



Ipswich High School



A CLEAR VISION FOR THE FUTURE

A WARM WELCOME

Being a teacher is a genuine privilege. It provides the opportunity to play an important role in the life of a changing, growing child.

It is because of that journey of growth for every individual, that it is so important for teachers to evolve our understanding of best practice; that we continue to learn, assess and challenge all that is being said and done in the world of education today.

With this in mind, and with the benefit of being able to embrace the past experiences of working with the GDST and the history of the site as a boys school (Woolverstone Hall School), I am very pleased to share with you the initial detail of a different, and trusted, educational approach we are set to embrace in the years ahead.

This approach is to be the Diamond Model of education.

Given the varied ways in which girls and boys develop and learn, I am confident that the Diamond Model of teaching is an ideal one for the future of Ipswich High School.

The teaching and support team here are all incredibly proud of the exceptional, bespoke, educational offer which we have become known for, and we are looking forward to extending this offer to include boys.

We welcome the investment in facilities, alongside the training and support that Ipswich Education will be able to provide as we move towards becoming a Diamond Model School by September 2023. This will only enhance the already first class learning experience we deliver, alongside the highest level of pastoral care for our pupils.

Our current teaching staff will of course benefit from the very latest training and knowledge sharing as this journey unfolds.

New teaching staff, chosen for their passion as well as their aptitude, will be appointed to bring the level of expertise required to support the growth and development of boys and girls throughout the school.

I hope the rest of this document gives you a really helpful insight into the Diamond Model, how it works and how well suited it is for Ipswich High School.

It is my genuine belief that this exceptional system provides the 'best of both worlds' in terms of pastoral and academic support for girls and boys at all stages of their development.

As always, I thank you for your continued support.

Warmest wishes,



Oona Carlin



IPSWICH HIGH SCHOOL AIMS TO:

- Recognise and value the individuality of each pupil and student
- Provide opportunities for each individual to develop their potential within a supportive, happy community
- Promote an enthusiasm for learning which will last throughout life
- Foster a sense of responsibility for others and respect for their needs and values
- Encourage self-confidence, integrity and self-discipline
- Provide a broad, balanced curriculum and a wide range of extra-curricular activities which promote the academic, moral, aesthetic, physical and social development of every pupil

PUPIL VALUES

We instil five core values in our pupils and students, which underpin everything we do.

They are inspirational, respectful, courageous, ambitious and have integrity.

Ipswich High School exists to provide an excellent all-round education for pupils and students aged 3 – 18, giving them the skills, knowledge and understanding which will help them to become capable, confident and caring members of society.

DIAMOND MODEL EXPLAINED

“The best of both worlds”

The Diamond Model is a truly ‘best of both worlds’ scenario, which has become increasingly favoured by schools with similar backgrounds to our own.

It is seen as an approach which not only gets the very best from pupils, but also from teaching staff, as they are able to tailor their professional techniques for girls and boys.

