

PROSPECTUS

'Believe and Achieve'



Moving to Paignton Academy

Key Dates: Year 7 Entry Sept 2027



Transition Key Dates

31st October 2026	Deadline for secondary school applications to Torbay Admissions.
Monday 1st March 2027	Notification on the outcome of your applications by email.
March 2027	Welcome letter sent to Year 6 students allocated a place at the Academy.
May/June 2027	Academy staff visit primary schools to meet Year 6 students and hand out Essential Information Pack.
May/June 2027	Academy staff meet primary school staff to find out how best to support students.
June 2027	Academy House, Tutor Group and Site allocation date.
June 2027	Parents' Information Evening
Thursday 1st July 2027	Year 6 Induction Day
Monday 9th August 2027	The Big Step Year 7 Summer School Transition Week
September 2027	Day 1 Autumn Term - Year 7 only

For more information visit www.paigntonacademy.org

WELCOME TO PAIGNTON ACADEMY



I am delighted to welcome you to Paignton Academy, a heavily oversubscribed school of almost 1600 pupils based on two sites: Waterleat Road and Borough Road. We are two sites but, crucially, one school.

The long-established motto of the school is 'Believe & Achieve' which is underpinned by our 4 core values through which our motto becomes reality. Everything we do is driven by our 4 core values: Community, Ambition, Relationships and Excellence (CARE).

We are a rapidly improving school. Our curriculum is broad and ambitious. We have deliberately placed knowledge at the heart of our carefully sequenced curriculum, across all subject areas. Pupils at Paignton Academy receive a rigorous, coherent and intelligently sequenced curriculum which builds on what has been taught before. Intended outcomes are mapped out across

each year group, from year 7 to year 11, with carefully developed summative assessments. Lessons are planned and delivered with the end point assessments in mind so that all of our pupils understand their learning journey. 'Every second counts' as part of pupils learning and education and I want to ensure that pupils at this academy receive a first-class education within a disciplined but supportive learning environment so that all children have the best possible opportunity to gain outstanding outcomes.

We are also a proud member of a much larger community of schools. In September 2023, we joined the Thinking Schools Academy trust. This is a large, multi-academy trust of 26 schools, from primary to selective and non-selective schools from Plymouth, Torbay, Portsmouth, Kent and Essex. This has allowed our pupils extra opportunities, particularly within the area of student voice, and for staff the opportunity to collaborate and share expertise within a much larger family of schools. Crucially, the Thinking Schools Academy Trust vision, that every young person in our community deserves to have the best possible opportunities at life regardless of their individual circumstances and that it is through education we provide the opportunities to support and develop each member of our community to think about their thinking, being their best selves and shaping their success do we at Paignton Academy, and the family of schools to which we belong, transform life chances for our young people.

We set high expectations on behaviour and uniform and for all of our pupils, every day to be ready to learn, to be kind and to be responsible. Be ready, be kind, be responsible: these are our 3 rules for all pupils in our academy. Our aim is for every pupil to be healthy, happy and successful by fostering a sense of belonging, providing opportunities and creating lasting memories. We are proud to serve the Paignton Academy and our local community. We are proudly comprehensive and truly inclusive.

We look forward to welcoming your child when they join us in the new academic year.

Derwyn Williams, Principal of Paignton Academy



THE SCHOOL DAY

8.30am-9.10am	TUTOR TIME
9.10am-10.10am	PERIOD 1
10.10am-11.10am	PERIOD 2
11.10am-11.30am	BREAK
11.30am-12.30pm	PERIOD 3
12.30pm-1.30pm	PERIOD 4
1.30pm-2.00pm	LUNCH
2.00pm-3.00pm	PERIOD 5



HOUSE SYSTEM

Your child will be assigned to either **BROADSANDS**, **ELBERRY**, **GOODRINGTON** or **PRESTON** House and this will be their House throughout their time at the Academy. Part of their uniform will be a House tie, which will have the relevant colour on it – blue for Broad Sands, red for Elberry, green for Preston and yellow for Goodrington.

On each site, every House has a Head of House and a Pastoral Manager who are responsible for all students in their House. Pastoral managers are non-teaching staff, therefore there should always be someone available from the House teams for students to talk to should they need to.

Staff are also allocated to Houses and throughout the year we run competitions which everyone is encouraged to take part in to represent their House.



