



**Ousedale School**  
Aspire | Believe | Achieve



Newport Pagnell Campus & Olney Campus Prospectus

[www.ousedale.org.uk](http://www.ousedale.org.uk)

# Contents

Welcome	Page 3
Our Vision Statement	Page 4
School Motto	Page 5
Aims	Page 5
Curriculum	Page 6
Music	Page 8
Enrichment	Page 9
Homework & Assessment	Page 10
Individual Student Support	Page 11
Assessment & Reporting	Page 12
Careers	Page 13
Safeguarding & Child Protection	Page 14
Partnership with home	Page 14
Admissions	Page 15



Headteacher - Sue Carbert

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The headteacher is passionately committed to ensuring that the school enables students to achieve as well as they possibly can.

• MARCH 2015 REVIEW

## Welcome

from, Sue Carbert, Headteacher.

Ousedale School is an 11-19 academy based on two campuses: Newport Pagnell and Olney. We have an absolute belief that all children can succeed and become successful learners.

The school regularly receives awards for consistently achieving high standards:

Two national awards for student progress at GCSE in 2014 and Best School in Milton Keynes by the National Good School Guide in 2015 for both our GCSE and A level results.

The sixth form is the top sixth form in Milton Keynes and has been for 9 years.

## Our Vision Statement

The School places at its heart a relentless focus on standards combined with a strong emphasis on the development of each young person's skills and attributes. Our goal remains to enhance and develop our exceptional learning community for all students.

We have built a reputation for providing outstanding pastoral care; this combined with a strong emphasis on building resilience, relationships, engagement, effort and providing constructive feedback. A child first and foremost is an individual to get to know, understand and respect, and secondly an Ousedale School student.

The vision is heavily influenced by our values and beliefs about education and is shared by the staff and governing body; it also reflects the changing national landscape and the return to more challenging examinations with a greater emphasis on literacy, numeracy and the mastery of knowledge. Opportunities to broaden horizons and develop character are a very strong feature of the school. Whilst we provide students with an incredible range of enriching opportunities, our notable expertise and passion lies in the field of music and forms an integral part of school life.

Students will leave Ousedale equipped to compete in a changing world and with a strong set of British values: democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty, mutual respect and tolerance. It is very important to us that each student, regardless of their ability, has the opportunity to shine.

We want our students to be able to realise the words of our motto to 'Aspire Believe and Achieve' in all we stand for and all that we, and our students, aspire to be.



## School Motto

### Aspire

Students, supported by staff and parents, are motivated to aim high in everything they do. They aspire to new heights: academically, practically and through the acquisition of new skills.

### Believe

Students, with staff, develop resilience, independence and self-belief in their ability to lead and reach challenging targets.

### Achieve

Students achieve outstanding results and share responsibility for their learning, enabling them to progress onto pathways of their choice, succeed in a competitive world and contribute to the success of the school.



## Our Aims

To enhance and develop our Exceptional Learning Community through:

