



Prospectus

We belong at Stratton where every individual is known, valued, and supported.



Be **Kind**

Be **Engaged**

Be **Ambitious**



Stratton
School



Meridian
Trust

Welcome to Stratton School

Facilities

Stratton School is proud to be at the heart of our community with excellent facilities. We are committed to nurturing the abilities of every student in order to equip them with the qualifications and life skills they need to become confident and independent adults. As a school we are immensely proud of our students' achievements and being part of their journey.



The school is underpinned and supported by the ethos and values of The Meridian Trust. The core philosophy is:

- Achievement for all
- Valuing people
- A high-quality learning environment
- The pursuit of excellence
- Extending the boundaries of learning

Mr Sam Farmer

Principal

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Stratton School opened in 1950 as Bedfordshire's showpiece Grammar School, drawing students from all over the area. In their design, the architects recognised that the physical environment could promote achievement and aspiration; and to this day few fail to be inspired by the entrance and exhibition halls, which in turn lead to light and airy classrooms. As a result of the national reorganisation in 1974, Stratton became a 13-19 Upper School, providing comprehensive education for Biggleswade and the surrounding villages. The educational values of the school are drawn from its history, but the theme of constant improvement ensures each generation of students is fully prepared for their future.

In October 2020 we were delighted to join the Meridian Trust and are benefiting greatly from collaboration with colleagues in our Trust's 11 other secondary schools. Since joining Meridian Trust, we have gained from significant investment in IT infrastructure and resources as well as our buildings. Ten new classrooms, refurbished from the old science laboratories in 2022, which have expanded our state-of-the-art teaching facilities further. We are incredibly lucky to have a state of the art, flood lit 3G pitch. This is an amazing resource for the school as well as the wider community.

In September 2024, Stratton School formally opened as a full secondary school, providing an educational journey from Y7 through to Y13.

Admissions



All Year 7 - 11 admissions are made via Central Bedfordshire
Sixth Form applications are made directly to the school.

admissions@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk

Telephone: 0300 300 8037

Website: www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/admissions

Open Evenings

3G all weather pitch

For students starting Stratton School in September 2025, our Open Evening Events are as follows:-

Open Evening - Thursday 17th October 2024

Sixth Form Options Evening - Thursday 7th November 2024

Meridian Trust

Stratton School joined the Meridian Trust family in 2020. The Trust was formed with a simple and clear vision: 'to ensure high quality education at the heart of the community.'

The Trust truly values the success of every child and places the sharing of excellent education practice at its core. It is committed to improving the quality of education and life in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough, and their immediate surroundings. The Trust is dedicated to maintaining its core principles and focus as it grows.

The Houses provide crucial support and guidance, and the needs of every student are acknowledged and understood by their tutor and senior tutor. The system enables individual progress to be monitored much more closely and the House is the key focus of the relationships between the School and families, with siblings joining the same House.

The school has 5 houses; Adlam (Purple), Chuandler (Green), Franklin (Blue), Turing (Red) and Matt King (Yellow). *(The Matt King House is Sixth Form only)*

Vertical Tutoring

The Vertical Tutoring system has many benefits, fostering a family spirit where older students offer guidance and provide support to younger students. It also ensures students have a sense of the whole school picture as the younger students see the older ones preparing for work experience, subject choices and important examinations.

The mixed aged tutor group system is known as Vertical Tutoring. Each tutor group will have a mixture of students from Years 7-11. The Sixth Form has a dedicated team of tutors and is collectively known as the Matt King Sixth Form.

Work Experience



Achievement for all

Valuing People

High Quality Learning Environment

Pursuit of Excellence

Extending the Boundaries of Learning

Expectations

We believe in, and nurture the pursuit of excellence in everything we do. This encompasses all aspects of school life, from personal and professional presentation of ourselves through correct uniform and dress code, to our work – aiming for the highest standards in anything we produce. We expect students to take opportunities, push their boundaries both in lessons and extra-curricular clubs and have excellent attendance.

Achievements are recognised and rewarded. Students are proud when these are celebrated publicly.

We understand that students are best supported to meet their potential, when we all work together in a partnership involving parents, students and staff. We therefore value the input and feedback we receive from everyone in our community. Parent forum meetings have helped us to understand the views of parents/carers which in turn support our drive for continuous improvement.

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Costa Rica Trip 2024

The core aim is helping students to gain skills for lifelong learning and to achieve their highest potential. Our students leave us prepared for success not just in qualifications but also in meeting the next challenge in their passage to adulthood.

Students begin Year 7 with a broad and balanced curriculum which offers progression and opportunity into GCSEs.

