



# The Priory School

Educating students for success in life



## Our Ethos

The Priory School is an inclusive, community, co-educational school. We provide our students with a rounded education, focused on both progress and attainment, whilst promoting the values of responsibility, respect and resilience.

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## Our Values

### Responsibility

Supporting students to become life-long learners who are motivated, self-regulating, reflective, civic-minded and effective leaders.

### Respect

Encouraging students to be inclusive, tolerant and able to demonstrate democratic values.

### Resilience

Equipping our students with the skills to meet the challenges and demands of 21st century life.

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## Our Vision

To empower every student to develop and meet their aspirations, to be self-confident, inspirational and active members of their community.



When I first found out I would be attending The Priory School it was as if a door to a world of opportunities had been opened to me.”

Year 7 student





Pupils enjoy school because they feel valued and well cared for.”

Ofsted



Responsibility | **Respect** | Resilience



The Priory School is a learning environment which promotes high aspirations, high expectations and academic success.

In leading the school I have four key aims:

- To be ambitious for academic success for our students.
- To ensure that our students enjoy their learning.
- To create opportunities for students to develop the key values of responsibility, respect and resilience.
- To keep students safe and happy at school so that they can learn effectively.

At The Priory School we have a dedicated team of teachers, support staff and governors who believe that every child has the right and ability to succeed. To embed our students' learning, we need to ensure that we have strong partnerships with parents and carers. By sharing the same educational goals and working collaboratively, we will be able to lay the foundations for the future success of your son or daughter.

Geraint Edwards  
Headteacher

## Academic Success



We are a truly comprehensive school that reflects the community in which we live.

Academic success is the key that opens the doors for future employability. We create a learning environment of high expectations regarding behaviour, uniform and attendance (96% minimum) so that the core purpose of learning can take place. We pride ourselves on knowing the learning and pastoral needs of our students. From the day a student

starts at The Priory School it is our goal to stretch, challenge and support them. Over the last 3 years The Priory School has achieved excellent academic results. Excellent teaching, high expectations and targeted support provide our students with the learning skills to be successful in an ever changing global economy.



Responsibility | **Respect** | Resilience



My excellent GCSE results have put me on the pathway to achieving my aspirations of going to university”

Year 13 student



## Raising Aspirations



In a global economy with technology changing at an exponential rate we want our students to embrace the opportunities that will come their way.

At The Priory School we focus on supporting students to gain an understanding of what they can achieve if they develop the key values of responsibility, respect and resilience. These values are embedded in our curriculum, teaching and enrichment opportunities. We enable students to develop these values in a variety of ways: mentoring; student researchers and leaders; resilience learning weeks; STEM and Young Enterprise projects; outward bound trips and many more.

The school has a comprehensive Raising Aspirations programme and an ever growing list of links with local, national and international businesses and organisations including Airbus, MBDA, Wilmot Dixon and LV. The school works closely with many Russell Group universities and believes strongly in promoting high level apprenticeships as an alternative route to higher education.

At The Priory School, we develop students to be more than learners.



Responsibility | Respect | Resilience



The level of commitment and enthusiasm from your students is highly impressive."

Young Enterprise Business Advisor



## Well-being



We want our students to be happy and healthy, with the resilience to face every day challenges.

Our pastoral care is outstanding and pastoral leaders are trained in mental health first aid. We work collaboratively with outside agencies such as Tilehouse Counselling, Phase, Hitchin Christian Centre and CAMHS to support students to develop strategies to overcome obstacles they may face. Students play an active role in supporting each other and, in conjunction with the Royal Society of Public Health, we

have introduced Youth Health and Mental Health Champions.

The school actively promotes diversity, achieving Stonewall Champion school status, running calendared events such as Black History month and International Women's Day and supporting the celebration of religious festivals. Our Diversity and Equality student leaders play a key role in promoting these.



Responsibility | **Respect** | Resilience

“

School leaders have effectively prioritised the welfare and personal development of students...where diversity is valued and where all pupils feel they belong, regardless of race, religion or sexuality.”

Ofsted



## Learning outside the classroom



The development of a student's core values is based on the experiences they are exposed to.

At The Priory School we look to create, support and facilitate many opportunities for our students. Our excellent drama and music departments are renowned in Hitchin for the wonderful productions they put on (Westside Story, Jesus Christ Super Star) and our school choir has the taste for travel having been to Australia. Our science, maths and technology departments offer students the chance to develop their experience of STEM through projects with organisations such as the UK Space Agency. The

Duke of Edinburgh programme is firmly established, with students participating in bronze, silver and gold awards. Year 7 students have the opportunity to take part in our annual Bush Craft camp and upper school students are able to participate in World Challenge expeditions to far flung locations such as India and Mongolia. Sporting excellence takes many forms at The Priory School and our sporting alumni include international archers, dancers, athletes and top class county team players.



Responsibility | **Respect** | Resilience



When carrying a 30 kilo rucksack for 10 hours up a mountain you learn to develop resilience."

Year 11 student





The opportunities that the school has created for my daughter has been amazing over the last 5 years”

Y11 parent



The school is rightly proud of the work that it has undertaken to promote the good mental health of young people”

Ofsted





To find out more about The Priory School please  
visit our web-site [www.priory.herts.sch.uk](http://www.priory.herts.sch.uk)

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