Ivybridge Community College

Crossing the Bridge

Student Information Guide 2025



Character Education at Ivybridge Community College

Character Education is at the heart of everything we do at Ivybridge Community College and is embedded into all our lessons and throughout the curriculum.



Ivybridge Community College

June 2025



Dear Student

Re: Welcome

I am delighted to be able to welcome you to Ivybridge Community College. I am sure that you will find it an exciting place to be with new subjects available and a wide range of extra-curricular activities.

The students that gain the most out of being here are those who become involved in all parts of College life. They work hard in the classroom, they take part in activities outside of lesson time and represent the College well at all times.

I hope that you are ready to embark on an exciting journey with us.

You will be meeting many new friends during your first weeks at the College, many of whom you will keep for life. If there is anything you do not understand and wish to know, please ask and we will do our best to help you. The College email address is icc@ivybridge.devon.sch.uk. There is also a dedicated Transition Team email which is transition6@ivybridge.devon.sch.uk. This booklet will help you and your family understand how we work at Ivybridge Community College.

At Ivybridge Community College you will not only be continuing your academic progress, but you will be given many opportunities to try out and enjoy new experiences whilst developing important skills. It will be largely up to you to make the most of your time here and your Tutor will be here to help and encourage you to grasp all the opportunities available at the College.

We also consider that your parents/carers play an important part in your move to lybridge Community College and we will endeavour to work closely with them in providing all the necessary support you may require whilst settling in.

We hope that this booklet will help you feel at home when you arrive and help you find your way around more quickly. It contains lots of useful information but there is lots more you will be adding to it when you join.

We are looking forward to the future and sincerely hope that you are looking forward to your time here.

Yours faithfully

Rachel Hutchinson **Principal**

Respect - Aspiration - Integrity - Compassion

What will my day be like?

When you come to the College in September you will be given your own two-week timetable, similar to the one below. It looks a little bit complicated, but you will soon remember who all your teachers are, what the subjects are and each room.

Example of a previous Year 7 Student Timetable – Week A

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
8.45am	Registration	Registration	Registration	Registration	Registration
9.10am Block 1	Mathematics	French CPSHE Ch		Chemistry	History
10.10am Block 2	Physical Education	Geography English M		Mathematics	French
11.10am	Break 1	Break 1	Break 1	Break 1	Break 1
11.45am Block 3	Biology	Religious Education	Geography	Biology	Mathematics
12.45pm Block 4	Art	English	Physical Education	English	Music
1.45pm	Break 2	Break 2	Break 2	Break 2	Break 2
2.20pm Block 5	Drama	Technology	French	History	English
3.20pm	End of day	End of day	End of day	End of day	End of day

Some useful points to help you understand your Timetable

You must be at College by 8.40am every day in time for Registration with your Tutor, which is at 8.45am.

This is very important as your Tutor has to:

- 1. Register your attendance
- 2. Read out the Bulletin notices
- 3. Literary Canon or Votes for Schools
- 4. Check your equipment
- 5. Check your uniform

As you can see, there is a lot to do every day; if you are late you could miss something very important.

PSHE - Personal Social and Health Education

Once per fortnight, you will have a PSHE session. During PSHE you will learn more about the world around you and your place in it. There is also a focus on well-being, with opportunities to discuss this with your Tutor and practice stress management techniques such as mindfulness.

Our Curriculum Vision

At Ivybridge Community College it is our core purpose that you have access to a high quality, knowledge-rich, relevant, and challenging curriculum. We want to promote intellectual curiosity and prepare you for the future. Our aim is that all of your lessons inspire and build on your previous knowledge and skills. We want you to become successful learners, confident individuals and responsible citizens.



Curriculum Design

At Ivybridge Community College, our Curriculum is a blend of three key components:

- Academic Subjects
- Personal Development
- Enrichment

Each lesson will be delivered by subject experts so this will mean you will have different teachers for different subjects: a big difference from primary school! For each subject, powerful knowledge is deliberately chosen and sequenced at each stage to allow you to make connections and challenge and deepen your thinking and understanding. At Ivybridge, we believe that it is essential that you are provided with the opportunity to explore and develop as young learners, ready to embrace the ever-changing world around you, and be encouraged to take part in a wealth of enriching experiences and activities whilst at the College.

You will follow our PSHE and Character Education programme, which will help you to develop skills such as teamwork, communication and resilience which are crucial to navigating the challenges and opportunities of the modern world. Our PSHE programme also incorporates careers advice, guidance and information, development of spiritual, moral, social and cultural qualities and the RSE curriculum.

Throughout Years 7 to 11, you will take part in core Physical Education each week; for enjoyment and for physical and mental well-being.

