



# CARISBROOKE COLLEGE PROSPECTUS 2024-2025



**Carisbrooke College**  
ASPIRE AND ACHIEVE



"I was a bit scared about moving up to Carisbrooke College but everything has been fine and I've made lots of friends."

Year 7 Student



# One Trust, Our Trust

## HISP Multi Academy Trust

**OUR TRUST** was formed in January 2020. We now have eight schools: Thornden, Highcliffe, Test Valley and Crofton Schools, and Portwood and Tanners Brook Primary Schools, joined on 1 July 2024 by the Isle of Wight's Carisbrooke College and Medina College (including The Island VI Form). We are delighted to be in discussions with a number of other schools also interested in joining.



**OUR TRUST's** purpose is courageous, transformative education for all. Celebrating diversity and inclusion, **our vision** is to create and promote supportive environments that eliminate barriers to education and empower individuals.

**Our mission**, quite simply, is to create **One Trust – Our Trust** through careful growth and sustainable school improvement; the development and embedding of a professional continuum; by attracting high quality trainees to our initial teacher training Inspiring Future Teachers programme; by nurturing talent; providing high quality development for all and ensuring that we grow our own inspirational school leaders.

Our values are fundamental to how we work:

**Courage:** We embrace challenges with bravery and resilience, empowering our pupils and our people to take bold steps toward growth and social mobility.

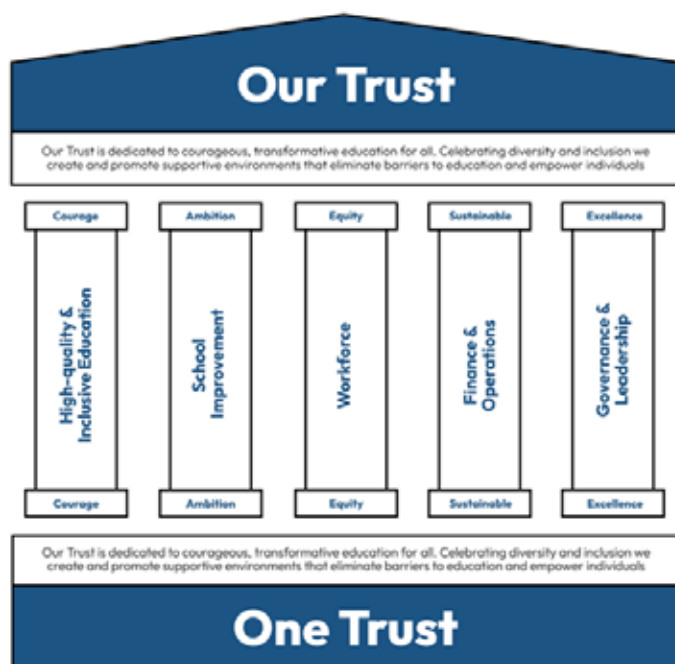
**Ambition:** We cultivate high aspirations for all, striving relentlessly to unlock the full potential of every child and individual in our community.

**Excellence:** We commit to the highest standards in teaching, learning, and leadership, ensuring exceptional outcomes and opportunities for every pupil.

**Sustainable:** We build a future-focused, sustainable environment that nurtures long-term growth, well-being, and success for our pupils and the wider community.

**Equity:** We champion fairness and inclusion, ensuring every pupil has the support and opportunities they need to succeed, regardless of their background.

**Pupils First:** We put pupils at the heart of everything we do, guiding every decision and action with their best interests in mind, ensuring they thrive academically and personally.



Mission

Vision

To help us navigate through our mission, we have adopted the five strategic pillars used in the Department of Education's quality assurance model: High Quality and Inclusive Education, School Improvement, Governance and Leadership, Workforce and Finance & Operations.

Join us on our journey to empower every learner, where your child will be supported by our dedicated team and guided by our values to achieve, succeed, and thrive in a nurturing and ambitious environment

Vision

Mission



# Welcome

Welcome to Carisbrooke College. We are a smaller than average secondary school where we support our students to set high aspirations and achieve their very best.



"It is an honour to welcome you to our school and share this prospectus with you. I am an experienced senior leader, Headteacher and Regional Director with a previous background of leading schools in London and Portsmouth. I am driven by wanting to make sure that young people have an education that prepares them to meet the world and I have a particular interest

in the role of technology in education.

