



Erskine Stewart  
Melville

1694

# Erskine Stewart Melville *Vision*



# Our purpose

Empowering minds for a better world

# Our mission

To equip students with the knowledge, skills and mindset to thrive and shape a better world.

# Our vision



Empowering learners within our community through innovative approaches and transformative experiences, Erskine Stewart Melville cultivates **creativity, critical thinking** and collaboration.

Through a dynamic education and a culture of determination, we inspire students to **dream big, set ambitious goals** and **surpass their own expectations**, setting them up for a fulfilling and successful life, whatever path they choose.



# Our school pillars

Our three school pillars reflect our identity and our culture. They guide our behaviour and our decisions:

## Ambition

Our school is driven to pursue excellence. To go beyond traditional learning, to thrive in every aspect of life, no matter what your definition of success may be. Ambitious in learning, ambitious in life.

## Innovation

We celebrate the Scottish Enlightenment and honour our founders by challenging traditional thinking, embracing innovation, empowering individuals and mastering progressive teaching and learning.

## Community

Community is at the heart of everything we do, from instilling a strong sense of belonging, to supporting the wider community. At Erskine Stewart Melville community means compassion, warmth and somewhere to feel safe and comfortable. You can still be yourself, and it's important that you are - individuality is something we celebrate. There is a feeling throughout the school, a kindness, a sense of place. Community as a value is important, but community as a feeling should be recognised the moment you step through the door.



# Our five school values

Erskine Stewart Melville is a diverse community where we celebrate the individuality of all our students. While recognising that every student is unique, we aim to develop five core values in every student to help support their personal and academic growth and shape a better world.

*Kindness*

**Confidence**

**Resilience**

**Integrity**

*Curiosity*

# Education that lasts a lifetime

Welcome to Erskine Stewart Melville, a hub of innovation in the heart of Edinburgh, where we are committed to the individual ambitions of every student by pushing the boundaries of traditional academia.

Our school cultivates creativity, critical thinking, and collaboration. We empower our learners to dream big and surpass their own expectations, using progressive teaching and learning. Our approach provides an expansive range of academic and extra-curricular opportunities, as well as a dedicated wellbeing programme that supports the whole child.

Our students are equipped with the tools and mindset they need to thrive in a rapidly changing world, and their compassion and lifelong love of learning ensures they will make a positive impact on the world, whatever path they choose.

# Ambition

Erskine Stewart Melville offers sector leading teaching and learning, a progressive curriculum and wellbeing programme and an expansive range of co-curricular opportunities. Together this instils the knowledge, skills and mindset students and staff need to aim high, work hard and thrive.

## Our goals

- Provide sector leading teaching and learning, in and outside the classroom, which maximises the potential of every student
- Equip students with the knowledge, skills and mindset they will need to aim high and surpass their personal ambitions
- To establish a model wellbeing program that is recognised internationally and has a positive impact on the community
- Establish ourselves as the educational employer of choice.





# Ambition

## How we'll get there



### **Sector leading teaching and learning:**

- Establish ourselves as a centre of excellence for educational practice and pedagogy, raising performance and long-term outcomes through a range of cutting-edge educational approaches
- Track and analyse emerging trends based on the latest pedagogical research
- Extend inspirational teaching to every area of the school through an enhanced continuous professional development programme for staff.

### **Development of whole child:**

- Empower students to understand how they think and how they learn
- Continue to develop our co-curricular and sports provision to increase the opportunities available to our students and ensure they are participating in a rounded education beyond the classroom
- A Leadership programme that develops and empowers students
- A school community that exemplifies physical, mental, and emotional health, influencing wellbeing practices in schools globally.

### **Training and education:**

- Enhanced and innovative training for students and staff to help recognise and support the wellbeing needs of our whole community
- Provide a wellbeing training programme for parents to help them meet the challenges they are facing at home.