Ivybridge Community College works closely with your primary schools to ensure continuity and progression from the primary phase to the secondary phase.

We know you will love your lessons and your teachers are excited to meet you in September.

How will I find my way around?

For the first two weeks of term, Year 7 students have Year 10 Mentors who are there to help you find your way around the College, however it really is easy once you know the tricks to finding where your lessons are.

Subjects tend to be grouped together in similar areas, for example, if you have Mathematics, it will likely be in the Haring building. Once you know this, you simply need to get to the area, and then the class will be easy to find.

There are nine blocks/buildings:

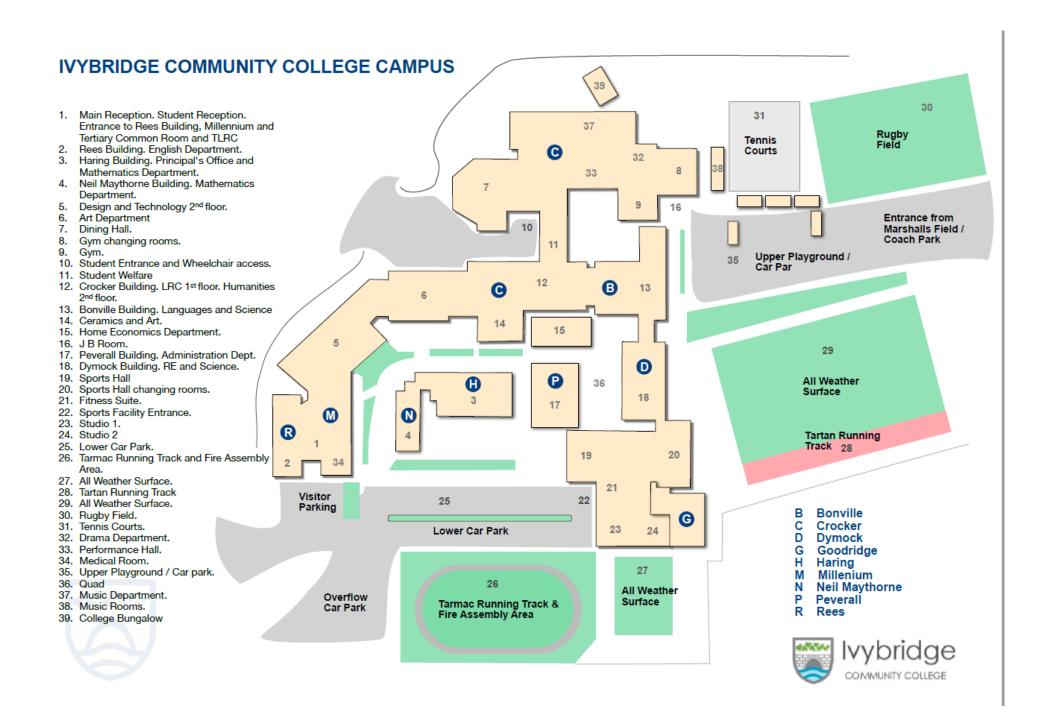
- o Bonville Block
- Crocker Block
- o Dymock Block
- o Goodridge
- Haring Block
- o Millennium Block
- Neil Maythorne
- o Peverall
- Rees

Key information:

- All the blocks/buildings lead off from the Blue Carpet (the centre of the College)
- There are five floors 0 4
- Each classroom is labelled above or beside the door e.g. B2.08 is Bonville Block, floor two, eighth classroom.

You will find a map on the next page to help you as well.

In between lessons, teachers wait outside their classroom - this means there will be lots of teachers, as well as students to ask for directions.



Home Learning

The online platform ClassCharts forms an important connection between your home and the College. Your Home Learning, which you may have called 'homework' at primary school, is recorded on ClassCharts. All praise points and demerits are also recorded on this. You may also access your timetable through the ClassCharts website or app.



To help with your organisation you will receive up to three subject specific Home Learning activities per day. You will also have a **Student Planner**.

What is the Student Planner?

You will be given a Student Planner in September when you join the College. This is a small diary that you can use to keep notes in (top tip: write all of your logins and passwords in here!). It will also be used to put reminder stickers in for certain events.

How long should Home Learning take?

Getting used to organising your time can be quite difficult to begin with, that is why it is important to **use ClassCharts** properly to monitor your Home Learning and your deadlines. Once you get into a routine you will wonder what you were worrying about. **You are also expected to read for pleasure at home every night.** This will help to improve your reading skills, to succeed academically as well as develop a love of books.

What if I cannot do my Home Learning, or it takes too long?

