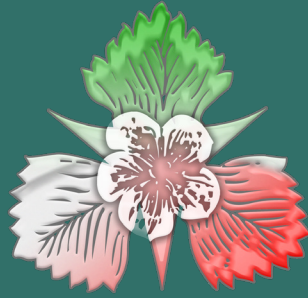


# WildernSchool



## Prospectus 2024-2025

Every Student Matters, Every Moment Counts



# Dear Parent...

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

## **Every Student Matters, Every Moment Counts.**

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.

At Wildern, we foster a nurturing environment where every student feels valued, respected, and empowered to reach their full potential. We believe that each moment of learning is an opportunity for growth and discovery. Through a personalised and supportive approach, we equip our students with the knowledge, skills, and character to become responsible, compassionate, and successful individuals.

Our school is guided by the principles of kindness, pride, curiosity, reflection, determination, and respect. We believe that our attributes are the characteristics that we want everyone in our community to embody. They are characteristics that will see us be successful in the future if we live by them.

## **They are the very best of us.**



**Kindness** - We cultivate a culture of compassion and empathy, where students and staff treat each other with kindness and respect.

**Pride** - We foster a sense of pride in our school community, encouraging students to take ownership of their learning and achievements, including in how they present their work, how they demonstrate their learning and recognising their own achievements, avoiding comparisons to those of their peers.

**Respect** - We promote a culture of respect for all individuals, regardless of their background or beliefs.

**Curiosity** - We encourage a lifelong love of learning by fostering curiosity and a desire to explore new ideas.

**Reflection** - We provide students with opportunities to reflect on their experiences and learn from their mistakes.

**Determination** - We support students in developing resilience and perseverance, enabling them to overcome challenges and achieve their goals.





**Every Student Matters:** Joining our school means embracing our commitment to providing a supportive and inclusive learning environment where all students feel valued, respected, and have equal opportunities to succeed. This belief is essential for creating a positive and equitable school culture.

**Every Moment Counts:** 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. There is a diverse range of academic, co-curricular, extracurricular and enrichment activities at Wildern, regardless of ability to support them.

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.

**'Every Student Matters, Every Moment Counts'. This is the Wildern way.**

**Ceri Oakley  
Headteacher**





# CEO Welcome

As Chief Executive Officer, I am delighted to welcome you to RAISE Education Trust, a family of schools dedicated to serving the vibrant communities of Hedge End and Botley in South Hampshire.

Our Trust firmly believes that education is a collaborative effort involving teachers, parents, and students. Together, we create a nurturing and inspiring environment where children can thrive academically, socially, and personally. This collaborative spirit is beautifully captured in the words of Ryunosuke Satoro: "Individually we are one drop; but together we are an ocean."



Working in partnership within a strong Trust that shares a unified vision is essential for growth and sustainability. By embracing mutual collaboration and sharing best practices, we significantly increase opportunities and experiences for both our students and staff. This approach ensures that every member of our community benefits from the collective strength and wisdom of our Trust. As Henry Ford wisely noted, "If everyone is moving forward together, then success takes care of itself."

We recognise that high-quality staff make a real difference in student outcomes. Therefore, we are committed to fostering a culture of continual professional development at all levels. Additionally, we prioritise a balanced workload and the wellbeing of all colleagues across the Trust. This commitment ensures that our educators are well-supported and equipped to provide the best possible education to our students.

At RAISE Education Trust, we value each of our academies as unique organisations that reflect the needs of their students and the communities they serve. While we foster strong local identities, we also encourage schools to grow and evolve within an environment characterised by resilience, ambition, integrity, sustainability, and excellence.

Our core offer is not a 'one size fits all' solution. Instead, we provide a bespoke package tailored to meet the individual needs of each school, maximising its overall effectiveness, including financial stability and sound leadership and governance. We believe that by addressing the specific needs of each academy, we can ensure that they operate at their highest potential.

We are dedicated to ensuring that excellence permeates every aspect of our Trust. We work together to equip both students and staff with the tools, skills, and knowledge they need to be their very best. Our aim is to create learning communities where excellence is the norm, and every individual is supported to achieve their full potential.

As CEO, I am incredibly proud to lead such an innovative, passionate, and caring family of schools. I warmly welcome everyone to visit and experience firsthand the wonderful learning communities that exist within our Trust. Our commitment to excellence, collaboration, and personalised support is evident in everything we do, and I am confident that you will see the positive impact of our efforts on the students and staff we serve.

Mr Mann  
CEO

# 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, our Parent Information Evenings, are held to respond to requests from parents for additional information about specific areas of their child's learning.

