

STRODE NEWS

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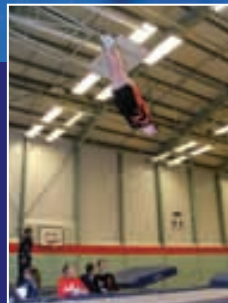
Strode gets top results
in Somerset

(see back page for further info)



Sport special

celebrating £5 million
sports investment



SPORT @ STRODE

Whatever your sport, whether you take it seriously or just like to have fun, Strode scores. We have the coaching, the facilities and the opportunity for most sports.

Brand New Facilities

As a part of a £5 million investment programme to improve our sports facilities, the building work for the new sports hall started in September 1999. In conjunction with the Football Foundation the multi-purpose All Weather Pitch, plus a MUGA (Multi User Games Area), cricket nets and new grass pitch, was completed in February 2008.

Outdoors

All Weather Pitch - Enjoy access to our new floodlit All Weather Pitch which has a fully absorbent shock pad and the new style plastic grass is in-filled with rubber crumb so that it will be just like playing on grass, except that it will be able to be used the whole year round, whatever the weather! Primarily, it will be for Football and Hockey, although there is no reason why a whole range of other sports can't be played as the surface is so good. There are also new changing rooms with separate referee/official facility.

The college also has access to a number of grass pitches on large playing fields.

Hard Court Area - The College has a brand new MUGA which includes four tennis courts and two netball courts.

Indoors

Sports Hall - Our large fully air-conditioned Sports Hall incorporates four Badminton courts, full size Netball and Basketball courts, cricket nets and houses all sorts of activities from football to trampolining to traversing our climbing wall. Refreshments, showers and lockers are all available.

Climbing Wall - We have a challenging indoor climbing wall which is used regularly when the weather is not favourable, and is also very good for training. We have an extensive stock of equipment so there is little need for students to buy their own expensive equipment.

Fitness Suite - The Fitness Suite comprises a good balance of state-of-the-art, cardio-vascular and resistance equipment. This user-friendly facility is designed to ensure maximum safety and enjoyment. For just £10 per year students can join our well equipped, air-conditioned Fitness Suite. The Fitness Suite is situated in our Sports Hall. Instructors are on hand to help with workout schedules, Monday to Friday.



You don't have to be talented at sport...

We want to encourage everyone to use the facilities no matter what your level of ability, whether it's improving your general fitness levels, playing recreationally or taking part in competitive sport. There are a number of enrichment activities at the College, which we will be increasing, so there should be ample opportunity for you to get involved with some activity.

Get involved with other aspects of sport besides just playing

For example, you could get involved with the Step into Sport initiative which encourages young people to gain experience by volunteering opportunities in leadership, coaching, officiating and administrative roles within local community sports clubs. You are given professional support for this and although it is voluntary to start off with, once you have qualified, there are opportunities to earn a wage for your services. For example, many of our students obtain placements with the Griffin Sports Association, who operate on our campus and provide sporting opportunities for young people in the local community. Please speak to a member of the Sport staff for more information.

Enrichment Activities

Outdoor activities take place on Wednesday afternoons, giving students the opportunity to take part in climbing, caving and expedition planning. We also run the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme.

Sports available...

Badminton, Basketball, Cricket, Climbing Club, Mens and Womens Football, Golf, Hockey, Martial Arts, Netball, Rugby, Trampolining, Tennis, Table Tennis and Volleyball.



Sports development squads

If you're serious about sport we offer a choice of seven sports academies/ development squads which all deliver professional coaching expertise to help develop your sporting excellence and personal potential.

You can choose from Football, Rugby, Netball, Trampolining, Hockey, Cricket and Golf.

As part of an academy you will be able to compete in the British Colleges Sport and Somerset Colleges Leagues and Tournaments. The College also works in partnership with a wide range of sporting bodies including local sports clubs, national governing bodies and professional sport agencies.

All our coaches are experienced and normally qualified to a Level 3 standard through their respective national governing bodies. They offer high quality individual and group coaching.

The coaching sessions are held on a Tuesday morning and matches, training or tournaments are held on Wednesday afternoons. Members of the development squads will also be expected to undertake an additional hour of fitness training in agreement with the College fitness instructor and their coach.

The cost for membership will be £130. This fee includes an academy sports pack, consisting of track suit trousers, a hoodie and a polo shirt with embroidered College logo. You will also get free gym membership including a personalised fitness programme specifically relating to your sport.

