

Ofsted Report
*"The school's work to promote
pupils' personal development
and welfare is good."*

Sir John Hunt Community Sports College


To Greater Heights





Mrs J Bevan, Principal

“The principal is ambitious for all pupils. She leads by example to create a strong culture of respect and tolerance. The positive relationships between leaders, staff and pupils make significant contribution to pupils’ confidence and willingness to learn.” Ofsted

Our Vision

At the heart of our community, Sir John Hunt provides a supportive and engaging learning environment. Our students are inspired to recognise their talents, realise their potential and fulfil their ambitions.

Sir John Hunt from A to Z

Welcome to Sir John Hunt Community Sports College. This prospectus will give you an overview of our College and an opportunity to discover a little more about us, and how we influence students to learn and grow as individuals from age 11 to age 19. We believe that school is an exciting place to develop essential skills, such as resilience and determination to tackle the challenges that life presents.

Our vision is that our students will be inspired to recognise their talents, realise their potential and fulfil their ambitions. We realise this vision by having amazing staff who go the extra mile for all of our students. Our careers and raising aspirations programme starts in Year 7 and we encourage all of our students to push themselves to be the best that they can be and to take advantage of all the amazing opportunities and experiences that the College provides.

Our family ethos is evident in all that we do; we are a smaller school that prides itself on treating students as individuals. We want our students to value and invest in themselves to be the best that they can be and to exceed in all that they do. We are so proud of our Sixth Form students who are such wonderful role models to our younger students and we are immensely proud of the fact that they go on to achieve employment, apprenticeships or a place at university, with the vast majority being accepted on to their first choice courses at university.

Visitors frequently comment on the fantastic professional relationships that exist between our students and staff, so we invite you to come and visit us for yourself so that you can experience a very special learning community. The campus itself provides a purposeful, modern and stimulating environment in which all students can learn, grow and flourish. We are fortunate to have large outdoor spaces for students to play sports and burn off energy.

We aim to provide outstanding learning opportunities to enable students to achieve their potential. When you visit our College and speak to our students first hand, it will be obvious how proud and happy they are to be part of our Sir John Hunt family and that they share our goal *to greater heights*.

