impington village college

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Inclusive

Inspirational

International

Welcome to Impington Village College

At Impington Village College we provide our students with the knowledge, confidence and inspiration they need to achieve academic excellence and progress to the next stage of their life journey. Our long history as an IB World School allows us to be part of a global community, unified by the mission of creating 'a better world through education, and rooted in the principles of academic rigour and a broad, values-based education.

Our College is ranked among the best comprehensive schools in the country and was crowned the top comprehensive school in East Anglia for the third time in 2024. Student progress at Impington Village College is consistently in the top 5% nationally, and in the first few years of the reformed GCSEs, 20% of students have achieved grade 9, with over 50% achieving at least a grade 7. We are extremely confident that all of our students will leave the College with the academic results that they deserve and are as proud of our students with high levels of SEND, who work towards one or two GCSEs alongside their entry level courses, as those who achieve the very top grades. This academic success continues into our outstanding sixth form, where our students regularly obtain places at the very best universities; typically around 10% of our IB Diploma Programme (DP) cohort obtain Oxbridge places, with over one third achieving 40+ points, the equivalent of 4 A*s at A Level. It is not surprising that 10% of our IB Diploma Programme (DP) cohort obtained Oxbridge places and nearly half of our students were offered places at Russell Group universities.



As an IB World School, academic achievement isn't our only focus; we are also committed to guiding and supporting students into becoming well-rounded young people, and we are fiercely proud of the fully inclusive community of learning we have built, where individuality is recognised and celebrated. We promote the IB learner profile attributes of being caring, principled and reflective through our outstanding pastoral care and the development of personal wellbeing in our students. High levels of support are offered to all, and we were extremely proud to be awarded the Gold Carnegie Medal for Mental Health for a second time in 2022, having been one of the first schools in the country to earn it.

As part of our commitment to offering a truly international education, we launched the IB Middle Years Programme (MYP) as our new KS3 curriculum in September 2021. We have spent the last three years completely redesigning our curricula and assessments to provide our students with a unique academic experience though the MYP. We are the only state school in the UK for students aged 11 - 18 to offer the MYP, the DP and Career-related Programme (CP) as a continuum, providing our students with a holistic, broad and balanced curriculum all the way through to 18.

We are truly international in our outlook, promoting international-mindedness in all our curricula. We offer five language choices at GCSE and more for sixth form students, and our student cohort speaks an amazing variety of over 30 languages! Since the easing of COVID-19 restrictions we have also benefited from a large Turing Scheme grant, which last year allowed us to take over 800 students on fully funded overseas trips, as far afield as Botswana, India and Peru. We have also run annual exchange programmes in a variety of languages for over 20 years and run very regular sports tours and ski trips. The MYP and DP are rooted in Global Contexts that ensure students develop the ability to understand that, for every topic, a multitude of different perspectives exist.

We are resolute in our commitment to ensuring that our students achieve their best academically, but that they are able to enjoy the very best experiences inside and outside of the classroom and to thrive as individuals. I look forward to welcoming you to the College so that you can see first-hand what a unique place Impington is.

Jo Sale
Principal, Impington Village College

"Pupils thrive here. The school promotes a broad range of attributes alongside academic success. There is a strong sense of community. The school believes that 'anything is possible' and the academic and pastoral support pupils receive from adults is of exceptional quality."

Ofsted 2025



Our ethos

Our vision

Impington Village College is an outstanding and innovative learning community that is truly inclusive, inspirational and international. We support our students in becoming globally-minded, critical thinking and caring individuals, who are ready for the world post-education.



The wellbeing of our students is one of the core priorities at Impington Village College. We have created a positive environment where all can feel safe, secure and looked after. Each student is treated as an individual and is offered both respect and guidance if they approach a member of staff about an issue or problem they are facing. We are hugely proud to hold a number of accolades to highlight our commitment to and focus on wellbeing which includes the Gold Carnegie Medal for Mental Health.

Our House system also reflects the College's vision of an inclusive, inspirational and international environment. We have four Houses, each with students from all main College year groups. Houses are led by Heads of Houses in lower and upper school, who provide support and guidance for students, and are readily available to speak with parents/ carers about any concerns or questions.





