



Rejoice in being
the best that we
can be



**Malbank School
& Sixth Form College**

Welcome

to Malbank School

As Headteacher of Malbank School and Sixth Form College I am delighted to welcome all families considering joining our vibrant school community.

Our aim in this prospectus is to give you all the essential information you will need to make an informed decision. As a parent of three children, I know only too well how difficult and emotional it can be when making the decision about who to entrust your child's education to. I truly believe that feeling confident in a school's ability to fulfil your hopes and dreams can only be achieved through visits and discussions with staff and students, so I hope that this prospectus is just one step of many towards helping you to decide that Malbank is the right choice for your child. Should you have any additional questions, please do not hesitate to contact the school as our team will be only too happy to help. At Malbank, we put great emphasis on the importance of teamwork and nowhere is that more important than when parents and staff work together – an essential part of our philosophy and one I want us to establish together from day one.

Malbank is a forward-thinking, innovative school that employs a dynamic approach to teaching and learning so we actively prepare our young people for the ever-changing landscape of the 21st century workplace. However, behind that modern attitude sits an appreciation of history



and a deep understanding of the 450 years of tradition that has helped to build the culture and ethos that have made the school consistently successful and a cornerstone of our local community.

Everyone in society has a unique skill set, an undoubted part to play and key contribution to make. I see it as our responsibility to help unlock that potential, fostering the talents, interests and aspirations pupils have to help them grow into confident and passionate members of our community, leaving Malbank as responsible citizens who are ready to make a mark on the world. As such, Malbank celebrates the achievements of all our young people, be it creatively, academically or on the sports field.

Academic success is very important and will always be at the core of the aspirations we have for our young people. However, education has to be more than the receipt of a set of grades at the end of your time at a school and as such, Malbank prides itself upon a genuine commitment to educate the whole child, providing young people with the skills, values, knowledge and resilience to lead successful and happy lives. As a parent, when choosing Malbank you can rest assured that our students are at the heart of everything we do and at the centre of every decision we make.



I very much look forward to working alongside you to help your child realise their potential and ensure they make the most of what I know will be an exciting and inspiring school experience with us.

Mr John Harrison
Headteacher



The Learning Environment

Malbank School & Sixth Form College occupies a spacious green site at the edge of the historic market town of Nantwich.

The school hall provides a modern, light, airy performance space with state of the art sound, image and lighting equipment. It is a perfect venue for daily assemblies, rehearsals and performances.

The school has many excellent facilities which contribute to the positive and stimulating learning environment.

This includes specialist accommodation: -

- The Olympic Boulevard; a multipurpose learning space providing a dynamic and flexible learning environment, conducive to meeting the needs of all whilst at the same time providing dining facilities, a fitness centre, computer suite, Starbucks internet café and Family Learning Centre
- Music suites with specialist rehearsal and practice rooms and facilities for computer aided composition
- Dance studio, equipped to professional standards

- All weather sports pitch, two grass pitches and tennis/netball courts
- Media and recording studio
- Business suite and Inclusion Resource Centre
- Science laboratories
- Two Drama studios
- Sports hall
- Design Technology block based around a project and exhibition court, featuring specialist areas for Art and Design, Manufacturing, Textiles, Food Technology and Electronics

Malbank's excellent learning environment is enhanced by its culture and its pleasant and purposeful atmosphere. Students take pride in displaying and demonstrating the quality of their work and are actively engaged in improving their environment through projects such as the "Outdoor Classroom".



The Learning Experience

At Malbank we develop the whole child, giving all of our students choices and opportunities so that they leave us to be the best that they can be and to make a positive contribution to others and to society.

To support this we provide a stimulating and relevant education for all students, enhanced and enriched by a wide range of opportunities beyond the classroom. Our aim is to personalise the curriculum and the learning process to meet the particular needs, ambitions and interests of each student.

We offer a broad and well-balanced curriculum, where students can specialise or diversify as appropriate. Innovative teaching is blended with the latest technology to provide memorable learning experiences that motivate young people to develop their potential.

Whilst every subject is valuable in its own right, it is vital that our students develop the transferable skills they will need for lifelong learning: literacy; numeracy; information and communication technology; problem solving; emotional intelligence and critical thinking. All are highly desired by universities

and employers, and all are at the heart of our curriculum. In Lower School, the rich tasks and deep learning experiences of our Opening Minds course help to embed these sought after qualities in all our students.