Mrs J Bevan, Principal

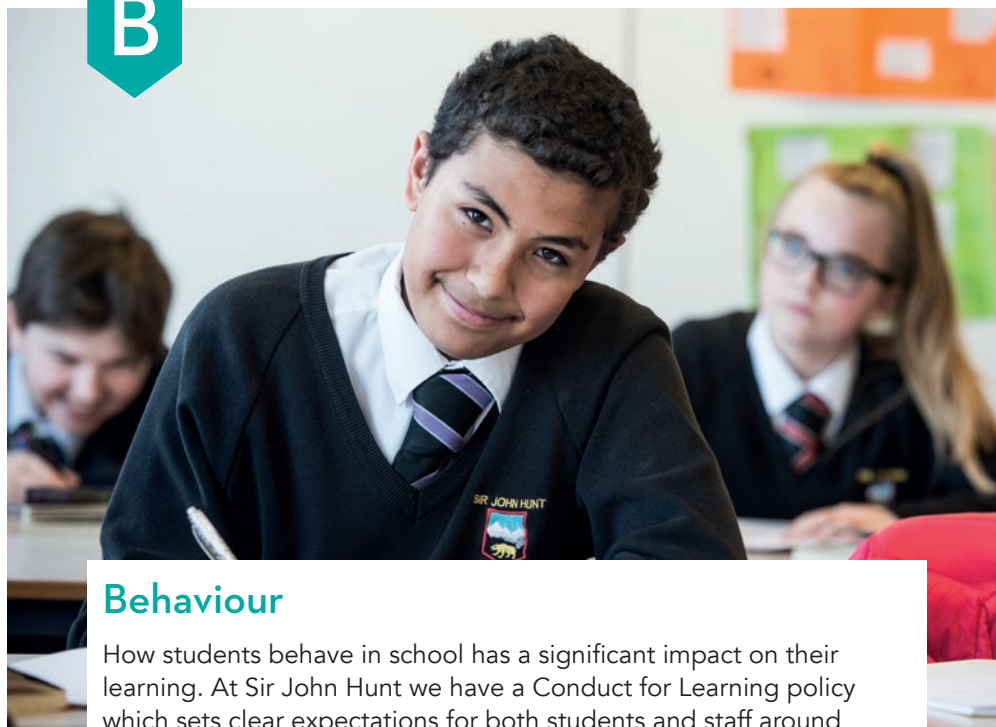


Achievement

Achievement is central to our vision at Sir John Hunt. Achievement is the combination of the academic level (attainment) of our students and the amount of progress made in their learning. Results have increased significantly over the years with the leadership of the College maintaining a focus on high academic standards, high quality teaching and learning, and outstanding student support.

As a college we have a clear focus on improving the life chances of our students through ensuring that they achieve their maximum potential and, in many cases, exceeding the targets they set for themselves.

Our Sixth Form enables us to support our students beyond their GCSEs on to further academic opportunities and vocational pathways which eventually guide them towards a university place, apprenticeship or employment.



Behaviour

How students behave in school has a significant impact on their learning. At Sir John Hunt we have a Conduct for Learning policy which sets clear expectations for both students and staff around conduct and consequences of poor conduct. The implementation of this policy gives our students clear boundaries, resulting in very good levels of behaviour. In our recent inspection, Ofsted said 'Positive relationships between staff and pupils make a strong contribution to pupils' good behaviour.'



Community

We are tremendously proud of our community. We work very closely with our campus partners, local primary schools and wider community groups to ensure a wide range of opportunities exist for our students. This enables them to offer a significant contribution to enhance the lives of others while gaining valuable life skills. Examples include the hosting of the Senior Citizens Christmas party, the running and organisation of our College fetes, participation in supporting community volunteering through The Duke of Edinburgh's award and experience in a wide range of career pathways and work experience.

The college facilities are widely used by the community in the evenings making our site accessible from birth through to old age.

"The curriculum is enhanced by a wide range of clubs and enrichment activities." Ofsted

Ofsted said: *“The school’s work to promote pupils’ personal development and welfare is good. Pupils are confident and self-assured.”*

D



Development

It is important to us that students gain a range of experiences as part of their education. Such experiences include opportunities for leadership and teamwork, through which students develop their skills relating to personal, moral, social and cultural education. We have an extensive range of extra-curricular opportunities open to students from Year 5 students in our feeder primary schools to Year 14 students in our Sixth Form.