I am delighted to have joined Carisbrooke College and to be working on behalf of HISP to continue the journey to a high quality and inclusive education. Carisbrooke staff are hugely dedicated to the young people in their care and very proud of the legacy of the school. Like the castle we are named after, we have stood the test of time and continue to evolve.

I am pleased to be working with the staff to ensure that all students have the very best experience at school, both inside and outside the classroom. We look forward to working in partnership with you, to provide this."

**Natalie Sheppard**  
Executive Headteacher

"Welcome to Carisbrooke College. We are a smaller than average secondary school, fortunate enough to have had the benefit of moving in to a brand new purpose-built school on our well-established site.



Our ethos is to relentlessly pursue outstanding teaching, learning and pastoral care, whilst maintaining the focus on the needs of the individual student. Our aim and expectation is that every student who is part of our community will achieve their best in all aspects of school life.

Outstanding education is only achieved by working in close partnership with parents and carers. We want you to play a full and active role in school life, supporting your child and working with us to ensure success. We welcome collaboration and feedback about what we do well and where we could improve. Together, we can ensure each student leaves us as an educated, articulate, young adult prepared to embrace the world and the challenges ahead."

**Karen Begley**  
Head of School - Carisbrooke College



# About Carisbrooke

Carisbrooke College is a dynamic and forward-looking learning community in the west of Newport, Isle of Wight. The campus is situated in extensive grounds which look south towards Carisbrooke Castle.

In Spring, 2019, Carisbrooke College moved in to its new purpose-built building. This specially designed facility houses 600 students and associated staff as well as the Einstein Centre for 16 young people.

We provide specialist, well equipped spaces for science, creative arts, technology and computer science, including four dedicated ICT suites. In addition we have a well stocked library, specialist drama studio and a multi-purpose hall with retractable seating. There are extensive sporting facilities, including a sports hall and all of the large playing fields associated with the previous building. In short, we have everything needed for an excellent education at the heart of the community.

All classrooms have state-of-the-art air management systems, lighting and large format displays to make them the perfect environment for learning, whilst ensuring energy efficiency to assist in the reduction of our carbon footprint. There are interactive TVs in every classroom to assist learning.

Students come to Carisbrooke from all across the Island and we have close links with our partner primary schools. We run a number of initiatives throughout the year to directly engage primary school children with subjects such as arts,

sciences and technology; in particular we work with Year 5 and 6 children to prepare them for the transition to secondary school. One of our priorities is to strengthen the curricular, pastoral and extra-curricular links with our local primaries.

We encourage parents and carers to be involved in every aspect of their child's education at Carisbrooke. This partnership helps us achieve the highest all round standards for your children and we will do all we can to enthuse, motivate and support them during their time with us.







# Core Values - ASPIRE

We are a learning community which embraces opportunities for all our learners by securing high quality learning and teaching. We aim for all our students to achieve their full potential, both as students and as considerate global citizens of the future.





"I am proud to be a member of staff at Carisbrooke College. I would recommend it to parents, students and prospective staff."

Staff member





# Our Curriculum

At Carisbrooke College, we provide a broad and balanced curriculum because we understand that students need to be engaged in their learning and able to follow courses in which they are interested, if they are to achieve their potential.

## Key Stage 3

Throughout Key Stage 3, all students receive English, mathematics and science tuition. Additionally, students are taught modern foreign languages, history, geography, religious education, technology and computing. All students have weekly timetabled PE and creative arts lessons (drama, music and art). Where necessary, students may have a tailored curriculum which increases the amount of literacy support they receive in order to prepare them for Key Stage 4.

Personal, Social and Health Education (PSHE) is delivered through our bespoke social studies programme, a tutor lesson, assemblies, plays and other organised activities.

## Key Stage 4

We deliver our Key Stage 4 curriculum to Years 10 and 11 with students continuing their studies in English, mathematics, science and PE, but also having an opportunity to choose four additional subjects. These are chosen in the spring term of Year 9 and include subjects they have already experienced, as well as new areas of study, such as health and social care. All students have the opportunity, and are encouraged to complete, the English Baccalaureate in Key

Stage 4, which involves studying English, mathematics, science, a modern foreign language and either history or geography.

