

**A FOUNDATION
FOR LIFE...**



Princethorpe College

An independent school for 11-18 year olds

A Princethorpe Foundation School

**Prospectus
Information booklet
2024/2025**

ISI Inspection
Excellent in every area!

Pupils' academic and other achievements Excellent ✓
Pupils' personal development Excellent ✓

Welcome

I firmly believe that school is where every child must feel genuinely cared for, be encouraged and challenged to develop into the best version of themselves and belong to a community that values them for who they are. Society needs strong, independent, caring young people who want to make a difference. At Princethorpe College we guide our pupils on this journey, while having a lot of fun along the way.

Our academic results speak for themselves and show we get the very best from every pupil. This is underpinned by excellent pastoral care and co-curricular opportunities that cater for all passions and talents. We are an energetic, friendly community with a fantastic location in the Warwickshire countryside, drawing pupils from all around.

At Princethorpe College, we follow two simple rules: be kind and try your very best. We place great emphasis on our values and our pupils are at the centre of all we do. Please do come and visit to learn more about the Princethorpe family and what we are about.



Grove du Toit
Headmaster

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Princethorpe College

The Princethorpe Foundation

The Princethorpe Foundation welcomes children of all denominations and provides co-educational, independent day schooling with a strong Christian ethos. We support and nurture children from age two to eighteen years, through Little Crackers Nursery, Crackley Hall School, Crescent School and Princethorpe College.

Ethos

Our schools pride themselves on providing a caring, stimulating environment in which children's individual needs can be met and their talents, confidence and self-esteem developed. We aim to encourage a lifelong love of learning, an understanding of moral values and to put young people on the road to happy and fulfilled lives.

College Aims

- To provide a first-class, rounded education for all its pupils.
- To ensure that a strong Catholic ethos – underpinned by the values of our founders, the Missionaries of the Sacred Heart – permeates the school. This ethos, referred to as our “spirit of family” must be inclusive of all members of our community and celebrate our diversity. It should nurture personal spirituality, moral development and self-respect based on Gospel values, love of God and love of one's neighbour. Respect for others and the environment, generosity, compassionate relationships, forgiveness, kindness, loyalty and a desire to ‘do the right thing’ are key indicators of this living ethos, as are good manners, courtesy and an appreciation of the joy of life.
- To prepare each pupil to be a positive and active member of our diverse society, being generous of spirit in serving others. We aim to forge strong links and maintain excellent relations within our own community and in the local and wider communities.
- To offer a broad curriculum which is challenging, exciting and meets the needs and passions of our pupils. It must be balanced, have academic integrity, cater for a variety of educational needs, and foster genuine passions and a lifelong love of learning.
- To have the highest standards of teaching and learning. We want pupils to be active learners and take responsibility for their learning; we want them to have independent learning skills, be resilient and have academic stamina and rigour. We want pupils to achieve the best possible examination results – but focus on these must not stifle creativity, fun, independence, breadth and depth of learning.
- To ensure the highest quality of pastoral care so that all members of the College Community receive the necessary support, encouragement, and motivation to grow and develop above and beyond their own expectations. We aim to set ourselves the highest possible standards and view the giving of encouragement, affirmation and praise as essential to the ethos of the College.
- To offer a first-class comprehensive co-curricular programme that encourages and enthuses the whole range of ability and interest levels from outstanding performers to reluctant beginners.
- To provide the necessary channels for good communications within our community so that all have a voice which can be heard, and all are kept informed of relevant news, events, and developments.
- To provide the necessary planning, structure and resources to meet the above goals. We must also ensure that we care for our resources and use them well. We aim to promote Foundation-wide thinking so that planning, ideas and resources are shared across the schools to best effect.
- To provide the financial security and stability to deliver the above goals and assure the future of the College and Foundation.



Use the QR code here to read the latest ISI report.





Admissions Process for entry in September 2025

Years 7 to 10

Children who want to come to Princethorpe sit an entrance examination usually in the November of the year before they are due to start in September. The majority of children join us in Year 7, but children are welcome to join in other year groups as space allows.

Entrance Examinations Day for September 2025 entry will take place on **Saturday 9 November 2024** from 9.00am to 4.00pm. The deadline for registrations, scholarship and bursary applications is **Friday 27 September 2024**, to facilitate the seeking of confidential references from the candidate's current school. The results of the Entrance Exams will be published on **Thursday 28 November 2024**, when the decision is also shared with the candidate's current school.



Competition for places is high, as are standards, but the school also looks for young people who will contribute to the wider life of the school. In recent years we have been considerably oversubscribed.

Use the QR code to see our **Admissions and Entrance Examinations Booklet 2025** for full details.

Our Registrar, Catherine Rogers and Assistant Registrar, Georgia Newborough will be pleased to talk you through the admissions process.

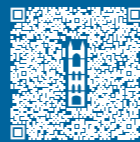
Please contact them on **01926 634201/297** respectively, alternatively email them at admissions@princethorpe.co.uk.

New Admissions Podcast Outlines Pathway to Princethorpe

Prospective families can now discover all the ins and outs of applying to Princethorpe College in a new informative podcast series, *Pathway to Princethorpe*.

From choosing the right school to preparing for the entrance exams, the podcast is designed to help parents navigate the admissions process step by step.

Use the QR code to access the podcast on Spotify, YouTube and Amazon Music.



Sixth Form

Princethorpe is an 11 to 18 school, and the expectation is that pupils will continue with us through to Sixth Form, providing they meet the academic requirements and embrace the College's ethos. Following the Sixth Form Open Evening, Princethorpe Year 11 pupils will be guided through the options process through our Careers programme. Princethorpe Year 11s are not required to reapply for Sixth Form, however a term's notice in writing is required should a pupil not be intending to return.

The minimum academic requirement for entry into Sixth Form is six GCSEs at grades 9-5 (or equivalent), including at least three at grade 6 or above. Students are normally expected to have at least a grade 6 in the subject to be studied to A-level, although specific requirements apply for some subjects, as detailed on the website and in the Sixth Form Admissions Information Booklet.