Mrs Summers
Deputy Principal



MR WILLIAMS
PRINCIPAL



Miss Freeman
Deputy Principal



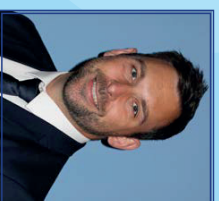
Mr Dossett
Assistant Principal



Mr Godfree
Assistant Principal



Mr Willcocks
Assistant Principal



Mr Virgo
Assistant Principal



Mr Scott
Assistant Principal



Ms Thomas
Assistant Principal

WATERLEAT ROAD CENTRE

HEAD OF HOUSE

BROADSANDS



Mrs Adams

ELBERRY



Mr Lynch

GOODRINGTON



Mr Power

PRESTON



Mrs Carpenter

PASTORAL MANAGERS



Mrs Farmer



Mrs Shaw



Ms Sanford



Miss Hancox

BOROUGH ROAD CENTRE

HEAD OF HOUSE

BROADSANDS



Mrs Warren

ELBERRY



Mr Skates

GOODRINGTON



Mr Love

PRESTON



Mr Round

PASTORAL MANAGERS



Mrs Florence



Miss Cullinane



Mrs Gower



Mrs McArthur

REWARDING OUR STUDENTS

At Paignton Academy, everything we do is built around our four core values which form the acronym of CARE. At Paignton Academy, we CARE and we want all pupils to fulfil our motto: to believe and to achieve.

Our 4 core values are built around the four ideas that are at the heart of what we are as a school. The first is Community. Serving the Paignton community is everything to us. It is the reason why this school exist. We are proud of our local community and proud of Paignton. We want our school to be deeply rooted within the local community. We want our students to value their local community so that no matter where they end up in life, they will always be part of the Paignton Community and the Paignton Academy community and to take pride in that.

Our second core value is Ambition. We have high expectations of all our pupils and through our ambitious curriculum, we want every pupil within our school community to aim high and fulfil their potential. We want our pupils to be ambitious for themselves, to seek out and take advantage of all of the opportunities that we will provide so that they have the best possible life, either in the local community or further afield, that they can imagine.

Our third value is relationships. Genuinely outstanding relationships, between the pupils themselves, pupils and the adults at the Academy and between the school and the community that are grounded in mutual respect, pride, kindness and politeness is at the heart of what we are as a school.

And finally, Excellence so that everyone in the Academy, staff and pupils strive for excellence every day. For pupils, this means taking pride in their work, to embrace excellence in everything that they do- inside and outside of the taught curriculum- so that excellence becomes part of what they are. From this, lives are transformed and high ambitions are realised.



At Paignton Academy we **CARE - Believe & Achieve**
– Our CARE core values and principles guide our daily actions and choices



Community

We belong to Paignton Academy by respecting our environment, valuing the people within it, and wearing uniform with pride.



Ambition

Every person dedicated to the same goal: to give our pupils the very best chance to achieve the very best in life through love of learning.



Relationships

As a school, we want to develop outstanding relationships between all key stakeholders. We are kind, considerate, polite to all and show gratitude.



Excellence

Our pupils are told to be the best version of themselves and to strive for excellence every day in their studies and their personal growth.

GOLDEN TICKETS

Our students are able to earn Golden Tickets from every lesson if they show one of our core values; ambition, excellence, outstanding relationships, pride, love of learning, character and community. I am sure you agree these are brilliant core values to demonstrate daily. Only one student can achieve one golden ticket per lesson, which creates a sense of significance (e.g. true excellence), healthy competition and an amazing buzz around the Academy.

Each week the Head of House holds a raffle in assemblies to pull out one Golden Ticket to gain more Praise Points and at the end of each term we hold a Year Group Rewards assembly. All of the Golden Tickets are collected (as you can imagine there are lots) and special prizes are given to our students.

We fully encourage students to embrace their success and be proud of their individual achievements.

