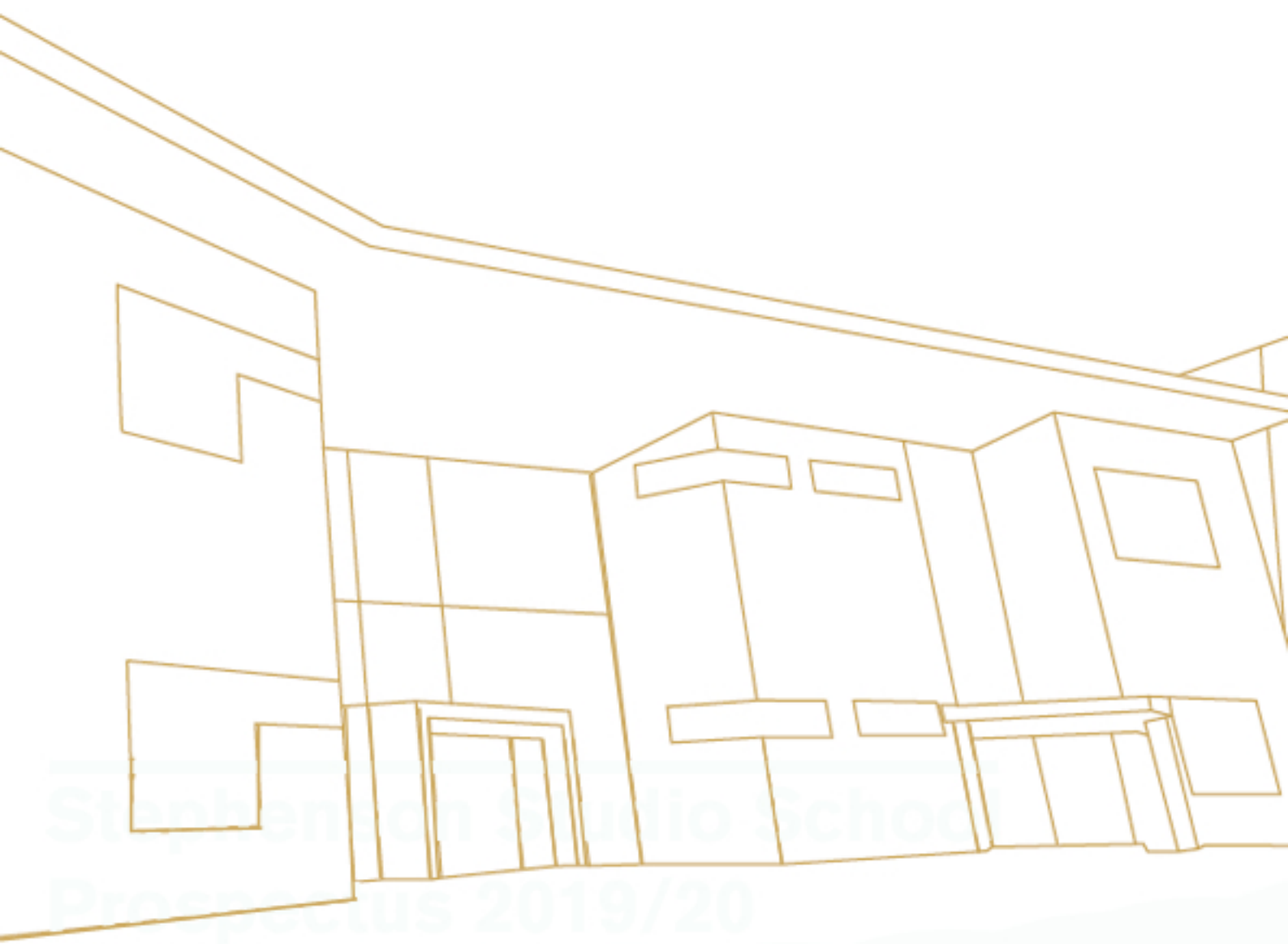

It all starts at Stephenson



stephensonstudioschool



@stephensonstudioschool



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Welcome from the Headteacher

Choosing a school is one of the toughest decisions we're ever likely to make. Before we choose, it's important to be clear about what we want from a school.

Of course we want young people to have qualifications that will open the door to an apprenticeship, further study or their chosen career but ultimately, we all want young people to be successful in work. Successful young people create wealth and enable us all to have a better society. All too often employers lament that young people are not ready for work. It's not just that they can lack basic skills. Often the problem is more fundamental: young people lack confidence and a passion for learning.