## Key Stage 5

The Island VI Form, part of our HISP MAT family, in the heart of Newport, offers a full range of Level 3 academic courses; for more information see page 18 or the separate Island VI Form prospectus.







# Extra-Curricular

Many of the things we remember about school happened outside the classroom. Carisbrooke College offers a wide range of extra-curricular activities to enhance the learning experience for students.

We believe that to help students become well-rounded members of their community, they should be exposed to a wide variety of opportunities beyond the classroom. As such, our staff are fully committed to residential trips, which have included Vietnam, Paris, New York, Poland, China, Bangladesh and Washington D.C.

All students have the opportunity to get involved with arts clubs, productions and competitions such as Dance Live. The PE department provides clubs for all interests ranging from football to parkour.

In addition to the wide variety of clubs and societies, our students raise a great deal of money for charities which includes the Isle of Wight Youth Trust and various others, locally and internationally.



## Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme

From the age of 14, there is an amazing opportunity for students to start their journey through the Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme. This can be continued at The Island VI Form, where dedicated DofE staff will support students through their award. The Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme is a charity that aims to create a world where young people can reach their full potential, whatever their circumstances.

Further information about the scheme can be found at [www.dofe.org](http://www.dofe.org)



# The Einstein Centre

At Carisbrooke College we accommodate the Einstein Centre, an Autistic Spectrum Resource Centre.

At the Einstein Centre, we aim to provide a happy, calm and nurturing environment for up to sixteen students with autism and other social and emotional difficulties.

All students are expected to eventually access the mainstream curriculum for most of the school day. Consequently, the unit is supported by qualified members of staff who work to integrate the students into the mainstream curriculum. The support we provide is tailored to the individual student and their needs.

We also provide social skills and life skills sessions in the centre. These enable students to interact with their peers in the school environment and build confidence for when they eventually leave school. The sessions are integrated within their timetable, whenever possible.

We are very fortunate to have some amazing facilities within the centre, including:

- A large, modern classroom and working area
- A crafts and games room
- A resource room
- A kitchen/life skills room
- A calm/sensory area
- Dedicated toilets
- Outside space

## Admissions

Applications for the Einstein Centre are separate to an application for Carisbrooke College. To be considered for the resource centre, a child must already have an Education Health and Care Plan (EHCP). Children are offered a place at the centre if it is named on their plan and where their needs cannot be met by the local school. The Governing Board is not the admission authority with responsibility for admissions and administering appeals for places at The Einstein Centre. This is a Local Authority Resourced provision.

If you're thinking of making an application to the Einstein Centre, please contact us for a meeting and a tour. Further details can be found here: <https://www.iow.gov.uk/Council/OtherServices/Local-Offer-Age-11/Special-School>







# SEND Special Educational Needs & Disabilities

Carisbrooke College is committed to providing an inclusive education for all young people, regardless of ability, gender, language, ethnic or cultural origin. We work with a wide variety of agencies and individuals to focus on improving outcomes for all students.

Carisbrooke College has a specialist SEND Coordinator (SENDCo). They lead a very experienced team of Learning Support Assistants. Support is given in a variety of ways, ranging from in-class support to individual and small group intervention sessions, depending upon need, to facilitate progress.

We aim to:

- Raise the standards of attainment for all students with SEND, through a broad, balanced and relevant curriculum that is differentiated to meet individual learning styles.
- Establish robust systems which ensure all students with SEND make progress to the best of their ability, with a target of at least three levels of progress by the end of each key stage.
- Create a climate where all staff are aware that they are responsible for students with SEND and plan their lessons accordingly.

The college is well equipped to meet the needs of disabled students. Students requiring wheelchair access are well catered for, with all curriculum areas accessible. The college is also well-provided for in relation to accessible toilets.

Within the guidelines of the Disability Equality Scheme, the college is committed to:

- Promoting equality of opportunity between disabled people and others.
- Eliminating discrimination that is unlawful under the Disability Discrimination Act, 1995.
- Providing positive attitudes towards disabled people in public life.
- Taking steps to meet disabled people's needs, even if this requires more favourable treatment.



"Pupils' behaviour in lessons and around the school is positive. Adults have high expectations and help pupils to meet these in a calm, collaborative way. Pupils are respectful when talking to adults."