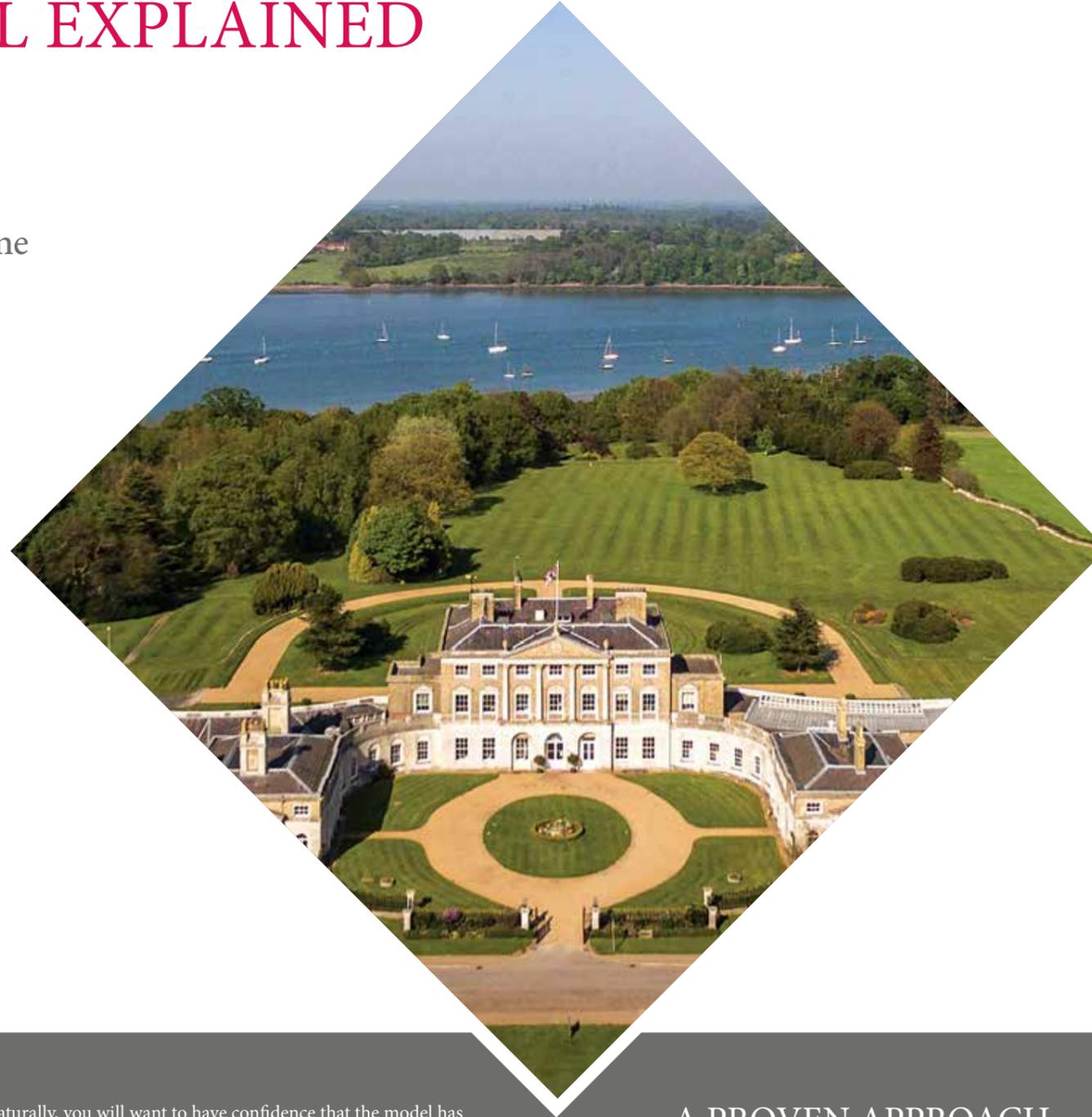
The model offers the benefits of the single-sex classroom for ‘pre-teen and lower-teen’ students, whilst gaining from the social benefits of a co-educational school.

The Diamond scenario recognises that, as girls and boys reach their teenage years, they approach their learning in different ways.

Boys, for example, are more spatially aware, and girls have well-developed verbal skills. It is right, therefore, that as a modern educational institution, keen to deliver the best possible methods of teaching for our young students, we should take this into account and shape our approach with this in mind.

Alongside the ability to tailor teaching, the Diamond Model also allows pastoral care to be focused on the gender-specific needs of the pupils. This system encourages pupils to develop positive and respectful relationships with the opposite sex.

The diagram on the right indicates how we would intend to set out our Diamond Model in the coming years:



The Diamond Model at Ipswich High School

Sixth Form:
Fully co-educational



Years 9-11:
Separate teaching for English, Mathematics, Science and Sport



Years 7-8:
Separate teaching for English, Mathematics, Science, Sport, DT, Food, Performing Arts
Drama, Dance, Music



Years 5-6:
Separate teaching for English, Mathematics, Science and Sport



WPP – Year 4:
Fully co-educational



Naturally, you will want to have confidence that the model has worked well elsewhere, and is a trusted approach.

Examples of other schools currently offering the Diamond Model of teaching, include: The Stephen Perse Foundation, New Hall School, Leeds Grammar School, Clifton High School, The Forest School London – and indeed, many others too.

Please feel free to take a look at these institutions to gain an insight into how they have made the successful transition.

A PROVEN APPROACH

Examination data collected by the Independent Schools Council (ISC) in August 2016 evidences the positive academic benefits for employing the Diamond Model of teaching in co-educational independent schools at GCSE.

