



KING ALFRED  
SCHOOL

**BELONG  
BELIEVE  
BE PROUD**

PROSPECTUS |

## **BELONG**

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# WELCOME

**Welcome to The King Alfred School.**

**At The King Alfred School we believe all students have the potential to achieve anything they aim for in life. We provide an excellent foundation for their future through high quality teaching, a rich and stimulating curriculum experience, and a culture of aspiration and ambition by developing leadership of self, others and the wider community.**

We are an 11-18 comprehensive school where everyone, both staff and students, strives to be the best that they can be. We value every person in our school community and we are driven by an underlying ethos which is captured in some simple words **BELONG, BELIEVE, BE PROUD.**

King Alfred students enjoy their school lives and are very proud of their school. Every decision is made in the best interests of the students to improve their learning. King Alfred's is an extremely positive learning environment in which to progress and we challenge every student to aspire to do their very best.

It is very important that our young people feel confident and secure at school. We have a strong pastoral system and we take great pride in the close links that we have with parents, carers and the community in which the school is situated.

It is our aim that all students leave us with the skills and attributes required to be lifelong learners and positive role models both in their community, and globally. Every student at King Alfred's is unique, and we strive to personalise their time in school, providing them with stimulating and challenging opportunities.

You are warmly invited to come and visit us so you can see for yourself what makes us such a special school.

**Denise Hurr**

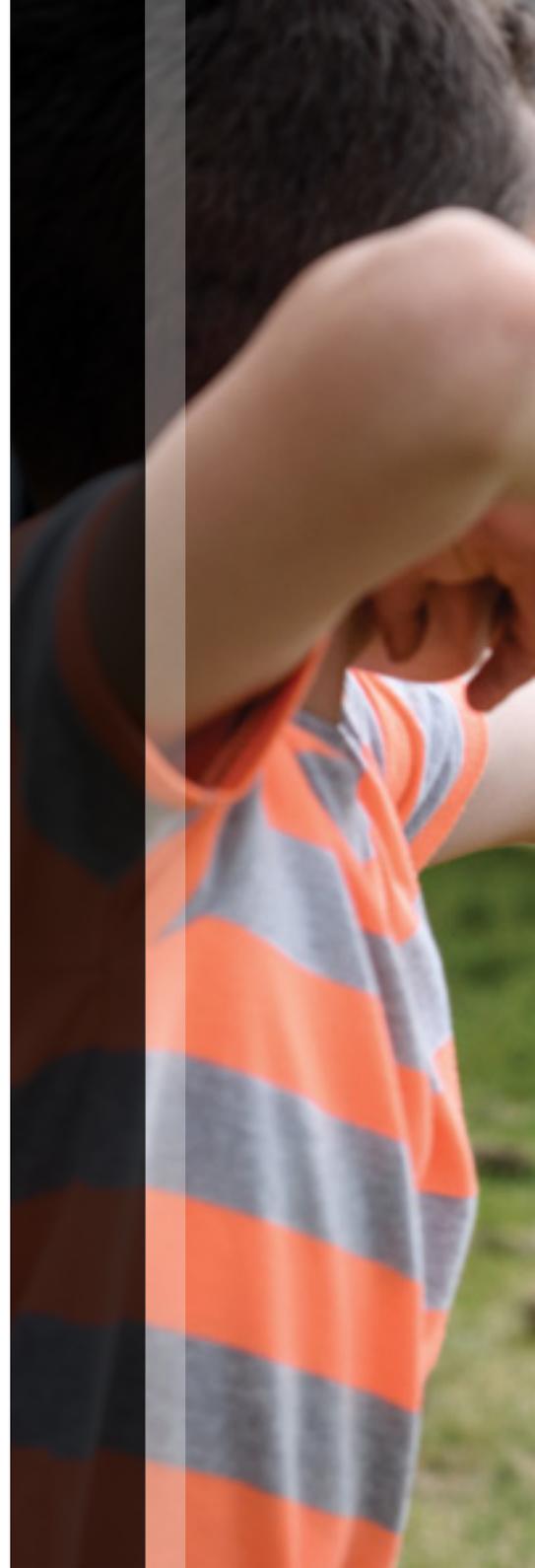
*Headteacher*

# THE WHOLE STUDENT

**At King Alfred's, we understand that it is not solely academic achievements that develop young people and prepare them for their future.**

We offer a wide range of opportunities for students to develop themselves, their skills and abilities - whether this is through an existing interest or trying something new. Our extensive extra-curricular programme offers something for everyone, from sport and dance to the school's chess and debating clubs.

