



IMBERHORNE
SCHOOL

Prospectus

2025/2026

Strive
Support
Succeed

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The headteacher and senior leaders lead the school with passion and determination.

OFSTED

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WELCOME

I am delighted to welcome you to Imberhorne School. Our school vision is: At Imberhorne we **strive** to be a **supportive** community that empowers everyone to be successful, open-minded and fulfilled

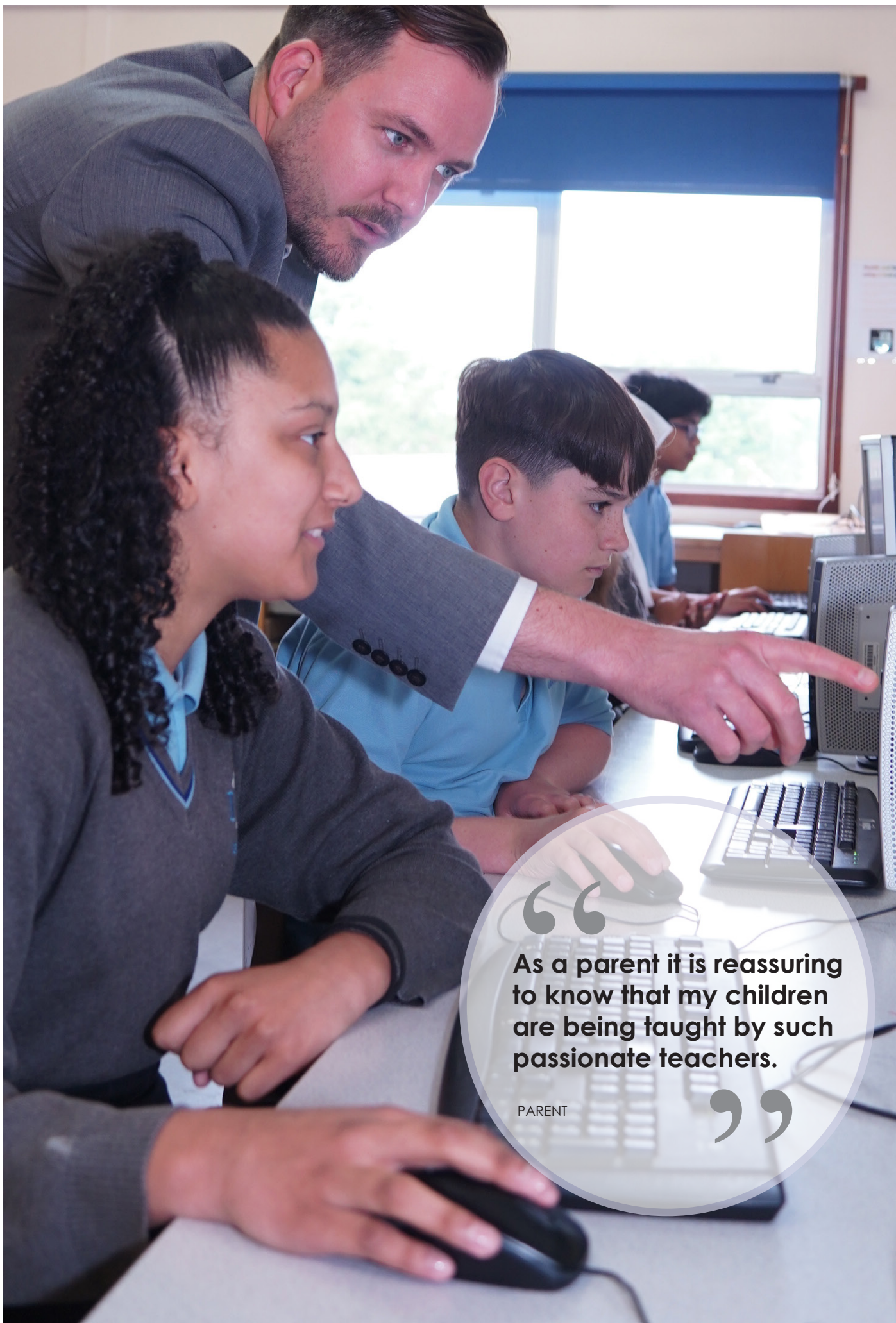
Imberhorne is an inclusive school, with a curriculum that is set up for the high challenge of academic rigour and which values arts, creative, sports and vocational learning. We have an excellent range of extra-curricular activities, which we promote to help students form deep connections.

Our values of Achievement, Ambition, Community, Resilience and Respect guide our culture - we challenge students to build a deep foundation of knowledge and develop their skills as they grow socially, emotionally and academically.