For GCSE, for both girls and boys, a higher percentage of pupils gained five or more A* to C grades (Girls- 96.4%

(89.7%) and Boys- 97.8% (87.6%)) compared to counterparts in fully co-educational schools (comparison figures in brackets).

The ISC results at A level indicate that there is no difference in the results for percentage of pupils achieving A*-C grades, regardless of which co-ed teaching model is followed.

TIMELINE FOR THE DIAMOND MODEL APPROACH

We are very proud of our educational heritage. We know that, for many years, our school has been chosen by parents and pupils, on the strength of our first class academic approach, as well as for our pastoral care and compassionate delivery.

This will continue to be the case and will remain at the core of who and what we are, even though our journey is now taking a new direction.

We will be phasing in the Diamond Model over a number of years to ensure that the school and staff are fully prepared for this exciting journey.

The table below confirms our intention to introduce the Diamond format, so as to adjust our teaching and holistic offer sensitively at Ipswich High School.

It will allow us to enhance training of existing staff, add new talent to our teaching pool, and to make appropriate investments in infrastructure – all while maintaining cohesion and continuity with our school values and aspirations.

Academic Year	Woodland Pre-Prep Junior School	Senior School	Sixth Form
2017 – 2018	Girls only	Girls only	Girls only
2018 – 2019	WPP – Yr 4 Co-ed Yrs 5 & 6 Co-ed Diamond	Girls only	Yr 12 Co-ed Yr 13 Girls only
2019 – 2020	WPP – Yr 4 Co-ed Yrs 5 & 6 Co-ed Diamond	Yr 7 Co-ed Diamond Yrs 8 to 11 Girls only	Fully Co-ed
2020 – 2021	WPP – Yr 4 Co-ed Yrs 5 & 6 Co-ed Diamond	Yrs 7 & 8 Co-ed Diamond Yrs 9 to 11 Girls only	Fully Co-ed
2021 – 2022	WPP – Yr 4 Co-ed Yrs 5 & 6 Co-ed Diamond	Yrs 7 to 9 Co-ed Diamond Yrs 10 & 11 Girls only	Fully Co-ed
2022 – 2023	WPP – Yr 4 Co-ed Yrs 5 & 6 Co-ed Diamond	Yrs 7 to 10 Co-ed Diamond Yr 11 Girls only	Fully Co-ed
2023 – 2024	WPP – Yr 4 Co-ed Yrs 5 & 6 Co-ed Diamond	Fully Co-ed Diamond	Fully Co-ed

GOVERNANCE & GUARDIANSHIP

ABOUT IPSWICH EDUCATION:

Ipswich Education Limited has been established to own and operate Ipswich High School. The current directors are Paul Newton and Sijia Wang; further appointments to bring in specific educational expertise will be made shortly. It is a consortium made up of London & Oxford Group and its strategic partners.

London & Oxford is a City of London based financial group, founded in 1993 by a group of Swiss corporation bankers. It is backed by China Wanda Group, which was founded in 1988 and whose assets total around £6 billion. British education is one of London & Oxford's main areas of focus. It has invested in London School of Business and Commerce, and acquired Bedstone College in Shropshire earlier this year.

Ipswich Education is very much looking forward to working with Ms Oona Carlin and the senior leadership team on the future strategy for Ipswich High School.



John Pickering
CHAIR OF GOVERNORS

A WORD FROM OUR CHAIR OF GOVERNORS:

It is now two full school years since I took over as Chair of Ipswich High School's Governing Board, which I regard as a privilege.

Today, as the School prepares for a new chapter under changed ownership, I feel that responsibility as strongly as ever – as I lead the board forward.

I am myself a parent of three former pupils. This means that I have first hand empathy and understanding as to what it signifies, both to children and to parents, to be connected to the School, its heritage, and its undeniable culture of care and excellence.

Having spent time reviewing the vision of Ipswich Education, I am confident about our collaboration and the stability and scope it brings to the School.

I am equally pleased to see that a great deal of thought and effort is going in to ensuring any changes are made sensitively; and also that this new chapter will retain the undeniable asset of the same leadership team and core teaching resource.

My fellow governors and I are looking forward to supporting Ms Oona Carlin, and her exceptional team, in this modern, focused, and expertly directed journey, as it unfolds.



Ipswich High School

Woolverstone, Suffolk IP9 1AZ

Tel: 01473 780201

www.ipswichhighschool.co.uk