

# ATHLETICS

## DISCOVER BRILLIANCE

### HEAD OF ATHLETICS

Neil Wheeler

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Neil joined Millfield with an National Governing Body (NGB) background, having held positions in coaching and coach development with Welsh Athletics and British Athletics. A former National Sprints, Hurdles and Relays Manager for Wales and Strength and Conditioning Coach with the University of Bristol, Neil brings a range of coaching experience supporting athletes at domestic championships, European Championships and the Commonwealth Games.

### COACHES



Charlotte Fisher



Ken Holmes



Gary Jennings

### HIGHLIGHTS

- 20 students represented Somerset Schools at the English Schools' Championships, with ten students placing in the top eight
- Intermediate boys and girls teams qualified for the national final of the English Schools' Cup
- Millfield set three meeting records at the Achilles Relays in April 2023, which saw the senior girls 4x100m performance rank in the top three U20 teams in the UK
- Millfield Sports Personality of the Year for 2023 Lucy F represented England and Great Britain U20 in Long Jump. She gained a PB and was crowned U20 National Champion (indoor and outdoor) and won silver at the English Schools
- Five athletes represented Great Britain or England at U20 and U18 levels in 2021
- Athletes represented GB and other national teams at 2015 World Youth Champs, 2016 European Junior Champs, 2018 European 18 Champs, 2019 International Island Games
- 10+ students achieved scholarships to US university programmes in the last five years
- Medals won at the English Schools Championships in all four event groups
- Athletics track with state of the art jumps' facilities including new leading pole vault facility
- Host to many top class competitions including partnership with the British Millers Club and Somerset Schools Athletics

### SUCCESS STORIES



Jazmin Sawyers

International Long Jumper, Double Olympic Finalist and European and Commonwealth Medallist.



Elise Thorner

GB International at U18, U20 and U23 age groups in the steeplechase. Went on to success in the NCAA as a scholar in the US.



Ollie Thorner

Decathlon GB international and represented GB in the 2018 European U18 Championships. Success as a scholar in the US & NCAA.



Joel Leon Benitez

Represented GB in pole vault. Holds the school record at 5.51m. Completed his degree in the US and became an NCAA finalist.

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# MILLFIELD

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### THE PROGRAMME

#### WHAT TO EXPECT

**1. Athletics only model.** For those in Sixth Form who compete at county level or above. This programme offers the opportunity for athletes to compete in competitions during both the indoor season in the spring and the outdoor season in the summer. They will also receive strength and conditioning and physio support from the Millfield Institute of Sport and Wellbeing team.

**2. Part time year round model.** This programme provides students with freedom to train 2-3 times a week alongside another sport of their choice.

**3. Summer sport only model.** Students can access athletics in the summer term where both coaching and competition are available across all disciplines. The competition pathway follows interschool meetings and representative fixtures from area, county, regional and national championships.

#### WHO CAN DO IT?

Athletics is available to all students across the academic year. There are opportunities all year round to experience athletics and try different events. Athletics can be undertaken at all levels from beginner through to those aspiring to compete at the highest level.



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