



SHAPWICK SCHOOL



SHAPWICK SCHOOL



A WARM WELCOME

We are delighted to welcome you to our school which is situated on the delightful Somerset levels, near to the coast, the Mendips, Quantocks and Exmoor and thus ideally placed for many activities. As a CReSTeD category 'SP' School, Shapwick specialises in supporting boys and girls aged 6 to 19 years whose education has been adversely affected by dyslexia, dyspraxia and dyscalculia. To achieve this we have brought together a team of specialist teachers, speech & language therapists and occupational

therapists who deliver to small classes (average size is 8) and individuals.

All children have an IEP (Individual Education Plan) which addresses the needs identified by an educational psychologist and our experienced, specialist staff. More information can be found in the further information guide.

Our pupils are bright and inquisitive but have difficulty with the mechanics of English and Maths, poor classroom skills, making independent working, copying from the board, concentrating and remembering instructions/data challenging. Despite our pupils' difficulties they also have

a range of strengths. We therefore strive to ensure they develop their talents, whether it be personal growth in, for example the Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme, or academic success of which we are particularly proud. In 2008 75% of pupils achieved five or more GCSEs at grade C or above. The Sixth Form also enjoy impressive results via our partnership with Bridgwater College.

However, don't just take our word for it, book an appointment and come and see the school in action. We are very proud of our school and the pupils' success and would love to show you round.



SHAPWICK SCHOOL



Engagement

TAILORED LEARNING TO MEET INDIVIDUAL NEEDS

As the country's first, and one of the largest specialist schools for children with dyslexia, dyspraxia and dyscalculia, we boast over 35 years' experience of understanding the challenges that the conditions present. We offer tailored support to help overcome individual weaknesses. We provide a balanced curriculum, sympathetic to the specific demands

that dyslexia presents. Support is integrated, rather than just an add-on as commonly offered in many non-specialist schools, where pupils may visit a dedicated unit once a week but then have to struggle with a non-specialist curriculum for the remainder of the week.

Teachers use a variety of resources to make learning exciting and engaging. There are interactive whiteboards and staff often use computer-based games/quizzes to develop literacy and numeracy skills. The school has a number of specialist software programs, e.g. Ginger software.

Our staff recognise that all pupils face unique challenges, as dyslexia can affect everyone differently. Small class sizes enable staff to develop a close working relationship with pupils, which assists in engaging pupils, differentiating and tailoring lessons to satisfy individual learning style preferences.



Opportunities

AN INSPIRED CHILD IS A SUCCESSFUL CHILD

The environment is motivating and boosts pupils' self-esteem. Peer groups are sympathetic towards each others' difficulties and children no longer feel the 'odd one out' which is often the case in mainstream education. Pupils thrive in this happy, caring, family atmosphere which is a key feature of the school. Often

children with dyslexia are 'forgotten' in mainstream, larger settings, mainly due to low self-esteem, and consequently are frequently overlooked when selections are made for the school sports squad, admissions tours or debating teams etc.

Our small, nurturing, environment enables staff and children to know each other personally and all children have the opportunity to enjoy the privileges commonly reserved for the elite.

We encourage pupils to experiment with new interests to find their individual talents and passions. There is a comprehensive programme of visits, trips and activities such as expeditions, team sports, drama, caving, climbing and photography.

Time is structured for prep (homework), and after formal lessons all pupils select activities which include netball, gardening, birdwatching and needlecraft.



Accomplishment



ENCOURAGING SELF-FULFILMENT

Shapwick School has a long tradition of nurturing pupils' sporting talents and a number of Old Shapwickians have gone on to pursue sporting careers or study sport at FE college and university.

The Senior School has an impressive sports hall and tennis court. Playing fields surround both school campuses. Pupils also visit the neighbouring FE college campus to benefit from their sports facilities and enjoy swimming lessons at a local pool.

The school teams regularly compete against neighbouring independent and state schools. Sports vary with the seasons. For instance pupils play rugby and netball during the autumn, soccer during the spring and cricket, athletics and rounders in the summer.

PE/Games form a key part of all pupils' curriculum. A whole afternoon of the timetable is devoted to Games at both the Prep and Senior School. This provides children with the opportunity to try different activities and promotes the importance of an active lifestyle.

Pupils can now select the new Sport vocational BTEC certificate which is equivalent to two GCSE qualifications.

Nurture



ENJOYING THE HOME LIFE

Our boarding houses are set in beautiful rural surroundings and give boarders a true 'home from home' experience. Boarders eat all meals at school every day with the exception of Sunday when breakfast and the evening meal are served at the boarding house.

Chapel Hill Farm is the boarding house for Shapwick Preparatory. Preparatory pupils attend school from Monday to Friday. Saturdays are

activity days where boarders are taken out to a local attraction – the beach, cinema, swimming, activity centres or shopping.

The Senior School has five wonderfully situated boarding houses – Greystones, The Lakes, The Manor, Little Lawn and The Old Vicarage.

Senior pupils attend lessons on Saturday mornings and enjoy arranged activities in the afternoon.

