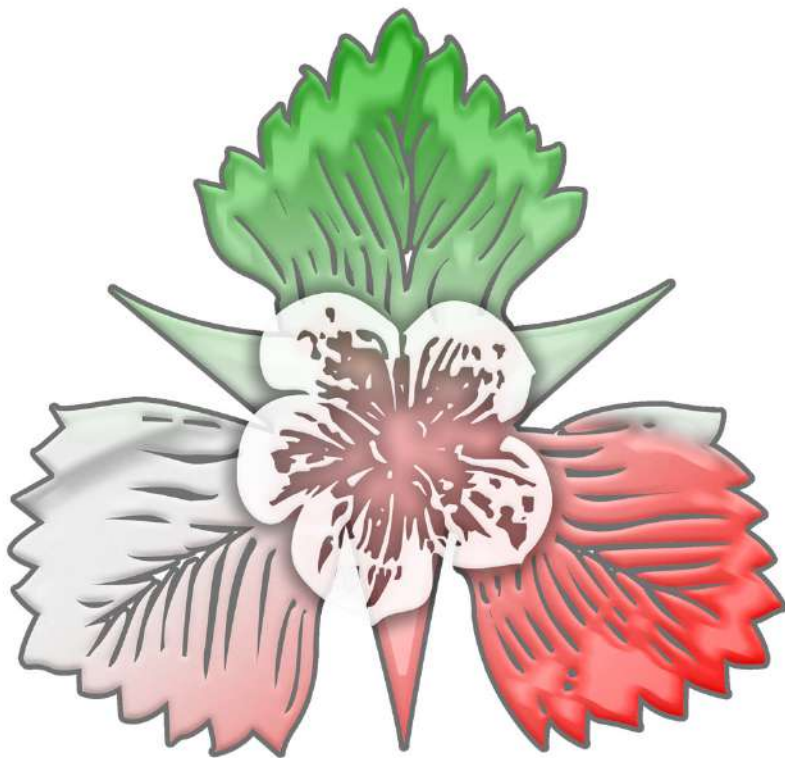


# WildernSchool

## Prospectus



2023 - 2024



*'Every Student Matters, Every Moment Counts'*

Every Student Matters, Every Moment Counts



# Dear Parent...

**Wildern School is a large 11-16 school providing a high quality education.**



Wildern is a special place where we all believe in the same ethos, values and principles. There is warmth at Wildern that you cannot fail to notice as you walk around, despite our large size.

**Care** is high on our list of priorities. To us this means respecting community values like honesty, integrity and concern for others in an ever-changing world; so at Wildern we are there to support, guide and care to help our students make the right decisions. We ensure that our students feel safe, understood and are valued as individuals.

**Quality** doesn't just happen. We create a culture of high expectations, high aspirations, where to succeed is the norm. Our impressive academic success ensures that our students are ready for life beyond Wildern. Whilst our excellent GCSE results may demonstrate outstanding student learning, at our heart is a focus on every student, every ability, every success be it academic, sporting or within the Arts.

**Every student matters;** we believe that the advice and guidance we provide will support their choices through life, encourage their love of learning and develop them as formidable citizens for the future.

**Opportunity: Every moment counts.** There is a diverse range of academic, extra curricular and enrichment activities at Wildern, regardless of ability. We want to open our students' eyes to the myriad of opportunities the world has to offer outside of their own community and enable them to want to explore beyond their doorstep. In a world which is getting smaller and smaller, we want our students to feel comfortable when they meet people from different cultures, societies and religions.

Our mission, therefore, is to ensure:

- Our students are happy and healthy; that they respect community values like honesty, integrity and concern for others in a changing world.
- Our students make progress and fulfil their potential through a clear focus on learning and quality teaching in a supportive and stimulating environment; where every student is known as an individual and challenged regardless of ability.

- New technology is utilised to ensure that learning is vibrant, exciting, challenging and enterprising in a collaborative learning environment between students and teachers
- All students see the opportunities before them, be part of the next generation that push boundaries, make advancements and develop answers.

Our strong partnership with parents is fundamental in supporting this drive to enrich all of our students; who often develop into determined, adaptable and compassionate young people.

Care, Quality and Opportunity. This is the Wildern way.

