



**Inspiring Minds • Broadening Opportunities**



***“We want to instill in every student the belief that they can achieve more than they ever thought possible.”***

**Jo Meloni, Headteacher**



# WELCOME

I am delighted to welcome you to The Misbourne and thank you for showing an interest in becoming part of our community.

We pride ourselves on our calm, safe, learning environment, where expectations are high and individual success is celebrated on a daily basis. We have huge ambition for all of our students and believe that with the right balance of challenge and support they can all flourish and go on to accomplish great things.

Our vision 'to develop world-class students who have the belief in themselves that anything is possible' is unapologetically ambitious. Our examination results are testament to the high standards we set and the level of performance our students can achieve.

We believe that every student joins us with gifts and talents, our job is to provide the inspiration, knowledge and opportunities for them to grow and discover new strengths.

This is a good school where every student really does matter. Our excellent pastoral care and strong partnerships with families complement our carefully developed curriculum, giving students a well-rounded education that goes far beyond academic qualifications.

We offer a wide range of extra-curricular and enriching opportunities and have a truly outstanding careers provision that engages students to think about their future, developing their employability skills right from the start of Year 7.

We know that the move from primary to secondary school can be a daunting prospect. We recently introduced an innovative new school system, where every student belongs to one of four 'small schools', which helps to foster a greater sense of belonging to a smaller community.

This is a wonderful place to learn and grow, with great students, supportive families and a committed staff who, together, make a truly inspiring team.

**Ms Jo Meloni**  
**BA (Hons) NPQH**

# Our Values:

Kindness

Equality

Resilience

Teamwork

Pride

Respect

Moral Purpose

Ambition



# STUDENT LIFE

## Broad and balanced curriculum

As soon as students start at The Misbourne, they study a wide range of subjects, designed to engage and inspire. Alongside the core subjects of English, mathematics, science, ICT/computing and PE, all our students study a broad curriculum including art, history, geography, performing arts and technology.

When students come to make their choices for GCSE, they can also opt to study from an additional range of subjects, such as business studies, economics and photography. When considering Sixth Form choices, the range of subjects available to choose from broadens even further, to include subjects such as economics, psychology, sociology and politics.

Our curriculum offer is complemented with Learning for Life lessons where students learn about British values, their own rights and responsibilities and how to live a healthy lifestyle. We also have termly curriculum 'Enrichment Days', where a variety of different activities and experiences are used to strengthen students' knowledge, which, alongside the practical application of skills, combine to provide a deeper learning experience.

As the lead school for careers provision in Buckinghamshire, all our students benefit from a first-class careers curriculum.

Communicating with families about their child's progress is vital and an important way in which we work together. During each academic year, families

will receive regular updates about students' progress, effort and attitude to learning. Outside these times, we keep families informed every step of the way to ensure the best possible outcomes for all our students, leading to them achieving more than they ever thought possible.

Our superb and highly-qualified teachers care about and believe in every student. They have the highest expectations of all, encouraging them to learn quickly, whilst providing a careful balance of support and challenge to all abilities. Everyone at The Misbourne works hard, guided by the belief that through effort, commitment and dedication, wonderful things can happen.





***“The extra-curricular activities at The Misbourne help us to develop and excel in our talents and find new ones. They also improve our confidence and we really enjoy and appreciate the time given by staff.”***

**Year 11 Student**

# SMALL SCHOOL SYSTEM

Providing outstanding pastoral care



*“My daughter is **happy** and **motivated**. I really feel as if the school knows her as an **individual**.”*

*Parent*

Our pastoral system comprises an innovative structure of four smaller schools, each with its own Head of School and Deputy Head of School.

Every student belongs to one of our four ‘small schools’ - Attenborough, Franklin, Holmes and Turing - identified by the different coloured stripes on their school tie. Each school has approximately the same number of students as an average primary school, which helps students to settle in quickly and feel a sense of belonging.

Each school incorporates form groups from years 7-11 who meet collectively for assembly once a week. The small school ethos is further promoted through inter-school competitions, charity events and celebrations.

Most importantly, the schools system allows our Heads of School and Deputy Heads of School to get to know the students within their care incredibly well. In contrast to the Heads of Year system familiar to many schools, the Heads of School will oversee the students’ development from their arrival at The Misbourne in Year 7, to their departure as young adults years later. This allows for a high standard of pastoral care and consistency, which builds students’ confidence and gives families a single point of contact throughout their child’s time with us.

A young boy with dark hair, wearing a dark blue school jacket, a light blue shirt, and a red and blue striped tie, is sitting at a desk in a classroom. He is smiling and looking towards the right. He is holding a book titled 'COMING OF AGE COURSEWORK' which features a globe on the cover. The background shows other students in school uniforms sitting at desks, slightly out of focus.