External candidates should get in touch with the Registrar to arrange attendance at one of our Sixth Form Taster Days, which includes an informal interview with the Head of Sixth Form. A formal registration along with provisional options for A-levels should be made after the Taster Day.

Following satisfactory references from the external candidate's current school, the Admission Panel will meet and, if appropriate, a conditional offer will be made subject to actual GCSE grades. Confirmation of acceptance from a parent with a £400 deposit is then required to secure the place. This deposit is refunded after the end of the final term which the pupil spends at Princethorpe.

The deadline for external Sixth Form registrations and internal and external Sixth Form Scholarship applications is **Monday 20 January 2025**.

Sixth Form conditional offers and Scholarship awards, along with confirmation of subject choices will be made week commencing **Monday 31 March 2025**.

The deadline for external candidates to accept a Sixth Form place, or for Princethorpe Year 11s to give notice in writing of their intention not to return for Sixth Form, will be **Wednesday 30 April 2025**.

Once external candidates have confirmed their GCSE results to the Registrar by telephone in August, a confirmed offer will be made.



Use the QR code to see our **Sixth Form Admissions Information Booklet 2025** for full details.

Information and Visits

Traditionally there are a number of opportunities to visit Princethorpe during the course of the year, in order for prospective pupils and their parents to get a true flavour of the school before registering to take the entrance examinations. The following events are for your information but could be subject to change. We will keep prospective families who are on our enquiry database up to date on opportunities to visit.

Open Afternoon

Sunday 15 September 2024
2.00pm to 5.00pm

Sixth Form Open Evening

Wednesday 16 October 2024
6.30pm to 9.00pm

Open Morning

Thursday 13 April 2025
10.30am to 12.30pm

Open Evening

Wednesday 4 June 2025
6.30pm to 8.30pm

Light refreshments are available at all open events.

Meet the Headmaster

Alternatively, or in addition to attending an open event, you may wish to make an appointment to meet the Headmaster, Grove du Toit, and have a tour of the school (this is usually conducted by our Sixth Formers).

Please contact the Admissions Team for an appointment on 01926 634201/297.

Taster Days

Taster Days aimed at Year 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 and 11 pupils also take place during the year to give prospective pupils a taste of senior school and Sixth Form life. Places are available on a first come, first served basis.

Use the QR code on the back page to book online.



Pastoral Care

Pastoral care is seen as paramount at Princethorpe and is very much a tangible expression of our strong Catholic ethos. Our team of professionals, headed up by the Deputy Head – Pastoral, provide a network to help support and encourage all our pupils. The team is broad reaching and includes the House Form Tutors and Co-Tutors, Heads of House, Matrons, our Counsellors, the Chaplaincy Team and our Student Support Officer.

The main premise of our pastoral care is that every child really does matter and that if that child is happy, healthy and safe, he or she will learn most effectively. The Pastoral Team work together or in various combinations as appropriate to fulfil and respond to pupils' needs. When problems arise, the College is proactive and swift to take action, working in close partnership with parents to tackle any issues and if necessary, agree action plans.

A key element of our pastoral care is the weekly confidential Pastoral Briefing to staff when issues affecting pupils can be drawn to their attention and guidance be given.

The College has a very strong sense of community and above and beyond the professional help available, there is also much mutual support offered to pupils by their friends and fellow pupils.

The House Form Tutors

The House Form Tutor and Co-Tutor are the pupils' and parents' first port of call and will generally be able to answer any queries or resolve any problems. If necessary, they will escalate problems to the Head of House or Deputy Head – Pastoral. Pupils spend at least 20 minutes with their House Tutor Group most mornings and this is an ideal time for any pastoral matters to be dealt with.

Pastoral Support Manager

Our Pastoral Support Manager plays a proactive role in identifying and supporting young people and their families through any challenges that may arise both in and out of school. By maintaining regular communication with pupils, parents and staff, the manager quickly identifies potential issues and intervenes early to provide tailored support. This may include one-on-one counselling, co-ordinating with external agencies, and implementing school-wide initiatives that promote well-being. The goal is to ensure a supportive environment where pupils feel safe, understood and equipped to overcome obstacles, fostering their academic and personal growth.

Pupil Hub Manager

This role provides all our pupils with a point of contact that is available before school, at break and lunchtime and after school to help with problems such as lost property, lockers, attendance issues, and wider administration support. This ensures that there is always someone available and if the Pupil Hub Manager cannot deal with the problem, she will know who can, and pass it on immediately.

Personal, Social and Health Education

The College's PSHE Programme is designed to support the moral, spiritual and cultural development of the child, as well as addressing issues on inclusivity, diversity, health, relationship and sex education and studying citizenship. This is delivered via the PSHE and through assemblies often featuring external speakers. Pupils will have a timetabled PSHE lesson when this programme is delivered either vertically or by Year Group.

The Medical Centre

The College also benefits from having a full cover by three Matrons on site in the Medical Centre to administer advice and medicines to pupils and to offer basic first aid when required.

Counselling Services

We have two qualified Counsellors on the staff. Pupils who are experiencing difficulties can be referred to the Counsellors for a series of appointments. This has been welcomed by pupils who appreciate being able to talk to an adult who is neither a parent nor a teacher. Pupils can also self-refer if necessary.

Chaplaincy Team

In addition, our Chaplaincy Co-ordinator offers sessions on prayer and meditation, provides sacramental preparation and runs workshops and retreat days for pupils to explore the spiritual aspects of life.

Outdoor Education

Outdoor Education also has a high profile within pastoral care. Experience has shown us that when pupils learn to work together as a team outside the classroom, this greatly benefits and accelerates learning inside the classroom. In addition to the well-established Duke of Edinburgh Scheme, a wide variety of outdoor education experiences such as 'World Challenge' and 'Camps International' overseas expeditions are offered.

Learning Skills and Character Education

Pupils will engage in a tutor time curriculum of Learning Skills and Character Education. These sessions focus on building intellectual and performance virtues such as vision, resilience, leadership, communication and study skills. We believe that having a vision, making a habit of effort, building effective systems, engaging in high stakes practice and having the correct attitude can be practised and learned. During all lessons, pupils engage in planned VESPA activities which explicitly focus on developing these non-cognitive skills. We work hard to ensure our pupils are given time to develop their intellectual and performance virtues in a practical way to enable them to flourish as individuals.

