



The perfect environment
for learning and discovery



WEST BUCKLAND
SCHOOL

Headmaster: Mr Phillip Stapleton BSc MA Ed MBA MRSC

West Buckland, Barnstaple, Devon, United Kingdom EX32 0SX

Telephone: +44 (0) 1598 760000 • **Email:** admissions@westbuckland.com

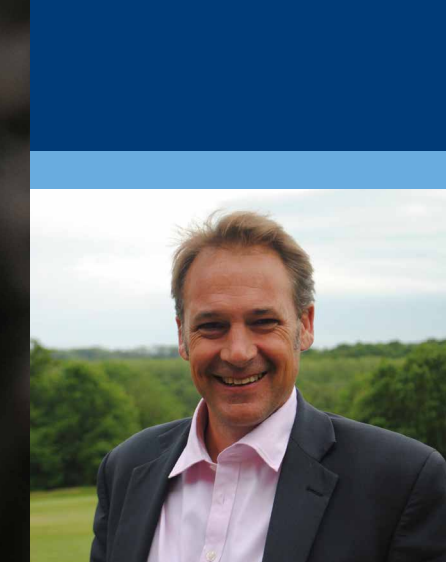
www.westbuckland.com

Registered Charity: 1167545



WEST BUCKLAND
SENIOR SCHOOL

Forward | Thinking



Academic excellence is the heart of the West Buckland education, not just in its own right, but because it opens doors in pupils' lives. Our pupils challenge their knowledge and dreams through exposure to ambitious cultural, intellectual, sporting, outdoor, and service programmes, allowing them to develop as balanced, accomplished individuals who can make a difference.

Everything we do at West Buckland is focused on developing our values, which we call our 7Cs: confidence, care, commitment, courage, creativity, critical thinking and curiosity. Our pupils learn to believe in themselves and in what they can achieve, whilst acquiring the skills necessary to make the most of future opportunities. Thus, they do not just enjoy their time here, they thrive and excel.

We also emphasise the importance of having a sense of duty, an awareness of right and wrong and a respect for others and the world we live in. As a school we celebrate diversity and understand the importance of our environment and challenging the norm, exploring new ideas and blazing new trails.

You are warmly invited to visit us and meet the people who are the beating heart of the school.

Phillip Stapleton
Headmaster

Forward thinking

Our pupils develop as balanced, accomplished individuals who can make a difference.





Scan here to see
our full range of
academic subjects

Academic excellence

Learning for achievement,
learning for pleasure, learning for life.

We aim to provide a challenging and exciting curriculum for all our students and have adopted the PIE theory of delivering education:

PERSONALISED: We aim to nurture students so that they are celebrated and leave having achieved their personal best.

INNOVATIVE: We want to be leaders in offering an education which is forward thinking, extending beyond classroom constraints.

EXCELLENT: We strive to be the number one choice of school for outstanding, holistic, co-education in the South West.

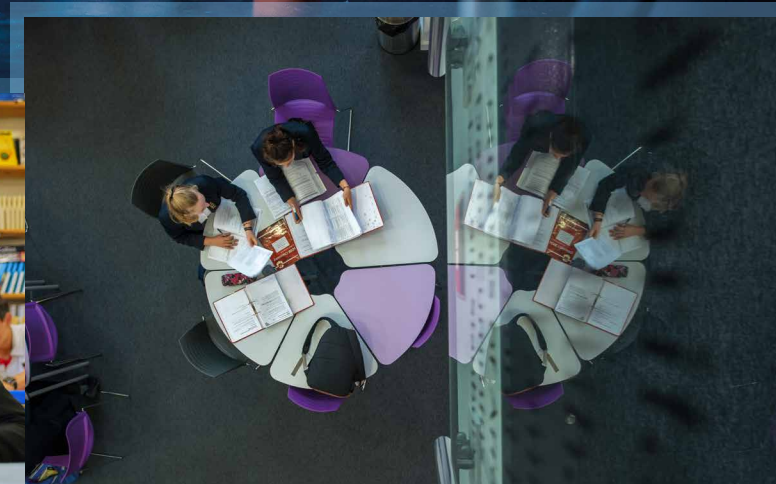
We are able to do this through pupils benefitting from the many excellent facilities designed to empower their learning.

Amongst these is the Michael Morpurgo Library which provides an outstanding study, reading and learning environment for all ages, with an upstairs study area for exclusive use by the Sixth Form.

Personalised Learning

Our recently opened **Personalised Learning and Development Hub** is open to all students but especially for those with specific learning needs. Through metacognition and study skills, specialist teachers provide sessions either one-to-one or in small groups and 'quiet areas' are open to all.