Believe & Achieve



Congratulations!
You've received a Golden Ticket

Student Name: _____ Form: _____

Signed: _____



ACADEMY RULES & ROUTINES



Believe & Achieve - The Paignton Way The 3 Rules



READY – Arrive to all your lessons on time with the correct equipment (within 3 minutes of the bell)

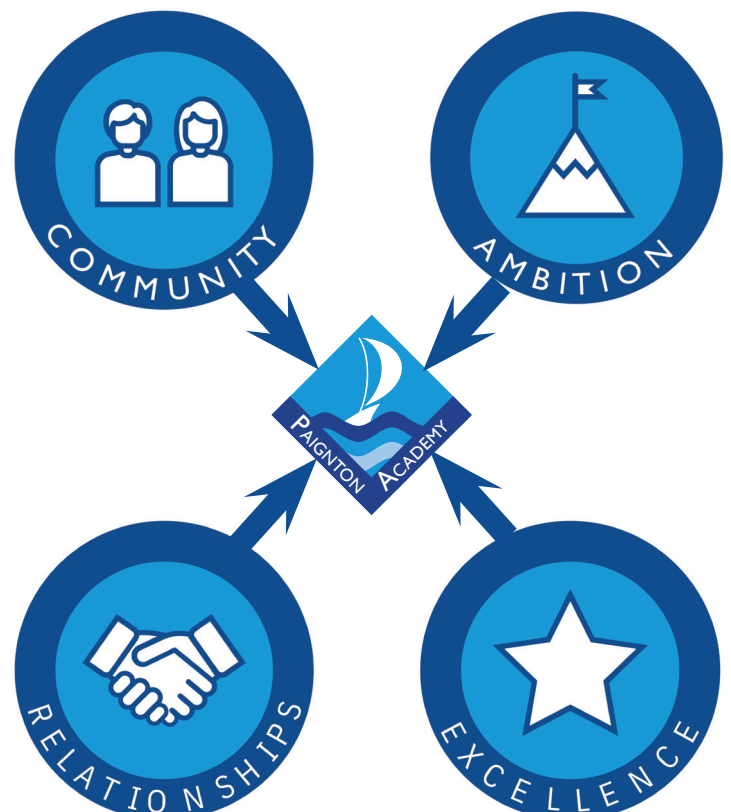


KIND – Show respect and kindness at all times including following all instructions from adults



RESPONSIBLE – Succeed through Active Listening (ASAP) and Learning Modes

CARE Core Values



Learning Modes

"We are moving into 'Respectful Whole Class' that means in silence and listening with full attention to the speaker in 5, in 4, in 3, in 2 in 1"



Respectful Whole Class

- ✓ In silence
- ✓ Full attention to the speaker

"We are now moving into 'Silent Independent' that means working on your own and no talking in 5, in 4, in 3, in 2 in 1"



Silent Independent

- ✓ On your own
- ✓ No talking

"We are now moving into 'Polite Shared Learning' that means taking turns and staying on topic in 5, in 4, in 3, in 2 in 1"



Polite Shared Learning

- ✓ Take turns
- ✓ Stay on topic

Community

Ambition

Relationships

Excellence

CELEBRATING SUCCESS

At the end of each academic year, Paignton Academy likes to celebrate students' successes through Celebration Evenings. These evenings are held on a different evening for each of the four Houses.



ACADEMY EVENTS



SEND

WELCOME

The vision for SEND at Paignton Academy is clear, in that every student must fulfil their potential, ensuring that the core skills of literacy, numeracy and social interaction are met. For our SEND students who require extra support, we will ensure that individual needs are clearly identified and communicated. Based upon this, effective and reasonable adaptations will be made starting with high quality differentiated teaching and learning within the classroom, a key priority mandated within the Department for Education SEND Code of Practice. Improving outcomes for students with SEND is a national concern; here at the Academy we have launched our new vision and strategy to ensure that our young people have the greatest chances of success both here at the Academy, and beyond into the future.



Mr Dossett
Lead SENCO and
Head of
Learning Support



Mrs Cooke
Deputy SENCO
(Transition and
Literacy Lead)



Mrs Kenny
Deputy SENCO



Miss Biggin
Learning Support
Co-ordinator
Waterleat Road



Ms Fenner
Learning Support
Co-ordinator
Borough Road

The Academy provides a wide range of services in-house to support individual needs, including access to specialist equipment and staff trained in specialist areas of SEND.

The Academy has a large team of highly motivated, caring and appropriately trained staff that provide a range of duties around supporting young people with additional needs. This support can be provided within a classroom, as part of a targeted intervention, or working in a more bespoke way with individual students.

The SEND team is overseen by the Academy SENCO. The SEND teams at the Borough Road and Waterleat Road sites are led by Learning Support Coordinators.

There is a well-equipped Learning Support room at both sites. This provides a well resourced, safe and quiet base to support the learning and emotional needs of students with SEN. These rooms are also available during breaks and lunch times.

