



mva

Minerva Virtual Academy



Department
for Education

Prospectus

2026/27

Award-winning
online school for
11 - 18 year olds

© MVA Year 11 Student

Let us show you around.

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⑧ MVA School Trip
February 2025

Meet Suzanne

World-class, award-winning, virtual schooling for ages 11-18, built on personal mentoring and community, lead by a senior team from the UK's top schools, and proudly accredited by the Department for Education.

We are a new vision for education in the 21st Century, combining the best of independent schooling with homeschooling, and delivering it all online.

At MVA, we offer a beacon of hope to all those looking for a fresh start and an exciting new challenge - providing a fully-supportive, student-centred, and future-looking school environment to help students thrive and achieve fantastic results.

Students follow the British curriculum from the comfort and safety of their home, or wherever they are in the world.

They learn at their own pace through a mixture of live group lessons and online modules, all with the support and care of a personal mentor. They take their GCSE and A-level exams, join clubs, attend weekly school assemblies, make life-long friends and get fantastic results.

Please explore and enjoy this prospectus, speak with us if you have any questions, and we look forward to your family joining ours so that we can help your child thrive.

“Traditional schooling isn't the perfect fit for every child.

Suzanne Lindley
MVA Principal



Accreditations



Featured In



“”

Wellbeing is at the heart of everything.

Ofsted report
July 2024

75%

of students live in the UK

50+

Number of countries our
student live in

1,000+

Student community,
growing everyday



Department
for Education

Accredited as a Provider of
Online Education, July 2024

Perfect for...

Mental Health & Wellbeing

Boosting confidence and reducing anxiety in a supportive environment.

Student-Athletes

Flexible learning tailored for athletes. Student-athletes can learn on their own schedule.

Performers

Flexible schedules for busy musicians, actors and artists.

High Achievers

Unlocking potential through accelerated learning opportunities.

SEND & Neurodivergent Learners

Personalised support for SEND/neurodiverse learning needs.

International Families

On-the-move British education for international families.

“““

The holy grail of online schooling...

THE
GOOD
SCHOOLS
GUIDE

⑧ MVA Year 10 Student

Four Pillars

Live Lessons, 1:1 Mentoring, Virtual Learning Platform (VLP), Community & School Trips.

The four pillars allow us to deliver a highly effective education whilst equipping our students with the skills needed to thrive in the modern world; all in an environment where each student is known, encouraged and can make life-long friends.



Virtual Learning Platform (VLP)

Our Virtual Learning Platform (VLP), or Canvas, is like a supercharged digital textbook with all your MVA course materials neatly organised into modules.

You can log in anytime and learn at your own speed, making self-study easy and keeping you accountable. With interactive features like videos and quizzes, it turns learning into a fun game. You get to learn, reflect, revise, test yourself, and master each topic before moving on to the next one.



Live Lessons

Our Live Lessons bring together top educators from the UK's leading schools, delivering an exceptional learning experience directly to your home.

With small class sizes, our expert teachers can focus on each student, making learning highly interactive and tailored to individual needs.

These live sessions are a perfect fit with our Flipped Learning model. Students come prepared, having explored the material beforehand, allowing for deeper engagement and meaningful discussions during class. Immediate feedback and collaborative problem-solving are key features of these sessions, ensuring students not only understand but excel. Experience the difference of live online learning with world-class teachers and a system designed to maximise your potential.





1:1 Mentoring for Every Child

Every student is assigned a mentor to help bring out the best in them.

Mentors are responsible for the overall growth and success of our students.

A true ally on their MVA journey, the mentor meets with their mentee every week and can be contacted at any time via email or chat. Organisation skills? They'll teach it. Confidence? They'll build it. Missed class? They'll keep an eye on it. Through this special interaction, every one of our students can get the help they require to achieve both their personal and academic goals.

How does Mentoring work?

Mentors support MVA students in realising their full potential. Genuine in their support of the student along their academic journey, the mentor will arrange frequent meetings and can be contacted by email or chat at any time. Supporting the student's academic growth in all areas — including self-study habits, involvement in school activities, and personal development is the mentor's responsibility.

Thousands of hours of one-on-one mentoring have equipped our Mentors with extensive training and expertise.



Community

From the outset, MVA's vision has been to create a flexible online school where students thrive both socially and emotionally. A key part of our Community pillar is offering diverse experiences that help students feel connected, confident, and inspired.

We place strong emphasis on meaningful interaction – both online and in person – as a vital part of a well-rounded education. Many students who've struggled in traditional settings find their place and voice at MVA.

Alongside regular meet-ups and trips to cities like Bath and Oxford, we offer a vibrant range of co-curricular activities including baking, chess, spiritual yoga, philosophy, nature club, and our International Society – all designed to spark curiosity and build friendships.