Subjects and Courses

In Key Stage Three all pupils study the following core subjects:

English

Mathematics

Sciences (Biology, Chemistry, Physics)

Computer Science

Modern Languages (one or more of French, German or Spanish)

Technology (including Textiles, Food

Technology, Resistant Materials,

Electronics and Product Design)

Humanities (History & Geography)

Visual & Performing Arts (Art, Music, Dance & Drama)

Physical Education

Religious Education

PDL - Our Personal Development Curriculum

Opening Minds



Enrichment

Second to None

At the end of the summer term the school community comes together to celebrate academic achievement, attendance, citizenship and sporting endeavour. The annual Achievements Day encourages students to take pride in themselves and in their school.

Our annual Enrichment Day provides students with deep learning experiences. Year groups come together with staff to explore emotive issues such as 'War and Remembrance'



"Leaders plan a range of extra-curricular activities for pupils. The programme caters for and develops pupils' wider academic, cultural, artistic and sporting interests."

- Ofsted

and to take part in health workshops. Year 10 students investigate future careers, through mock interviews and a wide range of business games and experiences.

The Arts play a major part in the academic, social and cultural life of the school. Choirs, bands, orchestras and instrumental groups perform music to suit all tastes; productions are innovative and entertaining – the annual school show has become a real highlight in the local community. Our students are in constant demand as performers. Their talent shines brightly in the Summer and Winter showcases.



Character Education

LORIC Skills

Our Character Education programme is designed to equip students with the skills, knowledge and competencies, distinct from their academic work, that will help them succeed in the future. The Character Education programme consists of five key areas that students will develop during their journey at Malbank School. These are:

- Leadership
- Organisation
- Resilience
- Initiative
- Communication

Personal Development Learning

Important themes relating to economic awareness, health education and global citizenship are considered in tutorial groups. PDL, our Personal Health and Social Education programme, is highly regarded and draws on a wide range of expertise. Our extensive student leadership programmes encourage students to develop their potential and to show initiative.

Above all, our attention to the spiritual, cultural and moral development of young people encourages mature reflection, sensitive responses and a concern for others, which is reflected in enthusiastic service to the community – locally and nationally.

Careers Education

Malbank School's Careers programme embarks each student on an individual journey, exploring all elements of careers education. At Malbank we allow students to research all future study options so they can make a well informed decision about their time after Malbank School.

We recognise that the jobs market is increasingly dynamic and there are fewer jobs for life. We want to encourage our students to develop a growth mind-set and to create and take opportunities that continuously challenge or reframe their career direction.

It's important that students understand that employers value more than just qualifications. We inspire our students through careers education to develop their own motivation in life. Our ethos is to develop the whole child, meaning students' personal development is at the heart of our curriculum.

"Pupils' personal development is good. They learn and care about themselves and others."

- Ofsted

The Malbank House System



At Malbank School we take the time and care to develop the 'whole child'. Our remarkable range of activities beyond the classroom help our students to become community minded individuals, caring towards others, able to show leadership and with a joy for learning outside of lessons.

Our House system provides students with many opportunities to work together across all year groups, including the Sixth Form. Every member of our school community is allocated membership of a House.

The Brereton Bears, Dorfold Dolphins, Kent Kestrels and Wilbraham Wolves compete for an annual House Championship, in which points are hard fought and won through a range of activities, some of which are highly competitive, whereas others focus on developing character and resilience.

House points can also be won by displaying a caring community-minded attitude. Our Random Acts of Kindness cards are sought after and valued.

Regular House assemblies celebrate our achievements. We enjoy outstanding performances at Live Aid and sample wonderful food at Ready Steady Cook. Our business competition allows entrepreneurial skills to shine and the welly throwing challenge brings a great sense of fun.



“Pupils from all year groups fully contribute to a school house system. Remembrance Day activities, including wreath laying, are carried out with care and consideration.”

– Ofsted



Giving Students a Voice

Each House is led by an Assistant Headteacher who is ably supported by a student leadership team, comprised of student leaders from every year group. Our newly appointed sixth form Student Head of the House System works with the Senior Leadership Team to ensure that the voice of the students is heard at every level of the school.