E

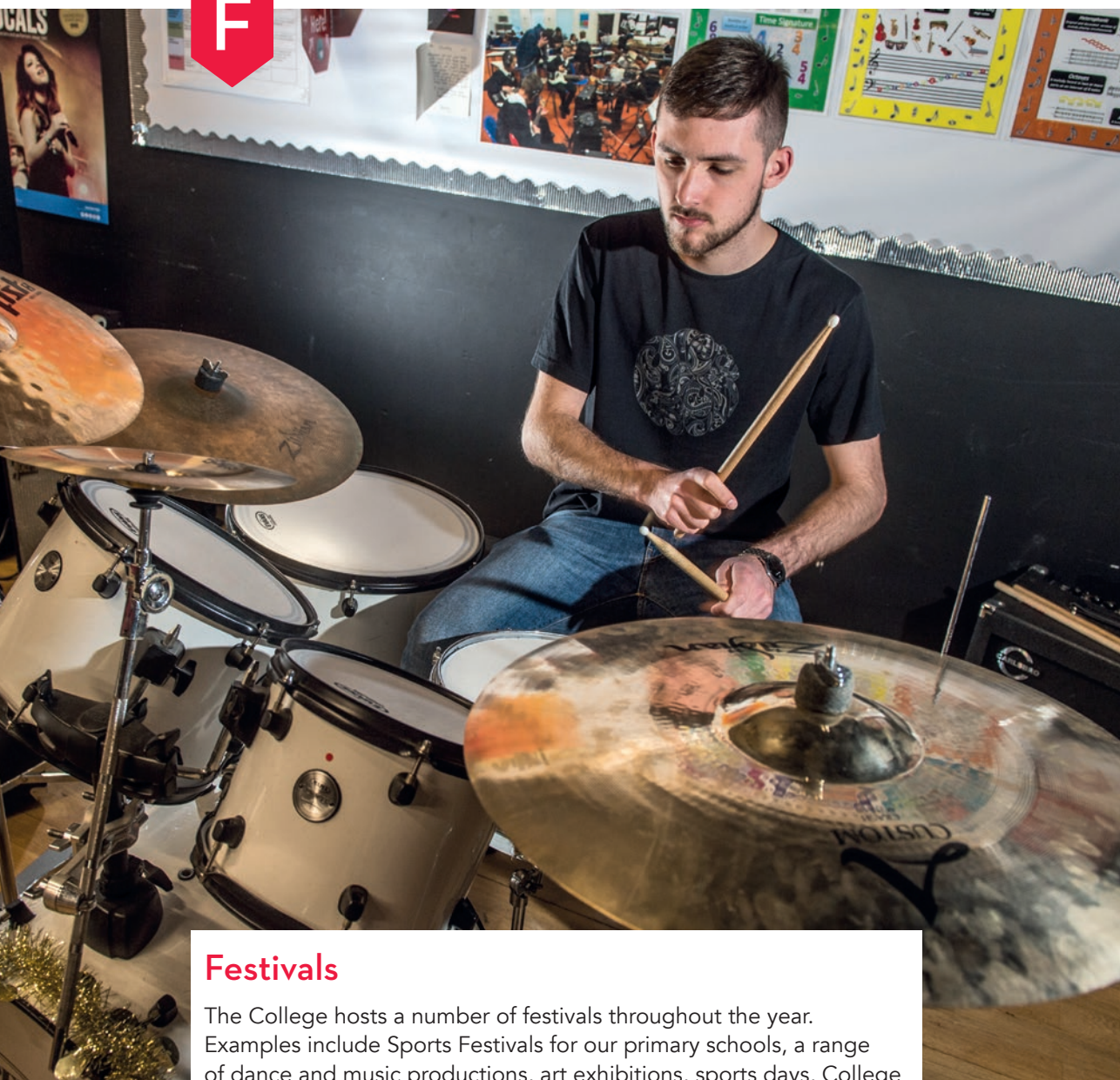


Extra-curricular

The college believes passionately that high academic success, the generation of a love of learning and future university and career prospects are significantly enhanced by participation in a wide range of extra-curricular activities. We are driven by creating the right opportunities for our students and if there is a demand we will endeavour to ensure the opportunity is provided. We are proud of our wide range of College sports teams, our outdoor pursuits activities and our creative clubs in drama, art, textiles, resistant materials, media and computer science. We encourage all students to take part in at least one enrichment opportunity each week in addition to their attendance at our more academically focused Learning Café. All students in key stage 4 and 5 are encouraged to engage in the highly prestigious Duke of Edinburgh’s award scheme.

Our extra-curricular activities include: Archery; Art; Athletics; Basketball; Boxing; Chess; Cooking; Creative Writing; Cricket, Cross Country; Dance; Digital Media; Drama; Fencing; Fitness; Football; Go Karting; Golf; Hockey; ICT; Judo; Kayaking; Mountain Biking; Music; Netball; Orienteering; Rounders; Rowing; Rugby; Sailing; Scuba Diving; Sculpture; Softball; Sports Leadership Academy; Surfing; Table Tennis; Ten Tors; Tennis; Trampolining; Volleyball.

Ofsted said: *“Extra-curricular is wonderful!”*



Festivals

The College hosts a number of festivals throughout the year. Examples include Sports Festivals for our primary schools, a range of dance and music productions, art exhibitions, sports days, College fete and, of course, the end of exam celebrations at the Year 11 and 13 Proms. These festivals allow our students to showcase the many positive aspects of College life while developing the key life skills of organisation, communication, team work, leadership and performing under pressure.



Gifted

A range of activities and opportunities exist to enrich and celebrate students' gifts and talents. Through the Most Able and Talented (MAT) Programme students have the opportunity to work with universities, to take part in subject specific sessions such as STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths workshops), spelling bees, debating, medical lectures, BBC School Report, university visits and leadership events with our primary students, to name but a few.

