

THE COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL, LEFTWICH

“This is a satisfactory and improving school, with particular strengths in student support, their personal development and the curriculum on offer.” This is the opening sentence of The County High School’s OFSTED Report of December 2007 and serves as a constructive introduction for this Specialist Media Arts’ College. The full Report, alongside other school publications, paints a full picture; this concise information sheet highlights some key features.

The County High School, Leftwich is a fully inclusive, co-educational, 11-16 comprehensive with approximately 940 students, 55 teaching and 50 support staff. The school serves a mixed catchment area with 195 Year 7 learners, September 2009.

The school recognises and celebrates CHOICE, which encapsulates our drive for high standards and learning for employability.

Care, courtesy and consideration

High standards; we think and dress smartly

Only behave towards others as we wish others to behave towards us

Increased punctuality and attendance

Can-do attitude

Excellent examination results/employability

When we make the right choice, we enjoy learning and achieve success

In 2008, the school was re-designated Specialist Media Arts’ status after just two years, committing us to further raising standards across the curriculum offer, enhancing facilities, providing opportunities for community learning and the development of partnership working, and increasing student awareness that learning in Media Arts relates to learning in other curriculum areas and can lead to a range of applied learning opportunities. To that end, we have been recognised as offering the “full core” of Extended Services with our students’ contribution to the community acknowledged by Ofsted as “outstanding”.

For four consecutive years, the school has achieved excellent academic results and can evidence a positive upward trend: Summer 2009: 72% 5+A* to C with 60% 5+ A* to C including English and Mathematics. We are committed to – and are progressing rapidly – the personalising learning agenda, having reviewed our curriculum offer at both Key Stages whilst embedding focussed and systemised student tracking. Accordingly, we have also revised our Support Staff structure to underpin the implementation of these improvement priorities.

The County High School, Leftwich offers a caring, supportive, “futures thinking” and well ordered environment with a very clear focus upon learning, which we believe benefits from a strong partnership between staff, students and parents/carers. It is a busy, vibrant school in which all colleagues work hard to nurture the learning partnership for which the school has a well-deserved reputation.

Our Ofsted Inspection 2007 celebrated these strengths and acknowledged the exciting journey we are undertaking, endorsing our clear direction. We believe education is about enhancing our students’ life opportunities and thus learning for employability is at the heart of our offer.