We have newly equipped Well-Being areas at both sites which are supported by LSAs trained in emotional literacy. We also have Sensory rooms available for students with high sensory needs.

SEND HOUSE LIAISONS

In order to better support students with SEND at Paignton Academy four new positions have been created to align to the existing House based structure, and to provide a key adult to be the main contact of communication between school and home regarding the SEND needs of your young person. These pivotal new roles will also be responsible for monitoring SEND targets, and to be an advocate for your child and their SEND needs.



Mrs Holmes
SEND House Liaison
BROADSANDS and
ELBERRY Houses
BOROUGH ROAD



Mrs Bullock
SEND House Liaison
GOODRINGTON and
PRESTON Houses
BOROUGH ROAD



Mrs Harris
SEND House Liaison
BROADSANDS and
ELBERRY Houses
WATERLEAT ROAD



Miss Redman
SEND House Liaison
GOODRINGTON and
PRESTON Houses
WATERLEAT ROAD

EXTRA-CURRICULAR CLUBS

One of the main strengths of our Academy is that we run a vast array of extra-curricular clubs for our students; a list of clubs is available on the website. Each term the clubs change and in the first few weeks of each term we will always email out a copy of the extra-curricular clubs list to parents. All students are welcome to attend and evidence has shown that those students who do attend clubs perform far better within the Academy both academically and socially. After school clubs are open to students on both sites. For example the Drama club and Fitness club would be at Borough Road whilst the Football club would be at Waterleat Road and students move across to access the clubs. It takes students less than ten minutes to walk across when they use the slip road behind Morrisons.

BREAKFAST STUDY CLUB

Each morning, staff are ready to support and assist students with their homework or just provide free toast. Breakfast Study Club runs in both libraries on both sites, providing free of charge toast and fruit juice for all attending. It is a friendly atmosphere where students can work or just have a breakfast and meet others, supported by teaching staff in a positive environment.

Study club runs from 8:00am until 8:25am every day.



LUNCHTIME CLUBS

Lunchtime clubs generally run from 1:30pm to 1:55pm and every day there is a variety of clubs to attend from Music and Dance to ICT and Maths, as well as sporting activities. Students can join the clubs at any time during the year.



AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS

We have a variety of after school clubs to attend from Music and Dance to ICT and Maths, as well as sporting activities. Students can join the clubs at any time during the year. We also have activities available in the library on both sites at lunchtimes.



FIXTURES

Students who are selected to represent the Academy will be informed of the timings of the fixture and a team sheet will be placed on the PE board and handed to Reception. Home fixtures finish at varying times between 3.15pm and 4.15pm and for away fixtures students may not get back until 6pm or later depending on the destination. We will always put up a team sheet and notify the students of the details, destination and return time. It is difficult to allow access to parents to watch sporting competitions during the school day but of course parents are welcome to come and support their children with fixtures on site after the school day.



SAMPLE - EXTRA-CURRICULAR CLUBS

Waterleat Road – Summer Term 2026

ALL Extra-Curricular Activities (Non-PE)

Remember after school clubs are open to ALL students on BOTH sites!

EVERYDAY			
All Years Breakfast Club	8:00am – 8:20am	Library	Support Staff
All Years Study & Homework Club	8:00am-8:30am		
Safe Space	Break & Lunchtime	Library W45	Mrs Deane Mr Francis
All Years Study & Homework Club	Lunchtime (Monday-Thursdays) 3:00pm-4:00pm (Friday) 3:00pm-3:30pm	Library	Mrs Deane

MONDAY			
KS4 Careers/ Work Experience Drop-In	Lunchtime	Library	Mrs Vere
All year's music practice rooms available to book.	Lunchtime	W19	Miss Kerek

TUESDAY			
All Years Warhammer Alliance and Dungeons & Dragons club	Lunchtime	W37/W38	Mr Gilchrist/ Mr Walsh
Art Club	Lunchtime	W11	Miss Clelland
All Years Computer Science Club	3:15pm to 4:00pm	W14	Mr Washbrook
Higher Leap Project- (Participants will be messaged beforehand)	3:15pm-3:45pm	Library	Mrs Smerdon