Through our pastoral system, students are able to really get stuck into school life, taking on responsibility and further developing their leadership skills. Students can apply to be prefects in year 11 with a wide range of responsibilities as well as volunteering to become a Peer Mentor or Transition Leader.





IT IS NOT SOLELY  
ACADEMIC  
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WE BELIEVE THAT  
A SUCCESSFUL  
PARTNERSHIP  
BETWEEN SCHOOL  
& HOME IS KEY

# PARTNERSHIP

**We believe that developing a well-rounded young person is founded on a successful partnership between school and home. We know that many of your children will have already visited King Alfred's for curriculum-based workshops such as drama and science or because you have other family members already attending. Some may have been involved in sports activities or have used the school building for a community based activity.**

Our families are involved at all stages of a student's time at King Alfred's. From the pastoral care received from their Head of Year or the individual support, advice and encouragement from their tutor, to classroom teacher concerns or celebrations, we keep you up-to-date every step of the way. Tutor Evenings and Subject Parents' Evenings further improve this communication around your child's development.

Our emphasis on mutual respect and positive relationships means that students know their responsibilities within the school and allows Teaching and Learning to flourish. Where there are any problems, we seek to use restorative approaches to address inappropriate behaviour and work through a structured, supportive process to ensure young people thrive in their education.

We embrace technologies to support collaboration and communication both in school and at home. Our students and parents have access to secure resources via our dedicated portal, Class Charts. Students are able to monitor their homework and see how well their learning attitude is coming across to staff. Parents are able to view their child's key information around attitude to learning, achievements and homework.

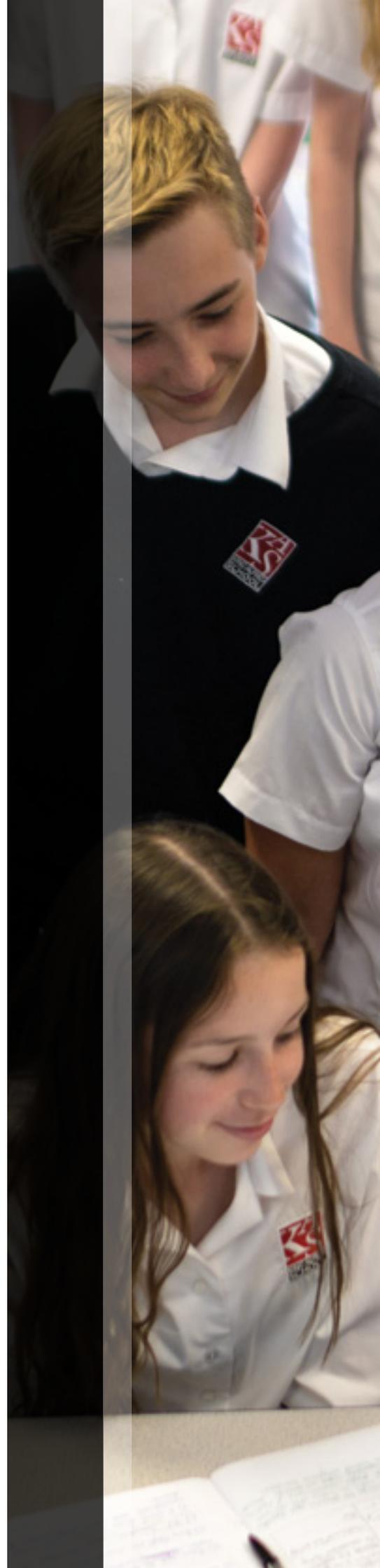
At King Alfred's standards are high. We have extremely high expectations for uniform, behaviour, attendance and punctuality. If a student gets all these things right, they will learn better and get great results. Students are expected to have perfect uniform at all times. They are expected to have excellent attendance and punctuality and will be taught and cared for well.