We have high standards and believe in showing unconditional positive regard to everyone in our community. We celebrate all forms of success, whilst challenging everyone to be the best we can be.

Matthew Whatford, Headteacher





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As a parent it is reassuring to know that my children are being taught by such passionate teachers.

PARENT

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HIGH CHALLENGE, ACHIEVEMENT & PERSEVERANCE

Students learn best when they are challenged appropriately and where relationships are formed. We have high expectations and students are taught to control their own learning through questioning, deep thinking, discussion and reflection.

It is important to build resilience so that students persevere and overcome challenges, helping students to understand that any struggles are a normal part of their journey to success. Our core curriculum of English, Mathematics and Science is complemented by a carefully constructed curriculum that stretches students to be the best they can be.

We take pride in our excellent teaching, which takes a scholarly approach and where students are guided to become experts and enthusiasts. Our Key Stage 3 curriculum remains over three years so that we maintain a broad and balanced offer, building deep knowledge and continually practising skills. At Key Stage 4 we offer an extensive range of subjects across Arts, Humanities, Languages and Technology for students to choose from. Careful Careers information, advice and guidance helps students to make informed choices that suit their interests and aspirations. We aim for as many students as possible to remain with us for Sixth Form.



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Teachers' excellent subject knowledge fosters an eagerness to learn across the school. Pupils show highly positive attitudes.

OFSTED

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COMPASSION, GUIDANCE & SUPPORT

Our school is a warm and caring community across two sites. Relationships and connections between all members of our school community are at the heart of what we do. Our pastoral care is excellent; each year group has a Head of Year, non-teaching Pastoral Support Assistant and there are non-teaching Assistant Heads of Year for Key Stage 3 and 4. These key staff oversee student wellbeing, welfare and progress, maintaining high standards and a strong sense of collective identity and community in the year group. The first point of contact for families are Form Tutors, who provide a bridge between home and school, supporting with enquiries about both academic and social issues. Students begin their journey in Year 7 at our Windmill Lane site and will remain there throughout Years 8 and 9. The site is friendly and intimate, welcoming students into the challenge of secondary education with the warmth of a smaller school. For Year 10 onwards, students will transfer to our Imberhorne Lane site, marking their transition into Key Stage 4 and the studying of examined courses.

We are proud of our relationships with local primaries and work closely with them to put in place a carefully planned transition programme that is personalised to support students with the step up to Imberhorne. To ensure that this transition is as smooth as possible, our Pastoral Team visits all primaries to gather information about prospective students, using this to further plan for individuals and the year group as a whole. Our Induction Day takes place in July and gives students the experience of a normal school day, with the opportunity to meet their Form Group and



Form Tutor, attend lessons and make new friends before they start. We also have well-established projects in Literacy, Numeracy and Science which run in partnership with local primary schools, led by staff and students from Imberhorne School. Appropriate support and adjustment is in place across both school sites and is set up depending on individual student needs. Our experienced Support Staff help students in the classroom, with targeted interventions which are in place for a small number of students. Each site has a SEND Hub, which is a quiet and well-resourced space for students with specific needs to learn safely with appropriate support and guidance.

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Imberhorne has a fantastic culture of warmth and inclusion, highly supportive whilst encouraging independence.

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PARENT

RESPECT, PARTICIPATION & PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT

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I was impressed by the range of clubs and activities that were on offer to students.

PARENT

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It is important that classrooms are calm, respectful and disruption-free spaces. All staff are role models, modelling our core values and behaviours that we expect of all members of the school community at all times. We ask them to be warm-strict in order to develop trusting relationships and keep standards high.

We track student engagement and celebrate effort, participation and achievement. If we have concerns about student engagement and attitudes, we will share these with parents and carers, putting in place support to help students to change their approach.

Character development is central in our culture and curriculum. We aim for students to be active citizens who contribute positively to the world when they leave us at 16 or 18. A core part of our mission is to help students to develop their empathy, resilience, communication, collaboration, creativity and critical thinking. Our values of Achievement, Ambition, Community, Resilience and Respect, underpin this focus on character development as we encourage students to engage as much as possible with our range of extra-curricular and leadership opportunities. As a school the breadth of this offer is something that is unique to us as a state school. We have an active Student Council who work closely with senior leaders, seeking to continuously improve student experience in school.

Our links with Minaki School in Tanzania have helped students to develop their understanding of cultures outside of their own experiences, creating memorable and moving exchanges and experiences. We aim for our students to be citizens of the global community.