MVA In Person Roadshow



**We're so excited to
share our trips with
you—it's one of the
main reasons families
choose MVA!**



⑧ MVA Year 11 Student with
her family in Hyde Park



“““

**I recently moved
my 14yr old into
MVA. It has been
the best decision.**

It's not just the students who
are challenged to think
creatively, teachers are too,
with wellbeing and social
development playing a
significant role in the
curriculum.



“““

I would like to express my thanks for the consideration given to their needs and the support put in place for the school trip on Fri 21st Oct.

The fact that they could head off onto the trip feeling confident in the support and care of the adults responsible for them is truly wonderful.



Sample Timetable



Martha

Year 8

13yr MVA Student



Community

Assembly



Live Lessons

Geography



VLP

Maths



Mentoring



**1:1 w/
Caroline**



Community

Social Room



Community



School Trip

Martha's week at MVA

3 x Live Lessons per Day
10hrs Independent Learning
10hrs Community Sessions



Self Study

Self-study at MVA focuses on preparing for lessons rather than traditional homework.

This approach helps students engage with the material beforehand, making them more active participants during live classes. It encourages independent learning and critical thinking as students explore new concepts on their own first. Ultimately, this method enhances understanding and retention, setting a strong foundation for success in their studies.



Weekly Assemblies

Our school assemblies are a great way to bring everyone together and build a sense of community.

They're perfect for sharing news, celebrating achievements, and sharing voices within our community so everyone feels ready to start the week. Plus, they give students a chance to share their ideas and be recognised. Overall, assemblies boost our school's spirit, creating a supportive and friendly atmosphere.



After School Clubs

From debating to art and film production, these and other clubs are the perfect way to have fun, make new friends, and explore your interests.

Take a look at our High-Performance Club designed specifically for MVA's elite athletes. Or explore and celebrate diversity of thought in our Neurodiversity Club, embracing the strengths and uniqueness of every mind at MVA.

Whether you're looking to develop new skills or just enjoy some downtime, there's something for everyone at MVA.



Social Rooms & Drop-In Sessions

Between self-study sessions, there's never a dull moment at MVA!

Jump into our After School Clubs or join the buzz during our lively weekly Assemblies. Don't forget to check out our awesome social rooms; they're the perfect spots to hang out, make new friends, and connect with teachers in a relaxed setting.

Whether you're looking to brainstorm, chill, or just chat, the Social Room casual events are all about having fun! Plus, our unique Wellbeing Programme keeps the good vibes flowing and helps everyone feel supported. Come on in and make the most of your MVA experience!



Wellbeing

The MVA Wellbeing Programme is all about supporting our students' health and happiness!

Each week, students join a fun 45 minute long session that fits perfectly into the MVA timetable, alongside Live Lessons and self-study.

This program is part of our comprehensive "whole school" approach, promoting wellness in every aspect of school life. By focusing on wellbeing, we aim to positively impact both personal growth and academic success for all our students!

The MVA Wellbeing Programme is designed to empower young minds to thrive in the face of any challenges they may encounter and to create a nurturing environment where every student feels supported and capable of reaching their full potential.

⑧ **Elite Sport Mentor, Sol & Year 9 MVA Student**



Years 7 & 8

Ages 11-13

Under the guidance of a highly experienced Principal, MVA's newest and youngest students will receive the same award-winning education as their older peers, with a unique, forward-thinking curriculum specifically designed for their age group.

Year 7 & 8 students will develop new subject-specific skills and study habits that will prepare them for later learning.

New Year 7 & 8 students will participate in a full programme of school activities and lessons each week, including Assemblies, After School Clubs, Wellbeing classes, providing them with the opportunity to engage in a variety of ways, developing a range of 'soft skills' to build confidence and their sense of belonging to the community"

Students will also benefit from one to- one sessions with their personal mentor, who will help them grow and develop as individuals, both in and out of the classroom, and where needed, students will be supported with SEND and SEMH needs.

New students joining MVA in Year 7 & 8 will have an advantage as they will have time to adapt to our style of education, known as "Flipped Learning," and they will make friends well before embarking on their pre- GCSE studies from Year 9.

“““

They will be encouraged to think creatively and critically in response to a diverse and challenging curriculum that has been designed to instil a

lifetime love of learning as well as a greater sense of self and confidence.

Jack Child

Assistant Vice Principal



Year 9

Age 13-14

An exciting and expansive year on the path to GCSEs, delivered via award-winning virtual schooling.

This is when we make sure that your son or daughter grasps the key concepts across a broad range of subjects. With our guidance, they will be in a good position to make choices about which subjects they are going to choose for their GCSE curriculum in Year 10 and 11.