The House System

The House System at Princethorpe is an integral part of College life underpinning our community ethos and pastoral care. Each pupil is put in a House when entering the College and joins a Vertical House Tutor Group.

Austin, Benet, Fisher and More are the four Houses at Princethorpe, named after the Catholic Saints. The houses are led by our Heads of House: Adam Rickart (Austin), Faye Roberts (Benet), Louisa Fielding (Fisher) and Jessica Newborough (More).

There are nine tutor groups per House. Each tutor group is a 'family' within the wider 'House family'. Each house tutor group is comprised of four to five pupils from Year 7 to Year 11, supported by their tutor, co-tutor and their Head of House. Children stay with this group throughout their time at the College and close relationships develop across the age groups and between tutor, co-tutor, pupils and parents over the years.

New pupils with an existing connection to the College, for instance a sibling at the school or parent who is an Old Princethorpean, will normally go into the same house as their relative.

A wealth of inter-House competitions are organised throughout the year with the House Activities Co-ordinator, House Leaders and Senior Prefect House Captains presiding over the organisation of these. Inter-House competition is encouraged through a range of sporting, pastoral, social, academic and arts-based activities. Points are available for participating in each event with the eventual House winners being awarded the House Cup at the end of the academic year.

House points may also be accumulated through good attendance, helping at school events and for academic merits and sporting achievements.

Highlights of the House year include House Charity Day, the House Talent Show and House Activity Day at the end of the Trinity term.





The Curriculum

Our curriculum is designed to be knowledge-rich and broad, providing pupils with a well-rounded education from Year 7. As pupils mature, we allow them the opportunity to choose where to specialise, with Options processes for those entering Year 9, Year 10 and of course Sixth Form. For some pupils with specific learning needs, we offer a slightly adjusted curriculum in discussion with the Learning Support department.

Lessons are taught in small classes to allow staff to cater effectively for the needs of each student to both support and challenge them in their learning.

All pupils are expected to have a laptop in school as we blend traditional and digital media in teaching, benefitting from the best of both approaches.



We are continually reviewing our curriculum to ensure that it serves our pupil body effectively, preparing them for their individual futures.

Use the QR code to see full departmental information.

Summary by Year and Key Stage

Years 7, 8 and 9

Pupils in Years 7 to 9 follow a traditional programme, which draws on the best of and goes beyond the National Curriculum.

The subjects studied are English, Mathematics, Science, Religious Studies, Latin, History, Geography, Computer Science and Technology, Art, Modern Languages, Music, Drama, PE and Games.

Personal, Social and Health Education is delivered in dedicated lessons and through Tutor times.

In Year 8 pupils continue to study Spanish, with French also being introduced. Pupils will either continue their study of Latin or follow an English Development course designed to improve their literacy skills.

For Year 9 pupils are given further choices: they continue to study one main language (French or Spanish) and choose two optional subjects from the following list: Art, Computer Science, Drama, Spanish, Latin and Music. This options system allows pupils to play to their strengths and gives more time to their areas of interest. With the exception of languages, it is not a requirement to take an option subject in Year 9 in order to take it at GCSE.

Years 10 and 11

In Years 10 and 11 the curriculum needs to be broad and balanced, in order to keep as many doors open for subsequent choices to be made at A-level and then for degrees and careers.

Core GCSE subjects:

- English Language
- English Literature
- Mathematics (and Further Mathematics for some)
- Science - Pupils study either Double Award Science or the Triple Science option which leads to three separate Science qualifications for Biology, Chemistry and Physics. We make this decision based on their performance in Years 9 and 10.
- Religious Studies

Pupils then choose three further options from the following option subjects:

- Art
- Business Studies
- Computer Science
- Dance BTEC
- Design and Technology: Resistant Materials
- Design and Technology: Electronic systems, programmable components and mechanical devices
- Drama
- Food Preparation and Nutrition
- French
- Geography
- History
- Latin
- Music
- Physical Education
- Psychology
- Spanish
- Sport (BTEC)
- Textiles

(Only one Design and Technology subject may be chosen).

Learning Support can be available in place of one GCSE option if appropriate.

In addition all pupils continue with non-examined Games and Personal, Social and Health Education (PSHE) through the REAL Programme.

Lower and Upper Sixth

Most Sixth Form students will take three subjects through to A-level and Extended Curriculum Option. Students may take four subjects at A-level if it is felt to be in their best interests instead of an option from the Extended Curriculum choices. There is also the opportunity to take Level 3 Certificate in Mathematical Studies (Core Mathematics) for students who are not taking A-level Mathematics but would like to continue with their Maths, perhaps to support other A-levels with considerable mathematical content.

Help is given in choosing A-level subjects wisely, taking into account strengths and preferences, sensible subject combinations and future degree choices and career choices.

Group sizes in the Sixth Form enable staff to give pupils a great deal of individual attention.

A-level Option Choices:

- Art
- Biology
- Business Studies
- Business Studies (BTEC)
- Chemistry
- Computer Science
- Core Mathematics
- Design and Technology (Product Design)
- Drama and Theatre Studies
- Economics
- English Language and Literature
- English Literature
- French
- Geography
- History
- Latin
- Law
- Mathematics
- Further Mathematics
- Music
- Music (BTEC)
- Photography
- Physical Education
- Sport (BTEC)
- Physics
- Politics
- Psychology
- Religious Studies (Philosophy and Ethics)
- Sociology
- Spanish
- Textiles and Fashion

Academic Curriculum 2024/25

Pupils follow a two-week timetable. Over the course of each fortnight they will have the following lessons.