Students' academic progress and achievements are tracked and monitored by the MAT coordinator and detailed interventions are put in place to ensure that students have the right support to reach their potential. Parents are encouraged to be part of their children's learning journey and are invited in regularly to take part and to find out what they can do to support.

Ofsted said: ***“Leaders set high expectations of pupils and staff.”***



Healthy

As a Specialist Sports College we promote health and healthy living with our students and their families. We run sports clubs for all ages and abilities. We have gained the 'Healthy Schools' and the 'Healthy Schools Plus' awards in recognition of the work done by students and staff in the College to adopt a healthy lifestyle. We actively encourage students to eat healthy food and teach them and their families how to prepare a healthy packed lunch. We hold the local authority's 'Healthy Child Quality Mark' and we also have been awarded the Youth Sport Trust (YST) Gold Award for both competitive sports fixtures and the YST Platinum award kite mark for excellence in recognising, promoting and demonstrating the values of physical education across the college.

"Pupils feel safe in the school and they learn how to keep safe." Ofsted



Internet

One's use and expertise of ICT is fundamental to participation and engagement in the 21st century. It is used to find, develop, analyse and present information. ICT has become a part of our culture, therefore it is vital that we are educated in how to use it, not only in the classroom but also in the workplace. The College sees development of ICT in the classroom as a priority for learning and preparing our students for life in the 21st century. To this end we ensure that our state-of-the-art building is matched by a state-of-the-art ICT infrastructure that is effectively maintained and actively updated. Educating our young people to use ICT responsibly and safely is paramount and to that end E-safety has been fully integrated into our ICT curriculum and Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural education.



Sir John Hunt

The College is named after Sir John Hunt, leader of the 1953 Everest expedition and the five houses are named after famous mountaineers. Hillary, Lowe and Tenzing were part of Hunt's team whilst Catherine Destivelle and Rebecca Stephens are acclaimed female climbers.

Catherine Destivelle

Catherine Destivelle is recognised and admired as the most adventurous and exciting female climber in the world today, often climbing without a rope or any back-up support. Her daring accomplishments as a solo climber, scaling the most difficult and dangerous peaks without the use of safety ropes, support or back-up are legendary.

Sir Edmund Hillary

Hillary was one of two New Zealanders on the 1953 British Everest expedition led by John Hunt. He described his arrival at the summit at 11.30am on 29th May in plain words:

"I looked up to my right and 40 feet above me was a rounded snow cone. A few blows of the ice-axe, a few weary steps and I was on the top. My first reaction was that of relief. I then took off my oxygen apparatus and photographed Tenzing as he stood on top."

George Lowe

Born in Hastings, New Zealand, George Lowe later started work as a teacher and spent holidays climbing in the Southern Alps where he met fellow New Zealander, Edmund Hillary. In 1951 along with Hillary, Lowe was a member of the first New Zealand expedition to the Himalayas, including a first ascent of 7,242m Mukut Parbat in Garhwal, India.

Rebecca Stephens MBE

Rebecca Stephens is the first British woman to summit Mount Everest and has since become the first British woman to climb the highest mountain in each of the world's seven continents. She speaks passionately about the importance of teamwork and inspires audiences with her stimulating presentations.

Tenzing Norgay

Tenzing Norgay took part as a high altitude porter in three official British attempts to climb Everest from the northern Tibetan side in the 1930's. In 1953 he took part in Sir John Hunt's expedition. This was his seventh expedition to Everest. During this expedition he and Sir Edmund Hillary became the first men to reach the summit.



Knowledge

Knowledge is learning power. Knowledge is the key to everything we do. We rely on the knowledge and experience of our team of teachers and support staff to get the very best for and from our students. The knowledge and skills of our students to understand how to harness their own learning power is the greatest factor in determining their achievements - whether at Sir John Hunt or in their future lives.

Ofsted said: ***"Lessons are well planned, motivating and engaging."***

L



Learning

The College is clearly focused on building the learning power of our students, enabling them to be independent learners who can meet the challenges of the 21st century. Through our programme we equip the students with the tools to boost their learning power and help them reach "greater heights". A key focus is on actively taking responsibility for students' own learning through contributing, collaborating, persevering and being challenged. Another priority is to improve the communication skills of our students through developing reading, writing, speaking and listening in all aspects of College life.