# BRILLIANT TEACHING & LEARNING

**Your child's lifetime success will be built on their academic foundation and this matters to us. At King Alfred's we place a great emphasis on high quality Teaching and Learning and we have outstanding teachers across all subject areas.**

Our teachers are extremely passionate about their subjects and strive to impart this enthusiasm and knowledge to their students in a creative yet structured way. Teaching and Learning at The King Alfred School has our Be Proud Plan at the core. We want learners to Belong to their learning community, to Believe in themselves and what they are capable of achieving and to Be Proud of their achievements and successes. We take every opportunity to recognise and celebrate success both in and beyond the classroom.

We encourage students to model excellent behaviour for learning attitudes and to take responsibility for their own learning so that the teacher is seen as a facilitator of learning. Students who come to The King Alfred School can expect to be equally challenged and supported throughout their learning journey.





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EVERYONE





# CURRICULUM

**We have a reputation for our student-focused and clearly targeted learning initiatives. We encourage robust, independent thinking and facilitate students to understand how they think and learn best.**

At King Alfred's we believe that all of our students are talented and we aim to bring out the best in everyone. We know that every student has a gift, and we are determined to help them to discover it and make it flourish. This belief underpins the curriculum our students follow, the manner in which they learn in lessons, as well as our after school clubs, trips, performances and wider experiences. Our most talented students have opportunities to demonstrate their high calibre skills within the local community and at a national level.

At Key Stage 4 our students study core subjects of English, maths and science and are then able to choose a range of further subjects that interest them and we build our timetable around them. This means students are able to opt for what suits them best, where they will progress towards their future education and employment aspirations.



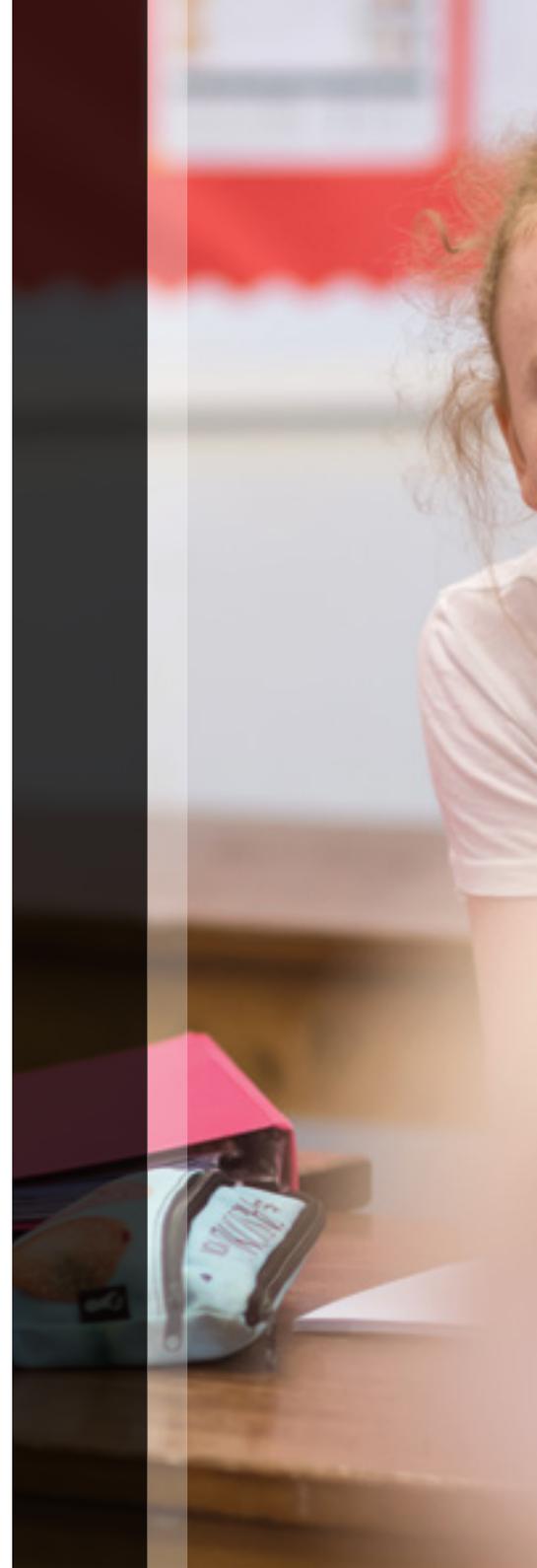
# SIXTH FORM

**Life in the sixth form is all about preparing for a successful career. On arrival in the sixth form students are regarded as young, self-motivated adults with high aspirations. It is our responsibility to ensure they fulfil their potential in the two years they spend with us. To support students during A level studies they will have an academic tutor who will offer one-to-one mentoring covering study skills and careers advice.**

