



The Parker
E-ACT ACADEMY



Prospectus 2018/19



WELCOME TO OUR ACADEMY

It gives me great pleasure in welcoming you to our academy. Serving the local community of Daventry, our mission is simple: we want to ensure that all students succeed during their time here so they can go off to university, or a real alternative, and become responsible and considerate citizens, ready for the wider world.

As the recently appointed Interim Headteacher, I am proud of our staff's commitment to raising standards and bettering outcomes for each and every student in our academy. We have an unwavering commitment to teaching and learning and, collectively, staff are continually learning and developing to ensure we enable students to do their very best.

I am passionate about raising aspirations; our students should aim high and be prepared to rise to the challenges set for them – our role is to enable this. This encompasses both academic excellence as well as 'character education'. We want to give our students deep subject knowledge whilst ensuring that they become learners who can thrive outside the confines of school, and in the 21st century. At The Parker, our high expectations and high standards not only ensure learning continually happens, it ensures that our students feel safe, are happy and enjoy their time with us.

We very much look forward to welcoming you to The Parker E-ACT Academy; I hope the information in this pack is useful and informative. Please contact the school reception if you wish to book a tour, or indeed to book a meeting with myself.

Mr Bhavin Tailor
Interim Headteacher

OUR CORE VALUES:

Unity – Strength – Endeavour

Our core values of **Unity**, **Strength** and **Endeavour** permeate all that we do. For all students at The Parker, we ask that they personify these values:

Unity

We all matter. My personal achievement and successes matter; together we learn and move forward in a manner that makes our academy one big cohesive community.

Strength

We are strong in many ways. Our strengths in our knowledge, our skill-sets and in our character are all important because they help to ensure that we are prepared for world beyond The Parker.

Endeavour

We never give up. We remain resolute and resilience so that we have the strength to persevere with even the hardest work.

As part of a multi-academy trust, we also uphold and embody the three Trust values of: **Think Big**, **Show Team Spirit** and **Do the Right Thing**.

UNITY

There are various ways in which we actualise this core value of **Unity**.

All students are placed in ‘vertical tutor groups’ where there is a mix of students from Years 7 right through to Year 11. Not only does this foster a real sense of unity throughout the academy, it enables older students to support and guide younger ones.



Each tutor group is grouped under one of three Houses: **Austen**, **Conway** and **Hawking**. Each House is led by a Head of House who, with the tutors, provides care and support for each student. We also have Heads of Progress for year group; they oversee and monitor the academic and social development of each student, and keep in close contact with families.

At The Parker, we are committed to the inclusion of all young people so they can succeed and fulfil our mission. Our Special Educational Needs Coordinator (SENCO) will enable the appropriate support and programmes for identified students so that they make excellent academic progress throughout their time with us. The SENCO and respective team also support students on an individual or small-group basis based upon a need that may be hindering their access to their learning. As such, we work together to ensure the very best for our students.

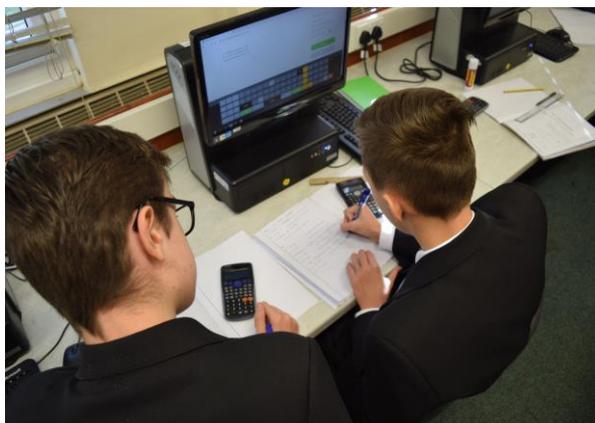
Our Sixth Form is now a joint venture between ourselves and Danetre and Southbrook Learning Village (DSLVL) – The Daventry Sixth Form. This ensures the strengths and successes from both the academies can be pooled together so that students achieve well and move onto their next journey, whether that is university or its real alternative. We offer a range of A Level and BTEC courses and this will continue to evolve so that we meet the needs of our Sixth Form. Students have a range of opportunities to build their character and this includes supporting younger students as mentors and coaches.

