Welcome to Clacton County High School.

We are an inclusive comprehensive school that sits in the heart of our community and we are all incredibly proud of our achievements. As a school we have the highest expectations of our students and want every one of them to strive to do their best.

We believe that our students have an entitlement to a first class education and provide them with the opportunities they need to excel. In return we expect them to work hard and respect and value others. Our aim is to create the right environment where each student is able to maximise their potential to become a confident, independent and successful adult. Consequently, we are recognised by the Department for Education as one of the best schools in the country in terms of the progress made by our students.

First established in 1928, Clacton County High School has a very proud history within the town. It has grown significantly over the years to meet the needs of young people in the local area, however, we are not content with standing still. Part of our success is achieved through working in collaboration and partnerships, sharing our expertise and, in return, gaining knowledge back from others. Clacton County High School takes seriously its responsibility to protect and safeguard the welfare of children and young people in its care. It is our responsibility to establish and maintain an environment where students feel safe and secure, are encouraged to talk and are listened to. We ensure that our students know that there are adults within the school, who they can approach if they are worried or are in difficulty.

Whilst creating an environment throughout the school that promotes an attitude and ethos to learn and do well, we also want all of our students to have a very happy and positive experience of life at Clacton County High School. We are dedicated to making a difference to the lives of our students and are focused on raising their expectations and aspirations.

Throughout this prospectus, we have tried to answer as many questions as possible, however, if you would like to find out more about our school, please do not hesitate to contact us and we would be happy to make arrangements for you to visit.
All of our students have access to a broad and balanced curriculum. We teach 4 lessons per day, each lasting for 1 hour and 15 minutes. Alongside the core subjects of English, Maths and Science, students in Year 7 and 8 also study: Art, Music, Drama, History, Geography, French or Spanish, RE, Computing, Technologies and PE.

At the end of Year 8, students are able to choose the subjects they wish to take from Year 9 onwards, from a range of courses, and study their chosen GCSE or equivalent subjects for 3 years. All of our students have access to an extensive enrichment programme to support their learning and develop their interests outside the classroom.

Meeting the needs of individual students

At Clacton County High School, we recognise that each student has individual strengths, needs and ambitions. Specially trained staff, based in our well-resourced Inclusion Hub, ensure that students’ needs are met. Staff work in close partnership with parents and other support agencies. Parents who have a child with an Education Health Care Plan and require additional information, are welcome to contact our SENDCo directly.

Our more able students, are challenged both in class and through workshops and special events, which are organised by the school in conjunction with our partners and other schools throughout the area. We recognise that more able students have to be stretched, however, not through more school work, but by ensuring that what they do in school is different and challenging. We have a designated lead teacher, who ensures that all students identified as most able, are fully engaged with their curriculum and extra-curricular programme.

In the Sixth Form

We offer a range of Level 3 courses including A Level and vocational courses. Through collaborations with other local schools we have established the VI6 partnership with Essex University, where selected minority subjects are delivered at the University Campus by experienced members of staff, thus allowing access to a wide range of university resources.

Students’ progress was exceptional in vocational subjects, which results from highly effective teaching.

Ofsted 2018

Curriculum and Achievement

Students are positive about the curriculum and the amount of choice.

Ofsted 2018
At Clacton County High School, we seek to develop creative, independent and reflective learners. We want to ensure that all students are equipped with the necessary skills to be able to continue to learn once they have left school.

Teachers adopt a range of teaching styles, so that all students are challenged to achieve, at a level that matches their ability. We have high expectations and this ensures that everyone reaches his or her potential. Setting is introduced in some subjects as students move through Key Stage 3 and on to Key Stage 4.

The quality of our teaching has been recognised at both regional and national levels, by the number of award winning teachers that we have on our staff.

Recognition from the Pearson National Teacher Awards in recent years includes winners and finalists for Outstanding New Teacher of the Year.

In 2018, a Silver Award winner and finalist for Teaching Assistant of the Year and Commendations of Excellence in the following categories;

Headteacher of the Year in a Secondary School, Lifetime Achievement Award, Teacher of the Year for three members of staff, Outstanding New Teacher of the Year with 8 members of staff recognised and finally, Outstanding Use of Technology in Education for our Co-Director of the Vocational & Fitness faculty.

Staff at Clacton County High School are dedicated and committed to ensuring that all of our students receive an outstanding education. This, combined with our excellent facilities and resources, means that lessons are required to be both stimulating and creative.

Homework is seen as an integral part of students’ studies. It is used to consolidate or extend topics covered in lessons. This helps to prepare students with the independent learning skills and techniques necessary for examinations at GCSE and beyond.

**Students are aware of fundamental British values ... preparing students for life in modern Britain.**

"We saw confident self-assured learners who have excellent attitudes to their learning and want to do well, this is reflected in their work."
At Clacton County High School, the range of extra-curricular activities that we provide ensures that there is something for everyone, whether interests are sports, drama, science, STEM & F24 Club, Warhammer, Chess, Maths in Motion, art, debating and many, many more.

Sport at Clacton County High School is high profile. Mainstream sports such as football, rugby and netball are popular with both boys and girls and have their own academy programme, supported by organisations such as the Football Association and the Rugby Football Union.

Qualified coaches come into school and work alongside our staff and students. Special events such as the “Race for Life”, “Colour Run” and “This Girl Can”, are organised at regular intervals throughout the year.

Our art and performance subjects are highly regarded throughout the area, with exhibitions and performances to showcase our students’ talents beyond school into the local community. Students of all abilities are encouraged to participate and perform in a range of performance mediums and genres.