	Year 7 (Age 11+)	Year 8 (Age 12+)	Year 9 (Age 13+)	Year 10 (Age 14+) GCSE/BTEC	Year 11 (Age 15+) GCSE/BTEC	Lower 6th (Age 16+) A-level/BTEC	Upper 6th (Age 17+) A-level/BTEC
English	8	7	7	8	8	Three subjects are studied at A-level. There are four Option Blocks to choose from, which are constructed around pupil interest in Year 11	Students continue with their three A-level subjects from Lower Sixth
Maths	8	7	7	8	8		
RS	4	4	4	6	6		
Spanish	5	French 4	Spanish/French 6	Science Double 15 Leading to Double Award Science GCSE	Science Double 15 Leading to Double Award Science GCSE	Option A 12	Option A 12
Latin	2	Enhancement Literacy or Enhancement Numeracy 2	Biology 3				
Science	6	Science 6	Chemistry 3	Option B 6	Option B 6		
Computer Science	2	Spanish 4	Physics 3			Option A 6	Option A 6
Technology	4	Computer Science 2	Technology 4	Option B 6	Option B 6		
History	4	History 4	History 4			Option C 6	Option C 6
Geography	4	Geography 4	Geography 4	Option B 6	Option B 6		
Art	2	Art 2	Choice of two subjects from: Art, Computer Science, Drama, French, Latin & Music			Option C 6	Option C 6
Drama	2	Drama/Music Carousel 3		Option A 4 Option B 4	Option C 6		
Music	2		Games 4			Games 4	Games 4
PE	2	PE 2		Games 4	Games 4		
PSHE	1	PSHE 1	PSHE 1			PSHE 1	PSHE 1
				CoRE 2	CoRE 2		
Periods	60	60	60			60	60

GCSE and A-level Options

Please note, GCSE and A-level Option Blocks change from year to year depending on pupil choices. The subjects on offer are reviewed annually. Please refer to the Department Information section of this booklet and the Sixth Form Information Booklet for a full list of potential subjects on offer. For current Option Block information, please contact the Registrars.



CoRE Programme, Extended Curriculum and Enrichment

The Sixth Form

Comprising a varied range of topics and speakers and incorporating careers and higher education advice, the CoRE Programme is closely linked to the ethos of the college. The aim is to develop qualities such as Conversation, Openness, Reflection and Enthusiasm so that students grow in maturity and confidence as they look to life beyond Princethorpe College. The weekly CoRE lessons for both Lower and Upper Sixth incorporate personal, social, health, and citizenship issues, as well as relationship and sex education.

Over the course of the year, we invite a broad range of speakers to address the students on topics ranging from driving safety or cyber-crime to animal welfare or the prison system. In addition, students receive essential advice and information about careers, applying to university, vocational courses, apprenticeships, the world of work, gap year travel and personal finance.

As part of the CoRE Programme, issues are explored from a moral and religious perspective. Led by the RS department a separate timetabled course on the Philosophy of the Person (C-POP) and an enquiry using video and discussion into key elements of the Catholic faith is offered to all pupils in Lower Sixth. In a more informal, seminar-style setting pupils can take one period a week to share their views and examine some of the big questions in life.

In the Lower Sixth, an additional Enrichment period within the CoRE Programme each week is specifically set aside so students can extend their interests and to develop new skills. It offers options such as:

- Care home visiting
- Mindfulness
- Psychology through film
- Self defence
- Essential cooking skills
- Business Enterprise
- Investment Challenge
- Bushcraft
- Basketball
- Creative Arts and Crafts
- Stretch and Challenge (for Oxbridge/Russell Group applicants)
- Sign Language
- Boxercise
- Ultimate frisbee

We also run an accredited full day First Aid Course and a two-day level 3 TEFL course in the summer term for Years 11 and over.

As a whole, the CoRE Programme encourages students to develop new skills and interests, to think critically, logically and constructively about the world in which they live, and to look forward to the challenges and opportunities that lie ahead.



Extended Curriculum

Alongside their main curriculum of 3 A-levels or Level 3 BTECs, almost all students at Princethorpe College will also gain an additional qualification, most of which, also carry additional UCAS points. The options currently on offer are:

- Level 3 Extended Project Qualification
- MFL (French) for Business
- MFL (Spanish) for Business
- Sports Leadership Qualification
- Arts Award
- Core Mathematics
- Further Mathematics

If completing an EPQ, Sstudents are assigned a mentor who will provide advice and guidance as required and with whom they will meet during weekly timetabled sessions for direct teaching, instruction and assessment, or other structured learning such as directed assignments or supported individual study. Students' own private study will be an additional commitment to these guided learning hours.

The Extended Curriculum is designed to equip students with skills that they may not have the opportunity to develop within the main academic curriculum, depending on the combination of subjects chosen to study. For example, The Extended Project Qualification focuses on and helps students develop project management, organisation, research, project synthesis and evaluation skills. As well as helping students develop research skills and enhance their thinking skills. Additionally, Extended Projects Curriculum options are welcomed by many universities and admissions tutors may well use them in differentiating between applicants for offer making.



Provision for Exceptionally Able Pupils

The da Vinci Programme

At Princethorpe College we aspire to the Renaissance ideal that all people should endeavour to develop their capacities as fully as possible, to enjoy broad interests, profound knowledge, and wide-ranging accomplishments. Whilst we may be born with certain predispositions, we are completely able to change and develop skills as much as we wish to and when a student demonstrates three interlocking traits - ability, task commitment and creativity - they will achieve high level performance. We recognise that young people can only perform at a high level if they are given opportunities to do so and this growth mindset is an integral part of teaching and learning at Princethorpe College. It is a mindset that encourages students to become independent, robust and enquiring; it embeds a culture of challenge, aspiration and dedication throughout the school. All departments provide tasks that offer pupils the opportunity to demonstrate their ability, task commitment and creativity embedded in the day-to-day delivery of the curriculum. These expose learners to complex resources, challenging questions, and high-level thinking skills within their class grouping. When a pupil performs at da Vinci level they are awarded one of the da Vinci merits. These merits are logged on a data base and this allows us to carefully monitor high performance across all subjects and year groups.