Our mission

Inclusive: a welcoming place that celebrates difference and diversity

Inspirational: providing a unique experience and a world-class education for all

International: promoting positive values to secure a better future for our students as both local and global citizens

We are proud to have been an **IB World School** since 1991 and, because of this status, we focus on creating a balance between academic excellence and a well-rounded, values-driven education. As a College, we uphold the values of an IB education by:

- valuing inquiry and reflection, encouraging our students to be open minded in their learning;
- being principled and encouraging a caring attitude;
- promoting high quality communication and discussions within our community;
- encouraging international-mindedness and building respectful relationships.

Throughout their time with us, students develop the 10 attributes of the IB learner profile, which ensures that they go beyond academic success.

The learner profile implies a commitment to help all members of the College community learn to respect themselves, others and the world around them. Through our broad and unique curriculum, extra-curricular activities and excellent pastoral care, we help students to develop the following attributes:

- Inquirers
- Knowledgeable
- Thinkers
- Communicators
- Principled
- Open-minded
- Caring
- Risk-takers
- Balanced
- Reflective

Inspirational

Inclusive



International

Our academic approach

The high-quality educational provision at Impington Village College supports inclusion, independence and meaningful progression for all students. Every student has access to a full range of appropriate assessment and accreditation opportunities, taking into account their individual needs. Our diverse and balanced IB continuum curriculum offers a broad range of opportunities and ensures that our students have access to the Arts, Sport, Languages and Humanities throughout their time with us. At Key Stage 3, starting in Year 7 our students begin their IB journey with the Middle Years programme, which gives them the breadth of experience and the essential Approaches to Learning skills they need to transition into Key Stage 4 and the GCSE programme. At the same time as attaining the best possible GCSE outcomes for our students, we also retain many of the aspects of an IB education that makes our provision outstanding. In the sixth form our students have the choice to follow the world renowned DP or the innovative CP, both of which equip our students admirably for the final stage of their education at university.



Across all key stages, a student's progress is closely monitored, which means that parents receive regular reports and teachers can intervene when students fall short of their aspirational targets. We also involve students in tracking their own progress against the IB learner profile in their iCAS portfolios.

This gives students the opportunity to take ownership of their learning and reflect on how they are developing.

Students who may have additional needs receive outstanding support at the College, with specialist provision in place. Students learn and interact in a caring, happy, safe and secure environment, to allow them to flourish.

We are proud of the achievements of all of our students, from those who achieve grade 9s or a perfect score of 45 points in the DP, to students who have followed entry level courses alongside one or two GCSEs. Regardless of a student's starting point, we will ensure that they are guided to achieve the best possible grades and to enjoy a full and enriching curriculum.

In the last six years, our students' GCSE results have consistently placed the College in the top 5% of non-selective schools nationally. This means that over the last five years our students have achieved, on average, more than two thirds of a grade above national expectations in every one of their subjects, which has led to us being ranked among the top comprehensive schools in the UK in the Sunday Times School Guide for several years running.



The MYP in Years 7-9

The MYP is a curriculum framework developed by the IB, the same organisation that has developed the DP and the CP. Through the MYP at Impington Village College, we encourage all our Key Stage Three students to pursue personal excellence by being inquiring, principled and reflective learners.



Key Concepts and Global Contexts

Each student's learning will be centred on the understanding of Key Concepts in Global Contexts. The work they do in each lesson is organised into units framed by an inquiry. The aim is to make their learning engaging and help them see connections between what they learn in class and life outside school. The Key Concepts help students to develop knowledge and understanding within and across different subjects.
For example, the concept of 'change' in history will help students to understand how some individuals have changed the world, while in Science they focus on 'change' in the natural world. The Global Contexts, such as Fairness and Development, helps students to make connections between their own experience and the wider world and become more internationally minded. Each year students work on an interdisciplinary unit (IDU) that includes two or more subjects to make explicit connections between concepts and learning in different subjects.



Approaches to Learning

Approaches to Learning (ATL) are deliberate strategies, skills and attitudes that permeate the IB teaching and learning environment. ATL skills supports the IB belief that a large influence on a student's education is not only what you learn but also how you learn. ATLs consist of five categories of interrelated skills and associated sub-skills that support students of all ages to become self-regulated learners. Teachers plan for implicit and explicit opportunities using a variety of strategies to develop ATL during each unit of inquiry.

