

The Magna Carta School

LEARNING SHAPES LIVES





Welcome to The Magna Carta School

Mr Craig Adams, Head of School, says

I am immensely proud to welcome you to the Magna Carta School; a vibrant, dynamic, non-selective secondary school that serves the local community and secures great outcomes for students.

Learning shapes lives

Our core belief that 'learning shapes lives' is at the heart of everything we do. We are unwavering in our commitment to deliver academic excellence and rich experiences so that students can flourish, be happy and make a positive difference in the world.

Everyone deserves a great education

We believe wholeheartedly in the power of teaching great lessons every day. The awe and wonder that the world has to offer is brought directly into the classroom by our dedicated and highly skilled staff team. We empower students to excel in every aspect of their development because we are clear that everyone deserves a great education.

"Educating the mind without educating the heart is no education at all." Aristotle.

Inspiring curiosity

Our rigorous, knowledge-rich curriculum has been expertly designed and inspires curiosity in students as soon as they join us in Year 7. We instil a passion for learning and never stop encouraging our students to believe in their ability and strive to be the best version of themselves.

Inclusive

We take great pride in being an inclusive school that celebrates the diversity of our community, and we are firmly committed to maintaining an environment where everyone feels safe, valued and supported.

Kindness, respect and empathy

Our students enjoy coming to school because we have fostered a culture of kindness, respect and empathy that permeates all aspects of school life. We are clear that developing the heart is equally as important as developing the mind so that students leave us having not only gained excellent qualifications but also having developed a strong set of moral values that are deep-rooted in kindness and gratitude.

Anaya likes the wide variety of subjects she is being offered in Year 7 at The Magna Carta School

Deepak and Serina live in Stanwell with their son, Yuvraj, aged 14, and daughter, Anaya, aged 12.

Subject teachers

Deepak and Serina are pleased that Anaya is enjoying the varied range of subjects she is studying in Year 7 at The Magna Carta School. Her father, Deepak, says: "Anaya enjoys having different subject teachers and moving about from class to class during the day. She particularly likes Maths, PE, Food Tech, Spanish, Drama and Science and she is doing well academically."

Good choice

Deepak says they had no hesitation about Anaya going to Magna Carta because her older brother, Yuvraj, is doing well there. "We had sent Yuvraj out of catchment when he started at primary school to accommodate our childminder and this turned out to be lucky because it meant Yuvraj was at a feeder school for Magna Carta. He has had a great experience here."

Making friends

Yuvraj was a tough act for Anaya to follow at primary school and staff would say they hoped she would be as good as her brother, but it provided her with a challenge, and she rose to it and did well, Deepak says. "Anaya was nervous and excited when she started at Magna Carta but she quickly made some good friends."

Drama productions

Both Anaya and Yuvraj enjoy acting, singing, and dancing and Magna Carta has an excellent drama department, Deepak says. "Yuvraj enjoyed being in West Side Story and he had three roles in Shrek the Musical. Anaya loved being in Shrek as well and played two parts."

Incentive to achieve

As parents, Deepak and Serina are very satisfied with the high standards at Magna Carta and like the way



the school rewards good behaviour and achievements. "Yuvraj and Anaya like receiving rewards for their achievements and there are good incentives to do well. We are pleased that Magna Carta considers discipline important and that Anaya, who is keen to learn, is not distracted by anything."

Keeping in touch

"The quality of teaching is great and all the staff are polite and helpful to us as parents. We like the way they email us to let us know when the children have received awards for their good behaviour or achievements."

Easy to understand

Anaya says she had a very smooth transition from primary school to Magna Carta. "I was made aware of my tutor group and then was given my timetable for the week and it was all very easy to understand. The teachers were all very helpful. They showed us around the school and made us feel very comfortable."

New teachers and friends

Anaya thinks the best experience in Year 7 is being taught in different classrooms and having different teachers for each subject. "It was a big change from primary school. I enjoyed going into the different classes and meeting new teachers and making new friends," she says.

Excellent food

Anaya would recommend Magna Carta to other students because she thinks it is an extremely good school. "We have lots of places we can go to on school trips and the canteen is lovely and the food is excellent. The teachers are all very helpful and there is a good drama theatre where you can do acting, singing, dancing and school productions. I would highly recommend other students to come to The Magna Carta School."