A thirst for learning is vital. The mere acquisition of knowledge is never enough for anyone. Knowledge dates. Every one of us will have to learn new skills and become steeped in new fields of knowledge at some point of our lives.

I am passionate about learning and about personal development. It is why I am both a teacher and a learner.

Part of being successful in both life and work is recognising what we don't know more than what we do. It is by being open to the possibility of finding better ways of working, of achieving, of producing, of living, that we become better people and contribute more to society.

At Stephenson Studio School we help young people develop a thirst for learning. In doing so, we help them to become confident people who have all the necessary skills and attributes to enable them to succeed in adult life. We are well placed to do this because of our commitment:

- Maximum Class sizes of 18
- Pathway to employment into Motor Vehicle, Hair and Beauty, Construction, or Business
- Employability readiness programme
- Weekly work placements
- Highly personalised support through individual education plans

K. Hobbs Headteacher



Our Student Voice

92 % of students enjoy coming to Stephenson Studio School

82% of students value their workplacement opportunities at Stephenson Studio School and feel that it is preparing them for life!

What is a Studio School?

They are designed to equip young people with the knowledge, skills and experiences they will need to succeed in both life and work.

Studio schools offer a unique way of learning which includes teaching through enterprise projects and real work. Offering a range of academic and vocational qualifications including GCSE's in English, Maths and Science as well as work placements linked directly to employment opportunities in the local area.

The model has been developed on the back of extensive research and in partnership with local and national employers, the country's leading education agencies and partners from up and down the country.

Students gain a broad range of employability and life skills helping young people prepare for successful working lives.

Our Studio School is sponsored by Stephenson College, renowned for excellence and innovation in learning, offering further and higher education courses with excellent links with local and national employers.

Our Studio School

Through innovative teaching in small class sizes, exceptional vocational training along with meaningful and challenging work experience we help young people achieve their full potential in a happy, safe environment

We treat every student as an individual and provide exceptional pastoral care, providing guidance, support and encouragement to face all challenges.

We allow young people to develop positively as people, progressing into higher education and employment

Our strong links with local employers ensure our students experience valuable work placements

We equip young people with the knowledge, employability and enterprise skills to succeed in life and work

Our Curriculum

Year 10 & 11

Students start their journey with us at Year 10 where they study:

GCSE's

Students study five core subjects:

**Mathematics
English Language
English Literature
Combined Science
Business**

Vocational Studies

Choosing either Motor Vehicle, Hair & Beauty or Construction

Plus:

Weekly work-placement, Duke of Edinburgh, Passport to employment, Citizenship, Health, Fitness & Wellbeing and PSHE (Personal, Social Health & Economic Education).

“Pupils achieve well in work-related subjects that match their abilities and interests well. Pupils’ personal development is good due to the effective guidance and support that they receive from staff.

The curriculum, enhanced by extra-curricular activities and weekly work experience, helps pupils to prepare well for their next steps.”

Ofsted June 2018



Work Placements

From the second term, students start their work placements, experiencing meaningful internships for one day each week with a reputable, local, employer.

Each student works closely with their Personal Coach and the prospective employer to plan their internship. Students develop an understanding of teamwork, interpersonal development and seeing idea through from inception to execution. They are also expected to take responsibility for a focused piece of work that can be used as part of their curriculum vitae.

Our strong partnerships with local employers ensure each student receives the best possible work placement for their skills, interest and knowledge. Our bespoke programme means that all students develop their employability and enterprise skills to their full potential.

Some of the companies we work with:



“Our workplacement Student is a real star, nothing is too much trouble for her and she often stays late to get things finished. We will definitely be offering her a part-time job when she is 16”

“Our Studio School student is a pleasure to have around, we have placements students that are older than her and more experienced but she runs rings around them. We are really pleased to have her working with us”

“Our Thursday helper from the Studio School is brilliant, he has made an enormous impact with the staff and the customers really like him.”

By the end of Year 11 we expect every student to be able to operate in an adult working environment and to have the understanding, skills and stamina to do it effectively.



Our Step Into Programme

We are proud to deliver a unique 'Step In To Programme' aimed at young people aged 16+ who are not quite ready to progress on to further education. Our Studio School and Stephenson College have worked together to create a new bespoke study programme to support students bridge the gap between school and college; building the academic skills, employability skills, independence, emotional maturity and resilience to move successfully into a technical study programme or work.

This 'Step Into' Programme will provide school leavers with the opportunity to Step into College, Step into Apprenticeships, Step into Work and Step into Success.