**Ceri Oakley**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ceri Oakley'.

**Headteacher**



wildern

multiacademytrust

# Wildern Academy Trust



The key principles and ethos of the Wildern Academy Trust are built on **Care, Opportunity and Quality**. Our aim across the Trust is to provide an outstanding learning experience for each child within school community. We are ambitious for all our students and offer a clear focus on achievement for all and high quality teaching in a stimulating environment

- 'No child left behind'; each child is at the heart of what we do.
- All learners are supported and challenged to become independent, resilient, confident, articulate and moral individuals who are aspirational and ambitious.
- Exciting, personalised learning provision to stimulate students' enjoyment and love of learning.
- A culture of rights, respect and responsibility.
- An ethos which is inclusive, where each individual is valued and there is a focus on well-being and achievement.
- High quality professional learning for staff, developing strong and sustainable partnerships where innovative practice is jointly developed and linked to educational research and high quality pedagogy.
- Clear lines of accountability, underpinned by strong management systems.
- Outstanding leadership at all levels to realise the vision.

Our vision for each School is to enable high rates of progress and sustained learning as students move through each phase of their school experience. We recruit high quality professionals who will plan and deliver together across the phases to meet students' needs and establish continuity and expected levels of progression. There is a culture of high expectations, mutual respect and excellent behaviour in all our schools.

We are committed to building capacity and supporting the wider system. We provide high quality professional learning across the Trust and local schools in order to increase expertise and continuous improvement. This has been achieved by creating a culture where students and staff are innovative, creative and prepared to take risks and to learn from the experience and evidence.

Each school has its own unique identity that contributes to the trusts vision and aspirations.



wildernschool



Boorley Park School



Deer Park School

# Student Welfare

A commitment to care is high on the list of our priorities. To us this means respecting community values like honesty, integrity and concern for others in a changing world. The school has high expectations of students with regard to their behaviour and social and personal development, alongside their academic progress.

Central to these aims is regular contact with parents. This is achieved through the Student Planner which each student receives to record important information, it also records successes and highlights concerns and can be used as a means of communication between parents and staff.

Additionally, 'Student Services' enables parents to be in contact with school effectively rather than queuing at reception or through the school switchboard.

Parent's evenings provide opportunities to discuss progress with subject staff. In addition, as part of our Parent Information Evenings, parental focus groups are held to respond to requests from parents for additional information about specific areas of their child's learning.

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## New Intake

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We attach great importance to ensuring that the transition to Wildern is a positive experience for all students. Close links between Wildern and our link primary schools are fostered throughout the year, culminating in an induction day and evening that enables children

to visit Wildern, take part in lessons and meet their Tutor and Director of Progress and Achievement (DOPA) prior to the September start. In addition, a special evening is organised in the Autumn Term to enable parents to meet Tutors so they can receive early feedback on their child's start in their new school.

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## Tutor Groups

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Students are placed in a Tutor Group on entry and form tutors normally stay with their group for the five years that they are at the school. In addition, the school offers the support of Transition leaders to students. This enables them to turn to a fellow student for advice and support. There is also a school councillor who provides support on a drop in and referral basis.

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## Student Leadership

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As a UNICEF Gold Rights Respecting school, student leadership is integral to all we do. There are a number of student focus groups including Environment, Eco, Community, Mind, Body and Soul, E-safety, Googlers and Career Leaders, with representatives from all year groups meeting weekly to discuss key school issues. The focus groups are only one aspect

of Wildern's extensive student leadership work. All departments meet with students each term to discuss the learning environment in their department. We also have Learning leaders who observe lessons of prospective new teachers at Wildern and give feedback.

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## Careers

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All students at Wildern School have access to careers information. This is achieved through our Education of Life programme which is taught to all year groups. Additionally, our extensive careers library hosts a range of resources aimed at supporting students in learning about a range of options open to them. Further support is also available through the support of careers advisors and careers events.

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## Enterprise Education

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Our Enterprise Education programme is fully integrated within and across the curriculum and provides students with opportunities to engage with a range of Enterprise Education activities in a meaningful context. Students also have opportunities to engage in a dynamic range of extra curricular enterprise activities.



# Curriculum

Curriculum development and teaching is a major strength of the school. We are constantly looking at ways to support the individual needs of young people. This includes following a two year Key Stage Three curriculum, leading into a three year GCSE programme.

The aim at Wildern School is to offer a curriculum that challenges all students, irrespective of their ability, to maximise their potential. We measure and monitor student progress very carefully and strive to identify the factors which promote or inhibit success. We are continually devising strategies to enable students to enjoy even greater success.

Our aim is to enable students to become active, lifelong learners. To facilitate this we use a range of learning and teaching methods, including:

- Practical work
- Discussion
- Off-site visits
- Individual research
- Artists in residence
- Use of exceptional ICT facilities



The curriculum at Key Stage Three provides a broad and balanced education in academic, practical and creative subjects.

At Key Stage Four, students study a core curriculum of English, Mathematics, Science, PE, and Education of Life. In addition, students choose from a range of GCSE courses too.