Those pupils who consistently perform at da Vinci level are celebrated and offered further opportunities for stretch and challenge (such as invitations to guest lectures, Level 2 and 3 Project Qualifications). The top 10 % of pupils with the highest number of da Vinci merits in each year group are awarded da Vinci badges and are invited to participate in the annual da Vinci Badge winners' trip. The one student who achieves the most da Vinci merits in an academic year and who most embodies the Renaissance ideal is awarded the da Vinci Shield at the College's annual Prize Giving.

The Elite Sports Programme (ESP) and numerous opportunities in every subject across all years - as well as a wide range of co-curricular activities - allow pupils who demonstrate these three traits to further develop their prowess in their areas of interest. The College magazine, *The Pinnacle*, celebrates outstanding work produced by the pupils of the Foundation and is a showcase for our Renaissance ideal.

Project Qualifications

The College offers project opportunities to Academic Scholars in Year 8, and to identified high performing pupils in Year 9 and the Extended Project Qualification to all students in the Lower Sixth. A Project Qualification is a recognised qualification following the Edexcel Course comprising an individual research project rather than an exam. Project outcomes can be in the form of a dissertation, investigation, artefact or performance. Upon completion, students of the Level 2 (Year 9) and Level 3 (Sixth Form) qualifications are also required to give a short presentation on their research to teachers and a group of fellow pupils and take questions at the end. Pupils are assigned a mentor who provides advice and guidance as required and with whom they meet regularly for direct teaching, instruction and assessment, or other structured learning such as directed assignments or supported individual study. Pupils also meet regularly with the librarian and other pupils to be taught the necessary research and independent learning skills needed to undertake such a project. Pupils' own private study is an additional commitment to these guided learning hours. Extended Projects are welcomed by many universities, and admissions tutors may well use them in differentiating between applicants for offer making.

The Level 1 and 2 Projects are delivered after school as a co-curricular activity. The Level 3 Extended Project is worth the equivalent of half an A-level and is delivered as part of the Sixth Form programme.

Special Educational Needs and Disabilities

At Princethorpe College we strive to enable all our pupils to realise their full potential. For most of our pupils this is achieved within the curriculum by Quality First teaching from all members of staff. We recognise, however, that some of our pupils have Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) that require specialist provision as well. A small team of qualified and experienced Learning Support teachers and Learning Support assistants provide this support across the school. For some specialist tuition, please see the fees section for details.

Specific Learning Difficulties and Other SEND

Pupils with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities are identified on the SEND Register, under the four categories in line with the 2016 Code of Practice:

- Cognition and Learning (including Specific Learning Difficulties such as dyslexia, dyspraxia, ADHD)
- Communication and Interaction (Speech and Language Difficulties, autism spectrum condition including Asperger's Syndrome)
- Social, Emotional, Mental Health
- Sensory (including hearing or visual impairments), Physical disabilities, Medical conditions

Learners of course may have co-occurring needs in more than one of these areas. In addition, more information is published to all staff on the school's intranet and enables all subject teachers to support these learners and to plan and adapt their lessons. For pupils with significant learning needs, more detailed information is provided to all staff through their Personalised Learning Profiles, giving details of the pupil's individual learning needs together with advice on appropriate teaching strategies and reasonable adjustments.

The Learning Support staff work with parents/families in a team approach to plan and to share information and progress.

We are an inclusive learning environment – pupils with SEND follow the same curriculum as all other pupils, although there can be appropriate flexibility in the timetable at each Key Stage to develop a good fit for each learner's needs and progress.

At Key Stage 3, where appropriate, we can offer bespoke interventions through individual and small group specialist tuition with qualified and experienced specialist teachers, alongside some in-class support from the Learning Support team. We use multisensory, metacognitive teaching and learning methods as well as specialist technology designed to increase pupils' independent learning across the curriculum.

At Key Stage 4 some pupils may take one fewer GCSE option, in order to have individual or small group tuition or study skills teaching, alongside subject support for their GCSE course.

At Key Stage 5, Sixth Form students can have support for their SEND, advice on use of technology and study skills.

Examination Access Arrangements

Some candidates for external examinations may require adjustments because of their identified disabilities or learning difficulties. The Learning Support team work with pupils throughout their time at Princethorpe College to develop their normal way of working, trialling various examination access arrangements to find what works best with their SEND alongside the necessary standardised assessment carried out by our specialist assessors in the Learning Support team. Application is made in due course for external examination entries following the JCQ detailed procedure.

English Language Development

For pupils for whom English is not their first language we may be able to offer some targeted support with the development of English language skills.



Exam Results and Leavers' Destinations

Princethorpe is not and never will be an examination factory, but we do take great pride in trying to ensure that all our pupils achieve the best possible academic results; our 2024 A-level and GCSE results are very strong indicators that the school's academic achievements across the ability range continue to go from strength to strength.

This summer (2024) two thirds of all A-level grades awarded were A*-B, with more than a third being A*-A; at GCSE 44% of all entries were the coveted 9, 8 or 7 grades, with 32 pupils achieving nine or more 9, 8 or 7 grades.

A-level, BTEC and EPQ summary results:

- 108 candidates
- 35% A* and A
- 65% A* to B
- 17 candidates achieved three or more A* or A grades
- 91% grade C or better

GCSE summary results:

- 150 candidates
- 44% of all grades were 9, 8 or 7 grades (A* or A)
- 32 candidates achieved nine or more 9, 8 or 7 grades
- 95% grade 4 or better

Leavers' destinations

The majority of our pupils go on to university, predominantly to their first choice. Leavers' university destinations in recent years include Cambridge, Oxford, Durham, Bristol, St Andrews, Nottingham, Warwick, the Birmingham Conservatoire, Newcastle, Loughborough, Cardiff, University College London, Queen Mary's College London, Bath, Leeds, Exeter, London School of Economics, Liverpool, Manchester, Sheffield and York. We also support students who wish to pursue apprenticeships, employment or other routes.



Use QR code to see more information on exam results and leavers' destinations.

Co-curricular Activities

At Princethorpe, we pride ourselves on the range of co-curricular activities that we can offer to every pupil. Whether it's drama or archery, electric car club or sailing we cater for a wide variety of interests. Clubs, societies and activities take place either at lunchtime or after school and each term a full co-curricular timetable is produced to enable pupils to choose what they would like to take part in.