'Step Into' students will be enrolled within the school, where they will benefit from pastoral sessions, tutorials, academic mentoring and coaching sessions. They will have a base within the school to feel secure; building their confidence, employability skills and independent study skills. Students will benefit from; an average of two days per week of work experience, English and maths tutorials, (where resits are needed) and an introduction to College life and technical study programmes. They will take either a certified course, modules or tasters within the College, (depending on their individual requirements), as they begin their journey to successful vocational study, apprenticeship programmes or employment in a subject area of their choice. Information, Advice and Guidance will be provided to students throughout the year and opportunities identified for them to enrol on their next step.

THE FIRST
STEPS TO
Success
BEGIN



Stephenson Studio School

Excellence and enterprise in learning

Preparing for Success: The CREATE Framework

The CREATE skills framework is unique to Studio Schools and has been developed to form the basis of our school curriculum to ensure students develop the core skills required to enable them to succeed at work and life. Key employability and life skills underpin all the activities and our school using the CREATE framework which consists of a wide range of skills and strands for:

Communication

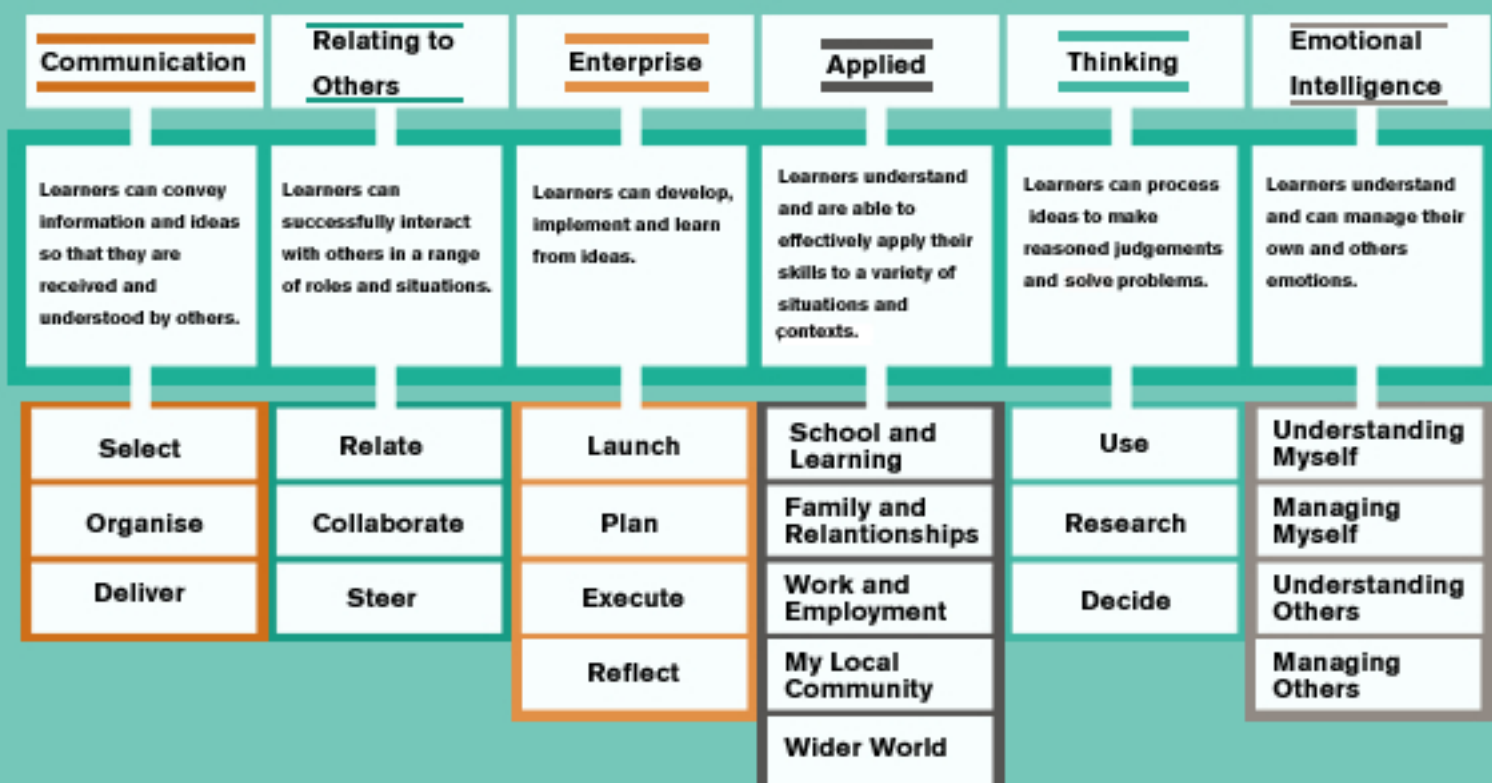
Relating to People

Enterprise

Applying Knowledge

Thinking

Emotional Intelligence



Progression

Ultimately we are preparing students for a successful working life and this may happen in a number of ways:

- **Assisting students to find the best university, college or further training to enable them to acquire the further skills they need for work**
- **Preparing learners for immediate entry into working life**
- **Enabling learners to set up their own business**

Whichever route a student takes, their time at our school will be focused on helping them achieve their full potential and realise their dreams. We believe that achievement is a product of setting stretching but realistic targets. We support excellence by setting and maintaining high standards for all and we regularly assess students work and their progress towards target grades.

Termly reports are sent out to parents and we convene regular discussions in order to ensure all students achieve their full potential. Every student has an Individual Education Plan (IEP) and this forms the basis of their relationship with their Personal Coach. Where students show signs of having difficulties or unexpected underachievement, we support them in addressing the reasons for any deviation from their IEP.

We are able to offer nurture group provision in a fully supported classroom environment with dedicated staff. This is aimed at students who require additional scaffolding and a more supported pathway to access KS4 qualifications. Through a bespoke entry level programme we help to build skills and knowledge with the opportunity to integrate into some or all of their GCSEs if or when they are fully confident. This approach has proved very successful enabling our learners to achieve and secure meaningful destinations. We ensure that all of our students have clear progression routes through to higher education or employment. We build on our excellent links with local employers and training providers to ensure our students receive the best higher education opportunities and meaningful work experience as an integral part of their individualised programme of study.



Stephenson College

Located within Stephenson College enables us to benefit from all their facilities and experienced staff. Whilst we have our own dedicated classrooms and clusters, accessed by a fingerprint entry system, we also benefit from using the college facilities such as the gym, astro pitch and Gordons's café bistro. Our vocational programmes are taught in the colleges bespoke facilities including a full working hair and beauty salon, motor vehicle workshops and construction areas. The College work closely with many national employers including Renault, Volvo and Sanctuary Housing who bring with them a wealth of industry expertise, technology and resource which our students can benefit from.



Partnership with Parents

Schools alone cannot ensure students success. Parents' views are fundamental to a young person's success and we recognise that parents need to be empowered so they can be effective partners in their children's learning. We ensure we provide regular information and updates and are kept abreast of developments so parents are aware of what their children are doing, when and how well, allowing them to offer support in the right way at the right time. We encourage relationships between parents and the school allowing parents to meet and talk with tutors about their child's progress. Our door is always open.

Application Process

Complete a copy of our application form available from www.stephensonstudioschool.co.uk

OR

Apply for a place via your Local Authority. Applications should be completed and sent to the LA by the end of October of the year before your child is due to start Year 10.

Confirmation of places will be sent out in the March.

Where there are more applications than places our over-subscription criteria will apply. This criteria is outlined in our admission policy which can be found on our website.

Any available places after March will be allocated on a first come first served basis. Application forms should be completed as soon as possible to avoid disappointment.

Pre-admission Information & Advice Evening

Prior to starting at Stephenson Studio School, parents and students will be invited to attend an Information and Advice Evening where we will cover our vision, the school pledge, an overview of transition, our unique selling point, our curriculum, work placement, expectations, support, Individual education plans and our progression flight paths.

Pre-admission meeting with the Senior Leadership Team

All parents and students are required to attend a pre admission meeting with the Headteacher and the senior leadership team. This meeting supports us to create an entry profile, explore aspirations, set desired outcomes and plan a learning journey which is supported by agreed targets. The meeting supports the creation of an individual education plan which is reviewed termly by parents and the attached tutor.

Transition

All new students will be invited to a Transition Week in the July before they start to ensure their transition from Year 9 to Year 10 is smooth and effective.

During this week students will engage in teambuilding activities with their new peers, begin to develop their employability skills, consider their pathway to next steps through careers education, information and guidance and finally visit an effective business to explore their business strategy.

In keeping with our rewards culture there is a rewards trip which is available to all students who have met our expectations throughout the week.

An early introduction to the school is necessary for some students who have previously been home schooled, or have not had a successful KS3 experience, or who are anxious or who have specific learning difficulties for whom change is particularly challenging then we offer an extended transition programme where students become gradually immersed in school life prior to transition week.

Equality

We provide appropriate opportunities for everyone to maximise their potential regardless of background, circumstances, faith, gender, sexual orientation or disabilities. We promote a supportive environment free from discrimination.

For those students who live more than four miles away we provide a free bus pass.

#StartAtStephenon



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