Parents are heavily involved in the options process and care is taken to ensure all students are aware of, and can experience, subjects not traditionally studied in Key Stage 3. Most of our students stay on to the sixth form and continue an academic pathway leading to university or careers which require a Level 3 entrance qualification. All students receive high level careers guidance during Key Stage 4 and are supported in their choice and expectations for their chosen destination.



Teaching and Learning

We expect our students to BE KIND, BE ENGAGED and BE AMBITIOUS. We use these values as a foundation for the highest quality of learning. Our staff provide lessons that cultivate a personalised supportive environment that allows students to fulfil their potential. We report home on the progress of our students in real-time, with the ability of parents/carers to follow attendance, grades and homework via a dedicated secure website. We also provide regular opportunities throughout the year for parents/carers to meet with staff to review and support their child's learning.

Students' independence and development is encouraged with the use of regular home learning activities. These provide the opportunity to investigate new topics as well as reinforce what has been taught in lessons.

Pastoral Care

Every one of our students is supported and cared for by a form tutor, who is the main link between home and school. Our students are guided through their school journey by a dedicated Senior Tutor and house pastoral team. Through daily form time with their form tutor and assemblies together, we support students with a comprehensive pastoral programme.

Our dedicated Learning Support department works with staff and students to ensure that those with additional needs can thrive and reach their potential. Our bespoke rewards system allows for **ALL** students to be recognised for the effort and achievement that they have demonstrated towards their studies and the school community.



Extra-Curricular Activities

Stratton School has always provided an extensive range of extra-curricular activities that allow students to extend their learning in many ways. Each week we have a range of clubs on offer at lunch times and outside of the timetabled school day.

Our PE department offer clubs in a range of sports and students proudly represent the school in various tournaments and leagues during the year.

Our Creative Arts faculty also contributes to the programme of clubs and opportunities available to our students and we are proud of the whole school productions, drama performances, music concerts and dance shows which are a regular feature of school life.

There are also a number of STEM and other clubs so students can pursue a particular area of interest or support their studies. This is also supported by the wide range of trips and visits offered to assist students in their school work and widen their cultural knowledge.



Whilst at Stratton, students have the opportunities to broaden their experiences in ventures such as Young Enterprise and the Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme.

CAMPS International provide an opportunity of a lifetime and our students have travelled far afield on expeditions to places such as Peru, Borneo, Costa Rica and Cambodia. Here students are encouraged to push the limits of their personal boundaries, participating in local community projects before challenging themselves in activities such as mountain treks and scuba diving.

	 PARTICIPATION	 LEADERSHIP	 EXCELLENCE	 DIVERSITY	 GIVING	 ENVIRONMENT	 SERVICE
BRONZE	Regularly attend an extra curricular activity or out of school club for a sustained period and no less than six weeks	Take a lead role in and be a significant part of a lesson's structure. This should be recorded by a member of staff	Receive an academic sporting or cultural award	Actively participate in activities which explore and challenge bullying/ racism/ homophobic views and stereotypes	Complete a school sponsored walk/run and raise money for charity or a community project	Actively participate in a whole school Earth Day activity or project	Be a tour guide for parents or visitors to the school both during school times and/or after school events
	Read in class so that the teacher is able to identify you as a regular reader	Make a positive contribution as a student receptionist and have a reference written up to make clear the positive contribution	Take part in an out of school activity which called for determination, grit and resilience	Visit another country and show awareness of their cultural identity	Take part in an event which raises awareness of a charity or community project	Complete a series of litter picks at school, a community event or an activity out of school time	Play a role in supporting an after-school activity through providing a service to staff/parents/community
	Write an article that can be published in a newsletter, online, or recorded as part of a news broadcast	Take part in a form activity which is seen by a wider audience	Represent the school in a team or individual sport, cultural or academic competition	Learn to speak or make significant progress in a language not taught in the school's curriculum	Donate old school uniform/PE kit/books, toys, games to school, club or charity to be reused	Actively participate in improving the school environment in a way which could be recorded and is substantial and sustained	Take part in a service activity outside school such as scouts, police cadets, army cadets for at least 6 sessions
	Participate in a school or outside concert, show or sporting event	Write a poem, story, song or play which is read out or performed to an audience of your peers	Receive regular and substantial praise in your work in a number of different subjects over a term	Produce a project about a culture new to you or country that you have not lived in	Donate regularly to a food bank or local community project	Help with a recycling scheme	Get involved with the Service section of the Bronze Duke of Edinburgh's Award
	Participation in 5 or more house challenges or activities.	Take an ambassadorial role either in or outside school	Take part in a holiday/ weekend activity where your skill and or knowledge has deepened in a particular subject	Visit a place with a cultural difference within the UK	Be a recognised buddy to someone	Help with a gardening / environmental project at school or around your local community for a sustained period of time	Be part of a design or service which either helps make life easier or helps make people make progress in their daily lives

Our **PLEDGES** award scheme aims to encourage and support many important qualities in students such as leadership, citizenship, moral purpose, sense of community and collective responsibility.