PE CLUBS SUMMER TERM CLUBS

MONDAY			
Basketball	All Years	WRC - The Hub	Mr Chant

TUESDAY			
Athletics	All Years	WRC Astro/Field	Mr Power/Miss Leahy/Mr Lynch/Mr Godfree
Basketball (girls and boys) (28 th April at BRC then to WRC rest of term)	All Years	WRC HUB	Mr Rogers
Football	Year 8 & 9	WRC Astro	Mr Smith/Mr Easton
Girls Volleyball	All Girls	WRC Hub	Mrs Veale

WEDNESDAY			
Badminton	All Years	3:15pm – 4:15pm.	WRC Hub
Girls Only Fitness Suite	All Years	3:15pm – 4:15pm.	Fitness Suite
Football	Year 7	3:15pm – 4:15pm.	WRC Astro

THURSDAY			
Girls Rounders	All Years	3:15pm – 4:15pm.	WRC Astro
CNAT Exam Prep	Year 11	3:15pm – 4:15pm.	B10
Cricket	Year 7, 8 & 9	3:15pm – 4:15pm	WRC Hub

FRIDAY			
Fitness Suite	Year 9	3:15pm – 4:15pm	Fitness Suite

SAMPLE

STUDENT LIFE AT PAIGNTON ACADEMY

MICROSOFT

When they start at Paignton Academy, students will be issued with an Academy email address and access to Microsoft Classroom. Here they will be able to join lessons for each subject, see information about homework and even submit work directly to their teachers via OneDrive/Outlook.



STUDENT OF THE MONTH

We always like to recognise, encourage and reward our students for their hard work and being nominated by staff gives the students a great sense of pride which aligns with our CARE core values, particularly **Ambition** and **Excellence**.

Each month, we ask staff to nominate a student who they feel deserves the accolade of Student of the Month within each House at our Waterleat and Borough Road sites. This can be associated to both academic and non-academic factors.

Once all the nominations are in, each student nominated receives a letter with the reason why they have been nominated and rewarded with CARE points. The senior leadership team then considers all the nominees and selects a winner from both sites. The Student of the Month winners then have their photograph displayed within the Academy for the next 12 months in a bespoke purpose-made frame and receive a gift card.

This is a huge achievement by all nominees and is evidence that the students are having a positive impact in the Academy.

ARBOR



Here at **Paignton Academy**, we use Arbor as the schools Management System which extends its functionality beyond school staff. Arbor is used by schools to manage student data, streamline administrative tasks and improve communication.

Parent Portal and App: Parents can use the Arbor Portal or app to view their child's school records, attendance data, communications, achievement and behaviour from the school. They can also make secure online payments for school-related items.

Student Portal and App: Students can access their calendar, check homework assignments, and view their attendance statistics via the student portal or app.

[A quick introduction to Arbor for guardians and parents – Arbor Help Centre](#)



SPORTS LEADERS

The Academy organises and hosts about 20 primary sports festivals each year. Sports Leaders are selected to support the running of these festivals, taking on a range of roles which may include: coaching, officiating, leading, scoring, photography, report writing and planning. Training for these roles takes place one day after school and students learn all about their roles and responsibilities at the festival they are due to volunteer at. They also follow a program of developing specific leadership skills.

All students are welcome to apply and every application is considered; selection is based on the following criteria:

- Behaviour in lessons and around school
- Keeping up to date with school work
- Attendance at school
- How well students have performed when they have previously been involved as a leader.
- Students will not be penalised if they have never been a leader before.
- Commitment to take part in associated training

Students who take part in the Sports Leaders programme benefit enormously, learning and developing strong leadership skills, and increasing their confidence and self-esteem.



CATERING FOR STUDENTS

The Academy's canteen provides an excellent selection of freshly made food and snacks, including sandwiches, healthy salads and fruit.

Our menus cater for all appetites and rotate on a 3 week basis to offer variety.

Please find below a sample of one of our menus...

SAMPLE MENU

WEEK 2

Week Commencing:
20/4/26 11/05/26 01/06/26 22/06/26 13/07/26

CLASSIC HOT & HEARTY

CLASSIC MAIN MEALS

VEGETARIAN MAIN MEALS

MONDAY

Pork Sausage (Beef Casing) & Mashed Potatoes with Onion Gravy

TUESDAY

Cajun Chicken, Tomato & Sweetcorn Wholewheat Pasta Bake with House Salad

WEDNESDAY

Roast Breast of Turkey, Crisp Roasties, Seasonal Vegetables & Roast House Gravy

THURSDAY

Sweet & Sour Chicken with Carrot Rice

FRIDAY

Chip Shop "Fryday" Fish, Salmon Fishcake or Pizza with Chips, Peas & Tartare Sauce

