highest aspirations for all our students. This approach has seen students from Meden College regularly secure places at top universities, including Oxford and Cambridge.



Extra Curricular

Meden School offers a comprehensive programme of extra curricular activities enabling students to extend their learning beyond the classroom. Enrichment activities are a compulsory element of the timetable.

We have access to excellent sports facilities and students enjoy activities including football, hockey, netball, rugby, cross-country, tennis and athletics. Meden students regularly compete at county level and our sports teams have a strong tradition of success.

Music is very much at the heart of Meden School and we encourage students to take up or continue playing a musical instrument. There are regular concerts and workshops where students can demonstrate their skills and an annual school production.

The Performing Arts take a leading role in school life with regular dance and drama productions, allowing all students to fully explore their creativity.

In addition we run a wide range of trips and visits, which include residential and international opportunities. In recent years, Meden students have travelled as far afield as France and Taiwan.



"I had the opportunity to take part in the school production. I really enjoyed working with pupils from different year groups, and being involved in the show really helped to build my confidence. It was a really fantastic experience I will never forget."

Ryan Guy (Year 8)



Why Meden?

We are immensely proud of Meden School. At the heart of our learning community is the belief that every child matters and that every child will succeed.

We promote ambition, commitment and independence. High standards are set in the knowledge that hard work and discipline secure lifelong achievement.

Meden School will support your child with care, consideration and understanding and we promise to always challenge, motivate and engage.

We encourage any prospective parents and students to come and visit our school to find out first hand why Meden is the right choice.



MEDEN SCHOOL

A TORCH ACADEMY

Meden School

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TORCH
ACADEMY GATEWAY

Meden School is a member of the Torch Academy Gateway Trust
www.torchacademy.co.uk