Transition: settling in and feeling happy

We know how important it is for Year 6 students to feel ready for the transition to secondary school because we recognise what a significant change this is for them and their families. To that end, we have a comprehensive programme in place that prepares them for this important next step in their development.

Dedicated Transitions Team

We have a dedicated team of staff including the Year Team Leader, the Student Support Advisor, our Designated Safeguarding Lead, our SENDCos and a link member of the senior leadership team who work together to ensure a smooth transition between primary and secondary school.

Talking to Year 6 teachers

Our team speaks to the Year 6 classroom teachers, SENDCos and pastoral staff at primary schools to find out as much information as possible about individual students, so that when children join, our staff have the necessary knowledge to provide the best possible support for them as they start at our school.

School visits

We visit students in their primary schools so that they have an opportunity to ask questions about life at The Magna Carta School and to meet some of the staff they will see when they join us in September.

Move up to Magna (MU2M)

Every year we run MU2M, a separate additional induction for Year 6 students who are more likely to struggle significantly than their peers. This can be for a variety of reasons including additional educational needs or anxiety etc. We also run several tours of the school (often getting lost is their greatest fear) and introduce students to key relevant staff. Students then also have the benefit of meeting and making new friends ahead of September.

We see transition from primary school to secondary as vitally important.

Competitive swimmer Maddie was kept on course academically by attentive staff at The Magna Carta School

Emma and Richard live in Surrey with their son, Oliver, aged 19, and daughter, Maddie, aged 16.

Understanding teachers

Emma and Richard appreciate the attention Maddie received from the staff at The Magna Carta School, where she was helped to achieve academically while she fulfilled her promise as a competitive swimmer. Emma says: "The teachers at Magna Carta were very good with Maddie and helped her keep up with her school work while she was training and taking part in swimming competitions. She swam for Britain in 2022 and has recently taken part in Olympic trials. Maddie is now on a swimming scholarship and is currently considering universities in the US."

Enjoying learning

Emma says when Maddie started at Magna Carta, her brother, Oliver, was also there. "He had a good time at Magna Carta. He is very sporty and the staff were supportive with that, while helping him to achieve academically, and he is now at university studying sports data analysis. Maddie also settled in well, even though she had come from a small school and Magna Carta was much bigger. She was interested in all the different subjects, including ones she had never studied before, such as French."

Good balance

Maddie had excellent teachers and liked everything about the school, Emma says. "The teachers supported her academically, making sure she didn't fall behind because of her swimming. We had good, regular contact with the staff, who kept us well informed. They made sure she remained on track to do well and maintained the right balance between academic work and swimming."



Flexible staff

The location of Magna Carta helped the family as it was important to get Maddie to school as soon as possible after swimming in the mornings. Emma says: "We had good relationships with all the staff, including the receptionists, when we had to take her in late. Everyone knew about her swimming and they were always very helpful and we never had any issues."

Great support

Maddie remembers how supportive her teachers at Magna Carta were. "All the teachers would ask me how swimming was going and take an interest in the competitions. I felt as though I could always go to them if I was struggling to keep up with school work and they would understand. When I was applying to different schools, such as Repton, they sent letters of recommendation. I felt well prepared for taking my GCSEs and we were given plenty of resources. We could only do so much revision in the classroom, so being advised on how to revise at home helped and made me confident I was revising properly," she says.

Managing work and swimming

"I would often struggle to get to school on time after morning training as I had to travel from far away. The school helped me to stay on top of work and attend all my swimming sessions as well. I loved it when they took an interest in my swimming and felt if I needed any support or was having any issues, I could always ask the staff," Maddie says.

Friendly PE department

"I enjoyed being on the sports teams and loved the cross country competition each year. My brother also ran for the school when he was there. I remember in my first cross country race, Mr. Smith asking my name, and he recognised it from my brother. I loved talking to the PE staff about swimming and having GCSE level PE lessons, as the PE department were always so kind to me and my brother."

Curriculum: ambitious and knowledge-rich

Excellent outcomes

Our ambitious, knowledge-rich curriculum enables students at the Magna Carta School to secure the excellent outcomes of which they are capable regardless of their background, circumstances or starting point.