In addition, we also aim to support pupils' learning by offering regular music and theatre trips, lectures, visits to museums, art galleries and science festivals. We invite guest speakers into school to discuss issues with pupils, as well as welcoming visiting music, theatre and dance companies to demonstrate their excellence to our pupils. The Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme is hugely popular at Princethorpe. Each year we have more and more pupils signing up to participate in this nationally recognised Award Scheme; a quarter of the school were involved last academic year.

Overseas trips include our regular sports tours, subject specific tours and outreach trips. In 2023 over 100 staff and pupils participated in the South Africa Sport Tour. Trips are a regular feature of the academic calendar and are offered to all corners of the globe.

Clubs and Societies

- Musical – musical theatre group, string orchestra, choir, concert band, brass group, guitar group, percussion group and chamber choir and chamber music group.
- Sporting – rugby, football, hockey, netball, climbing wall, badminton, archery, golf, fitness, running, trampolining, cycling, athletics, rounders and tennis.
- Airjineers Club
- Art Club
- Beekeeping
- Book Club
- Chess Club
- Cookery
- Craft Club
- Creative Writing
- Dance
- Darts
- Debating
- Drama Club
- Duke of Edinburgh Award
- Electric Car Club
- English Enrichment
- Equestrian Club
- Film Review Club
- Green Team and Wildlife Club
- History Club
- ICT Club
- Language Conversation - Spanish and French
- MedSoc
- Mindfulness
- Model UN
- Photography Club
- Poetry Club
- Project Club
- Psychology Workshop
- Science Club
- Technical Theatre Club
- Textiles
- Young Designers Club
- Youth Chaplaincy Team
- Youth St Vincent de Paul



Visiting Music and Drama Providers

Mrs Patricia Bach, BA, PGCE, Flute and Piano

Mrs Katherine Buckingham-Underhill, LSDE, LAMDA

Mrs Felicity Coulson, GMus PGCE, Flute, Oboe, Clarinet, Saxophone and Piano

Tom Durham, BMus Guitar

Mrs Jane Ebbon, BA, PGCE, Saxophone, Clarinet, Flute and Double Reeds

Miss Jodie Fisher, ATCL All Brass

Andrew Hughes, ABSM Violin and Viola

Mrs Claire Lomas, ABSM, Cello

Mrs Joanna Kunda-Jedynak, MA Vocal Studies

Ms Fiona McCreath, BA, ATCL Vocal Studies and LAMDA

Mrs Shirley McLean MA, PGDip, LAMDA

Mrs Emily Myerscough, BA, LAMDA

Adrian Moore, BA, ARCO Organ and Piano

Matthew Prior, BMus Classical and Electric Guitar

Simon Wagstaff, Drum Kit and Percussion

Fees for individual Music and Drama tuition are negotiated with and invoiced separately to parents by external providers to whom enquiries and payments should be directed.

The School Day

Pupils have a two-week timetable. The timetable is individual to each pupil and both weeks will be very similar in structure. The weeks will be labelled Week A and Week B.

Please see page 8 for an overview of the curriculum for each year group.

The School Day

08.40 - 09.35	Period 1
09.40 - 10.30	Period 2
10.35 - 10.55	Tutor Time or Assembly
10.55 - 11.15	Break
11.20 - 12.10	Period 3
12.15 - 13.05	Period 4
13.05 - 13.55	Lunch
14.00 - 14.50	Period 5
14.55 - 15.45	Period 6
15.55	Buses depart
16.15 - 18.00	Princethorpe Prep or Co-curricular activities

After school many pupils choose to take part in co-curricular activities or do their homework in 'Prep', this is free of charge until 6.00pm; after this time there is a charge of £10 per half hour or part thereof.



Uniform

Uniform is compulsory for College pupils and helps to create a sense of shared identity, community spirit and a pride in oneself and in the College. Uniform can be purchased from the School Shop. Please contact the School Shop on **01926 634272** or email uniform@princethorpe.co.uk to make an appointment.

Shop opening hours during term time are as follows:

Monday and Wednesday 3.30pm – 4.30pm

During the school holidays the shop is open by appointment only. This is particularly useful for new parents who need to buy the complete range of uniform etc as they will be the sole customer at the time and waiting will be avoided.



Use the QR code for full details of our Year 7-11 uniform and Sixth Form Dress Code.



Bus Services and Routes

from September 2024

Our Bus Services

A comprehensive private bus service brings pupils into the College from a wide area, extending as far afield as Burbage, Nuneaton and Coventry to the north, Lutterworth and Daventry to the east, Stratford-upon-Avon and Banbury to the south and Solihull and Henley-in-Arden to the west.

Around half of the school population use the services across twelve routes, which are operated by Catteralls of Southam and Ridleys of Leamington. All of their drivers are child safeguarding and first aid trained, and where possible regular drivers operate the routes.

We are constantly monitoring our services and looking for improvements. We welcome feedback and suggestions to princethorpe@vectare.co.uk.

Booking System

Our bus booking system is operated in partnership with Vectare and can be accessed at princethorpe.vectare.co.uk.

Return or one way bus pass bookings will be added to the next termly fee invoice, ad hoc bookings are paid for at point of booking using a credit or debit card.

All one way and return pass holders and regular ad hoc users will be issued with a swipe card or digital pass to be added to their mobile phone wallet at the start of term. Those booking individual journeys can download a booking confirmation on to their mobile phone to show when boarding or alighting the bus.



Use the QR code for a map of all our bus routes, timetable information and to find your closest stop.

Passes summary

Pass type	Regular morning use	Regular evening use	Occasional morning use	Occasional evening use
Full Bus Pass	Use Swipe Card or Digital Pass	Use Swipe Card or Digital Pass		
Bus Pass to school (Half Pass)	Use Swipe Card or Digital Pass		Book ad-hoc journeys on bus website for each journey, show confirmation	
Bus Pass to home (Half Pass)		Use Swipe Card or Digital Pass	Book ad-hoc journeys on bus website for each journey, show confirmation	
No Bus Pass			Book ad-hoc journeys on bus website for each journey, show confirmation	Book ad-hoc journeys on bus website for each journey, show confirmation

It is not possible to use a half pass to mix outward and return journeys.