Selection is open for all. However if the limit is exceeded it may be necessary to have a trial process. Academy squad members are expected to have high levels of professionalism, commitment, and a strong desire to succeed.



Climbing, Outdoor Pursuits & DofE Award

For safe, fun adventure join the Climbing and Outdoor Pursuits club. It's one of the many enrichment activities you can do while at College. Don't worry if you're not sporty, we currently have regulars who are studying everything from Computing to Music.

All activities undertaken are run by Ian Burton who also runs a commercial outdoor activity centre, so there is always a qualified and experienced instructor on hand.

At the Sports Centre we have a challenging indoor climbing wall. However the club has many different activities; climbing and caving being the most popular but others include abseiling, navigation and map reading skills, skiing, rope traverses, quad biking and rock scrambling. During the warmer weather we also offer kayaking and archery.

We have recently added The Duke of Edinburgh's Award scheme. Candidates must complete four sections each one comprises a skill (e.g. learning a musical instrument), a service (e.g. helping a local charity), a sport and the expedition (on foot, or cycle, or horseback!). The DofE Award is non competitive and candidates complete it at their own pace over the course of a couple of years. This year four Strobe students achieved the Gold DofE Award expedition by trekking 82km over 4 days, self-supported, in the mountains of Snowdonia.

So if you have fancied doing something completely different, come along on a Wednesday afternoon and see what's on offer.



Shooting to an impressive start

With an average of 12 goals a quarter Strobe Netball team stormed into their first game of the season against Yeovil College.

Being the first game the girls had played together coach Lisa King was very impressed with how well they bonded and all encouraged each other.

The team quickly found their level of flow, being very positive and playing aggressively. The final score was 45-9. With such a strong team Strobe looks set for further wins.



Scoring seven against Weston

Strobe Football team gained a convincing victory over Weston College in just the second match of the South West League 1 North.

Held on Strobe's new all-weather pitch, the conditions for the game were perfect. From the beginning the Strobe players gelled well and kept great shape. This enabled them to take an early lead.

The final score was an impressive 7-3 to Strobe. Early signs show this could be a promising season.



Strode is top Somerset College for high A Level grades

This year Strode College has proved it is the top performing college for high A Level grades in Somerset. 57% of all passes were grades A or B with 30% at grade A.

Thanks to these great results nine students have gained places at Oxford or Cambridge. Overall one third of A Level students who applied to university this year have been accepted at prestigious Russell Group universities.

Richard Frapwell, in charge of Higher Education guidance, said "As well as receiving excellent A Level teaching, our students are given advice and guidance throughout their time at Strode. This ensures they make the right choices and present themselves in the best possible way when it comes to University applications. We like to make sure that whether they are applying to the older, established universities or to the newer, progressive ones, our students go on to the degree course which is most appropriate to them, thus giving them the greatest chance of success."



Top 5 in the country for A Level Art

Like most other A Level students in the country Charlotte (Lottie) Scott and Poppy Veale, were anxiously awaiting their results at Strode College in August. However, unlike every other student in the country, Poppy and Lottie were amazed and delighted to be told that their performance in A Level Art and Design (Fine Art) was truly world class. Both students had been awarded marks that put them in the top 5 out of a staggering 5,291 candidates nationwide.

Anthony Felton, Strode College Art & Design Tutor reflecting on their work said "It has been a privilege to teach both Poppy and Lottie. Poppy's strength was always in her drawing techniques and eye for detail. She is continuing with us on the Diploma in Foundation Studies Art & Design and will be a huge asset to the course."

He continued "Lottie worked with a wide range of techniques including film, textiles and installation and chose challenging subjects and themes for her investigations. Lottie has moved onto Leeds to take her Art Foundation year and we wish her every success."

Jill Deakin, Head of Creative Arts and Design, said "these students are exceptional examples of the excellent results we achieve here at the College year on year. Whether it's A Level art subjects or BTEC art programmes, our art and design students really are outstanding. Those who have had the chance to come and see our End of Year Exhibition and visit the art facilities are extremely positive and complimentary. This additional recognition is great for the students and for Strode College."



Poppy Veale



Lottie Scott

Distinction... Distinction... Distinction...

Excellent results were achieved in vocational courses with 34 students achieving triple distinctions in their National Diploma courses.

Debbie Cummings, Head of Continuing Education, said "We are delighted with this year's National Diploma and Cache Diploma results. The success of our students reflects their hard work and commitment over the last two years. Their qualifications have combined both academic knowledge and understanding with practical, work-related experience, ensuring that they are suitably skilled to enter the workplace or continue their studies to higher education."