"All of the teachers are helpful and kind. I enjoy learning in this school because of the teachers and pupils in this school." Student

M

Mentoring

We have a team of Learning Mentors at Sir John Hunt to help support our students. The support that is provided is dependent upon the needs of the individual. Their aim is to enable our students to:

- manage their own learning and behaviour;
- maximise their confidence, knowledge, understanding, skills and performance while in and out of the classroom;
- diagnose difficulties in relation to academic progress;
- support students with revision and exam techniques;
- promote self esteem;
- act as an intermediary between students and staff.

Our highly skilled and successful team of mentors is available to support all of our students in a variety of ways. Feedback from our students demonstrates their impact.

N

Number of...

5 Years Running

Number of years first choice numbers of students enrolling at Sir John Hunt has increased.

220+ Learners

Record number of Sixth Form students enrolling at Sir John Hunt.

3

Number of national awards for being one of the most improved schools in the country.

95%

Number of parents who said 'their child is taught well at this College'.

93%

Number of parents who said 'their child makes good progress'.

99%

The Average teacher attendance per year.

91

Number of qualifications on offer at Key Stage 4 (Yr 9-11) and Key Stage 5 (Yr 12-13).

12,000

The average number of attendances to Learning Café in each year.

0%

Lowest NEET (not in education, employment or training) figure in Plymouth.

0%

Lowest permanent exclusion rate ever.



Opportunity

We fundamentally believe that students must be given opportunities throughout their education at our College. Our main priority is that students' lessons are enjoyable, with high quality teaching and outstanding learning. For our students to reach their potential our curriculum must be enriched with opportunity for them;

- to have their opinion heard through our student voice processes
- to experience independence through our KS3 Learning Club, KS4 Learning Café and KS5 Supported Study
- to experience being a leader through leadership programmes
- to experience excellence through our Most Able and Talented programme
- to enjoy experiences for the first time through our enrichment week activities



Parents

We believe a strong working relationship with parents and carers is crucial to the success of our students and good communication between home and school is a priority. In addition, formal reports designed to give an easy to read summary of the students' performance in each subject are issued at different stages through the year. We hold six Parents' Evenings per year through which parents and carers can book appointments to see their child's teachers, tutor or Pastoral Leader. Parents are an integral part of our Learning Community. As a College we strive towards a seamless home-school partnership and effective communication is at the heart of this. Parents can log into our "Learning Gateway" to check on their child's attendance, download their latest reports and see what achievements have been accrued. All teachers can be contacted by phone or email and regular parents meetings are planned. All parents are welcome to join and support our growing parent, teachers and friends association which acts as both a parent forum and as a vehicle for fundraising.

"Parents and pupils praise the care and support that teachers provide." Ofsted



Qualifications

We offer a vast range of qualifications and learning opportunities at our College, this is something we are extremely proud of.

Ofsted said: "Leaders are ambitious and promote improvement."

R



Respect

At Sir John Hunt we have a strong agenda around respect. This starts with a requirement that students have respect for themselves: that they respect their abilities, their emotions and their physical attributes. We also expect everyone in the school to respect others, the people that they see and work with on a daily basis. Finally, respect extends to the environment that the student is in, be that a classroom, the dining hall, the wider school grounds or their environment outside of school. Our Social Moral Spiritual and Cultural provision helps students to understand their place in the wider world and the enrichment and volunteering opportunities that are offered by the school allow our students to experience working with others in a supportive and valued environment.

S

Sixth Form: A Home to Raise Aspirations and Realise Dreams

Our Sixth Form is an exciting and challenging environment where every student matters, where the courses, experiences and opportunities are tailored to the individual. We believe in growing the whole person as well as providing qualifications to progress to university, employment or further training. We believe our pastoral care, alongside high quality teaching and learning expectations, is one reason why we are first choice for many students. Students say, they achieve and progress. Our ethos is captured by our Sixth Form vision that we are "A home to raise aspirations and realise dreams".