STRENGTH

There are various ways in which we actualise this core value of **Strength**.

The strength in a student's deep knowledge and understanding is enabled through the curriculum we offer. The start of Key Stage 3 marks an exciting time for Year 7 students as this is the period when they build on their primary education and prepare for their Key Stage 4 choices (hence GCSE outcomes). Our curriculum is designed so that students can master the basics as well as extend their knowledge. As such:

- All students have access to a broad, balanced and coherent curriculum that supports learning
- There is a strong emphasis on the Core (English, Maths and Sciences) to ensure that basic skills are embedded at an early stage and thus students are able to access the wider curriculum
- A range of learning pathways will become available to support and challenge all students as they progress through the years.



The curriculum in Year 7 consists of English, Maths, Science, French or German, History, Religious Education, Geography, Art & Design, Technology, IT, PE, Music and Drama.

Learning outside of the classroom is also important in succeeding. Students are expected to complete homework and they should read regularly in their own time. The library provision enables students to not only take books and read them at their leisure, but they can involve themselves in competitions that are available through it to foster the love for reading.

The academy offers careers information and guidance in a range of ways so that students can plan their next steps. From one to one conversations to large scale events where local businesses and further education providers are invited to showcase their offer is planned for annually.



ENDEAVOUR

There are various ways in which we actualise this core value of **Endeavour**.

Our teaching and learning, and the continuing professional development for all teachers, is to ensure we stretch and challenge all of our students so that they progress exceptionally well over time. Resilience is key here; students must not give up but endeavour with their learning and endeavour in their pursuit of excellence. Our teachers will plan to enable this.

There are many opportunities for students to participate to develop their character. For example, the academy offers the unique opportunity for students to pursue the Duke of Edinburgh's Award to a Gold Level. Not only is this an incredibly worthy accreditation, the skills developed through doing it is profound. The academy has already successfully run a number of residential in the last few years reaching out to a number of students.



Throughout the year, there are various opportunities for students to work collaboratively, with healthy competition, in various events. House competitions range from the weekly quizzes which amass points to annual whole-school events such as Sports Day. In between, extra-curricular and leadership opportunities are available and these will continue to evolve. Recent ones have included visits to local sites of Daventry through a Humanities fieldtrip, theatre trips to London, sporting events both here and in local schools, the 'Parker Bake Off', participation in the 'Senate' allowing students to play an active role in the development of the Academy and many more.

OUR FAMILIES

As an academy, we endeavour to work closely with our families because we know, and firmly believe, that this relationship is crucial in ensuring students achieve well. Families are invited to 'Meet the Tutor' early on in Year 7; academic reports with each student's progress to date along with Progress Evenings follow in the year. In both, families are updated on the student's academic progress and attitude to learning. The form tutor is the first point of contact; they can channel the information to respective teachers if further advice is required.

The 'Parent Forum' meets regularly to inform and consult everyone on all aspects of Academy life. These occur once every half term; families are welcome to join as this input is crucial to the development of the academy.

The academy's Parent Support Advisor works with families to offer advice and support. This work is coupled with the attendance as we must ensure all students are in school, all the time. Without this, they are not learning at the rate we want them to.

ADMISSIONS

The Parker Academy has strong links with our main feeder primary. Throughout the year, the Head of Progress: Years 6/7 year will visit the schools and meet students and teachers to discuss their individual needs. In July 2019, there is a transition programme in which students visit the academy for a day to experience it and gain a sense of what is expected of them routines. They spend time with their new classes and engage in their new curriculum.



Please see the attached letter from Northamptonshire Council for admissions 2019. For us as an academy, when there are more applicants than places available, the following criteria will be used to determine which children will be allocated places:

- Looked-after child (in public care)
- Children with a brother or sister already at the academy who will still be in attendance in September
- Children who live nearest the academy

Within each of these categories, priority is given to those who live nearest the Academy. There is no selection based on gender, race, faith or ability.