



NEWCASTLE
ACADEMY

PROSPECTUS
AIMING HIGHER TOGETHER

Principals Welcome

“Together we make a difference”

Thank you for your interest in Newcastle Academy as the best possible secondary school for your child. Working together we will give your child the very best chance of succeeding both academically and in the wide variety of vocational, sporting, arts, and numerous other opportunities we offer as an academy.

We believe that every student, regardless of background or personal circumstance can achieve. We also know that strong achievement is grounded in the best teaching and learning experience which ensures that all students will aspire to be the best that they can be. Therefore we are working hard as a team to develop the capacity of all members of the school community. It is our aim that the hard work that students put into their studies and examinations, supported by the hard work of staff, secures good attainment, student and staff confidence, and extends the choices our students have in their futures.

We believe in high standards of behaviour which supports student success. Our students have varied needs, and ensuring a consistency of approach means that every student can receive the individual support that they require to make progress. In doing this we work in partnership with parents and carers at all stages so that no child is left behind.

Opportunities at Newcastle Academy have never been greater. The challenge of preparing young people for adulthood has never been more demanding or exciting. Together we can ensure each student leaves us as an educated, articulate, young adult prepared to embrace our wonderful world.

I am extremely proud to be the Principal of Newcastle Academy and I look forward to meeting you and your child and to working with you in the coming years to ensure success for all our students.

Please feel free to contact Newcastle Academy to arrange a visit.



Quality First Teaching

The quality of classroom practice is of the utmost importance to us at Newcastle Academy. All of our staff are tireless in providing experiences which are meaningful, relevant and memorable and which allow our students to build a prior knowledge, to test their understanding and to develop inquisitiveness and a love of learning.

Heads of Faculty lead their teams to review their schemes of work and syllabuses, planning and developing collaboratively to constantly improve the experience of our students.

All students in Years 7 and 8 study core subjects, English, Mathematics and Science. History, Geography, French, Technology, Physical Education, Religious Education, Information and Communications Technology, Art, Drama, Music and Personal, Social and Health Education are also delivered. From Year 9 students have option choices in addition to the core subjects. These include French, Geography, History, Computer Science, Business Studies, Photography, ICT, Media Studies, Travel and Tourism, Art or Design, Physical Education, Performing Arts, and Food Technology. In partnership with Clayton Hall Academy, we also offer a variety of joint courses across the two schools.

The completion of learning tasks for homework is important to us, as we believe that this creates an ability to work independently and to learn to take responsibility for individual learning beyond the classroom. A good home learning habit developed in Year 7 stands students in good stead for the rigours of GCSE and Technical Qualifications in the latter years of secondary education. To support students, we have a Homework Policy that students and parents agree to at the start of the Year 7 that formalises our expectations.

More information about our curriculum can be found on our website www.newcastleacademy.org



Enrichment/Student Experience

As an inclusive community, our academies are key to our decision making process. We elect a student leadership team each year, led by our Head Boy and Head Girl, and it supports every aspect of our work on our Academy Improvement Plan, making sure that student voices are heard in our decision making process.

Students across all year groups are able to work alongside the Senior Leadership team on the Student Council Panel to ensure the continuing raising of aspirations and outcomes.

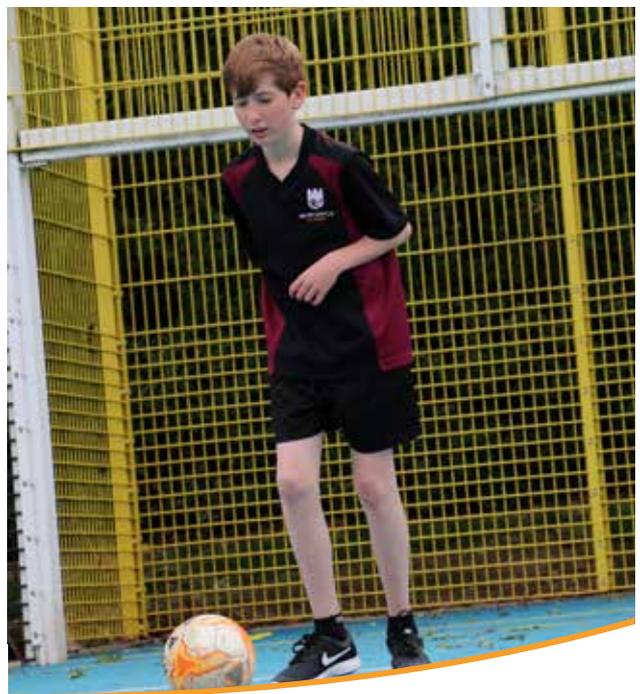
Additionally, students have the opportunity to become Lead Learners, acting as peer mentors to other students within the Academy. Other leadership activities include acting as Transition Mentors to year 4, 5 and 6 primary students on the transition activities that take place throughout the academic year.