## New Intake

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.

## Tutor Groups

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.

## Student Leadership

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.

## Careers

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.

## Enterprise Education

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 and vocational 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.



# 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.

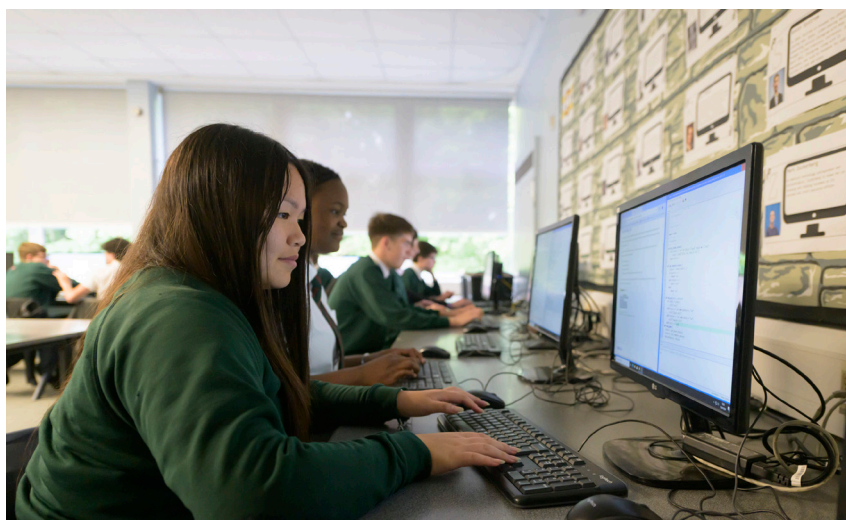
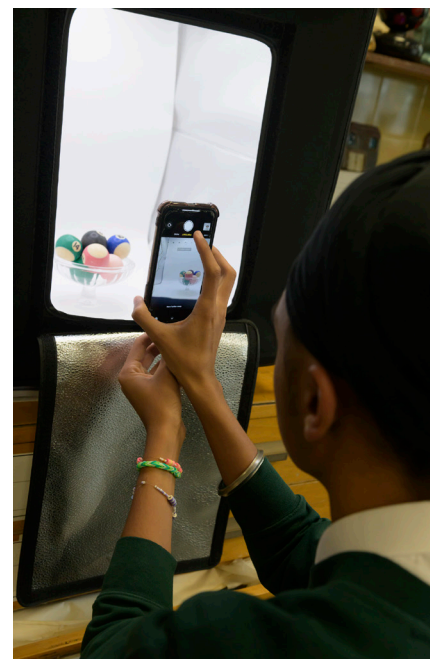
Having achieved the NAACE ICT Mark we have developed a host of learning opportunities within new technologies such as:

- 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.

## Student Opportunities

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 previously selected by the Department for Education to take part of the 'EdTech Demonstrator Schools and Colleges Programme' for the southeast region.

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 cocurricular 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) which now trains the next generation to be 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.



Photography Winner Spring 2024 - *Atmosphere* by William M



# Beyond the Classroom

## Sports Teams

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
- Trampolineing
- Ultimate Frisbee
- Water Polo

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.



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.

## 'Dance Live!'

The Wildern School Dance Department have now been involved in Dance Live (previously known as Rock Challenge) 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.

## Subject Clinics

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

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.

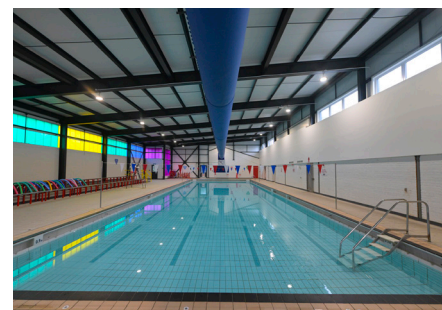
## School Trips

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 to destinations such as



# 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.



with thanks to:



Every Student Matters, Every Moment Counts





## 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.*



**Rotary Shoebox Scheme**  
*"Spreading a little Happiness"*

### Local Charities

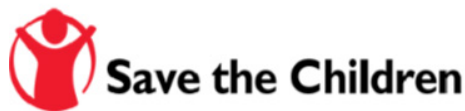
- Basics Food Bank Appeal
- Wessex Cancer Trust
- Southampton City Mission



**SOCCER AID**  
 unicef

### International Charities

- Save the Children
- Sports Relief
- Unicef Soccer Aid



**WESSEX**  
 CANCER TRUST

### National Charities

- Rotary Shoe box Appeal
- Cancer Research

## Wildern School

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 Southampton S030 4EJ

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