*“The needs of students are at the heart of everything the school does.”*

*Ofsted*

# BEYOND THE CLASSROOM

## Exploring gifts, talents and interests

Life at The Misbourne is enriched by our range of extra-curricular activities. We know that learning does not just take place in the classroom. We firmly believe that exciting opportunities help to bring learning to life as well as making life-long memories.

We offer a broad spectrum of sporting, musical, scientific and other activities where students can extend their gifts, talents and interests. These range from chess club to music clubs such as ukulele band or school choir, a hugely popular Science club, the Duke of Edinburgh's Award, Young Enterprise and the Carnegie book club, to name but a few.

Our extra-curricular programme is all about providing students with a chance to explore existing passions and discover new ones they may not yet know they have.



# THE MISBOURNE WAY

Encouraging high expectations



*“Students have very positive attitudes to learning and co-operate fully with their teachers and classmates.”*

**Ofsted**

The Misbourne Way is at the heart of everything we do. Quite simply it ensures that students are **Ready** to Learn, **Responsible** in Behaviour and **Respectful** of Everyone.

We pride ourselves on our high expectations and students’ positive attitude towards learning and behaviour are evident throughout the school.

We believe in rewarding students frequently and celebrating progress. If students make a mistake, we use restorative approaches to help them “get it right.”

All students belong to one of four schools: Attenborough, Franklin, Holmes and Turing. The four inspirational figureheads for these schools were chosen by our students, families and staff and exemplify the values and vision we aspire to at The Misbourne.

Healthy competition between the schools is encouraged through a variety of quizzes, sporting events and tournaments during the year. All students compete to gain the most Achievement Points for their school, with the winning school being awarded the coveted school cup at the end of the year.

*"I would just like to say how impressed we are with the school. Year 7s have been supported and welcomed so they have settled into the routines quickly."*

**Parent**



# SIXTH FORM

## Inspiring minds

Our Sixth Form guides students to become independent learners who can stand shoulder-to-shoulder with young people from any background or education, whether progressing to a competitive university, a degree apprenticeship or a school leaver employment programme.

From their first day in Year 12, they are trained in independent study skills to give them the tools to build on their guided learning in class. At its richest level, students opt to write fascinating Extended Projects, earning an additional qualification (EPQ) and advanced research skills ahead of university.

We offer a wide range of over 20 'A' level and vocational courses that challenge and support all students to reach their potential. We have a thriving Sixth Form that is growing year on year yet we are still able to offer small class sizes and strong school-to-home communication, enabling robust student-teacher relationships and support.

The Sixth Form curriculum is complemented by an excellent careers education, globally-renowned visiting speakers and a focus on student leadership and volunteering that enables all our students the opportunity to stand out. Whether through leading a Student Parliament project group, running an extra-curricular club or assisting teachers and younger students in the classroom, there are numerous opportunities for them to play an influential role in our community.

Our pastoral care does not stop once a student enters our Sixth Form. Class sizes allow for personalised academic support and our dedicated Sixth Form team makes the transition into the Sixth Form, and preparing for life beyond, a smooth and supportive process.

We have a growing number of students who join our Sixth Form from other institutions and they soon feel part of The Misbourne 'family'.



***"I know that I made the right decision coming to The Misbourne - the school has been amazing at supporting and encouraging me."***

**Year 13 Student**

# CAREERS EDUCATION

## Broadening opportunities

As the Lead School for the Buckinghamshire Careers Hub, The Misbourne is a nationally-recognised leader of careers education. All of our students participate in a rich programme of challenging and supportive careers activities from Year 7 to Year 13. We are backed by an ever-expanding network of professionals, volunteers and former students who regularly visit the school to work alongside students and provide high quality careers experiences.

We believe that employability and work-readiness is just as important as qualifications to enable students to grasp their aspirations with both hands. We train students in interviews, building CVs, leadership skills and carefully track and respond to their interests to provide bespoke opportunities.

Our careers provision is driven by local and national market information and we are one of the few UK schools to have put in place all eight 'Gatsby' benchmarks that meet the government's new careers standards.



*Year 11 Careers Day*



*“The **excellent** careers support I have received at The Misbourne has opened my eyes to an **amazing** range of potential careers.”*

Senior Student



*Visit of Professor Lord Robert Winston, March 2020*



## English

**2019: 85% Grade 4+**  
**2020: 89% Grade 4+**  
**2021: 87% Grade 4+**



## % of all grades 9-5

**2019: 58%**  
**2020: 60%**  
**2021: 68%**



## Mathematics

**2019: 78% Grade 4+**  
**2020: 83% Grade 4+**  
**2021: 86% Grade 4+**



## % of all grades 9-7

**2019: 21%**  
**2020: 26%**  
**2021: 33%**



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