Achievement is recognised in a variety of ways. Positive referrals are awarded to all year groups through our electronic monitoring system and students track their referrals, together with their achievement levels.



Each summer those students who have excelled in particular subjects or within the community, are acknowledged at the end of the year through formal awards evenings as well as regular postcards, certificates and other recognition throughout the year.



Every Student Matters, Every Moment Counts



# New Technologies

Wildern School is proud of its achievements working in partnership with students and teachers, from Wildern and other schools, to develop the role of new technologies and integrating them into the everyday learning process. These innovative teaching and learning practices both enhance student enjoyment and attainment in their learning.

From Year 9, students have the opportunity to use chromebooks to support their learning in the classroom and at home. Teaching and learning resources are integrated into Google Classroom which is accessible by all students.

Having achieved the NAACE ICT Mark we have developed a host of learning opportunities within new technologies such as:

- Developing the use of a range of hand held technologies to promote learning.
- Support the development of Wildern broadcasting.

- Embedding the use of new technologies within the classroom.
- The development of the Wildern Genius Bar to further develop staff understanding of, and engagement with, the use of new technologies.

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## Student Opportunities

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We believe that our students should have access to a host of opportunities which expand their learning experiences. These are numerous and constantly changing but a flavour of those on offer are:



Wildern Trust was selected by the Department for Education to take part of the 'EdTech Demonstrator Schools and Colleges Programme' for the southeast region for the last two years.

The programme focuses on providing peer-to-peer CPD to support other schools and/or colleges in developing their capacity to deliver remote teaching such as through Learning Management Systems like Google for Education.

- Transition and intervention classes in Maths, English and Science
- Participation in Master Classes at FE Colleges to support Maths, English and Science
- 'Student Leadership' groups where students have the opportunity to have active involvement in shaping and developing their school experience.
- Involvement in a Community Conference where students have the opportunity to address groups such as local government to address the issues which affect them most
- Participation in the BBC School Report and The Shakespeare Schools Festival
- Day trips and residential visits within England and overseas
- A host of extra-curricular activities



# System Leadership

Wildern remains committed to supporting education as a whole and indeed we believe we have a moral responsibility to work with and support other schools.

Having been recognised as a National Teaching School we have a wide range of expertise both within Wildern and beyond, working together in supporting School Improvement.



The school has many professional learning groups (PLG), consisting of teachers and students across the curriculum, who work together to develop and share innovative educational practices which enhance student enjoyment and attainment in their learning both within our own school and partner schools.

In September 2014, we opened our School Centred Initial Teacher Training Centre (SCITT) where we are training the next generation to creative and innovate teachers. This programme is cross-phase ensuring we continue to support our cluster schools in recruiting the very best practitioners.

The support consists of a variety of methods from whole school inset, small conferences, research groups and or one to one support of individual schools.

This work continues to push Wildern forward, ensuring that we are at the forefront of innovation and development which in turn directly enhances the learning and teaching at Wildern and beyond.



# The Arts at Wildern

The Arts are a special area of strength at Wildern School. We believe that the Arts are an essential part of a broad and balanced curriculum. They provide important skills and creativity for students, which also allow them to contribute beyond the curriculum. At Wildern we believe in the power of the Arts to promote personal development, self-reliance, creativity and independence of thought, promoting confidence and responsibility, with students making the most of their abilities.

Our aim is to provide an Arts experience that is of benefit to all of our students and the local community and be of such quality that it benefits them for the rest of their lives. The quality of this experience has been recognised nationally via our Artsmark Platinum award. To this end, we are very proud of our thriving art, dance, drama and music departments, all of which offer modern, relevant and engaging programmes of study as well as unique extra-curricular opportunities for students which include numerous theatre trips and gallery visits every year.

Wildern School is a partner with The Berry Theatre, Hedge End's thriving professional 300-seat theatre. Our students are lucky enough to have opportunities throughout the year to perform in the venue, in showcases, celebration evenings, concerts and our annual major school production.

Our performing arts team regularly offers Arts-based activities to our feeder primary schools and supports Wildern's extensive community arts programme.

As well as extensive involvement in local arts programmes, Wildern has also achieved outstanding success at National Arts platforms, including Rock Challenge, The Shakespeare School's Festival and National Theatre Connections.

In addition to our significant success in public examinations, talented students at Wildern are offered the opportunity to achieve additional awards including Grade 5 Theory in music, LAMDA Speech and Drama examinations and qualifications from the Arts Council's Arts Award programme.



Students at Wildern are offered a diverse range of additional enrichment opportunities, often supported by visiting professional practitioners. Strong links also exist with our Higher Education partners, both at Sixth Form and University levels.