In our OFSTED care inspection 2009 we were proud to have been described as outstanding for 'enjoying and achieving'. Our catering is

delivered by an experienced team and was also highly commended by OFSTED.

Two hot main meal choices are offered at lunchtimes plus a salad bar. A hot snack is offered for the evening meal plus a salad option. Pupils are encouraged to eat their 'five a day' and learn the importance of health and nutrition within the curriculum.

Pupils can visit a Doctor at neighbouring Edington Surgery and the school also employs a counsellor.



SHAPWICK SCHOOL
PREP

Inspiration



Improvement



PREPARING FOR THE FUTURE

Shapwick Preparatory School is for children aged 6 to 13 years. It is a small campus based in the picturesque village of Burtle.

Pupils are banded into small, comfortable groups where they learn with others of the same age. Pupils study Maths and English every morning to focus on their essential literacy and numeracy skills. The afternoon timetable is then dedicated to a variety of subjects including Art

& Design, ICT, Religious Education, PE & Games, Science, History, Geography, PSHE&C (Personal, Social, Health Education & Citizenship), Music, Design & Technology and French. All studies are based broadly on the National Curriculum, adapted where necessary to meet each individual's requirements and sympathetic to the challenges presented by dyslexia.

Although the Preparatory and Senior School are located on different campuses both school communities work closely together. Younger pupils visit the Senior site frequently for

games and other subjects. Many staff work across both locations so the transition between sites at the age of 13 is very natural. Shapwick Preparatory School has good links with the local community and holds its assemblies in the local Church. At the Preparatory School staff strive to make learning fun and interactive. Regular trips and visits are organised to broaden pupils' learning experiences.



THE SENIOR CURRICULUM

A typical Year 9 curriculum includes English, Study Skills, Maths, Biology, Physics, Art, History, PE & Games, Careers, Word Attack, Keyboarding, ICT, Chemistry, Geography, French, Design & Technology, Music and PSHE&C (Personal, Social, Health Education & Citizenship).

The balanced programme ensures pupils experience all specialist subjects before selecting those to study at GCSE level. The choice of subjects is made after consultation between

parents, teachers and pupils. Most take seven or eight subjects, including English, Maths and Science. Access arrangements enable pupils to compete fairly with non dyslexic peers, such as being given extra time for exams or the help of a reader or scribe.

In addition to GCSE qualifications, Shapwick pupils can take the new vocational courses in Sport, Engineering and Travel & Tourism. These practical alternatives are very appropriate for children with dyslexia and are equivalent to two GCSEs. Shapwick is only one of a handful of schools with its own on-site Therapy

Team of Speech & Language and Occupational Therapists who work closely with teaching and support colleagues.

The therapists, all of whom work across both sites, screen all new pupils when they join the school. Each child requiring therapy is allocated one named therapist, with whom they remain throughout their time at Shapwick.

Many children visit the Therapy Team weekly, so pupils no longer feel different as these appointments are a natural part of Shapwick life.



INDEPENDENCE & ACCOMPLISHMENT WITHIN THE SIXTH FORM

Shapwick Sixth Formers are encouraged to develop independence and their own identity. Sixth Form courses are delivered in conjunction with nearby Bridgwater College (a leading tertiary college) which offers a large range of courses. Shapwick Sixth Formers may study traditional A-Levels or vocational qualifications such as BTEC Diplomas (at all levels)

in many specialist subjects, including Early Years & Childcare, Business Studies, Performing Arts, Forensic Science or Horticulture. This link ensures Sixth Formers enjoy total freedom to pursue their individual career aspirations, yet they benefit from specialist dyslexia support. Therapy provision can be continued in the Sixth Form.

The Further Education timetable generally involves three to four days of lessons plus dedicated study days. Shapwick pupils return to the school campus during this non-timetabled

time (plus Saturday mornings) for support from Sixth Form tutors.

Many pupils leave Shapwick for University and follow mainstream degree courses. A number of pupils have graduated with first-class honours which is an exceptional achievement considering their past learning battles.

Others go on to enjoy successful careers in a range of vocations including the military, sport, drama and art.



SHAPWICK SCHOOL PREP

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6 - 13 YEARS



SHAPWICK SCHOOL SENIOR

Shapwick Manor, Shapwick,
Nr. Bridgwater, Somerset TA7 9NJ

T. 01458 210 384

F. 01458 210 111

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13 - 16 YEARS



SHAPWICK SCHOOL SIXTH FORM

Shapwick Manor, Shapwick,
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16 - 19 YEARS