MONDAY

Vegan BBQ Boston Bean Sausage Casserole & Mash (VE)

TUESDAY

Lentil & Chickpea Dahl with Roasted Tikka Cauliflower & Steamed Rice (V)

WEDNESDAY

Cheese & Potato Pie with Roast Potatoes, Seasonal Vegetables & Roast House Gravy (V)

THURSDAY

Crunchy French Onion & Leek Macaroni Cheese with House Salad (V)

FRIDAY

Vegan Moroccan Spiced Butternut Squash Pasta with Chips & Peas (VE)

DESSERTS

MONDAY

Chocolate Sponge with Chocolate Sauce

TUESDAY

Pear & Apple Orchard Crumble

WEDNESDAY

Cocoa Bread & Butter Pudding

THURSDAY

Jam & Coconut Sponge

FRIDAY

Apple Traybake

Fruit and Jelly Pots Available Daily

JACKET POTATOES

Topped with a Choice of: Cheese, Tuna or Beans Available Daily

street VIBES

MADE YOUR WAY!

CHOOSE IT!

ADD IT!

TOP IT!

Switch up your flavours with our street food-inspired range, available Tuesday to Thursday. With weekly rotating choices, there's always something tasty.

Choose a base, add protein, and top it your way!

Visit the restaurant to check out what's on offer each week

NATURally

MONDAY

Garlic and Chilli Noodles (VE)

TUESDAY

Singapore Fried Rice (VE)

WEDNESDAY

Lentil & Chickpea Dahl with Crispy Bombay Potatoes (VE)

THURSDAY

The Big Plant Burger (VE)

FRIDAY

Vegan Singapore Noodles (VE)

TRATTORIA

MONDAY

Pasta in Cheese Sauce

TUESDAY

Tomato & Basil Pasta

WEDNESDAY

Margherita or Pepperoni Pizza

THURSDAY

Creamy Pesto Pasta

FRIDAY

Margherita Pizza

CURRENT MEAL DEALS - £2.90

Jacket Potato (+2 toppings), Dessert & Water/Cup Drink

Any Main Meal, Dessert & Water/Cup Drink

Any Classic Sandwich, Cookie & Water/Cup Drink

LEAP, CAREERS & LITERACY



One of our core values as an Academy is 'Ambition' and we want to ensure that as a school we are ambitious for your child to achieve their very best academically. We have therefore designed an inspiring scheme of first-class developmental experiences. This programme will involve both specialist teaching and support staff at the school, working with your child and other students who have been selected to participate in focused activities and invited onto the LEAP programme in Year 9.

Crucially, we will be offering the Level 2 Higher Project qualification for students to complete during Years 9 and 10. This is a very highly regarded qualification, equivalent to half a GCSE, which many top schools, be they grammar or independent, run in order to develop the independent research skills which are essential as you progress through school, university and employment.

In addition to this, we will also be running a series of aspirational academic visits to universities and businesses which will only be available to students in Year 9 & 10 who are members of the LEAP programme which will complement the work of the Higher Project and, more so than this, will focus on any career ambitions that students may have.

Please see below the outline of the LEAP programme:

Year Group	Focus for the Year
Year 7 - Selected Students on Academic Progress	• Leadership Workshop • Literacy Training
Year 8 – Selected Students on Academic Progress	• Skills Development
Year 9 – LEAP Group	• Project Research • University Trips, including a Residential
Year 10 – LEAP Group	• Discovery • Project Presentation
Year 11	• Post 16 Transition

CAREERS EDUCATION

Helping students to plan for their future is a high priority for the Academy. We value our students as individuals and place great emphasis on supporting and guiding our young people both personally and academically to ensure that they achieve their full potential. Central to an effective careers programme is the ability to inspire and motivate young people to accomplish their ambitions.

Careers Education is a core part of the curriculum at Paignton Academy. All year groups have a programme of work-related learning experiences with core knowledge being delivered in a variety of methods, catering for the needs of all.

LITERACY AND LIBRARIES

Some students have difficulty with reading and accessing the curriculum due to low levels of literacy and reading skills. It is essential that our students read widely and often, with fluency and comprehension appropriate to their age and ability.

Reading together and having an opportunity to focus on literacy and vocabulary will ensure a favourable impact on a student's progress in all subjects.

