

Prospectus



KIRK HALLAM
COMMUNITY ACADEMY



WELCOME

Kirk Hallam Community Academy is a medium-sized 11–18 academy situated in the Erewash area of Derbyshire, admitting pupils into Year 7 from 15 local primary schools.

I am delighted to have joined Kirk Hallam Community Academy at the start of the 2018/19 academic year—a year that will be both challenging and exciting.

As a school we will be building upon the best practice, drawing from experiences and successes across the whole of the Nova Education Trust. We will not tire in our pursuit of the very highest standards.

From September, our whole school community will be working together to establish and nurture an ethos that is focused upon our core values of kindness and hard work.

It is my hope that very soon visitors to the academy will be able to feel a tangible difference, and that pupils will wear their new uniforms with pride, knowing that they are helping to shape the future of their school.

Mark Watts
Head of School



ETHOS

We are committed to providing a supportive, happy and safe environment for pupils at the academy which is at the heart of our community.

Kirk Hallam is an inclusive and open learning community characterised, by the pursuit of the highest standards of achievement in all its forms.

We endeavour to provide a broad range of opportunities that not only develop pupils' academic capacity, but also nurture their personal growth. We encourage all stakeholders to conduct themselves in line with the two key tenets of our ethos: hard work and kindness.

Our pupils, staff, governors and community are dedicated to working together to inspire individuals to develop the skills, confidence and initiative to play active and positive roles in society.

We are committed to the raising of standards through the improvement of teaching and learning, to providing opportunities and support for the personal and professional development of all of our staff and to developing management and leadership skills in all staff.

PASTORAL

One of the most important threads of our pastoral programme is the information, advice and guidance given to pupils regarding their futures.

Kirk Hallam's pastoral system is based upon a year group structure, providing pupils with a focussed programme of activities relevant to their position on their journey through the secondary curriculum.

The progress and well-being of each cohort is overseen by a Head of Year and their team of tutors. These staff provide consistent daily mentorship through tutor time, assemblies, and other personal development activities.

We believe that it is crucial to inspire a sense of purpose in all of our pupils, regardless of whether that purpose will lead pupils down an academic or vocational pathway.



ACHIEVEMENT

At Kirk Hallam Community Academy we are committed to recognising achievement in all of its forms.

Pupils' academic achievement should provide them with a passport to a bright and exciting future. It is, therefore, at the heart of everything we do as a school.

Strong academic attainment and progress is indicative of more than the grades themselves; pupils who have worked hard for their achievements have developed as young people through the process of endeavour.

We believe in the importance of independence and resilience, and Kirk Hallam's provision is designed with the development of these characteristics in mind, ensuring that all pupils that work hard are rewarded with a sense of accomplishment and confidence in their life choices and chances.



CURRICULUM

Kirk Hallam's curriculum reflects our high aspirations for our pupils' future achievements, life choices and chances.

We offer a broad and balanced curriculum through Key Stage 3 that allows pupils to experience practical and creative subjects that complement the academic subject within our core curriculum. This helps pupils to make informed decisions regarding Key Stage 4 options and allows us to formally recognise achievement in a wide range of subjects.

In Key Stage 4, pupils study both English Language and Literature, Maths and Science, and will participate in Core PE and our personal development curriculum. They will also select options from humanities, languages, creative and performance subjects and from design and technology.

In Key Stage 5, students are able to select from a wide range of academic pathways, which will soon be joined by vocational pathways aligned with our Key Stage 4 curriculum and student post-18 options.

ENRICHMENT

We are committed to offering a wide range of experiences for our pupils, which includes the development of our on-site farm in partnership with the Rare Breeds Trust.

Crucial to every pupil's development is the wide range of enrichment opportunities that permeate the academy.

These opportunities include activities that take place on our school site, such as school music and drama productions, varying clubs including gardening, science and creative writing, and a wide range of sports clubs and fixtures.

There are also activities which take place off-site, such as The Duke of Edinburgh Awards, Space Centre visits, Toyota Team Challenge and theatre productions.

In addition, pupils also have the opportunity to participate in residential trips at home and abroad, which have included visits to Lea Green, France, Germany and even Japan!



TRANSITION

We liaise carefully with the primary schools, with the Heads of School and classroom teachers to gather information about each pupil coming to Kirk Hallam.

At Kirk Hallam Community Academy we realise that transition to secondary school can seem daunting to both pupils and parents and carers. With this in mind, we invest significant amounts of time and energy into helping all stakeholders feel ready for the move.

During Year 6 our transition team visit pupils in their primary school wherever possible, to see them in the classroom and also answer any questions that they have regarding life at the academy.

Part of this process is designed to ensure we are fully aware of the additional needs of pupils who may find the transition to secondary school particularly challenging. In this way we are able to create an inclusive programme of transition activities that help all pupils feel that they have a place within our learning community. We also take care to collate information regarding special educational needs and disabilities, and any medical conditions.

Once those first initial days are over, new pupils quickly settle into life at Kirk Hallam, and relish the opportunity for a fresh start and a fresh set of challenges.





KIRK HALLAM

COMMUNITY ACADEMY

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