Most of our students go on to study at leading UK universities and in the last three years these have included: University of Cambridge, University of Oxford, University College London, Queen's University Belfast, University of York, Loughborough University, Cardiff University, University of Southampton, and the University of Sussex. The sixth form has also been recognised as an official Apprenticeship Champion for its commitment to vocational pathways by the National Apprenticeship Service and our successful students have gained apprenticeships at the Hydrographic Office and with EDF.

The sixth form centre is run by our student support coordinator and benefits from computer suite workstations, quiet study areas and a careers library. Sixth form students also make use of a kitchenette and social areas during breaks. To support academic success in the sixth form we run a subsidised laptop scheme so students can benefit from 24/7 independent learning.

We offer several leadership and enrichment opportunities in the sixth form that enable students to develop an excellent set of transferable skills that will impress future employers: the Young Enterprise Company Programme, the Bar National Mock Trial competition, The English Speaking Union's Schools' Mace debating competition, Amnesty International, the Sixth Form Committee and the Senior Student Leadership Team. Sixth form students also complete quality work experience that helps boost their employability skills: Bristol Zoo, Musgrove Park Hospital, Aardman Studios and Bristol Crown Court are recent examples. Sixth form students also participate in an international trip every year in order to broaden their horizons. Recent adventures have included trips to the Sahara Desert and the Atlas Mountains in Morocco, New York City, Rome, the Bay of Naples and Berlin.





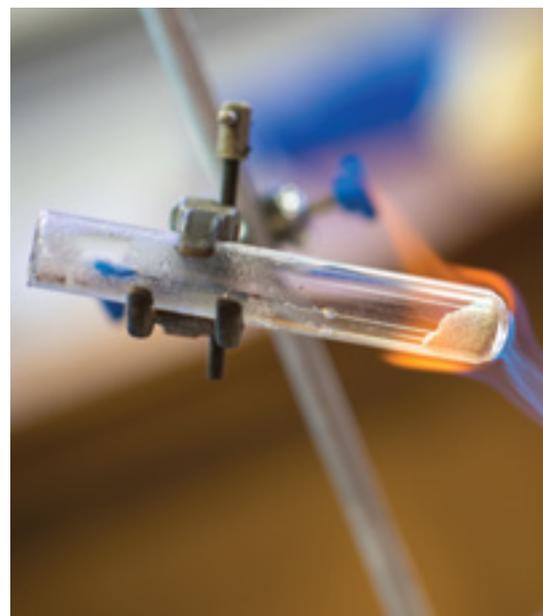
IT IS OUR  
RESPONSIBILITY  
TO ENSURE THAT  
SIXTH FORM  
STUDENTS FULFIL  
THEIR POTENTIAL

We also work with the Holocaust Educational Trust and every year two sixth form students participate in the Lessons From Auschwitz course which involves meeting a survivor and visiting Auschwitz-Birkenau in Poland.

We are a very inclusive, cohesive and supportive sixth form and students benefit from strong pastoral support, small class sizes and an all-pervading atmosphere of academic excellence.



THE BEST  
ADVICE IS  
TO CHOOSE  
SUBJECTS  
YOU ENJOY



# SIXTH FORM CURRICULUM

**The sixth form curriculum offers a range of A level and equivalent qualifications that prepare students for university, employment or higher apprenticeships. Some students choose to specialise according to their interests and future career plans - for example Biology, Chemistry and Maths - while others prefer to keep their options open - for example History, French and Art. There is also the chance to study popular subjects that are probably new such as Sociology and Psychology.**

There are also opportunities to enhance students experience by completing the Extended Project Qualification (EPQ). Modelled on a university-style dissertation and graded from A\*-E like other Level 3 qualifications, students get to choose their own EPQ topic and are supported by a mentor. Many of our sixth form students also complete online courses run by leading UK universities in order to enhance their applications. Students applying to the leading Russell Group universities participate in masterclasses and enjoy a residential trip to the University of Cambridge.