Service as Action

At Impington Village College we not only want our students to do well academically, we also want them to become responsible and caring young adults. As an IB World School, we embrace the mission statement of the IB, which strives to develop caring young people who help to create a better and more peaceful world through intercultural understanding and respect. To support the achievement of this aim we facilitate all of our students to participate in Service Learning through our iCAS programme, as well as in several other opportunities embedded in our curriculum.

More key information can be found in the MYP parent handbook on our website.

Co-curricular Opportunities

The success of our co-curriculum is demonstrated through more than just student outcomes; it has been designed to ensure our students are prepared for life beyond the College.

Our unique enrichment programme, Impington Creativity, Activity and Service (iCAS), supports students' personal development and wellbeing and offers them the chance to engage in a range of experiences, such as fencing, pottery, Russian and debating. The programme also provides an opportunity for students to learn for pleasure, rather than just for examinations, and each week over 10% of our students go out to take part in Service as Action in the community as part of their learning.

Students are encouraged to participate in our Student Union and many other extra-curricular activities to further take control of their learning; this includes a very wide range of overseas trips, to destinations within Europe and as far afield as Japan, Botswana, India, Peru and Ethiopia.

Students have the opportunity to take part in all three levels of the Duke of Edinburgh's Award (Bronze, Silver and Gold), which has been facilitated at the College for over 20 years. Through the scheme, participants complete volunteering, skills, physical and expedition sections. Students that undertake the Duke of Edinburgh's Award find that they develop confidence in areas that they may have never experienced before.

They also have the opportunity to develop their creative side through our Artsmark Gold Award accreditation. Through the accreditation, we support our students and build their confidence, character and resilience with arts and cultural education. We use the framework to embed creativity across our whole curriculum.

We are excited to also offer students opportunities in partnership with World Challenge, which gives students the opportunity to undertake transformative travel experiences around the world.

Students who are passionate about reading also have access to our wonderful library, which is a busy, lively environment filled with great books and people who are enthusiastic about reading them and recommending them to others.





Key information

We welcome applications from all students in our community and strive to provide the highest standard of education appropriate to each student's age, interests and abilities. Surrounded by large, grassy fields, ideal for whole-College events, our site sits in the beautiful village of Impington, located in close proximity to the cosmopolitan city of Cambridge.

At Impington Village College, we expect all of our students to aspire to be the best they can be, to be global citizens, to be caring and well-rounded individuals. We are confident that their time spent at the College will prepare them for the next steps in their life journey.

Uniform

A high standard of personal appearance is expected of all students at all times. Uniform is purchased through Orchard Clothing online and can be delivered to the College for collection. Our Parents, Staff and Friends Association also runs a second-hand College uniform stall, which is open at all parent events. All money raised through second-hand purchases goes to support the College.

Polo shirts	Sky blue Impington Village College polo shirt with logo in the House colour of the student
Sweatshirt	Blue jumper The College sweatshirt must bear the College logo in the House colour of the student
Trousers and skirts	Black trousers can be worn and this includes jeans, joggers or leggings. Skirts should be free moving and not tight against the legs. Pupils are welcome to wear tailored shorts or their PE shorts in warmer weather, or the IVC Skort
Shoes	Black shoes should be worn, which may include trainers or plimsolls. These should have no prominent logos or additional colours



Facilities

We are exceptionally lucky at Impington Village College to have such a beautiful site, with many buildings that provide excellent facilities for learning, including a well-stocked library, and vast open spaces.

Students have access to a number of technology studios, art spaces including a photography studio and media suite, laboratories, dance and drama studios, recital rooms and a music studio. We also have a fully-equipped Sports Centre with a gym and swimming pool for use by the students and the wider community.

Transport

Many students travel to the College on foot or by bicycle; there are secure bike racks across the site for student use. There is a regular bus timetable into Cambridge city centre and other surrounding villages such as Girton, Oakington, Dry Drayton and Milton.

School lunches

Students are lucky to be able to enjoy excellent dining facilities in College, and menus that our own students have been involved in designing. We offer a breakfast service from 8am each morning, perfect for enrichment activities during Period 0, and have a range of options available for both break and lunch.

Get in touch

Please visit our website to find more information, or get in touch if you have any questions.

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Visit our website



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