

ASPIRE & ACHIEVE



PRINCIPAL'S WELCOME



I have the great privilege of being the Principal of Torquay Academy. It is a happy and exciting school for boys and girls aged 11-18. My vision, for every member of the school community, is clear: "Everyone Succeeds".

Torquay Academy educates young people who have high aspirations and the desire to achieve in a co-educational setting. We meet the needs of all of our students in a supportive environment by challenging and encouraging them to become the best they can be. This enables students to move on to their next steps in life as confident, enterprising and happy individuals

The prospectus can only offer you a glimpse of this wonderful school. I invite you to visit us and discover the unique benefits of a Torquay Academy education. Details of our open days can be found on the website where you can also read my weekly blog to discover more about the many events and activities that have taken place at Torquay Academy over the previous seven days.

If you wish to make an appointment to meet with me please contact my PA; I am available on Thursday afternoons between 4.00pm and 5.30pm.

Steve Margetts BA PgDip FRSA
Principal

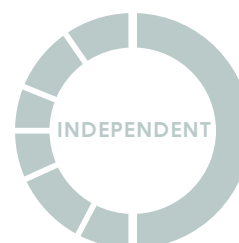
THE TORQUAY ACADEMY VALUES DRIVE OUR STUDENT EXPERIENCES



- I am inquiring, determined and motivated
- I can make positive contributions
- I will take ownership of my learning



- I am open to new challenges and experiences whilst being creative and innovative
- I can solve problems and seek solutions
- I will not give up when faced with challenges



- I am able to learn independently
- I can evaluate the reliability of sources and select the best information
- I will ask questions to deepen my understanding



- I am confident in my ability to succeed
- I can admit when I am wrong and learn from my mistakes
- I will take responsibility for my actions



- I am a role model in all that I do
- I can have an impact on my local community and wider world through my actions
- I will lead with positive values and act with integrity and honesty



- I am able to discuss, debate and learn with others.
- I can be an active contributor who is able to work effectively with a team
- I will respect the views and opinions of others

Heart of Torquay

Supportive relationship with parents and students

COMMUNITY AND PARENTS

Real world problems

Literacy and numeracy

Charity work

Technology facilitates communication between home & school

Parent council

Limitless aspirations

to aspire and to achieve

our motto

CULTURE

Marginal gains

As good as it can be

No to avoidance and disengagement

Resilience

Enrichment week

Mentors from local business

PASTORAL SUPPORT AND PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT

Work closely with feeder schools

High level of care and support for students

House system

School displays show achievement

Mutual respect

Students make the right choices about behaviour

VISION 2020

TORQUAY ACADEMY



PEDAGOGY AND CURRICULUM

Gifted and talented

New technology & 1 to 1 devices

Stretch and challenge

Vocational



LEARNERS

Leadership

Confidence with humility

Independence

Love of learning

Enterprising

Team player

sense of PURPOSE

LEADERSHIP

Visibility

Lead by example

Consistency not uniformity

Trustees and governors understand needs of the school

School council

Adapts as curriculum changes

Facilitates leadership and communication

Treats every penny with great care

Resources for home study and revision

FINANCE AND IT PLATFORMS

STRATEGY

Innovative

Forward thinking

Close partnerships with Torquay Boys' Grammar School and feeder primary partners

Regular reporting to parents

Understanding of prior achievements

DATA AND RE



OUR VISION

We have produced a very clear plan for the future of Torquay Academy; central to this is our Vision 2020 document. This sets out and describes the school in the year 2020 in a number of key areas.

This is a bold statement about where our school will be in the future. Rather than looking to make small incremental changes based upon what we did last year, everyone at Torquay Academy is working relentlessly in order to achieve the aspirational vision that we have set out and shared.

“ The recently-appointed principal and his senior leadership team are highly effective and have made a very good start on bringing about improvements. They share with trustees and governors a clear vision of future success in which high achievement and good teaching can flourish. ”

Ofsted 2014



12

areas of focus in our Vision 2020 document



100%

commitment from all staff to ensure we achieve our vision



1

your child's progress is the most important thing to you and us



A young woman with curly hair, wearing a school uniform consisting of a white shirt, a striped tie, and a grey blazer, is looking down at a book she is holding. The book has a red cover with the word 'Argument' visible. She is wearing a small gold hoop earring and a ring on her finger. The background is blurred, showing green foliage.