## The Wildern Music Academy



The Wildern Music Academy offers both in-school and twilight instrumental lesson to students at Key Stage Two, within our cluster primary schools, and also throughout Key Stage Three and Four at Wildern.

All instrumental lessons are supported by our excellent team of peripatetic music teachers. Details are available on request.

Every Student Matters, Every Moment Counts



Every Student Matters, Every Moment Counts



# Beyond the Classroom

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## Sports Teams

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Regular teams and individual success provides evidence of excellent sporting provision which aims to develop skills and enthusiasm through teams and clubs available to students.

- Athletics
- Basketball
- Badminton
- Boxercise
- Cricket
- Cross Country Running
- Fitness
- Football (Girls and Boys)
- Golf
- Gymnastics
- Hockey
- Netball
- Rounders
- Rowing
- Rugby
- Swimming
- Table Tennis
- Tennis
- Trampolining
- Ultimate Frisbee
- Water Polo

to destinations such as America, Belgium, Iceland, France, Germany, Russia and Spain. These are often amongst the most memorable learning opportunities for the students as well as enhancing their knowledge of the curriculum.



A focus on participation in clubs and activities is reflected in extensive student involvement. The school has an excellent reputation for success at local, regional and national level in a number of sports and students are encouraged to develop a love of physical activity.

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## School Trips

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The commitment of departments to our students is further evidenced by the extensive number of trips offered to students of all ages. These have included foreign trips in recent years

Students also have the opportunity to visit places of worship, take part in field study, and be involved in visits to Europe and Foreign exchanges. Musicians perform to groups within the community and have also performed in the Royal Albert Hall. and Portsmouth Guildhall. Additionally, students are active in working with younger students in Dance in our local Primary Schools.

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## Rock Challenge/'Dance Live!'

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The Wildern School Dance Department have now been involved in Rock Challenge (now known as Dance Live) for over 20 years. Each year there are over 100 students taking part in preparing and performing as a team that competes in heats in Southampton and Portsmouth.

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## Subject Clinics

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Extensive programmes of after school clinics are run by departments to support the learning of our students.



# Community

Wildern School has a commitment in its strategic plan to be at the heart of the local community and is a designated community school. It is a thriving centre with outstanding sports facilities including a learner pool, swimming pool, Multi-Use Hall, Health and Fitness Suite as well as outdoor Tennis and Netball Courts, a Multi-Use Games Area (MUGA) and an all weather Cricket Pitch.

An extensive range of Arts based activities are offered to the community as well as adult learning classes and a Film Society in our 'state of the art' Wildern Audio-Visual Environment (WAVE) building. We are also fortunate to have within our community provision The Berry Theatre, a 300 seat professional theatre with additional cinema capacity. The theatre works in partnership with our wider community provision.

Members of the community are regularly welcomed in to school and students meet business and community members regularly through assemblies and lessons.



# Travel Plan

Wildern School has a fully developed travel plan which helps to manage travel to and from the school site for families, staff and our community users. As part of our travel strategy Wildern is keen to promote the use of public transport and bicycles. Buses come into the school grounds at the end of the day to provide safe student collection.

For bicycles we have the extensive covered bicycle storage areas which are locked for the majority of the school day. Additionally, we work with our partners to develop safe pedestrian and cycle paths to the school site as well as our Park and Stride scheme at B&Q and the Pavillion on Turnpike Way.

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## Charities supported by Wildern School

*We take pride in our community. Across the year we raise money for a number of International, National and Local charities, building on our responsibilities as a Rights Respecting School.*



**CANCER  
RESEARCH  
UK**



Supported by  
Rotary GB&I

## Rotary Shoebox Scheme

*"Spreading a little Happiness"*

### Local Charities

- Basics Food Bank Appeal
- Wessex Cancer Trust
- Southampton City Mission



**SOCCER AID**

unicef 

### International Charities

- Save the Children
- Sports Relief
- Unicef Soccer Aid



**Save the Children**



**WESSEX  
CANCER TRUST**

## Wildern School

Wildern Lane, Hedge End,  
Southampton S030 4EJ

Telephone: 01489 783473  
website: [www.wildern.org](http://www.wildern.org)  
email: [wildern@wildern.org](mailto:wildern@wildern.org)

### National Charities

- Rotary Shoe box Appeal
- Cancer Research



[www.nctm.org.uk](http://www.nctm.org.uk)



**Healthy Schools**



**arts colleges**



unicef  
UNITED KINGDOM  
GOLD - RIGHTS RESPECTING



**Artsmark  
Platinum Award**  
Awarded by Arts  
Council England



**EdTech Demonstrator**  
Schools and Colleges Programme