Key Stages 3-4

Key Stage 3 (Years 7 to 9)

Students study a wide range of subjects in their first three years at the Magna Carta School including: English, Mathematics, Science, History, Geography, Religious Studies (RS), Languages, Computing, Performing Arts, Creative Arts, Physical Education (PE) and Personal, Social and Health Education (PSHE).

Key Stage 4 (Years 10 and 11)


We offer a broad range of subjects to study at Key Stage 4. All students gain qualifications in core subjects - English, Mathematics and Science - while continuing to study RS, PE and PSHE.


Pathways


Alongside these Key Stage 4 subjects, students are able to choose from a number of pathways that best suit their aspirations, interests and strengths and can study humanities subjects, languages, creative arts, performing arts as well as vocational subjects.


Curriculum principles


Our curriculum is underpinned by the following guiding principles:

 **Memory recall** - we support students to build powerful, subject-specific knowledge over time and be confident to apply this in different contexts to demonstrate understanding.

 **Awe and wonder** - we inspire students to be curious about the world in which we live and develop a deep love of learning.

 **Great assessment practice** - teachers give students regular opportunities to demonstrate their knowledge and understanding through purposeful assessments that are then used to help them to fill any gaps in their knowledge before moving onto more challenging content.

 **New experiences** - students deserve to be able to participate in activities that build essential life skills including confidence, team-work and excellent communication.

 **Accessible** - the same curriculum is available to all students with a careful balance of challenge and support provided by highly skilled staff to enable success.

Our curriculum gives students the courage and determination to go into the world and take full advantage of the wide range of opportunities available to them.

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Hamish is now flourishing after enjoying a smooth transition to The Magna Carta School

Hamish and his family live two miles from The Magna Carta School.

Range of subjects

Hamish's parents are delighted with the progress their son is making at The Magna Carta School. They say: "We think the range of subjects our son has in Year 7 is great and we are pleased he does two languages, French and Spanish. Within the core subjects, it is great to see that the school stretches and challenges its pupils through problem-solving in maths and through studying a wide range of captivating texts in English.

Helpful connection

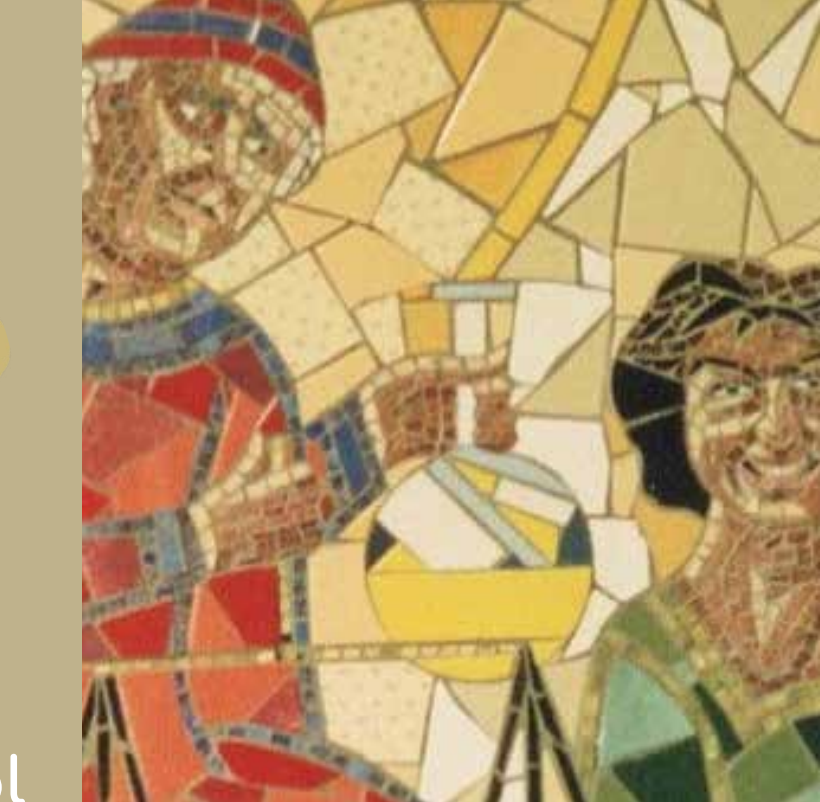
"It was a smooth transition from primary to secondary school and Hamish benefited from the school's links with feeder primary schools", the parents say. "Staff from Magna Carta visited our son's school when he was in Year 6 and taught the children a science lesson. They also had a transition day at Magna Carta, where they met their tutor and did activities."