Our Academy libraries have dedicated staff, Mrs Deane and Mrs Barter, who are able to develop a student's love of reading and advise on suitable texts to aid their academic progress.



THE NEXT BIG STEP MOVING INTO YEAR 7

YEAR 6 / 7 TRANSITION

We believe a smooth transition from primary to secondary school is vitally important. It is exciting for children and marks a major new phase in their lives; our aim is to do our best to ensure the transition for all of our new students is informative, enjoyable and that they feel reassured, happy and confident when they join us in Year 7. During our transition programme we will:

- Visit primary schools with key members of staff to meet the children and answer any questions they may have.
- We will hold one action packed induction day the first Thursday in July to give the students a great insight into secondary school life.
- We run a summer Summer School Transition programme - further details regarding this are below.
- The first day of the Autumn term is only for Year 7 students, to ensure they are settled.

We are always available to answer any questions you may have.



**TIME TO
GET YEAR 7
READY
with
THE BIG STEP
this summer**

THE BIG STEP SUMMER SCHOOL TRANSITION PROGRAMME

Since 2021 we have been working with The Big Step who provide a specialist transition week that is offered to all new Year 7s. The aim is to empower children to arrive at school in September feeling excited, confident and prepared for their new journey ahead. There is a cost involved to attend the programme, however the cost is partly subsidised and over 50% of our students regularly attend.

The programme is delivered by teachers and takes place over one week in August during the summer holidays. In conjunction with The Big Step, we pride ourselves on providing new students with a smooth and extensive programme that means students can arrive on their first day of school excited about the next chapter of their education, rather than feeling apprehensive about the journey ahead of them. Students always make new friends, they become confident finding their way around the academy and also become familiar with the timings of the school day.

The programme is both educational and fun with curiosity central to inspiring students to learn. The timetable is interactive, challenging and has clear outcomes. Activities often include sports such as dodgeball, capture the flag, orienteering and crazy golf, as well as cooking, art, anxiety and bullying workshops, an escape room, a CSI investigation and many other team building activities.

In previous years student and parental feedback has been exceptional. In 2025 100% of students had fun and felt it helped prepare them for September. 96% of students said they would recommend The Big Step to other students.

STUDENTS - THE NUMBERS

100%

of students agreed that the activities were varied and engaging.

100%

of students agreed that they had fun at Summer School

100%

of students agreed that the staff were helpful and supported them.

Big Step Summer
Programme
Student Feedback

92%

of students agreed that the workshops provided will help them in the future.

96%

of students were pleased that their new secondary school had invited them to the Summer School.

100%

of students agreed that Summer School helped them prepare for September.

96%

of students would recommend 'The Big Step' to other students.

DON'T JUST TAKE OUR WORD FOR IT!

What parents had to say about The Big Step programme and the transition process.

"Really pleased with the transition process. The information shared with parents has been excellent..."

"The transition and communication has all been very well organised across all fronts, well done."

"I have been incredibly impressed with the Big Step Programme, it helped calm nerves for him (and I)."

"I personally really appreciate how you communicate with parents, it's clear, concise and relevant."

"The variety of clubs are excellent, the kids and adults have been nice when helping my child find their way around."

Here are some of our Year 7 students' views on Paignton Academy.

"I like learning different subjects that I haven't done before.."

"I have enjoyed making new friends."

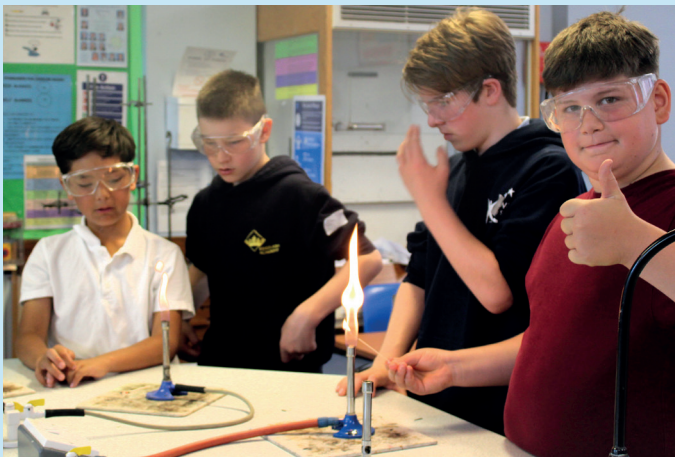
"I love the sport! It's really fun and we are all active."