LIFE AS A STUDENT

Our students take great pride in wearing their smart uniform and being part of our caring community.

Boys and girls settle in very quickly and make lots of friends as we spend a great deal of time ensuring the transition from primary school to Torquay Academy is as smooth as possible. Year 5 students have the opportunity to spend a day with us to gain an insight into secondary school life.

Once a place has been secured at Torquay Academy we invite boys and girls into school for another day during the summer term and to our highly successful summer school. This is a free week of activities and learning where boys and girls will get the opportunity to meet their future classmates and get used to their new surroundings.

When the Year 7s arrive they have their own area of their school that other year groups cannot access; this zone contains eight classrooms, breakout spaces and their own playground. Ensuring that the move to secondary school isn't daunting enables our students to find friendship groups, feel secure and focus upon their studies.

We have a large team who are dedicated to the care and well-being of our children. We support students in planning for their next steps through high quality careers advice and work experience.

“ My daughter, who is naturally quite shy and nervous, has made a wonderful start at Torquay Academy. She had already made lots of friends on the transition day and during the summer school so on her first day she was looking forward to seeing them again. She has already joined the choir and netball club as well as going to Rise and Read in the mornings. ”

Mum of a Year 7 student



THE CURRICULUM

We offer a broad and balanced curriculum delivered by skilled, subject specialists.

We place a great focus upon English and Maths as getting the basics right is the fundamental key to success.

At GCSE our emphasis remains upon those core subjects and studying the individual sciences. Students are also able to select options from a wide range of academic and vocational subjects. This ensures they are able to take advantage of the breadth of the curriculum we offer whilst retaining the academic rigour of the core GCSE subjects.

Our 6th Form has enviable facilities and we offer a wide range of courses, at both Torquay Academy and Torquay Boys' Grammar School. These support students in achieving their goals for life after school, whether this is Higher or Further Education, training or employment.

“ Our Learning Café and inspirational library are open and staffed before and after school to support the learning of our students. ”

Learning takes place in school beyond the timetabled lessons. Year 7 students are encouraged to join our Rise and Read club where they read in groups for 30 minutes before school to improve literacy and help engender a love of reading. Our Learning Café and inspirational library are open and staffed before and after school to support the learning of our students.

We set our students based upon their academic ability. This is done to ensure that students can be taught at an appropriate pace with an appropriate level of challenge and support.

THE CURRICULUM IN NUMBERS



100%

Percentage of students who leave TA to go onto Higher or Further Education, training or employment



20

Number of courses offered to students at GCSE level



1000+

iPads, netbooks and computers used to support learning





BEYOND THE CURRICULUM

The school's extra-curricular life provides our students with a wide range of opportunities that extend beyond the classroom. Torquay Academy has numerous clubs and societies that cater for a wide range of interests and ages.

During any particular lunchtime you will find students in the drama studio rehearsing for our next musical, a band practising for a concert, boys and girls caring for animals on our small-animals farm, a creative writing club meeting or a team planning their route for the Ten Tors Challenge.

Whilst it is often the national success of the school's football teams that grab the local headlines, we have a wide range of competitive sports on offer at Torquay Academy including netball, dance, athletics, rugby, cricket, rounders, basketball and even bowls. Our commitment to healthy lifestyles mean that we encourage sport for all as well as coaching the sporting elite.

We encourage all students to take part in extra-curricular clubs as they enhance their educational experience.

“ I love being at TA! I have done so much since I joined the school. Playing rounders, learning the guitar and taking part in the Duke of Edinburgh award are just some of the things that I did here during the past 12 months. This year I am sticking to these activities as I will be staying after school for extra lessons every day that are run by my teachers. I am focusing on my GCSE results and planning for what I want to do in our 6th form and at university. ”

Year 11 student



OUR ENVIRONMENT

Torquay Academy is housed in the most inspiring of buildings set in a beautiful 20 acre greenfield campus. No expense was spared when our innovative academy was constructed and this enables our students to benefit from what are, quite simply, the best facilities a school could hope for.