Polite students

The family chose Magna Carta because it was the closest school to them and they had a positive impression of the school when they went to an open evening. "We felt the school celebrated the students' work through the classroom displays and work books and the student guides were polite, friendly, and informative. The Senior Leadership Team was welcoming and spoke about the direction the school was going in, showing they had clear plans for continuous improvement."

Approachable tutor

Hamish settled in very quickly and it helped that his friends had also chosen the school. "He likes his tutor and tutor group and has met new friends through the different clubs he attends. We are pleased the form tutor is always available if we ever need him and think the reward system is effective.



He has received rewards for his excellent attendance and achievements, including free pizza for lunch and a trip to see Wonka at the local cinema. It is refreshing to see a school celebrate good behaviour and reward dedicated students. The school has a clear behaviour policy, which helps create and maintain a focused and effective learning environment for students to thrive in."

Keeping in touch

"Communication is good and we are impressed with how we are able to track and monitor all activities as well as correspond with the school. We have a direct link to our child within school, such as seeing attendance lesson by lesson, daily achievement points and termly reports. Our experience of the school so far has been very positive and our daughter is excited about going to Magna Carta in two years' time."

Making new friends

Hamish says he has enjoyed the school trips on offer during Year 7 and receiving rewards such as free pizza and going to the cinema. "I have loved the after school clubs and meeting new people and making new friends. All the subjects are fun. The teachers are nice and funny, lessons are interesting and I am learning lots of new things."

Fun activities

There are a lot of extra-curricular activities at Magna Carta, which are free and fun, he says. "There is a wide choice and there's something for everyone. My favourites have been Rugby Club and Tournaments, the Swimming Gala, and the Woodwork Club. My favourite subjects have been DT, Woodwork, and ICT. I found the transition from primary to secondary school pretty smooth. I have never had any issues, but I know my tutor is there to help me if I ever need support."

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Extended curriculum: wide-ranging character education and extracurricular programmes

Talents and interests

To complement our taught curriculum, students are able to participate in our wide-ranging character education and extracurricular programmes in order to further develop their interests and talents, with activities on offer such as sports, debates, clubs and volunteering.

Residential trip

Each year group has the opportunity to go on a residential trip - in Year 7 this is an activity camp in the UK, other year groups visit a European Country - currently this is France, Belgium and Germany.


Music, drama and art


We have a thriving and vibrant performing arts faculty which offers a vast programme of extra-curricular activities and events throughout the year which all students are encouraged to participate in. All students have the opportunity to learn a musical instrument with our peripatetic teachers. Students benefit from purpose-built facilities including music and drama studios in addition to our fully functioning theatre.


There are termly concerts which students can participate in either as an individual or in one of the schools' groups. And there is an annual school production (Previously West Side Story and Shrek) which involves students in performing, backstage, tech crew and creating the scenery.


Music, drama and art are all offered at GCSE level and many of our students continue to study these subjects at college and university.

We also offer...

 A wide range of weekly clubs including sports clubs, chess, embroidery, cookery, Rubik's Cube, Dungeons and Dragons, debating etc.

 There are extensive sporting opportunities with students regularly attending training and fixtures throughout the school year.

 There is a homework support club three nights a week open to all students.

 The Bronze and Silver DofE is offered to all students from Year 10 - this includes training expeditions and assessed expeditions in the Surrey Hills (Bronze) or Brecon Beacons (Silver).

Enriching the curriculum with a wide range of clubs, trips, opportunities and sporting activities.

Joanne is now enjoying her time at university thanks to solid secondary education at The Magna Carta School

Paula and Bob live in Surrey with their daughter, Joanne, aged 18, who is now at university, and their son, Anthony, aged 16, who attends The Magna Carta School.

Choosing Magna Carta

Paula and Bob think the dedicated teaching staff are a big strength of The Magna Carta School and that they made a major contribution to the academic success of their daughter. Paula says: "Joanne went to a junior school that was a feeder school for Magna Carta. She was keen to go on to Magna Carta to continue her education along with her friends. The school has a good reputation and we were impressed when we attended an open day there, meeting some of the students and teachers."