"Highly effective impartial careers guidance ensures that students undertake study programmes that enable them to develop clear and realistic plans for their future." Ofsted





Teaching

High quality teaching is the key to raising standards of achievement for our students. Our demanding process for selecting new staff always involves having a student panel at interviews. Their voice and judgement is fundamental to our philosophy.

Through the College's rigorous monitoring systems we are always improving the quality of our teaching and learning and sharing good practice to ensure that improvement continues. The College is proud of its staff, who work tirelessly for the students both during the day, after school and during the holidays.

We all remember a good teacher who inspired us. With this in mind we seek to inspire your children, motivate them, develop their skills, raise their aspirations and nurture their inquisitive minds. We ensure that our students know how they are progressing in lessons and show them how they can improve while supporting and guiding them along the way. We are, through excellent teaching, building their learning power.

"I feel my child is well supported and his needs as an individual are met. Every effort is made to help my child achieve his potential." Parent



Uniform

A uniform is important in instilling in students a sense of belonging, as well as a pride in themselves and their College. We maintain an extremely high standard of dress and ask that parents continue to support us in ensuring a continuance of these standards.



Volunteering

All our College events, from productions, open evenings, celebration evenings, our weekly extra-curricular clubs are supported by, if not entirely run by, our students. We have a very strong Student Council structure, a team of lead learners who support us in delivering activities within our primary schools and an outstanding Sixth Form who are building even stronger links with our community. The College firmly believes in the value of student leadership and we take great pride in watching the students flourish and gain invaluable life skills through their involvement in volunteering - skills which will stay with them throughout their lives.



Work Experience

Work Experience and Work-Related Learning are key parts of our Careers provision at Sir John Hunt. During the summer term, all Year 10 students take part in a week-long Work Experience placement which gives them an initial insight into the world of work. During their time in Sixth Form, students further develop their work place experiences as they are encouraged to participate in voluntary work placements to help compliment their college course or to give them experience within the world of work. These placements last throughout the academic year and are usually one or two days per week.

Students are prepared for work place experiences through a detailed programme which is designed by the Careers Coordinator and delivered by tutors and employers. The programme includes; C.V writing, interview preparation, sessions on what to expect in the work place and a reflection activity upon their return to College.

Students comment on how valuable their experience has been in learning more about careers and in developing their employability skills. We strongly believe that work experience and extended work placements are an invaluable part of our students' education, both in terms of giving them real life experience of the world of work and also in terms of their personal development.



eXpectations

Nothing of value in life comes without some effort. At Sir John Hunt Community Sports College we have high expectations that all of our staff and students will put in the extra effort required to achieve success. Sir John Hunt, The Famous Mountaineer that our school is named after said:

"The ascent of Everest was not the work of one day, nor even of those few unforgettable weeks in which we climbed... It is, in fact, a tale of sustained and tenacious endeavour by many, over a long period of time."

The success and achievements of our students and of the wider school comes from us maintaining high expectations. We expect outstanding conduct and attendance from students; we expect outstanding lessons from our teachers and we expect our students to flourish during their time with us at Sir John Hunt.

"Teachers expect and encourage positive attitudes to learning. They manage pupils with respect and dignity and go the extra mile for them." Ofsted

Y



Years Gone By...