"I love history, geography and lunch!"

"I feel grown up and independent."

"The teachers are supportive and positive."

YEAR 6 INDUCTION DAY



UNIFORM SWAP SHOP

We are pleased to be able to offer a **UNIFORM SWAP SHOP**

Our Swap shop is intended to help families by providing **free pre-loved uniform items** in exchange for any pre-loved uniform that may no longer fit your child or is no longer needed.

WE WILL ACCEPT

Blazers/ Ties/ Shirts/ Trousers/ Skirts

Shoes/ PE Kits/ Coats

www.paigntoncademy.org

Please can we request
that all items donated are
CLEAN and in a
GOOD CONDITION.



Something you need?

Please do not hesitate to get in touch!

Our Swap Shop is available every **TUESDAY**
from **3.00—4.00pm** during **term time**.

Located at our **Waterleat Road site** via the door near the Library on
Waterleat Road

***PLEASE NOTE: WE WILL ALSO ACCEPT DONATIONS OF UNIFORM ANYTIME
DURING SCHOOL HOURS VIA THE RECEPTION OFFICES ON EITHER SITE.***

SAMPLE NEWSLETTERS



PAIGNTON ACADEMY



Website: www.paigntonacademy.org

Welcome

As we start our summer term, it has been a real pleasure to see the energy, ambition and resilience our students bring to every opportunity on offer.

In this week's newsletter, we are delighted to share the launch of our Summer Term Clubs, offering a wide range of activities for all students to enjoy, try something new and spend time with friends. Engagement beyond the classroom plays a vital role in building confidence and a strong sense of community, and I encourage every student to get involved.

We also celebrate a truly memorable ski trip experience, where our students demonstrated determination, teamwork and courage—both on and off the slopes. Their positive attitude and support for one another made us immensely proud.

Community remains at the heart of Paignton Academy, and we are grateful for the generosity shown through recent donations supporting The Thrive Project, helping to make a meaningful difference locally.

Alongside these highlights, we are pleased to share inspiring learning moments, including our Year 7 moss safari, and to recognise exceptional individual achievements in dance, music and sport. These successes reflect our CARE values of Community, Ambition, Relationships and Excellence.

As always, thank you for your continued support. I hope you enjoy reading about the many ways our students continue to thrive.

Summer Term Clubs Are Here!

We're excited to launch our Summer Term Clubs at Paignton Academy! This term's programme is packed with fantastic opportunities for students to try new activities, build confidence, and enjoy time with friends as the weather brightens.

All students are welcome to get involved—no matter your age or ability—and represent Paignton Academy with pride.

No booking required for after-school clubs
Simply turn up at your chosen club on either site and join in!

Please find below the link to the clubs on our Paignton Academy website:



[Summer Term Clubs Click Here](#)

We can't wait to see lots of students taking part this summer term.



SAMPLE NEWSLETTERS

Ski Trip 2026 — What a Week!

From the moment we arrived, our students threw themselves into the experience with determination and huge smiles. Many began the week learning the basics, but it didn't take long before they were confidently tackling the slopes — showing ambition, resilience, and a real commitment to supporting one another as a community.

As the days went on, their confidence soared. Students braved the gondola for the first time (even those not keen on heights), mastered their turns, and pushed themselves to develop strong parallel skiing. Their progress has been remarkable, strengthened by the positive relationships they built with each other and their instructors.

Evenings brought their own adventures. Snowshoe walks, a very lively snowball fight — where staff were definitely the main targets — and plenty of laughter made each night memorable. A well-earned Italian hot chocolate rounded things off perfectly, and a delicious pizza on the final evening was the ideal way to celebrate a week of outstanding attitude, effort, and teamwork.

We couldn't be prouder of everything they achieved. A fantastic group, fantastic effort, and a fantastic adventure. A truly memorable experience for all.





Please feel free to follow our Facebook and Instagram pages. This will give you an insight into Paignton Academy life and our students' successes.



www.paigntonacademy.org

WATERLEAT ROAD CENTRE

Waterleat Road
Paignton
TQ3 3WA

Tel: 01803 403005

Email: wrdadmin@paigntonacademy.tsat.uk

BOROUGH ROAD CENTRE

Borough Road
Paignton
TQ4 7DH

Tel: 01803 403003

Email: brdadmin@paigntonacademy.tsat.uk