We have many traditional classrooms, but they are inter-spaced with a wide range of exciting and state-of-the-art learning areas. We have a magnificent drama studio that is in the heart of our outstanding Creative Arts learning area. Design and Technology features a wide range of rooms that mix the latest technology with more traditional tools and two fully equipped food technology rooms. Our vocational studies are taught in an industry standard garage and construction space. Our science rooms allow our specialist chemists, physicists and biologists to deliver exciting and curriculum enhancing practical lessons.

A 3G astroturf, sports hall, fully equipped fitness gym, four tennis/netball courts and flat grass pitches enable Torquay Academy to boast world class sporting facilities that match any establishment in the country.

THE ACADEMY ENVIRONMENT FACTS AND FIGURES



100%

wifi coverage on the TA campus



20

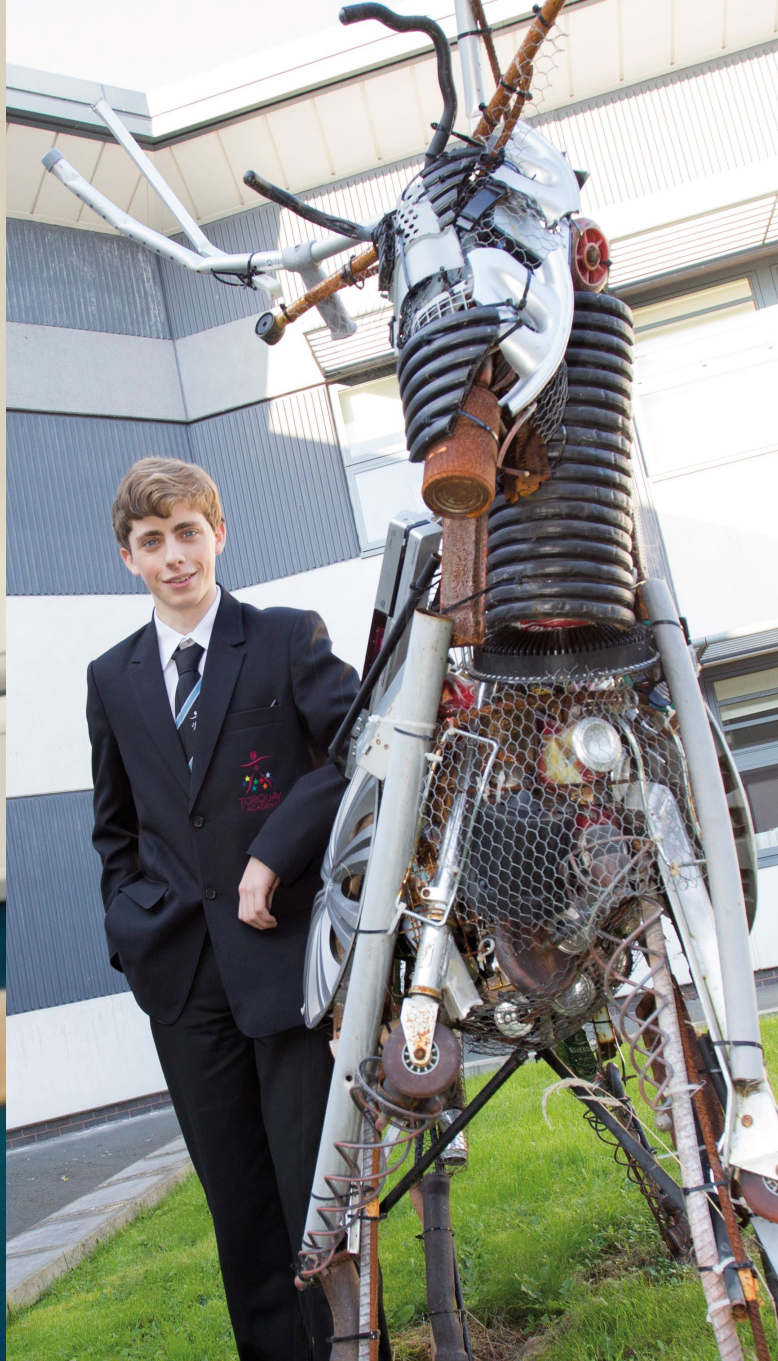
acre greenfield campus



3G

astroturf that forms part of our world class sporting facilities







IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO FIND OUT MORE ABOUT
TORQUAY ACADEMY OR TO ARRANGE A TOUR,
PLEASE GET IN TOUCH.

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