Charges for Bus Services

Zone	Return	Single
Zone A		
Michaelmas	£339.00	£198.00
Lent	£327.00	£192.00
Trinity	£189.00	£119.00
Zone B		
Michaelmas	£588.00	£338.00
Lent	£556.00	£310.00
Trinity	£345.00	£197.00
Zone C		
Michaelmas	£819.00	£462.00
Lent	£777.00	£437.00
Trinity	£499.00	£267.00

Sibling discount

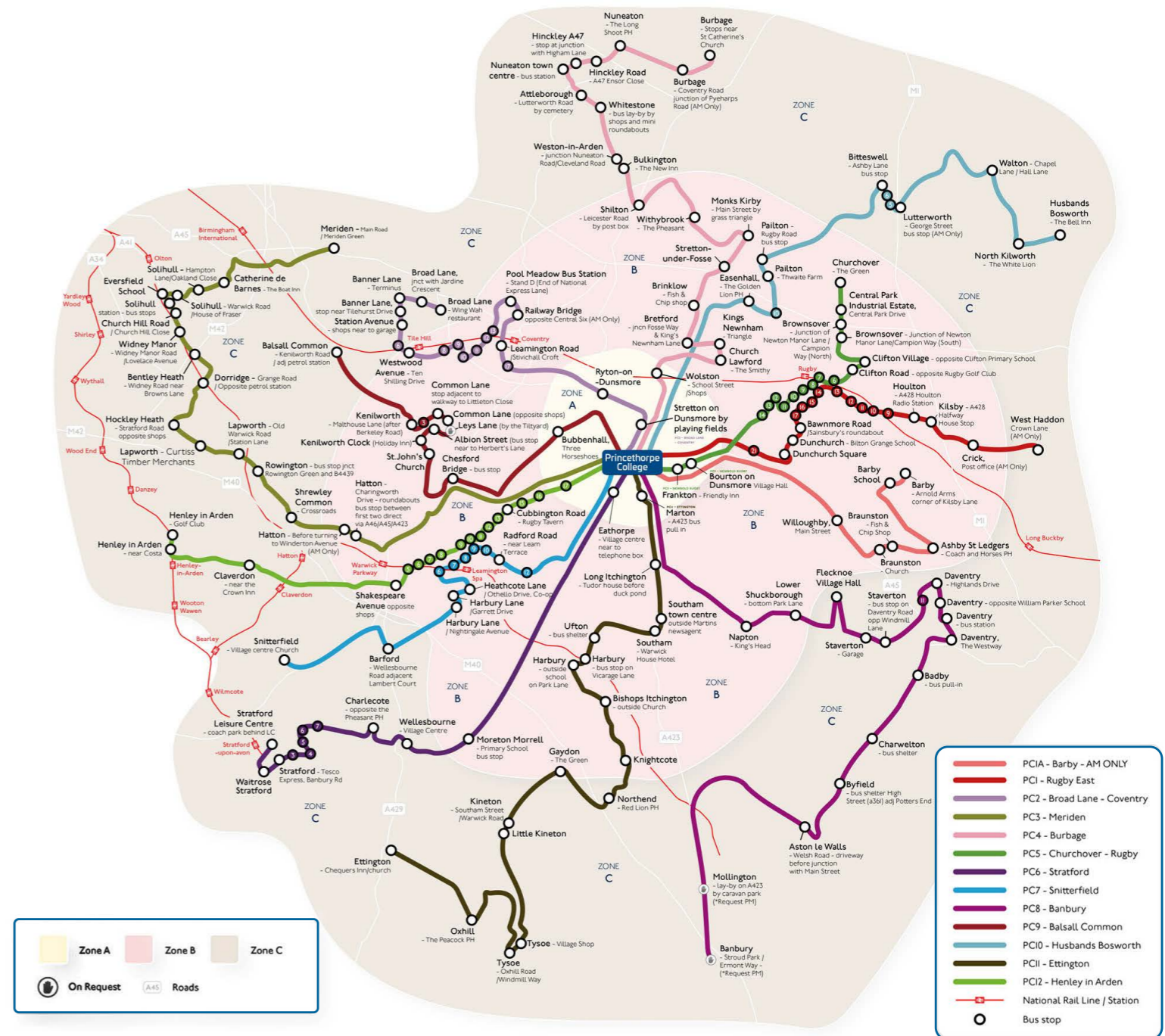
Discounts are applied to bus passes only for siblings (10% for second and 50% for third and subsequent siblings) whilst there are two or more children holding bus passes.

Ad hoc journeys

Ad hoc journeys should be booked online at www.princethorpe.vectare.co.uk. Pupils should download confirmation on to their mobile phones. All ad hoc tickets must be pre-booked in advance. Failure to do so will result in a £10 penalty charge for each journey being added to the next term's bill.

Single ad hoc fares - per journey

Zone A	£3.95	Zone B	£5.95	Zone C	£7.55
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Parent Teacher Association

Princethorpe benefits from an active and supportive Parent Teacher Association. The Parent Teacher Association aims to strengthen the relationship between parents and school and organises a number of social and fundraising events during the year.

All parents automatically become members of the Association and a small subscription of £5 is levied and added to the Michaelmas Term account each year.

The Committee welcomes new members and meets regularly to plan events including social events and the ever-popular Summer Fête and Christmas Fair.

The PTA can be contacted via email at pta@princethorpe.co.uk.

Development Office

Our Development Office works to enable the provision of more bursaries to deserving pupils, to update our facilities and buildings, and to meet our strategic development plans. Whilst fee income is sufficient to cover core costs and some capital expenditure, it does not allow us to increase the number of places for deserving pupils from families who could otherwise not afford the fees, nor is it sufficient to wholly fund major new initiatives.

We also firmly believe that every child with the potential and passion to benefit from a Princethorpe education should be given the opportunity to learn, grow and develop here.