Ofsted





# Pastoral Support and Safeguarding

At Carisbrooke College, we pride ourselves on our secure and efficient safeguarding procedures.

Our pastoral system focuses on meeting the needs of each individual student. Every student is assigned a tutor who meets them on a daily basis and is able to offer support and guidance throughout their time at Carisbrooke. Our Year Office teams support and guide students on matters relating to personal development, behaviour and welfare. We also have additional staff who support in areas of mental health as well as supporting families who need support. Our learning community is well-ordered and safe.

The work of teachers and faculties is also kept under regular review so that our students are given the best opportunities for success. We firmly believe that it is our job to remove barriers to progress and we want our students to develop the confidence and maturity required for the next stage in their lives. We are proud of our inclusive ethos which supports our work with students of all abilities and from a variety of backgrounds.

High rates of attendance are intrinsically linked to high rates of achievement. Students will only achieve their best if they come to school every day. Securing high levels of attendance is a high priority. The expectation is that all students aim for 100% attendance and we proactively work with students, parents and carers to achieve this.

We are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and we expect all staff and volunteers to share in this commitment. We are dedicated to ensuring that consistent, effective safeguarding procedures are in place to support families, young people and staff.

All eligible staff and volunteers are required to undertake relevant safeguarding training and this is regularly reviewed by our Designated Safeguarding Lead to ensure it is up to date. A training database for all staff and volunteers is also maintained.

**“Leaders have made sure that safeguarding is central to the work of all staff.” Ofsted, 2023**



# The Whole Student

We recognise that our students have individual needs and we know how important it is that students are safe, healthy and happy at school.

We have a team of specialists to provide the appropriate guidance for students and to put in place individual plans to support students' needs. In addition, we work closely with a number of external agencies to provide high quality care, guidance and support on an individual basis.

## Information, guidance and support

Throughout their educational years, all students have access to a variety of career-related activities and events to help them explore and investigate options available to them, both locally and nationally. We feel it is vital to allow students access to different experiences that will help them to make informed choices about their future. Our careers programme includes activities such as work experience, mock interviews, take your child to work day, visits to further and higher educational establishments and different employer visits, as well as contact with various speakers and visitors across the year.

## College uniform

The college has a strict uniform code to ensure that we have a purposeful and professional working environment. All students wear a shirt, tie and a smart blazer around the college at all times.

## Student Council

Our aim is to give students a clear, strong voice. We encourage the students to be proactive and all students have the opportunity to be a part of our Student Council groups who genuinely make a difference in the college. These groups contribute to the continuing development of the rewards system, peer mentoring programme and all areas of the college, from classroom to canteen.

## Rewards

Students are awarded achievement points throughout the year for demonstrating positive behaviour both in and outside of lessons whilst at the college. They are also recognised for their positive contributions towards their local community and outside of school successes. We celebrate these achievements in a number of ways, including certificates, prizes, good news postcards and end of year reward trips.







### Independent Learning

Independent learning (homework) promotes learning beyond the college day as an essential part of good education and a precursor to lifelong learning. Independent learning reinforces classroom learning and helps young people develop skills, attitudes and the habits of enquiry and investigation.

All students are set regular and meaningful independent learning, which aims to raise standards of attainment and achievement by consolidating knowledge gained in the classroom.

In years 7 and 8, we expect students to have about five hours of homework per week, which increases in amount as they progress towards their key stage 4 examinations.

### Global Community

At Carisbrooke College we see ourselves as part of a global community. As such, we believe it is important to provide global language study, as well as European. Therefore, in addition to French, we offer the study of Mandarin. With Chinese the most widely spoken language in the world, the study of Mandarin at Carisbrooke aims to both unlock the mysteries of this ancient language for learners in a clear and simple way whilst also infusing lessons with a cultural and political awareness of China as a nation.

### Creative Arts Provision

The Creative Arts Faculty offers students the opportunity to grow, both academically and creatively during their studies at the Isle of Wight Education Federation. The arts at GCSE

continue to be immensely popular, and continues to grow with the addition of GCSE Graphics next academic year. Our performing and visual arts departments are exceptional, staging professional standard productions and exhibitions throughout the academic year. The music department is involved in a huge number of performances which extend across the Island and abroad, supporting festivals, touring local venues and performing on the radio.