If you have problems with your Home Learning ask your parents/carers to write a note in your Student Planner. The teacher will know you have tried your best and can then talk it over with you. This means you need not go to College worried because you have a problem with your Home Learning.

What about the College buses?

Many of you will have to catch a bus to College and this can be quite worrying, especially if you have always been driven to school or walked.

Before you arrive at the College you will be sent a Bus Pass that tells you exactly which bus you have to catch and where. This must be looked after and carried with you every day. You will soon get used to it.

There is a dedicated Transport Team at the College who work hard to make your journey to and from College safe, easy and enjoyable. You can contact them through the College website, where there is also further information about buses.

College uniform and equipment: what will I need?

It is important that you wear the right clothes and bring the right equipment with you when you start at the College. You will have to move around to different rooms for all your lessons. You will have several teachers and you will need different things for the various subjects. At first it may seem a lot to remember, but you will soon get used to it and you will do it easily.

The first thing to think about is the clothes that you will wear and you can get these ready before you start at the College in September. The College uniform is listed on our website. If you forget some uniform, or your shoes break for example, you will be directed to our uniform store, which is in Peverall Hall, by a member of staff on duty as you come in. This does not mean you are in trouble: we will lend you the correct uniform or shoes for the day.

What else will I need?

It is essential that you are ready for every day of learning, and bring the correct equipment with you to minimise disruption in lessons. This will prepare you with good habits for life: being prepared and being well equipped.

Below is a list of your **Essential Equipment**:

- A school bag, large enough to hold A4 books, pencil case, water bottle and PE kit
- Pencil case
- Black or blue pen
- Purple pen
- White board Pen
- Pencil
- Rubber
- Ruler clear rulers are recommended
- Scientific Calculator (we recommend the Casio Scientific Calculator fx-85GT-CW)
- Student Planner
- Reading book

There are lots of things that you might need when you start College and it is a good idea to practice packing your bag before the beginning of term. You should also carry a water bottle, which you may refill at fountains across the College, **and a reading book** - this could be one from home, or you can borrow one from the LRC (Learning Resource Centre).

What different types of activities will there be to do?

Your Tutor will read you a copy of the Daily Bulletin each morning. There is always lots going on, so there is no excuse to get bored! You will also have an Assembly with your College Director and Pastoral Leader once per week, where you will hear important messages, listen to guest speakers and learn about our Character Virtues.

Ivybridge Charter

Ivybridge Community College is committed to providing an extensive range of curriculumenriching activities and opportunities for all students, based on the College's values and World Class Schools' characteristics.

Our charter recognises that every student is entitled, regardless of their background, to develop their innate capabilities and excel to be the very best that they can be. It offers all students the chance to excel and achieve their aspirations, whether in creative, sporting, academic or leadership fields, to support them in their chosen future pathways. From the day a student starts College to the end of Year 13, every time they are involved in an activity that meets the charter's criteria, this will be officially recorded in their 'Charter Recognition' file. This recognises a student's participation, achievements and growth.

What is Enrichment

Enrichment is at the very heart of Ivybridge Community College, woven into all parts of College life and helping to provide a truly rounded educational experience for all students. That is why we are committed to ensuring that the College's Enrichment Programme has and will continue to thrive throughout this academic year.

The Enrichment Programme

The Enrichment Programme is a blend of face to face and virtual sessions and divided into departments. The programme will provide students and parents/carers with details such as the subject, days, times, year group involved, and venue for all enrichment activities. We aim to update the Enrichment Programme every half-term and advertise it on the College website and social media, email it to all parents/carers and place it in the College bulletin.

Enrichment opportunities include Athletics, Art, Chess, Dance, Debating, Drama, Fitness, Football, Green Power, Gymnastics, Knitting, Music, Musical Theatre, Netball, Photography, Reading, Rugby, Tennis, Writing Clubs and many more!

Leisure Enrichment

Student Leisure Time is a programme of activities that students engage in during their break and lunchtimes at the College. Students may participate in these sessions for reasons such as relaxation, competition or personal development. The sessions are not structured or skill based, as the focus is on student participation and enjoyment. Staff will be present at all times for Student Leisure Time.

PE and Sport plays a central role at Ivybridge Community College. The College has a genuine passion for physical activity at all levels of ability – from participation for all through to high-level elite sport.

We aim to cultivate and uphold a positive culture that represents Ivybridge Community College's values and mirrors our cultural and ethical ethos. We believe that these are key ingredients to shaping not just exceptional athletes, but resilient and virtuous individuals. These are:

Respect Aspiration Integrity Compassion

The College has a coordinated approach and clear new structures towards the development of sport. Our vision is to give every child at Ivybridge Community College the opportunity to pursue their interest in sport, physical activity, and physical education. We will do this by providing access to excellent teaching and coaching, support, and sports provision at all levels of ability.