Students from overseas receive individual support from the **English as an Additional Language** department through a mixture of individual, group and self-access courses.



Getting the Balance Right

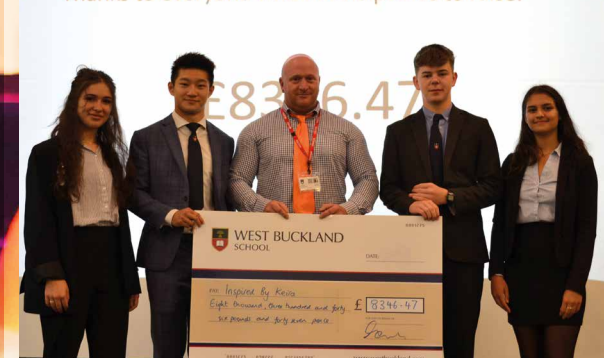
We believe that education should be part of living and not separate from it.

Our co-curricular programme has been carefully devised to make a wider impact on our students: to influence character development; to develop teamwork; to inspire service to others; to promote a healthy lifestyle and to pursue excellence.

We believe in this wholeheartedly, so we have shaped the weekly timetable accordingly, so that it includes, amongst other things, MAD (Make a Difference) Monday – allowing a full afternoon a week to dedicate to co-curricular activities such as CCF, sport, charity work, creative arts, academic extension or outdoor pursuits.



Thanks to everyone who has helped us to raise:



Day and boarding pupils: A caring community

Students thrive in a caring and comfortable community.

Pastoral care is a vital element in the success of our pupils' education - students will thrive in a happy environment where they feel well-known and well cared for.

Pastoral care comes in many different layers. Every pupil belongs to one of our four houses and are members of a tutor group which meets daily. Housemasters and Housemistresses work closely with tutors to ensure that the children's welfare is monitored as carefully as their academic progress and that communication between school and home is effective. In addition, we have introduced regular team building activities, peer-to-peer mentoring and access to on-site counsellors and wellbeing experts, offering reassurance, support and advice.

Boarders in Years 7 - 11 enjoy a close community in our single-sex boarding houses, whilst our Sixth Form live in Parker's, which houses 70 single en suite bedrooms, kitchens and a variety of spacious social areas. All boarders can take part in an extensive choice of evening and weekend boarding activities including surfing, coasteering, cooking, swimming and yoga.

Boarding does not aim to replace family life but to supplement and strengthen it and our weekly boarding offer is increasingly popular. Our boarders benefit not only from easy access to sport and study facilities but also from being part of a vibrant boarding community.

Christian practices and values are part of the school's life but students of all faiths or none are welcomed and encouraged. Our school Chaplain is available to all students and staff during the day.



School Transport

Our extensive daily bus service covers North Devon and beyond to ensure as many of our local pupils as possible have access to the service. Most weekday sporting and extra-curricular activities will conclude in time for buses home in the evening.

The bus carries a nominal termly fee and is used by the vast majority of our students from both the Prep and Senior school.

We operate a pick up and drop off service to Heathrow at the start and end of every term for international students.

Developing active minds, promoting active lives

West Buckland has a long and established tradition in sport and outdoor learning.

Our students enjoy impressive sporting facilities, including the Jonathan Edwards Sports Centre which includes a first class fitness suite and full size sports hall, with capacity for a basketball court, four badminton courts, four cricket nets, indoor tennis, hockey, netball, and five-a-side football.

Outdoor sports facilities include cricket, rugby and football pitches, an all-weather hockey pitch, sixteen tennis courts, two squash courts, two shooting ranges and a 25m indoor pool.

In addition to an extensive fixture list for rugby, hockey, netball, cricket, basketball and tennis, we also offer coaching and competition in cross-country, athletics, swimming, football, shooting and squash.

Our performance programmes in tennis, boys hockey and netball support talented sportsmen and women through a pathway that will ensure their development.

Physical challenges are not restricted to the sports field. We hold regular strength and conditioning sessions for senior students and have recently introduced classes in yoga, meditation and martial arts, which are extremely popular and form an important role in ensuring student health and wellbeing.

Dance is also extremely popular, with a wide range of dance disciplines available to all ages.

The Exmoor Run, which has been an annual cross-country event for over 150 years, is an exciting event for the school and a notable feature of the Spring Term.





A leader in the arts

The performing and creative arts are of great significance at West Buckland and we set high standards which our students constantly exceed.

The 150 Building is a superb statement of the school's commitment to creativity with facilities that rival the best in the country. There are three art studios, including a bespoke Sixth Form art studio, which A-level students can always access. Many of our artists go on to study art or architecture at some of the country's best universities and art colleges.