Students in our award winning STEM team, continue to develop their engineering skills and expertise on the back of their previous Formula 24 success, skills that are passed on year on year to younger students as they work with older year groups on established projects. Students have developed a remotely operated submarine (ROV) and have tested this off the coast of Sussex with the local port authority, investigating shipwrecks and livestreaming high definition video footage to a support vessel out at sea.

To complement the established curriculum, we deliver a number of collapsed timetable days; REAL days (Religious, Ethical and Lifelong Learning). We use these opportunities to allow the students to reflect on some of the wider issues within society, such as our British Values, personal safety, careers information and first aid, to name but a few.

Our students are compassionate and care about their community. Every year through their efforts we are able to raise thousands of pounds. The money is all donated to worthy causes of their choosing, many of them close to the school.

We are extremely proud of our students, who supported by their parents, are dedicated and imaginative with their fund-raising ideas and always so generous in giving with their time and efforts.

Students cite as a key strength of the school that their teachers know them as individuals; at this school ‘you can be an individual’.

Ofsted 2018

CCHS delivers a relevant Personal, Health, Social and Economic learning programme, through REAL days and assemblies.

Ofsted 2018
At Clacton County High School, we ensure that our facilities meet the needs of all our students, whether that may be academic, sporting or creative.

We take pride in ensuring that all our classrooms and corridors are well cared for and have imaginative displays. All classrooms have digital projectors, many of them with interactive whiteboards. We have an impressive library, very well resourced with quiet reading, independent study areas and ICT facilities available.

Our STEM subjects (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics), are delivered in specialist laboratories and workshops, where students have access to facilities to ensure they are fully prepared for their next steps: university, training or employment.

We have extensive ICT facilities, including an Apple Mac suite that is used by students in music and media. There are approximately 800 computers in the school. Most of these are found in designated ICT rooms, but to complement this, each faculty area has its own class set of tap-top desks available for students to use.

Our sports provision is extensive and students are able to enjoy the use of our own large indoor heated swimming pool, a sports pavilion which includes a multi-gym and a large gymnasium with a climbing wall. Our external facilities include tennis courts/hockey courts, basketball courts with a covered spectator area, a traverse wall and a large sports field catering for all seasonal sporting activities.

Students that enjoy performing are able to use our dance studios and a production suite to learn sound, lighting and stage management. There are regular plays and shows, held throughout the year, with students from all different age groups often performing together. Music Technology facilities and practice rooms are available for students to use during both lesson time and after school.

Art and Technology subjects are situated within their own dedicated block. Rooms and workshops are extremely well equipped to cover the demands of all these practical subjects including a dark room, sewing machines, Computer Aided Design (CAD), milling machines, pottery kiln, 3D printer and laser cutter, food technology facilities and exhibition space.

At Clacton County High School, our facilities and resources provide something for everyone to suit all interests.
We have the highest expectations and believe that together, through a committed partnership of school, student and the family working together, we can raise the aspirations of all of the young people in our community.

The school is committed to:
- The safeguarding of all students in its care.
- An orderly and stimulating learning environment with high standards and clear expectations.
- Quick, decisive action to support all students with any issues.
- Providing a broad, balanced curriculum, with work that is both challenging and appropriate.
- Providing outstanding lessons and incentives to do well, leading to outstanding learning and progress.
- Involving students with their own educational progress and providing regular information to both students and parents.

The students are expected to:
- Treat all members of our school and the local community with respect.
- Be safe and ensure the safety of others in the school; always follow the instructions of staff.
- Always do their best in all aspects of school life and allow others to learn.
- Arrive at school and all lessons punctually, equipped and prepared to learn.
- Have excellent attendance.
- Wear the correct school uniform at all times.
- To complete all homework set and ensure it is handed into their teachers promptly.

The students are encouraged to:
- Report matters which concern them or other students.
- To join clubs, take part in extra-curricular activities and to be supportive of others.
- Celebrate and share their achievements.

Bullying is rare and any instances are dealt with effectively. Students are confident that the school has strong and effective strategies to promote high standards of behaviour.

Ofsted 2018

Parents agree that their children are safe and happy in school, and well looked after.

Ofsted 2018
Clacton County High School is a founding member of the Sigma Multi Academy Trust. A group of like-minded schools sharing the same vision and ethos, working in partnership to improve the educational outcomes for young people in the area.

Vision
Our vision is to ensure that all of our academies are at least “Good” with strong and improving outcomes and are able to demonstrate outstanding provision. We will achieve this by:
• Establishing a local family of academies that fully embrace the mission, vision and values of the Trust.
• Ensuring that best practice becomes shared practice so that no school is left behind.
• Recognizing the uniqueness and achievements of each academy.
• Enabling every school to be a giver and receiver of support.
• Developing a relationship where autonomy and accountability go hand in hand.
• Creating a centre of educational excellence and innovation within the area.
• Working in collaboration with others to enhance the educational experience of children in the community.
• Training, recruiting and retaining teachers, leaders and support staff through high quality professional development.
• Requiring that services are delivered efficiently and represent outstanding value for money.

Mission
The mission for each academy within the Sigma Trust is to ensure that no child is left behind. Education should foster in its learners a curiosity to discover who they are and what they are capable of, together with developing the resilience for them to test the boundaries of their abilities, and build the skills necessary to face the future with confidence.
To be “Greater Than The Sum Of Its Parts” represents the mission statement for the Sigma Trust. We believe we are stronger and more successful working together than we would be as separate institutions.

Values
The Sigma Trust values the following attributes:
• Integrity - be honest, transparent, trustworthy and true to your beliefs.
• Passion - be positive and enthusiastic about what you are trying to achieve.
• Aspiration - aim for your best and set high, realistic goals.
• Resilience - never give up and strive to improve.
• Accountability - take responsibility for your words, thoughts and actions.
• Respect - for yourself, your environment and other people.