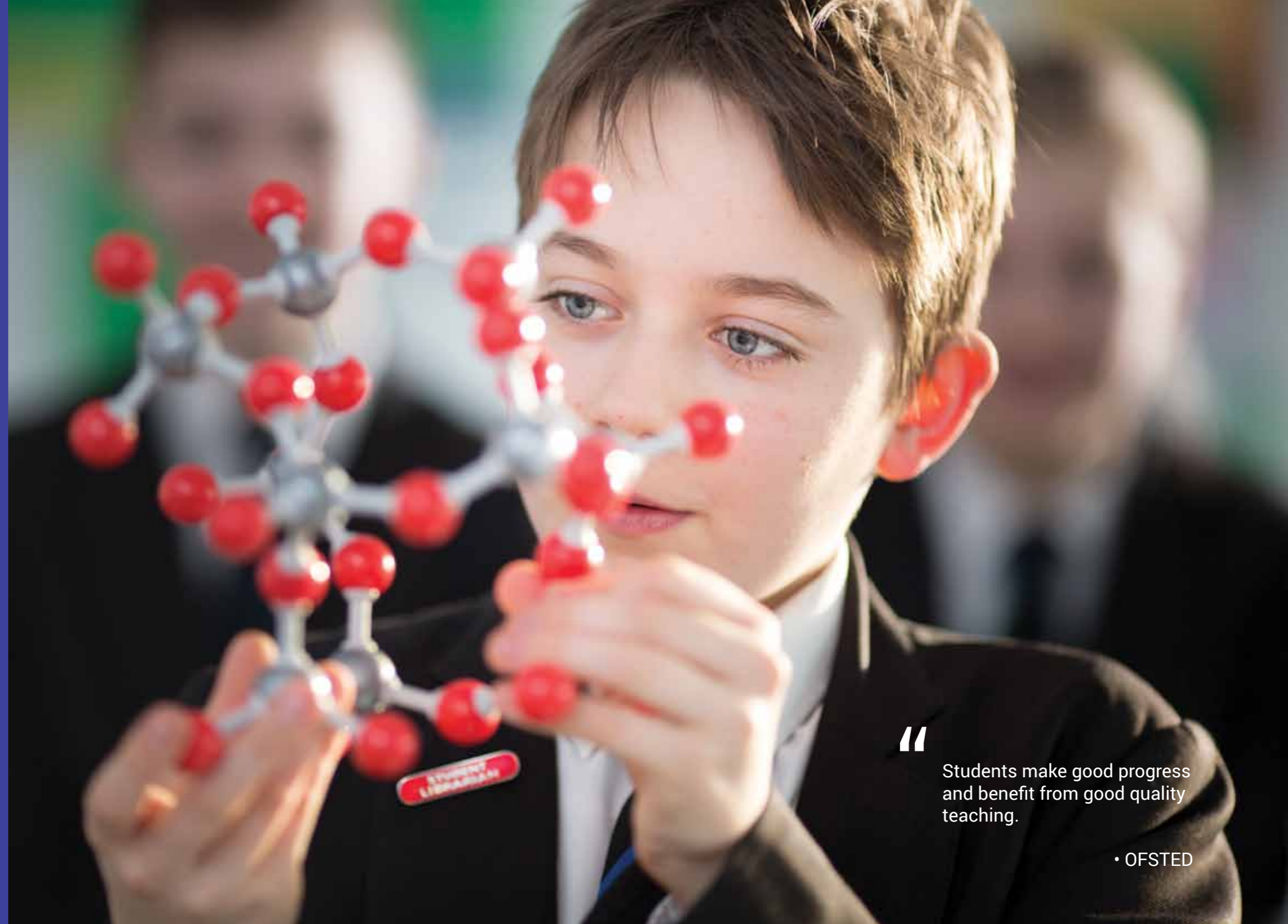
- high expectations and standards
- nurturing a thirst for knowledge and a love of learning
- excellent teaching
- personalised support and guidance
- broadening horizons and developing character
- enriching opportunities for all
- effective and creative partnerships with students, parents and our community

## Curriculum

We believe that it is important for students to follow a broad and balanced curriculum throughout their school lives, particularly up to the age of 16. The idea is certainly reflected in the Ousedale curriculum, and will be increasingly relevant in a constantly changing scene for employment and Further Education.

We believe the whole curriculum provides opportunities for the development of personal and social skills. All subject areas aim to contribute to the spiritual, moral, social and cultural (SMSC) development of students in an environment that promotes British values.

The curriculum also reflects acknowledgement of our responsibilities towards developing student health and well-being. In this way our curriculum and pastoral systems work together for the progress of all students.



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Students make good progress and benefit from good quality teaching.

• OFSTED

### Key Stage 3

Our curriculum in Years 7, 8 and 9 (the first three years at Ousedale) for all students covers English, Maths, Science, Computing and Digital Applications, Technology, Art, Music, Drama, History, Geography, Modern Foreign Languages, Physical Education, Religious Education and Personal Development.

Students will be able to choose some options in Arts and Technology for their Year 9 study.

### Key Stage 4

All students study English Language and Literature, Maths, Science, Religious Studies, Physical Education, Careers and a Personal and Social Education programme. In Years 10 and 11 a degree of choice is available within a broad curriculum framework. The choices are made in Year 9 by students and their parents, in consultation with subject and form tutors. Our curriculum is student focused and is flexible

enough to ensure students can follow a totally academic route or a mixture of academic and vocational. Students choose options from: History, Geography, Computing, Music, Drama, Art, Spanish, French, Engineering, Food Technology, Health and Social Care, Business Studies, Graphics, Sport Studies, Child Development, Digital and Media Production, Hospitality and Textiles. (final offer subject to change)

# Music

## Our Specialism

We believe music enriches lives and broadens education – either by taking part or listening to others sing or play a musical instrument. All students are encouraged to participate. Our admission criteria provides an opportunity for 10% of students outside our catchment, with an aptitude for music, to gain a place at Ousedale by sitting an aptitude test. See our website for further details.