Activities that develop our students beyond the classroom are varied and include careers events, skills based events such as First Aid and trips which broaden their cultural and social development.

Students are also given the opportunity to get involved in a wide range of activities designed to help improve confidence to become effective team players, to improve presentation skills, to develop personal and leadership skills and to simply enjoy themselves!

Extra Curricular activities include: Badminton, Basketball, Dodgeball, Football, Netball, Indoor Athletics, Drama Club, Craft Club, Computer Science Club, Choir and Music Groups.

Details of our current clubs, activities and achievements are updated on our website: www.newcastleacademy.org



Working Together

One of the key aspects of our work at Newcastle Academy is the development of relationships with parents. One of the main ways we do this is by holding Parents' Forum each half term, where the Principal and Senior Staff meet with parents to discuss and share thoughts about current and future developments of the Academy. Communication with parents at other times take the form of Newsletters, letters, texts and email and by bespoke communication via teaching and pastoral staff.

Newcastle Academy is committed to providing all students with a broad, balanced curriculum and full access to activities. We promote equal opportunities regardless of gender, ability or ethnic background and incorporate the Disability Equality Scheme and Accessibility Plan. We also have a comprehensive strategy to ensure Pupil Premium youngsters achieve their full potential.

There is no such thing as an 'average' child. Each child is encouraged to perform to the best of their ability, be it academic, art, sporting, social or caring skills. Our SEN policy seeks to provide appropriate provision for each need, which may mean extra support or resources, co-ordinated by the Head of SEN.

Attendance is paramount for students to fully achieve their potential. If students are not here we cannot deliver high quality education. No term time holiday will be authorised. We also enjoy forging positive partnerships with our partner primary schools and believe that joint projects enable us to work cross - phase with younger students in the community.

We are also proud that our students engage in local community projects, details of our latest activities are added to our website on a regular basis: www.newcastleacademy.org



Pastoral Care

We are committed to enabling all of our staff to be the best that they can be. This becomes evident in classroom based practice, but also in the pastoral care provided by our staff.

Our pastoral care begins with the partnerships with primary schools, when staff from Newcastle Academy take care to ensure that a seamless transition takes place. Trust staff visit primary schools to deliver lessons in Year 4, 5 and 6 and create strong relationships with primary colleagues. Primary pupils are regularly invited into Newcastle Academy to develop confidence, build relationships and trust. All Year 6 pupils spend at least two days with us in July.

The House system is the foundation of Pastoral life here. Students are placed into one of three Houses: Orion, Pegasus or Phoenix.

Form Tutors are the first point of contact for parents. Issues affecting students' wider life are discussed in Personal, Social and Health Education and visiting speakers are often used to deliver specialist knowledge and experience.

We have a very clear behaviour for learning approach, which encourages all students to make the right decisions. The approach allows us to both challenge unacceptable behaviour and reward positive behaviour.

The celebration of the latter is an essential component of life at Newcastle Academy.

Further information about House activity, behaviour policies, uniforms and timetables is available on our website:

www.newcastleacademy.org



We would like to thank you for considering one of the academies within the United Endeavour Trust. The Newcastle, Clayton Hall and Sir Thomas Boughy Academies offer a strong curriculum delivered by high quality teachers. However, through the Trust and with collaboration between the two academies, we can offer much more than any single school.

The choices offered at Key Stage 4 are expanded, and cross-federation courses are offered on both academy sites. Extra-curricular provision and enrichment activities are also enhanced, giving students access to trips, visits abroad and numerous additional opportunities and more specialist facilities.

While each academy retains its individual identity, working together to improve our students' education lies at the heart of the Trust's core values.

For further information please see our website or contact the school if you would like to visit.

**www.uetrust.org
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