### **Partnerships:**

- Educational partnerships that enhance the curriculum and co-curriculum and help to develop educational resources in schools across Scotland
- Commercial partnerships that increase income for our development projects and secure research partnerships that will inform and improve pedagogical practice and policy.

### **Your future:**

- A sector leading careers programme, from 5-18, supported by our community, that helps students to discover the breadth of opportunities available to them and develops the skills they will need to thrive in their chosen career
- A Learning For Life curriculum that provides students with the knowledge, skills and opportunities required to thrive in life, and to make a positive contribution to society.



# Innovation

Innovations that break traditional boundaries, creating dynamic and more effective learning experiences, elevating student outcomes, providing staff with sector leading skills and raising the standard of education in the UK.

## Our goals

- To be recognised as a top global institution for innovative education and student outcomes
- Establish a culture of innovation by nurturing innovative mindsets within our school community and empowering staff and students to proactively seek out opportunities for improvement and growth
- Drive innovations and transform education and wellbeing within the school and the wider community

# Innovation

## How we'll get there

### **Innovative teaching and learning in and outside the classroom:**

- Innovative teaching and learning that stretches and supports every student, utilising adaptive teaching strategies to suit different needs and abilities
- Establishing the best teaching and learning setting in Scotland; working with trainee and newly qualified teachers, helping to raise teaching standards in Scotland and positioning Erskine Stewart Melville at the forefront of new and emerging innovations, research and teaching strategies.

### **Centre of excellence and research:**

- Sector leading Learning Hubs, supported by educational and commercial partnerships, that extend our students, provide research opportunities and inspire evidenced based innovations, raising the standard of education in the UK
- Centre of excellence for research into wellbeing. The school will be a model of best practice in the local and wider area, helping to promote wellbeing to a broader community
- As a Microsoft Global Showcase School, Erskine Stewart Melville will continue to pioneer the balanced use of educational technology to enhance teaching, support learning and maintain high standards of digital competency and confidence across our staff

- Set the environmental standard for schools worldwide, inspiring a global movement towards sustainability in education.

### **Culture of innovation:**

- Empowering all staff to be innovators in their own areas
- Developing adaptable and resilient mindsets among our staff and students, so they are equipped to embrace change and uncertainty, engage in creative problem-solving, and seize new opportunities for growth and improvement.





# Community

A strong Erskine Stewart Melville community, increasing the breadth of engagement opportunities available, throughout the lives of our students, staff, parents and supporters, as well as increasing our social impact at a local, national and international level, creating a culture of philanthropy.

## Our goals

- To significantly impact our local and global community through sustainable initiatives, community service, partnerships, and a strong culture of philanthropy
- Strengthen the connections within the Erskine Stewart Melville community and increase opportunities to support
- A diverse, inclusive, forward-thinking community.





# Community

## How we'll get there



### **Erskine Stewart Melville for life:**

- An enhanced programme of activities and opportunities to strengthen the Erskine Stewart Melville community
- Expand the Erskine Stewart Melville network to increase opportunities for members of the community to support each other - building social connections, reigniting old friendships, creating career and business connections and inspiring the young minds of our current pupils.

### **Community involvement:**

- Transform communities, influence policy and set benchmarks for social responsibility and sustainability in education
- Expand our programme of volunteering, fundraising and resource sharing to support community work at a local, national and international level and inspire the next generation of philanthropists
- Expand our external partnerships to support the health and happiness of our students and staff
- To ensure that all students, staff and parents feel valued and that their voice is heard, respected and acted on, through greater consultation and feedback

- To increase community involvement in all the opportunities that Erskine Stewart Melville has to offer.

### **A diverse, inclusive and forward-thinking community:**

- Broaden access to a transformational Erskine Stewart Melville education through increased bursary provision for children in our community, by strengthening our giving programme
- Ongoing initiatives to ensure we are an inclusive community that supports and champions diversity.



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**An Education that**  
*lasts a lifetime*