We also enrich the curriculum by inviting guest speakers to run seminars and workshops on a range of topics that help sixth form students become knowledgeable, skilled and confident young adults: Question Time, road safety, first aid and mental health awareness have proved particularly popular.

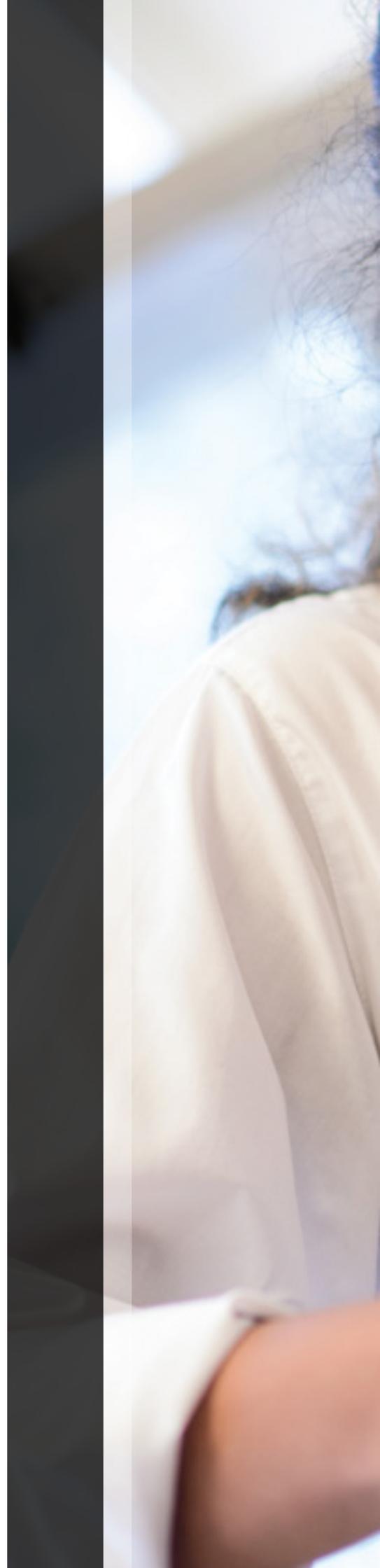
# INSPIRING FUTURES

**We aim to expand the horizons of our students academically, culturally and vocationally and we look to inspire, motivate and involve our students as they prepare for the rapidly changing world of work and future study.**

We operate a number of guidance programmes across all age ranges to ensure our students are well informed about the opportunities available to them for their future pathways and to ensure they meet, if not exceed, their aspirations.

Our sixth form is both separate from the whole school and integrated within it. Through a suite of varied learning and social environments students have access to the benefits of our pastoral system and also the principles and privileges of Post 16 education.

Opportunities to share and pass on all that they have learned during their years at King Alfred School are encouraged and Sixth Formers are often involved in mentoring younger students, using their subject specific knowledge to assist teachers in the classroom or running sports teams, for example.





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# SUCCESS OUTSIDE THE CLASSROOM

**The school strives to offer a wide range of learning experiences both in and outside the school. We continue to offer an opportunity for Year 10 and Year 12 students to undertake a week of work experience which allows them to develop the skills necessary to take the next steps in their education and employment with confidence.**

We provide a comprehensive range of after-school activities in areas such as sport, music, drama and languages to name but a few. We run homework club after school everyday with support for students to complete their homework.

There are many one-off events and activities including curriculum-related visits to places such as theatres, museums, castles, and field centres. More ambitious trips such as Year 7 camp provide fantastic learning, enrichment and occasionally life-changing opportunities for students.

We expect our students to be leaders. We have an active student council in each year group and they work hard to ensure that the student voice is heard and makes a difference. Student voice is active and highly valued by all of us. We also operate a prefect system which recognises the hard work and commitment of students over the time that they have been in the school. These opportunities develop the skills and qualities necessary to be able to make a positive contribution to the community in which they live.

We stand out because we nurture compassionate, courageous and hope-filled citizens in the school and wider community.





[www.kingalfred.somerset.sch.uk](http://www.kingalfred.somerset.sch.uk)

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