

# THE HERMITAGE ACADEMY, CHESTER-LE-STREET

## Welcome to The Hermitage Academy

In the locality, the Academy enjoys a well-founded reputation for continuous improvement, high outcomes and expectations, and a strong sense of achievement for all learners.

Our vision is to be an outstanding academy in every aspect of what we do. We aim to ensure that every student will be equipped to be a resourceful, resilient and independent individual who is fully prepared to take the next steps in their life. To achieve this, we have a set of values centred on our core purpose of improving the quality of the education we provide and ensuring that students, staff, parents and governors all work together to that end.

We believe that our school is a fantastic place to work and as a result we attract and retain the highest calibre of staff who are caring, supportive and dedicated to their profession. Our staff establish excellent working relationships with all students and parents that lead to high levels of trust, creating a climate for learning that is challenging and inspirational. Our aim is to ensure that teaching, learning and assessment is personalised for every individual to ensure progress for all.

We place strong emphasis on good standards of behaviour and courtesy. We enjoy working with young people and preparing them to take their place as global citizens of the twenty-first century. We are known for our innovation and pursuit of continual improvement

Our students have a wide range of needs and abilities and the Academy is committed to provide a safe environment where outstanding teaching is encouraged to enable students to achieve their very best. Our academy building is periodically refurbished and maintained to providing a comfortable learning environment where students want to learn and consequently, attendance figures are high. The academy is well oversubscribed, yet the intake is truly comprehensive which is reflected in its growing 11–19 population of 1135 students. All employees at the academy enjoy the privilege of working with our students.

The Academy's Leadership Team consists of the Principal, two Vice Principals and five Assistant Vice Principals. We have a stable and highly qualified teaching staff of 82(fte). They are deployed on a subject department basis led by respective Leaders and Managers of Departments. Directors of Achievement manage the progress and welfare of students in a horizontal year team structure supported by Year Managers. Personal professional development is strong within the academy and all staff have a direct line manager to advise and support career opportunities.

The Academy became a Teaching School in March 2013 and we have embraced the challenges and opportunities it provides for all our staff. The Specialist Schools and Academies Trust have identified us as one of their High Performing Specialist Schools with Leading Edge status.

## Chester–Le–Street Information

For those of you who do not know the area, Chester–Le–Street is a large market town with a strong sense of community, conveniently situated between the contrasting cities of Newcastle (11 miles) and Durham (6 miles). Communications are excellent and areas of outstanding countryside in West Durham and Northumberland are within easy reach. A wide choice of places to live is available, with lifestyles to accommodate all tastes.