Student Voice and Leadership programmes are at the heart of the Malbank experience. A wide range of opportunities to make a difference locally and nationally allows students of all interests to participate.

Alongside House leadership, our students regularly present at prestigious events, such as the National Enterprise Challenge finals at Wembley Arena.

Our students are involved in writing school policies, appointing new staff, discussion forums, choosing curriculum courses and reviewing the learning experience. They

participate in leadership initiatives which extend well beyond our school. Student feedback is central to how the school moves forward.

We are very proud of the contributions our students make and encourage all students to have a voice and be heard!



Healthy Bodies

Healthy Minds

Physical Education at Malbank is led by a specialist team, committed to the development of every pupil and focused on using sport to raise achievement across the school.

Inter-house and friendly sports competitions are an important feature of school life. Individuals and teams compete successfully at local, county and national levels. Students enjoy traditional team sports plus badminton, tennis, athletics, gymnastics, trampolining and aerobics. There is a well established Sports Leaders Academy in the school, enabling pupils to develop their

leadership skills in a wide range of sporting activities.

House Sports Day is a highlight of the academic calendar, with pupils from all years competing in the full range of track and field events to grab precious points for their houses. There are even some staff competitors on show, doing their bit to boost House totals. Students compete for their Houses, promoting teamwork and pride. Awards are given on the annual Celebration of Achievements Day. The announcement of the winning House is always eagerly anticipated.



At Malbank we encourage students to develop their own healthy lifestyles by eating sensibly, being active and caring about their environment. Our youngsters focus on environmental issues and undertake practical projects to enhance the school site.

“Pupils’ spiritual, moral, social and cultural development has a high profile. Pupils think about a wide range of issues, such as prejudice, and do so with depth and detail.”

- Ofsted

Helping Every Child to Succeed

“The Year 7 pupils are positive about the school and their transition from primary school. Leaders’ plans to support the pastoral transition of pupils are effective.”

- Ofsted



At Malbank we take the transition from primary to secondary very seriously. We get to know every child while they are still at their primary school. Our vibrant Open Evening for prospective parents in the Autumn term allows more information regarding transition to be shared. We work closely with you to ensure that we support your child in every way as they move up to secondary school.

In the summer term new students spend three ‘Taster Days’ at Malbank, enjoying learning experiences, meeting new friends and getting to know their tutors. They also meet their ‘buddies’, our trained peer mentors who will work with them throughout their first year and beyond. Our aim is to make sure that everyone feels secure about arrangements for September. Our well structured induction programme helps students to settle easily into their new school.

As part of our fully inclusive transition programme, we run a range of fun and interactive workshops based at Malbank

for Year 5 students. The workshops are designed for students of all abilities, facilitated by our specialist staff, using a range of exciting and innovative equipment and resources.

At Malbank School we believe that everyone has the right to enjoy life in a safe and friendly environment. We encourage respect for others and their property and we strive to ensure that everyone is valued equally and treated with respect.

We fully appreciate the wide range of individual pupil needs. Our highly trained staff and mentors are in place to support and inspire all children.

At Malbank all students are stretched and challenged and exceptional talents are quickly identified and nurtured. Our excellent Access Team is here to help with any learning needs, whether these are related to basic skills such as literacy and numeracy or whether they are more specific. We ensure that parents are actively involved throughout.

Progress and Support



“The management of the support provided for pupils who have an education, health and care plan is effective.”

- Ofsted

Taking care of our students and closely monitoring their progress goes hand in hand. Each student belongs to a form group, a family within a family. The form tutor takes an active interest in pupil well-being and progress, helping students to set and achieve aspirational targets and to reach personal goals. In addition, each year group has a Progress Manager who keeps a close eye on every child's progress.

Where appropriate, personalised interventions are put in place to ensure every student develops his or her potential in all aspects of school life.

Celebrating Achievement

Each academic year every student has a one-to-one review with a member of the Leadership Team to further monitor progress and well-being.

All students belong to a Key Stage. Regular assemblies foster a strong sense

of community, identity and support. There is a culture of achievement, with a strong tradition of rewarding and celebrating personal, team and school success. An Assistant Head oversees both Key Stages, ensuring that children who are experiencing problems are safeguarded and supported.