Imberhorne School values the Arts and they have a high profile in the school. We are proud of the opportunities that students have to sing, dance, perform, act and exhibit across a multitude of activities and events in the school calendar.

Sports have an equally high status and we celebrate the achievements and participation of our students in clubs, events, tournaments and competitions at both a local and national level.

The Duke of Edinburgh Award is well-established and thriving and significant numbers of students participate at Bronze, Silver and Gold levels.





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**The teachers go the
extra mile to help my
children succeed.**

PARENT

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SIXTH FORM

Imberhorne is justly proud of its thriving and successful Sixth Form. Our students are role models across the school and take the lead on many aspects of student life. Key components in the life of the Sixth Form at Imberhorne are:

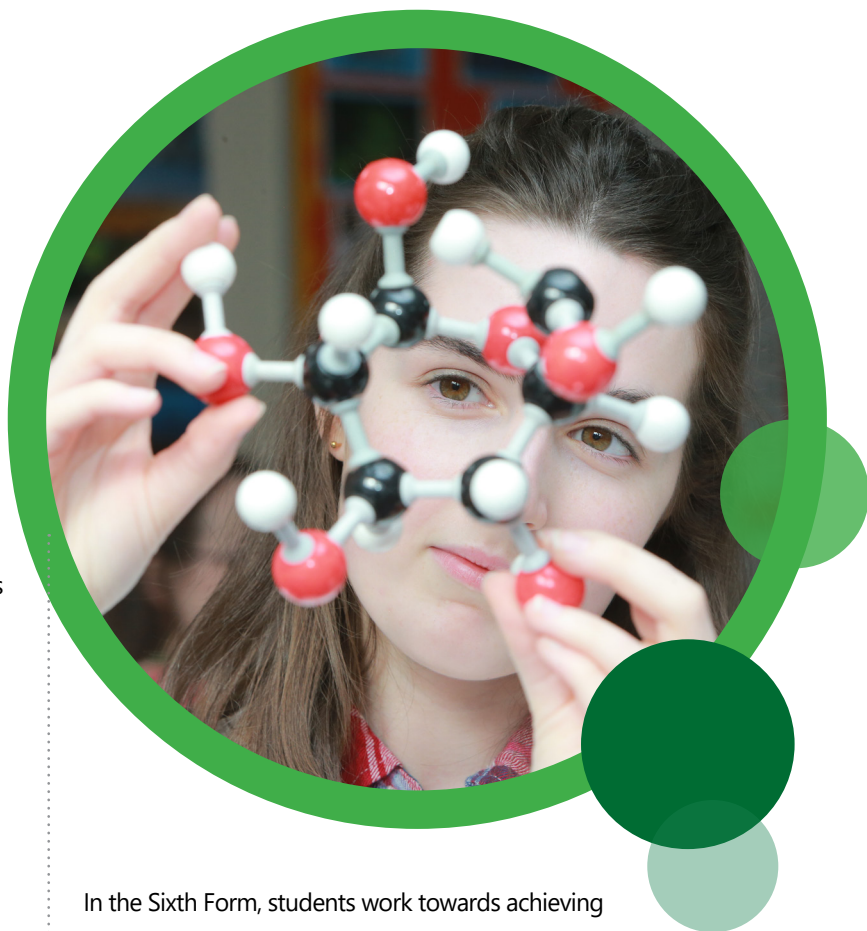
- Excellent academic standards with frequent admissions to Oxford, Cambridge and other Russell Group universities.
- Wide ranging academic and vocational courses.
- Outstanding leadership and development opportunities.
- Unrivalled support and guidance.

Success in the Sixth Form relies on a close partnership between staff, students and parents. We value the relationships that we have and work hard to ensure parents and students feel well-informed and supported. Our Sixth Form is successful, energetic and innovative with students involving themselves in a range of activities, both within the school and the community. We encourage students to take on leadership roles.

This includes opportunities to:

- Mentor students (offering guidance and support to students in Key Stage 3).
- Support our Student Council (leading meetings with younger students).
- Guide the learning of younger students as a Subject Ambassador.

Our weekly Sixth Form enrichment afternoons provide time for students to pursue sporting interests, undertake volunteering activities or engage in various other enrichment opportunities.



In the Sixth Form, students work towards achieving demanding academic targets. We challenge our students to work hard, show independence and to extend their thinking. Staff mentors and our experienced Pastoral Team support students' welfare and wellbeing. We have high standards but also recognise the importance of students feeling happy and fulfilled. Life at Imberhorne provides for both academic and personal development.

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There is a caring, nurturing feel about the school and both of my children are thriving here.

PARENT

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