We garner support from our extended Princethorpe community (past pupils, current and former parents, former staff and Friends of Princethorpe) so we can help more children to benefit from this unique education and improve school facilities for current and future pupils.

There are different ways that people support us – by giving their time through volunteering their expertise or by making a financial donation. No gift is too small and many people choose to support us through regular monthly giving.



Use the QR code to read our Annual Report, make a donation and keep up-to-date with our campaigns.

For more information on Development please contact Steve Kowal, Development Director on 01926 634265 or email makingadifference@princethorpe.co.uk



Old Princethorpians

Old Princethorpians is our thriving and popular past pupils' association.

The OP Committee meets once every half term and past pupils are represented from across every decade of the College's history. The association aims to act as link between past and current pupils, past parents and former staff and to celebrate their achievements.

We are interested in hearing from all past pupils and how they are faring in life post Princethorpe. We are now using the *Princethorpe Connect* database to improve our communication with Old Princethorpians.



Use the QR code to register or update your contact details on Princethorpe Connect. Old Princethorpians who register can also subscribe to our termly e-newsletter The Old Princethorpians, oldprincethorpians.co.uk.

We have information on a large number of former pupils and will do our best to put friends back in touch with each other.

We also have an established annual programme of social events including the popular pub meets locally and in London, the annual OP's Summer Supper Reunion, and the OPs vs College Sports Day just before term begins in September.

Our successful Skills Bank initiative, whereby Old Princethorpians support current pupils through mentoring, advice and careers guidance, includes involvement in the College's Careers Fair which takes place every two years.

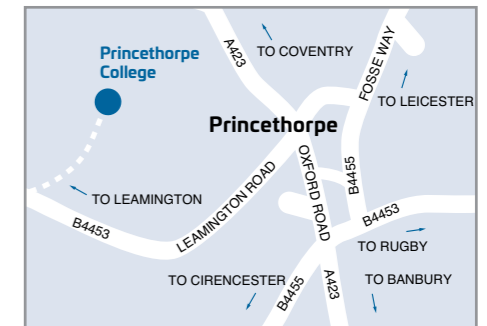
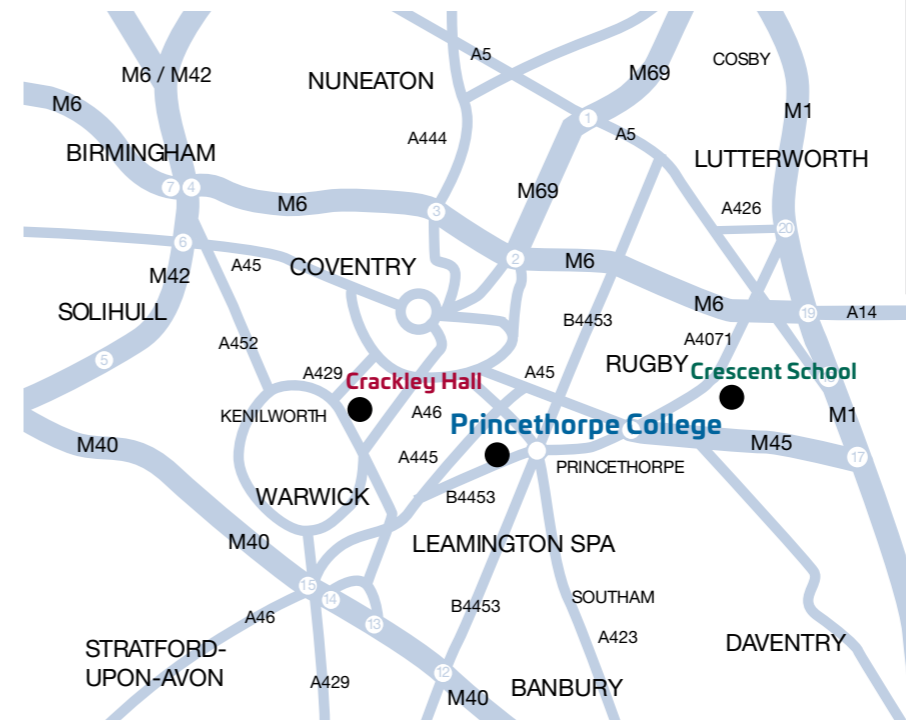
Our OP Friendly Faces scheme aims to supporting new OP undergraduates when they first go to university.

On leaving the College pupils and their parents are granted lifetime membership of the association.

For more information on Old Princethorpians please contact Caroline Spencer, Alumni and Development Officer on 01926 634209 or email oldprincethorpians@princethorpe.co.uk.



Directions to Princethorpe



Using Satellite Navigation

Experience has shown us that keying CV23 9PX into a SATNAV device may well deliver you to our blocked off driveway on the A423 Coventry-Banbury Road where there is actually no access to the College. We suggest that using **CV23 9PY** will take you to the B4453 Leamington Road, off which is the College's driveway.



Useful Links

Fees



Staff



Term Dates



Uniform



Registration Form



Event Booking



Key Admissions Dates

Parents' Online Admissions Q&A Session

Wednesday 11 September 2024 – 6:30pm to 7:30pm

Year 6 Taster Days

Tuesday 17, Wednesday 19 and
Wednesday 25 September 2024

Registration, Bursaries and Scholarships Deadline (Years 7 to 10 Entry)

Friday 27 September 2024

Sixth Form Open Evening

Wednesday 16 October 2024 – 6:30pm to 9:00pm

Entrance Examinations (Years 7 to 10 entry)

Saturday 9 November 2024 – 9:30pm to 3:30pm

Sixth Form Taster Days

Thursday 12 December 2024 – 9:30am to 5:00pm
Thursday 14 January 2025 – 9:30am to 5:00pm

Open Morning

Thursday 13 April 2025 – 10:30am to 12:30pm

Open Evening

Wednesday 4 June 2025 – 6:30pm to 8:30pm

Dates could be subject to change.



Princeshoppe College

Princeshoppe, Rugby
CV23 9PX

Telephone: 01926 634200
email: post@princeshoppe.co.uk
princeshoppe.co.uk

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