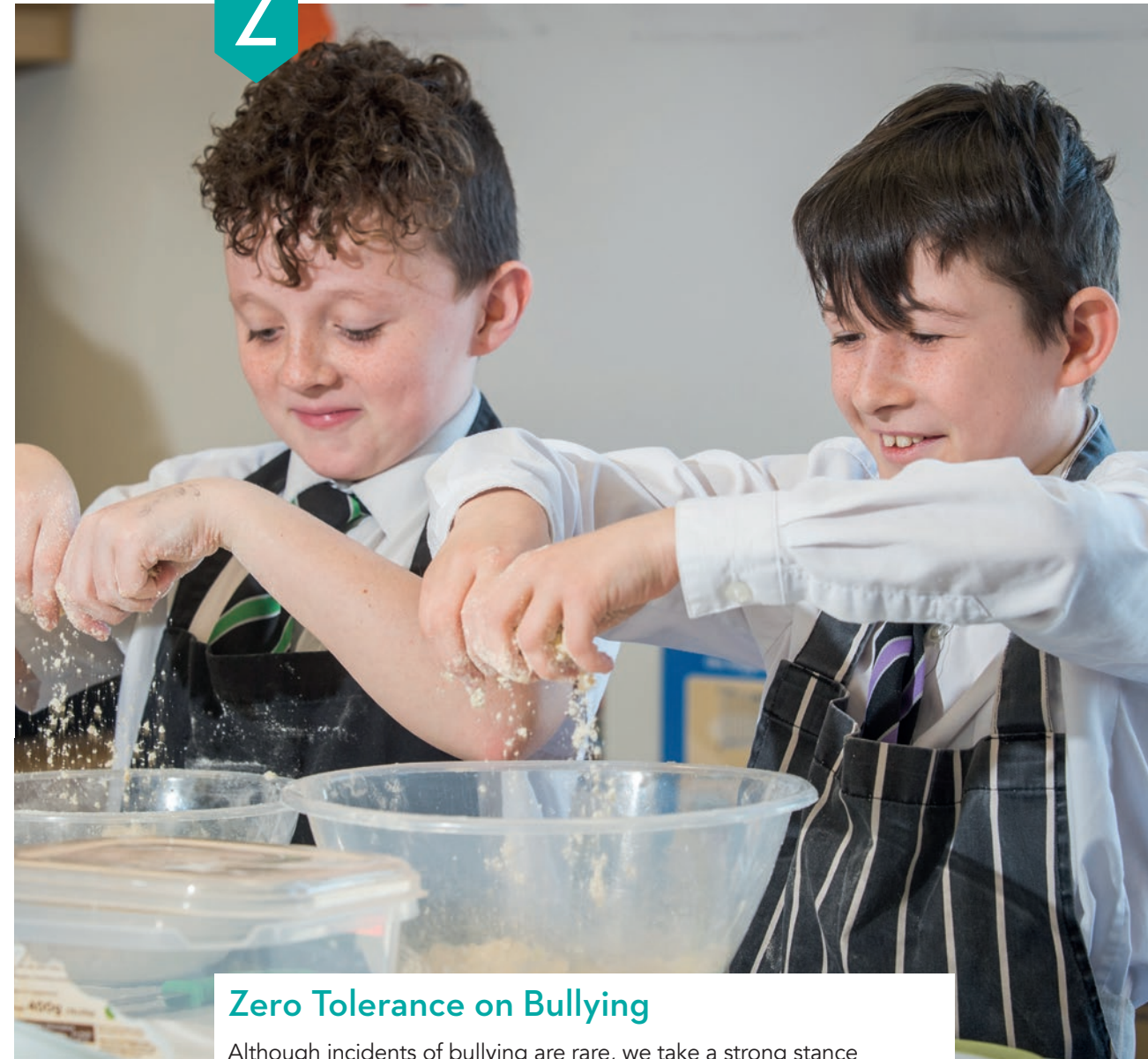
Due to his military leadership experience and climbing credentials, Sir John Hunt was chosen to lead a British expedition to climb Mount Everest. The expedition was a success and in 1953 Edmund Hillary and Tenzing Norgay made the ascent.

Following this success, our College adopted a house system in 1956, in which the houses were named after some of the members of this expedition. The houses were named Hunt, Hillary, Lowe and Tenzing. Hunt's saying; 'To Greater Heights' was named as the College motto and the badge was designed to represent the mountains of the Himalayas and the constellation *Ursa Major*, meaning 'Great Bear', which was a nickname of Sir John Hunt. Later an image of a bear was added to further represent Hunt himself.

Some years later the College was renamed Sir John Hunt Community Sports College in memory of the man and this great British achievement. As the College was named after Sir John Hunt, the house names were changed to Destivelle, Hillary, Lowe, Stephens and Tenzing.

Above: Photograph of Headteacher's Logbook from 1956 showing paintings of the newly designed College badge, motto, uniform and PE kit.

Z



Zero Tolerance on Bullying

Although incidents of bullying are rare, we take a strong stance on bullying in school and the College has a well established Anti-Bullying Policy which deals with all aspects of bullying.

"Pupils say, and records confirm, that in the main bullying is dealt with effectively by staff." Ofsted



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