Good teaching

Joanne benefitted from some very good teaching at the Magna Carta School. "She was always a good all-rounder academically and the teachers gave her the tools she needed to succeed in her studies. After achieving 10 grade 9 GCSEs at the Magna Carta School, Joanne left to study for her A levels at College in Egham," Paula says. "Joanne chose to study History, French and Maths for her A levels and she then successfully applied for a place at Oxford University to study Politics, Philosophy and Economics. Joanne is now in her first year at Oxford and she is having a great time there."

Building confidence

Paula says away from study, the drama and music departments worked with students to put on a school show every year, encouraging everyone to take part. "In Year 7, a few months after joining the school, Joanne had the opportunity to be part of a big and ambitious stage production, which she really enjoyed. This enabled her to meet new people across different year groups, build her confidence, and develop new skills."

Supporting younger students

Later in her career at Magna Carta, Joanne volunteered as an anti-bullying ambassador, supporting younger students. She also took part in the DofE awards programme while she was there, meeting new people and learning new skills. "The school offered a wide range of clubs and Joanne enjoyed debate club and played rounders for the school in the summer. In Year 10, Joanne successfully applied to become a prefect, giving her an opportunity to take on extra responsibilities and play a bigger part in the life of the school," Paula says.

Making friends

Paula remembers that when Joanne first joined Magna Carta in Year 7, she settled in well. "She already had friends who had transferred with her from junior school and she quickly added more new friends when she started at the school. Joanne is a naturally social person and enjoyed her time at the school a lot."

Student says

Joanne says: "I have really fond memories of my time at The Magna Carta School, and I will always be grateful for the teachers who supported me and the friends that I made there."

Pastoral care and well-being

Nurturing

This is a caring school, and we give priority to meeting the individual aspirations and needs of each young person, nurturing them to be the best they can be. We are committed to creating a reflective educational environment and a school community where kindness and gratitude permeates our culture.

Form Tutors

Our Form Tutors are key, constant supporters in a student's school life, who wherever possible will move with the tutor group as they progress through the school. Form time is an important part of the school day, students meet with their form tutor and form groups every morning for registration, and this tends to be a time when firm friendships and relationships are formed. Each tutor group joins the rest of the year group for a weekly assembly with their Year Team Lead and Senior Leaders.

Student Support Advisors

As well as the tutors and Year Team Leads, we have Student Support Advisors (SSAs). These are non-teaching members of staff who work with the Year Team Leads in the support and running of the year group. Our SSAs can also support individuals and groups of students through emotional well-being sessions.

Looked After Children

At the Magna Carta School we ensure a member of our Leadership Team is allocated the role of Designated Teacher for Looked After Children. This member of staff oversees the educational achievement of every looked after and previously looked after child in the school. They are the central point of contact for the student and carer and work closely with them to ensure the best possible provision and outcomes for the individual student.

Kindness and gratitude permeates our school culture.



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Student pathways

Careers Education Information Advice and Guidance

Careers Education Information Advice and Guidance is a big part of a student's life at the Magna Carta School. We believe that it is never too early to learn about future pathways and the many options that are available to students.

Careers programme

We have a fantastic careers programme that runs from Year 7 to 11. We work with lots of employers, universities, colleges and training providers.

Work placement

All Year 10 students have the opportunity to go on a work experience placement for a week.

Industry experts

Pupils are inspired by meeting people working in fields that interest them. We regularly invite industry experts to share their experiences and provide unique guidance to pupils. Previous visitors include renowned authors, doctors, AI experts and journalists.

Sixth forms, colleges and universities

Many of our students move on to attend local colleges for the next stage of their education such as Strodes, Woking and Brooklands, all of whom we have strong links with and all of whom regularly present to students from Years 9 onwards. We also have links with local universities across Surrey and London.

Oxford University

We have also hosted presentations from Oxford University, where we take a small group of students each year to find out what life would be like at a collegiate university, and ensure our most able students are fully aware of the entry requirements of the top institutions in the country.

We believe that it is never too early to learn about future pathways and options available to you.



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See for yourself

This prospectus offers only a glimpse of our fantastic school and the sense of togetherness that we have embedded here, so to fully appreciate what we have on offer we warmly encourage you to come and visit us. We are the Magna Carta School and we very much look forward to welcoming you into our wonderful community.

Please see for yourself what we can offer by contacting the school office – to arrange a visit – on 01784 454320



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