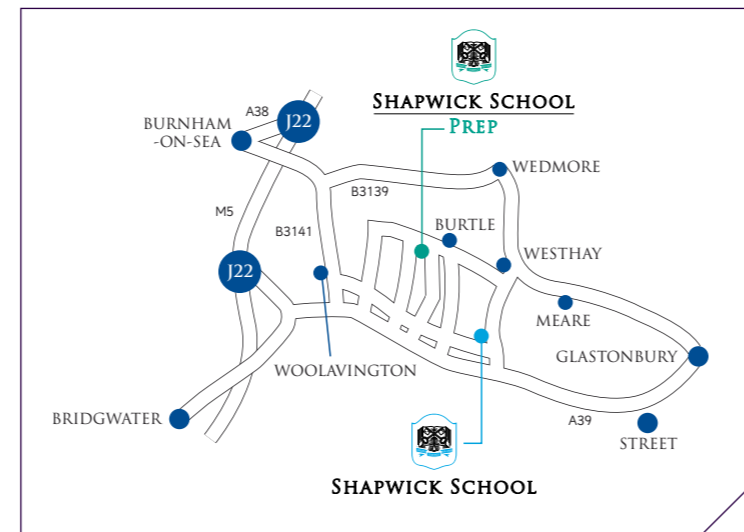
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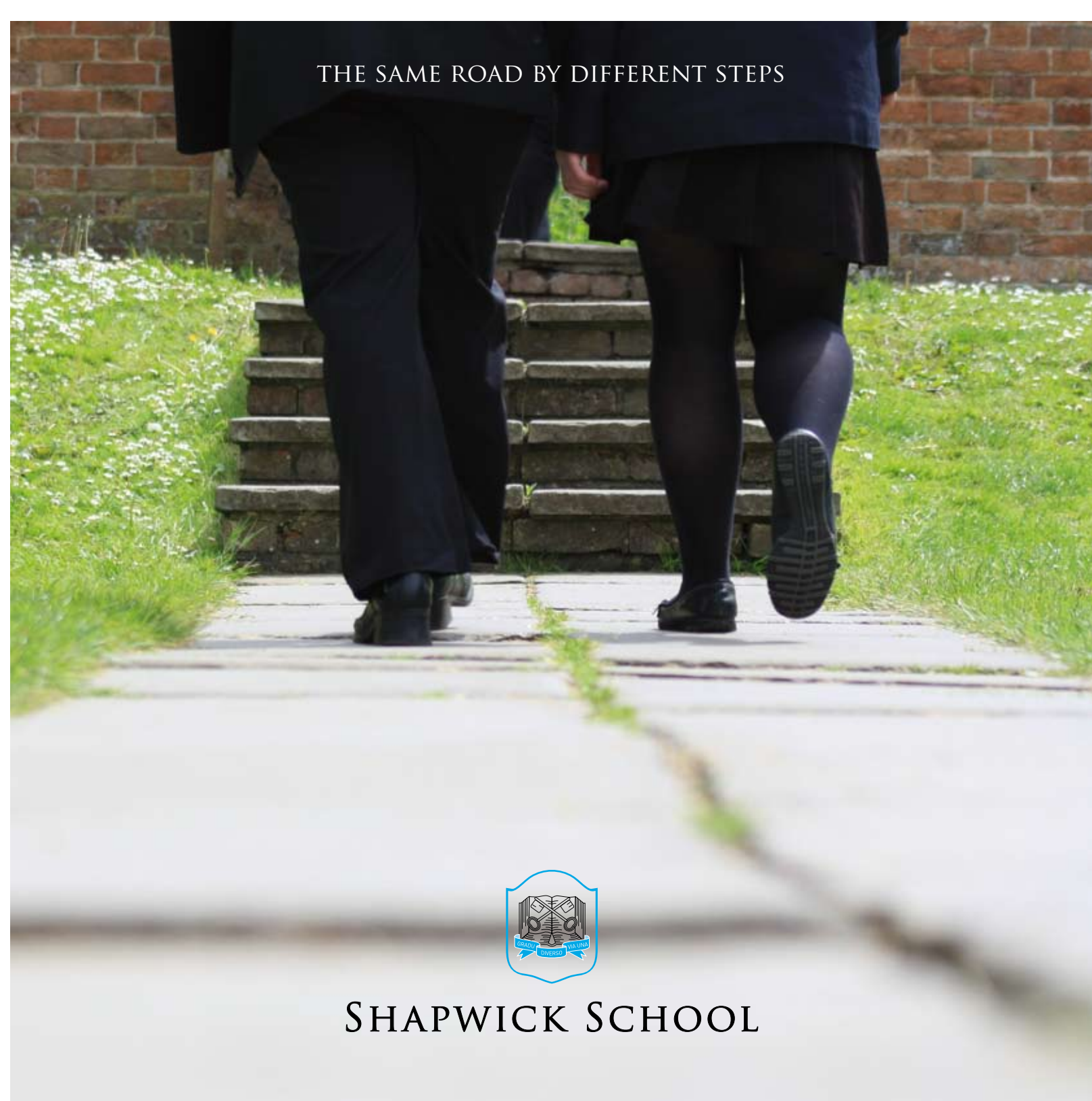


SHAPWICK SCHOOL



PLEASE CALL US TO ARRANGE A VISIT,
WE WOULD BE DELIGHTED TO GIVE
YOU AN INSIGHT INTO THE UNIQUE
EXPERIENCE OF LIFE AT SHAPWICK.





THE SAME ROAD BY DIFFERENT STEPS



SHAPWICK SCHOOL