Design Technology students work in two first class workshops together with a dedicated ICT room. They have opportunities to employ a wide range of media and cutting-edge techniques.

The 150 Building also includes a fine 120-seater theatre, used for curriculum drama, dance and school performances. Many pupils embark on LAMDA exams and specialist speech and drama lessons. All students are encouraged to take part in the house and school drama programme, enhancing their directorial, production and script writing skills as well as acting.

The lively, vibrant Music Department runs a wide range of junior and senior choirs, orchestras, jazz and concert bands and chamber groups. These have numerous opportunities to perform throughout the year within and outside of school.

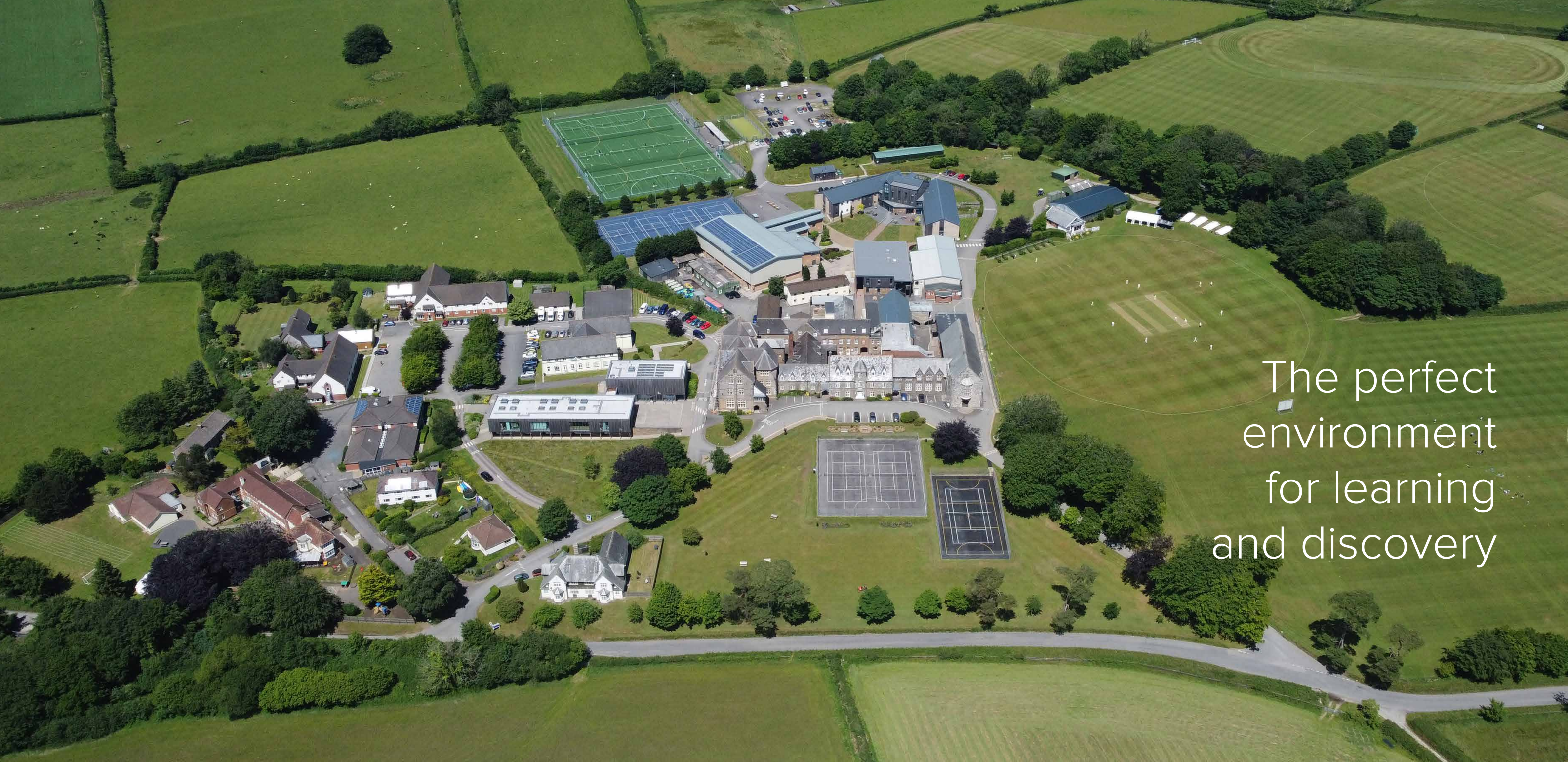
Pupils are encouraged to try a wide range of instruments in curriculum music lessons before embarking on their musical journey and a full programme of formal and informal concerts provides opportunities for musicians at all levels to perform in front of an audience.