The Key Stage offices provide support for parents and facilitate effective communication between home and school, creating strong working partnerships. There are regular Consultation Evenings for parents and students to meet with form tutors and subject staff to discuss academic and personal issues, to support learning and celebrate achievement.



“Actions ensure that these pupils are taught and supported effectively and make good academic progress.”

- Ofsted



Parents receive Tracking Point data at regular intervals. This contains information regarding current academic attainment and targets for future progress.

INSIGHT

Home-School communication is vital to ensure that children make as much progress as they can in all aspects of school life. With this in mind all parents can access ‘INSIGHT’, which allows us to communicate effectively with you.

Parents can access the following information using ‘INSIGHT’:

- An up to date version of your child’s timetable to help support your child with getting organised for learning.
- Homework will often be set on INSIGHT allowing you to support your child’s learning at home.
- Your child’s attendance can be monitored and you can report any periods of absence using this programme.

- Your child’s attitude to learning and behaviour in every lesson can be monitored. This is live data, allowing parents and Progress Managers to see what sort of a day your child has had in school so that we can praise pupils and intervene when needed.
- Important information can be shared using the ‘notices’ section so that you can keep up to date with vital pieces of information.

Playing the Long Game

From the moment students arrive at Malbank, steps are taken to ensure that each child develops the skills and resilience required to succeed in external examinations. Regular tracking point tests promote and assess the skills needed for each subject. End of year exams provide students from years 7 - 10 with a ‘real’ examination experience in the sports hall.

A Seven Year Learning Journey

Choose Malbank Sixth Form College for Post 16 success

Malbank Sixth Form is a vibrant and exciting place to be, with a track record of outstanding academic success. It truly is the perfect next step for our students as they pursue their ambitions and dreams.

Every year, many of our students choose to start new Year 12 courses at Malbank. Alongside traditional A Levels like Maths, History and English, Malbank offers a wide range of courses, ranging from Art, Law and Theatre Studies to the Sciences, Humanities and Social Sciences. We offer a range of BTEC qualifications such as Business, PE and Dance/Performing Arts.

Students have the opportunity to participate in a wide range of sports and enrichment activities, from football and rugby teams, to fancy dress fundraising for Barnardo's, all run by Malbank Student Union (MSU).

Our Sixth Formers enjoy the use of a wide range of specialist facilities. The 6th Form Block is home to two quiet study rooms, a common room with free WIFI access and a recently refurbished Café bar. In their non-contact time, 6th Form students can make use of the excellent facilities in the Boulevard, which contains a Starbucks internet café and a state of the art fitness suite.

At Malbank 6th Form, students are at the forefront of decision making. Our university styled Student Union offers students great

leadership opportunities. Malbank 6th Formers have a voice and make decisions that affect their experience at Malbank on a daily basis. Our Head Boy and Girl, appointed by interview, along with our Student Head of the House System, lead a team of elected team members, with roles ranging from charity to sport secretaries.

Whilst the 6th form experience is about gaining independence, we place enormous value on personalised support for each student throughout their two year journey. Our experienced form tutors and Personal Study Mentors help students to maintain their progress, are a sounding board for new ideas and ambitions, and provides pastoral support and academic challenge.

Do you want your child to secure a place at one of the country's leading Universities?

Our Oxbridge programme hosts regular events, including access to the best advice and guidance and the chance to attend degree level lectures from Professors at Oxford and Cambridge, amongst other outstanding red brick institutions. We have an unrelenting approach to ensuring that our students achieve academic success.

Our annual Oxbridge conference provides a dynamic experience to focus our aspiring Oxford and Cambridge candidates on their application.

“The sixth form is a strength of the school. It is well led, and teaching is typically strong. Students attain the grades of which they are capable across the academic and vocational courses provided.”

- Ofsted



Enriching your life – broadening horizons

What makes Malbank 6th Form special is the time we dedicate to enriching our students' lives and broadening their horizons. All students participate in our “Free for All” programme. This unique initiative asks students to use one of their free periods over the course of the two week timetable to support others.

Our Sixth Formers act as positive role models to our lower school pupils, helping them to aspire.

Making Malbank a seven year journey gives you the peace of mind that your child is best placed to develop their potential as they plan for university or their desired career.

If you would like to find out more about Malbank 6th Form, come to our open evening in the autumn term.

You can follow us on:
Twitter@Malbank6thForm
or contact us on 01270 611009.

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