Students in Y9 are placed in one of two pathways - Core and Extension Maths. Both will cover the same topics but the extension will move at a faster pace and will link to the more advanced mathematical concepts. This provides excellent preparation for our Foundation and Extension Maths IGCSE courses.

Students at MVA can study up to nine subjects, with five being our suggested minimum in Year 9. The core subjects include Maths, English, Biology, Chemistry and Physics.



📸 MVA Year 10 Students on a School Trip.

Years 10 & 11 GCSE

All students must study English Language, Maths (at either Higher or Foundation level) and one of the Science options below.

Science Options

Full Science

All three subjects (Biology, Chemistry and Physics) studied in full, leading to six examinations and three separate GCSE grades in Year 11.

Double Science

66% of the content of all three subjects studied, leading to three examinations and two separate GCSE grades in Year 11.

Individual Science (minimum two)

One combination of Biology and Chemistry, Biology and Physics or Chemistry and Physics studied in full, leading to four examinations and two separate GCSE grades in Year 11.

Languages

The Year 10 Language courses in French, German and Spanish assume prior learning.

If a student wishes to take up a new language in Year 10, they will need to have one-to-one tutoring in the six months prior to develop a basic level of competency. Please discuss with a member of the Senior Team if your child is considering this.

How to choose your subjects

Students should make their subject choices with the guidance and support of parents, their mentor and teachers.

If they have ideas of possible careers and fields of work, University courses or A-levels they want to aim for, these should be discussed and taken into account. Many students may not yet know their future career path, and so they should aim to keep a broad variety of subject types in order to develop a range of different skills and, ultimately, should choose subjects that they enjoy and have an interest in.

Years 10 & 11 GCSE

We follow the IGCSE curriculum, recognised in the UK and internationally



Pearson

IGCSEs are becoming one of the most popular options in the UK, offered by many top independent schools.

You do not have to be a British National, nor reside in the UK, to achieve these qualifications. We do offer some GCSEs (CIE and OCR) such as psychology, art and music and exams must be sat at a physical centre in the UK.

Remote Invigilation Service
Students sitting their iGCSEs at MVA have a choice – they can either visit their local exam centres as private candidates, with each subject requiring a booking fee, or take advantage of our partnership with Pearson.

Through Pearson's Remote Invigilation Service, students have the option to sit their exams from the comfort of their own homes, ensuring flexibility and convenience.

 **MVA Year 11 Students on a School Trip.**



Years 12 & 13 **mva6**

Launch your own business
Travel the World
Get access into University
Succeed in your sport

Years 12 & 13 **mva6**

Our Sixth Form programme is designed to provide our students with the knowledge and skills they need to succeed in higher education and beyond, but also give them unforgettable life experiences that no other school can provide.

Sixth Form students at MVA study Advanced Level (A-Level) or BTEC courses and have the opportunity to pursue their academic interests in greater depth and with more autonomy.

MVA Sixth Formers are also given much more opportunity to interact with peers from around the world and to work collaboratively on projects and assignments.

This diverse community of learners enriches the Sixth Form experience and provides invaluable perspectives and ideas for each student, and sets them up with international friends for life.

We offer an extensive range of subjects and a totally unique extra-curricular programme to help our students prepare for the modern world and give them a real sense of the person they are maturing into.

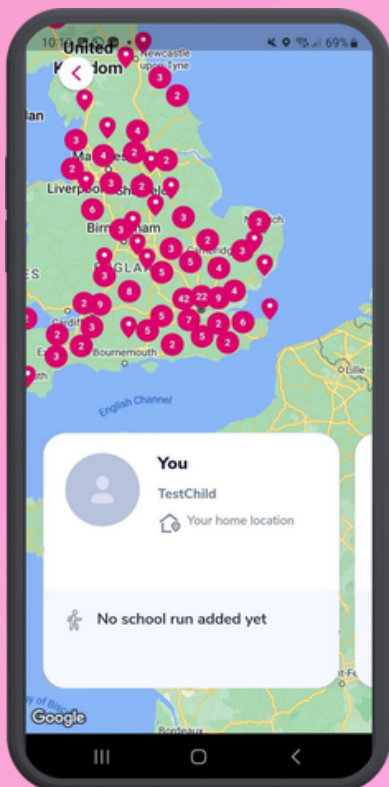


How to Join.

- 1 Get in touch.
- 2 Speak to one of the MVA team.
- 3 Complete the MVA Enrolment Form.

“““

With every step we take along the MVA path we feel more and more reassured that this school is a good fit for our family.



Gemma Schofield
Head of Admissions



Talk to an MVA Family.

We can put you in touch with one of our parents, who can discuss their own, first-hand experiences of MVA.

Once enrolled at MVA our Parent App enables you to connect with other families across the UK and the world.

See you soon!



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Hyde Park, June 2024