### Diversity

We recognise that society is changing and this inclusive approach is reflected here. Students of any gender are supported and we have an active LGBTQ+ group. Students can be themselves here.

### Parent Voice

Carisbrooke College Parent Voice is run by the parents of Carisbrooke College for the parents, with direct links to the College leadership and the governors. Carisbrooke College welcomes input from parents, recognising that students enjoy school more, behave better and achieve more when their parents have a positive relationship with the school. Any adult who is a parent or carer of a student at Carisbrooke College is automatically a member of Carisbrooke College Parent Voice and is welcome to attend meetings.

Please note - the Parent Voice forum is not an appropriate platform to raise any personal concerns and these should be raised by contacting the school office as soon as possible.



# Equal Opportunities

We are committed to creating an environment in which all members of the college community are equally valued and have equal opportunity to achieve their full potential in a culturally diverse society.

We are committed to providing an education which meets the needs of all students irrespective of sex, race, disability, sexual orientation, gender reassignment, religion or belief.

## We aim to:

- Promote positive attitudes towards all members of society, with a clear code of conduct about respect for individuals.
- Provide a curriculum that promotes equality of access and is appropriate for all students.
- Provide a curriculum which reflects the culturally diverse society to which students belong and of which they will become adult members.
- Use teaching strategies which are most effective in promoting equality and generating positive images of the individual and other people in society.
- Ensure equitable distribution of praise, rewards and responsibilities to encourage an atmosphere of tolerance and cooperation.
- Encourage all members of the school to use appropriate, non-stereotypical language.







"I feel very lucky that my daughter is able to attend this school and am thrilled with how well she has settled in and made friends."

Parent





# The Island VI Form

Carisbrooke College is an 11-16 school. However, we have very strong links with The Island VI Form, also being a part of the HISP Multi Academy Trust. The Island VI Form is the largest provider of A Levels on the Isle of Wight and has an excellent track record of success.

After GCSEs, many students will naturally progress on to VI Form education. At The Island VI Form, students have access to a wide range of A Levels, Level 3 programmes and BTEC qualifications. Situated in the centre of Newport, it offers an ideal stepping stone between school and higher education or employment. Students are encouraged to become active, inquisitive and independent learners, manage their own time and develop the study skills needed for university or their future careers.

The Island VI Form building has great character and has been fully equipped for modern post-16 learning. Due to significant financial investment, classrooms, corridors and many communal spaces have recently been redecorated, reception has been remodelled, and a programme of additional works is underway to further enhance the learning environment.

Students benefit from four large independent study spaces, computer rooms, a gym, a cafe, on-site parking and subject specific facilities, such as science laboratories, art studio spaces and a music recording studio.

In the relatively short time students are at the VI Form, they will be making decisions which will have a huge impact on

their future career. Dedicated Student Support Services Officers, Mentors and the Careers Team ensure that students receive the advice, guidance and support they need.

For more details about The Island VI Form, please see the website at: [www.theislandviform.org.uk](http://www.theislandviform.org.uk)



**The Island VI Form**  
ASPIRE AND ACHIEVE





# Admissions and Applying for a Place

Carisbrooke College is an academy within the HISP Multi Academy Trust.

The college takes students of all abilities and aptitudes aged 11-16. The Trust Board is the admission authority with responsibility for admissions and administering appeals.

Parents who are considering applying for a place at Carisbrooke College for their child are warmly invited to visit the college; this is not a requirement of the admissions process. The college's Admissions Team will be pleased to provide information by letter or telephone, or to meet with parents to discuss possible applications. The college will have an admission number of 120 students for year 7 in 2025.

Carisbrooke College takes part in the Isle of Wight Council's coordinated admissions scheme. For admission to all schools for September 2025, the Local Authority is required to operate a coordinated admissions scheme and applications for all school places must be made on the common application form provided by the Authority, with the opportunity to nominate up to three schools, ranked in order of preference. Alternatively, you can complete the application

form online at: [www.iwight.com/schooladmissions](http://www.iwight.com/schooladmissions)

Once completed, the application form (including if you apply online) must be received by School Admissions at County Hall, by midnight on 31 October at the very latest.