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The curriculum promotes students’ spiritual, social, moral and social development .

• OFSTED



## Enrichment

Extra-curricular activities and our Enrichment programme (over 50 activities) which includes Student Leadership Development, Duke of Edinburgh Award, music, drama and sport make Ousedale School an incredible place for students to learn and grow.

Some of the activities on offer include:

### Music:

Instrument tuition, orchestra, young musician of the year, school productions, Encore, chorus

### Sport:

Football, Rugby, cricket, basketball, handball, tennis, rounders, cycling, fencing, street dance, athletics, trampolining

### University Preparation sessions (ASPIRE):

Debating, university visits, molecular biology, quantum mechanics, code breaking, game theory, microbiology, forensic science, philosophical enquiry





## Individual Student Support

Our aim is to ensure that all our students achieve their full potential both academically and socially. The school employs an array of specialist staff to support the needs of all of our students including: specialist teachers, learning mentors, qualified matron, behaviour coaches, High Level Teaching Assistants and a team of teaching assistants.

Students may also receive support, as appropriate to their needs, from counsellors, speech and language therapists and the educational psychologist.

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The school has been successful in narrowing gaps in achievement between different groups of students. Disabled students and students with special educational needs attain higher than similar students nationally.

• OFSTED

## Homework and Assessment

Homework plays an important role in all curriculum areas. Teachers expect all homework to be completed to a high standard and handed in on time. The completion of homework is compulsory and failure to do so is taken seriously.

In year 7 students are expected to spend between one and two hours completing homework each evening – all students receive a homework timetable. We ask parents to inform their child's form tutor or subject teacher immediately if there are any problems completing homework, in order to resolve matters quickly.



## Assessment and Reporting

We monitor students' progress closely through regular assessments. This allows us to address underachievement quickly, and provide new challenges to those who are doing well.

This is achieved through:

- Regular literacy testing
- Close monitoring of class work and homework
- Moderation of student work against national standards
- Tests at regular intervals throughout a subject course
- End of year examinations

Progress Review reports are sent home regularly to parents providing information about progress towards targets, attainment, homework, attitude to learning, attendance and behaviour; Form Tutors comment on each child.



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The school always looks for solutions and strategies to support my child. He would never have managed alone without their help.

• PARENT



## Careers

The work of Careers Information, Advice and Guidance is seen as an important part of a student's entitlement. Ousedale School believes in the importance of fostering strong links with Careers Advisory Services, institutes for further education, business and industry in order that all students have a broad information base from which to make decisions about career pathways.

The School encourages close links with parents ensuring they share in establishing a partnership in which students will be able to make sensible, informed career choices. It is recognised that Careers Information, Advice and Guidance occurs across the whole curriculum and as such involves all staff.

## Safeguarding and Child Protection

At the core of our belief structure is a profound responsibility for child welfare. Each campus has staff who have designated child protection responsibilities. In addition to this regular staff training is undertaken so that every single member of Ousedale staff is aware of his or her role to report any concerns that they may have over child welfare. We work with students, families and outside agencies to support all of our children in education.

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Arrangements for safeguarding students are robust and effective.

• OFSTED



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The broad and imaginative curriculum helps to prepare students for the next stage of their education, training or employment.

• MARCH 2015 REVIEW

## Partnership with home

Working in close partnership with parents remains at the heart of our work because we believe that mutual support and partnership is the very best way to support our students. The work of the form tutor is fundamental to this and form tutors, who see their tutees twice a day, are the lynch pin of our pastoral system. They are supported in their roles by the Pastoral and Academic Leaders and Senior Leadership Team.



## Admissions

Applications are made to Ousedale School as a whole and no preference for campus allocation can be made. Students are allocated Newport Pagnell or Olney campus depending on their permanent residential address. A varied programmed of primary-secondary transition activities and student induction, together with further meetings for parents, will take place during the two terms before enrolment.





# Ousedale School

## Newport Pagnell Campus

The Grove, Newport Pagnell  
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