PLEDGES recognises students commitments and contributions under the headings of Participation, Leadership, Excellence, Diversity, Giving, Environment and Service.

Sixth Form

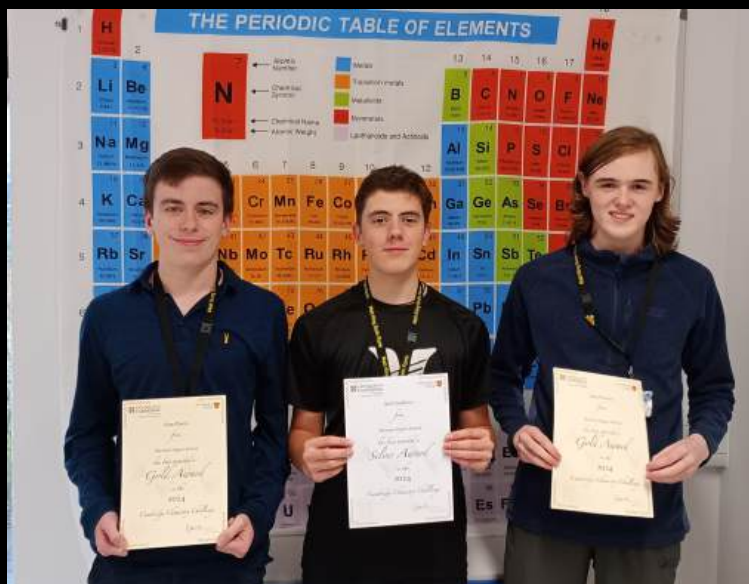
We are immensely proud of our Sixth Form, where students work hard and achieve their best in an ethos where commitment, caring and contribution to the community are key to all we do. Our students enjoy their learning, and their results at all levels have consistently demonstrated this with above national average outcomes in Academic, Applied General, A Level and Foundation programmes. Fundamental to this are the positive working relationships between staff, students and parents.

In addition to our core expectations of students being responsible, respectful and proud, we highlight the importance of commitment and perseverance in our pursuit of excellence. Our biggest challenges will be our greatest achievements.

It is both a privilege and a responsibility to guide our young people through these incredibly important years. We have the highest expectations of them at all times and ask them to focus on personal as well as academic excellence, that truly shapes them into the successful, happy and confident young adults they are when they leave us.

Our sixth form students make excellent progress during their time with us. In line with schools nationally, 80% of our students went on to study at their destination of choice. A significant proportion of these at Russell Group Universities.

6th Form Canteen





Adlam



Chandler



Franklin



Turing

Our House System

Stratton is divided into 4 main Houses of about 200 students. These comprise students in a mixture of years 7 to 11. We also have one dedicated 6th Form House. Our House system ensures that all students are provided with the support and guidance they need by their Tutor, Student Support Assistant and Senior Tutor on a day-to-day basis. Their individual progress is monitored closely. The house names are as follows:

Adlam (Humanities), named after Tom Edwin Adlam, Bedfordshire soldier who survived WW1 and WW2 and was awarded the Victoria Cross.

Chandler (English and Languages), named after Christine Chandler, prolific children's author from Biggleswade.

Franklin (Science and Technology), named after Rosalind Franklin, Biophysicist whose work led to understanding the molecular structure of DNA.

Turing (Mathematics, and Computing & Commerce), named after Alan Turing, WW2 code breaker and the influence behind the development of theoretical computer science.

The **Matt King 6th Form** (PE and Creative Arts).

Our 6th Form has a house identity of its own. Matt King was an inspirational ex-student of Stratton who overcame exceptional challenges to achieve his aspirations.

We are proud to name our post-16 provision in his honour.



Matt King
Sixth Form



Our well-being dog, Belle, is in school 3 days a week.



Where are we?

Stratton School is situated in Biggleswade, Bedfordshire. The town has good transport links along the A1, main bus routes and via the Biggleswade railway station on the East Coast Main Line.



Eagle Farm Road, Biggleswade, Bedfordshire, SG18 8JB



01767 220000



office@stratton.school



www.stratton.school

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Stratton Leadership Team

WELCOME TO STRATTON SCHOOL