Students can pursue their interest in sport by accessing opportunities in the following areas:

Physical Education Curriculum Sports Academy Elite Talent Programmes

Sport Enrichment Sport Leadership and Qualifications Community Sport

What is a Sports Academy?

Our vision is to give every child, from primary to Sixth Form, and from participation to elite level, the opportunity to develop their athletic ability, improve the level of skill in their chosen sport(s) and reach their performance potential.

Who will help me?

Not only will you have a Tutor, College Director and Pastoral Leader to help you, but each Tutor Group has a number of Mentors to help you. These are Year 10 students who have been especially trained to help you settle in quickly at the College.

The Safeguarding Team, SEND Department and Student Reception are also there to help you if you have any questions.

The Leadership Team

Principal



Mrs Hutchinson



Mr Hennessy

Deputy Principals



Mrs Offer



Mr Cresswell

Assistant Principals



Mrs Thornton



Miss Hanton



Ms Martin



Mr Hayward

The Safeguarding Team



Mr Anniss



Mrs Hughes



Miss Evely



Mrs Brittin



Mrs Male

Who can help?

Year 7 Pastoral Leader



Mrs Setter

Year 7
College Director



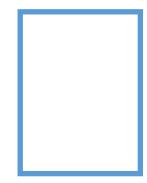
Mrs Tyson

Director of Transition



Mrs Johnson

Your Tutor



To be confirmed

Assistant Principal Inclusion



Mrs Warne

SENDCo



Mrs Newman

SEND Administrator



Mrs Thompson

Assistant SENDCo



Mrs Luscombe



Mrs Lowry



Miss Biddle



Miss Davis

Teaching Assistants



Mr Tait



Mrs Cope



Mrs Foster



Mrs Lewis



Mrs Calheiros



Mrs Winzer



Mrs Lloyd



Mrs Perfect



Mrs Stanley



Mrs Gleeson



Mrs Ackrell

Behaviour Team



Mr Stewart



Mrs Hutchinson



Mrs Christison

Medical Assistants



Mrs Powell



Mrs Gregory

Who else can help?

Teachers, Reception, all staff, older students/buddy's, Safeguarding Team (yellow lanyard)

What about break times?

There are a variety of activities that run at each break and many of you will be involved in them, but for others this will be a time when you can relax with friends. You will be encouraged to take part in at least one club a week, these will be advertised at the Year 7 Club Fair at the start of term. There are specific areas for Year 7 to use at break times and you will be able to buy a variety of food.

We use a cashless catering system, where money can be added to your account online on **ParentPay**. Break times can be very busy with lots of different activities going on – that is why it is important not to miss the Daily Bulletin in Registration.

We are pleased to let you know that Aspens has been chosen to provide the meal service at Ivybridge Community College. Their menus are exciting and innovative, reflecting the very latest UK and international eating trends but with a real focus on health and well-being. The menus adhere to the school food-based standards to make sure students are fuelled and hydrated for learning.

Please see below an example menu from Aspens, more information will be published on the College website in due course



My Legacy Sentence

To create motivation that lasts, we focus on two important questions. First, we ask a big question to orient our life toward greater purpose - what's my sentence?

In one sentence we state what lasting impression we want to leave on the world. Then, we keep asking a small question for day-to-day motivation - was I better today than yesterday?

Our College sentence is:

"Ivybridge Community College ensured that all students achieved their personal academic excellence and developed a positive character so they could live a great life, filled with opportunity and choice."

How to write your sentence

Step 1 – Think about your purpose

Step 2 - Think	about how you	want to be	described by oth	ers				
Kind	Passionate	Talented	Inspirational		Hard working	Brave		
Selfless Strong	Funny	Aspi	irational	Wise		A leader		
Step 3 – Think o	about your asp	irations						
To have a cert	certain goal	To he	lp others					
To overcome s	omething	To live in a	certain place	To ow	To own something specific			
To feel a certa	certain way To be recognised for something							
Step 1 – My pu	rpose is							
Step 2 – I want	to be describ	ed as						
Step 3 – My as	piration is							
My sentence								
She was			Who					
He was								
They were								
1								

Examples:

'She was smart and fair and someone who used her voice to speak about discrimination.'

'He was admired by his friends and family who worked hard as a lawyer.'

'She was inspired by nature to become an artist and was someone who inspired others to develop their creativity.'

'She was a mindful forensic scientist, who overcame barriers to make her family proud.'

'He was a great vet, who cared for animals and developed new treatments to help those most in need.'