Individual instrumental and singing lessons are available.



Scan here to find out more





The perfect environment for learning and discovery



Parker's Sixth Form House



Michael Morpurgo Library



The Jonathan Edwards Sports Centre

"Pupils across all ages show very positive and productive attitudes towards their learning – with senior pupils developing greater independent learning skills as they moved up the school."

Independent Schools Inspectorate

Sixth Form and beyond: Future ready

The Sixth Form is the pinnacle of school life and we encourage our students to express their own views, think independently, develop their own ideas and gain the confidence to succeed in life beyond school.

Students will choose between the A-level/BTEC programme or the IB Career-related Programme (IBCP) - recently introduced - which is a mix of vocational and academic studies. Both routes support entry to higher education and, invariably, our results will secure students into some of the world's top universities.

The opening of Parker's, our new Sixth Form house, has created a friendly and close-knit community. As well as 70 single en suite bedrooms, Parker's has vibrant and welcoming communal areas where both boarders and day pupils can relax and socialise, creating a strong identity for Sixth Form students.

The Michael Morpurgo Library has a dedicated area for Sixth Formers, providing an ideal working environment for A-level study.

Boarding is very popular in the Sixth Form and many students choose to weekly or full board, enabling them to use the facilities and access the schedule of extra-curricular activities in the evenings.

Students are offered extensive career and HE options advice from external specialists and leaders of industry and receive monthly newsletters, updates and ideas from our excellent HE and Careers Department.

We also have a vibrant programme of Life Skills courses, from self-defence to managing finances and car maintenance.



Sixth Form Diploma

Our Sixth Form Diploma has been developed as part of our commitment to prepare students for an enriching future. It encourages our students to explore and experience a range of co-curricular activities and challenges, ranging from academic enrichment to service in the community and sport, to develop the character values that form the very core of the school. Students are encouraged to reflect on their choices and what they have learned.



The Great Outdoors

Making the most of our outstanding location.

With a strong focus on wellbeing and providing a healthy lifestyle for our students, we offer a balanced curriculum which includes numerous opportunities to take part in outdoor learning and adventure.

From Year 9, pupils can join the Combined Cadet Force, engaging in activities from flying and sailing to shooting, camping and first aid, as well as exercise weekends on Dartmoor and Exmoor.

Our busy outdoor learning department provides opportunities to climb, kayak, surf, coasteer and trek both in North Devon and further afield. We enter multiple teams into the famous 'Ten Tors' expedition on Dartmoor and support impressive numbers of students through their Duke of Edinburgh Awards at all levels.



West Buckland Nursery and Preparatory School

West Buckland's Nursery and Preparatory School provide an excellent start for children between the ages of three and eleven.

Both these are located on their own site adjacent to the Senior School, therefore benefiting from its excellent facilities, including Michael Morpurgo Library, swimming pool and art studios. We have created an atmosphere that is secure, exciting and dynamic because we believe that a happy child feels free to explore, to discover and to learn.

Please contact us if you would like a copy of our Preparatory School prospectus.



The West Buckland School Foundation, OWBA and Parents' Association

The West Buckland School community embraces far more people than the current pupils, parents and staff.

Supporting our long term development is the West Buckland Foundation. It raises funds for capital projects and for bursaries to enable the school to provide opportunities for children whose families would not otherwise be able to send them to this school.

All parents are members of the Parents' Association which organises many enjoyable events throughout the year, and also raises funds for a number of projects each year. Former pupils in this country and around the world enthusiastically support the Old West Buckland Association.

Together, these groups provide a great deal of practical support for the school. They contribute in many ways to the richness of life at West Buckland and help the school to develop its many links with the community in North Devon and further afield.



Getting to know us

A good starting point for more information is our website, www.westbuckland.com.

The best way to decide if West Buckland is right for you and your children is to come for a visit.

Open Days, both on the campus and virtual, are held regularly during the year and provide an opportunity to view the facilities, ask questions and meet staff and pupils.

However, we like to think that every day is an Open Day and we welcome visiting families so we can get to know you and your children. Taster days are also an option, when possible, where your child will be immersed into a typical day at school and meet some of their year group.

To arrange a visit at a time to suit you, please contact us on **01598 760178** or by email: admissions@westbuckland.com.

Parent Testimonials:

"It has been an extremely positive move for our daughter. She loves the school, her teacher and she has made some good friends. We are really happy with it all so far!"

"Our son, from Barcelona, is having a great time in West Buckland. Learning a lot, perfecting his English, and growing up as a person. Glad to give him this great chance."