



Parkside Academy
An Outstanding School



About the school

Parkside Academy is a highly successful 11 – 16 Academy with around 880 students. Most of our students come from Willington and Crook and the surrounding villages, with about 60% arriving by school bus. A higher than average number of our students stay in education beyond 16 and study at a number of sixth forms and colleges in the Durham and Bishop Auckland areas.

The ability range of our students is broadly average but with some year groups significantly below. In Key Stage 4 we expect every child to achieve their best and all our students study a challenging curriculum. There are opportunities to study academic subjects, such as separate sciences, as well as vocational subjects such as Leisure and Tourism, Sports Studies etc. We aim to build a personalised curriculum for every child.

The 2016 results were outstanding with the school achieving a Progress 8 score of 0.34. In 2017 the school was number one school in the County for Progress 8 achieving 0.37.

Our most recent Ofsted inspection (March 2011) rated us as "Outstanding".

We encourage students to embrace opportunity and have a full programme of after school and holiday activities. We even provide a free 'Activities Bus' which leaves school when clubs end on some evenings.

Recently we have constructed a new drama studio, dance studio and re-equipped our fitness room. Alongside a full refurbishment of the school science block.

We hold the NACE "Challenge" award reflecting our excellent provision for gifted and talented students and are one of the few secondary schools in the country to hold the UNICEF "Rights Respecting School" Award. In addition, we are a National Support School and a member of the Leading Edge group of high performing schools. The school has extensive grounds and playing fields on three levels, the lowest of which borders the River Wear. Other sports facilities include a sports hall, gym (with climbing wall), dance studio, fitness room and a 3G floodlit all-weather football pitch.

We have an excellent staff, with a proven track record and we make every effort to retain our quality staff by ensuring internal advancement opportunities are available. All teaching and support staff enjoy challenging and innovative C. P. D. ranging from participating or delivering internal workshops to attending PiXL training, following National College or SSAT development courses to undertaking Masters modules through our links with Newcastle University. All staff in Parkside are fully supportive of the ethos of the school.



Parkside Academy
Hall Lane, Willington, Crook
Co. Durham, DL15 0QF
Tel: 01388 746 396

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RESULTS

Key Stage 4 Results 2019

Progress 8 Score	+0.38
Attainment 8 Score	45.4
Achieved a standard pass in English and Maths	60%
Achieved a strong pass in English and Maths	37%
English Baccalaureate APS	3.61%
September 2018 guarantee	98.1%



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Location

Parkside Academy is located in the village of Willington at the entrance to Weardale. The village is 15 minutes from the centre of Durham (from which there are mainline East Coast trains every 30 minutes), 15 minutes from the A1M and 40 minutes to both Newcastle and Gateshead Metrocentre. Newcastle Airport is 45 minutes away.

The coast is 35 minutes to the east and the high Pennines are 35 minutes to the west. The Lake District, Northumberland and the Yorkshire Dales can all be reached within 1 hour.

The market town Bishop Auckland is 10 minutes away and has both a Sainsbury's and Tesco Superstore and is the location for Kynren situated below Auckland Castle.

There are 4 primary schools in the village, 3 are judged good and 1 outstanding.

House prices compare very favourably to many other areas in the country.

Useful Links

www.thisisdurham.com

www.thisisdurham.com/inspire-me/kynren

www.aucklandcastle.org



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Advance Learning Partnership

Advance Learning Partnership Multi Academy Trust (MAT) was established after Parkside Academy converted from its single Academy Trust status to a MAT. Parkside Academy is the lead school in the MAT. We are an approved Academy Sponsor specialising in supporting and transforming schools by allowing them to benefit from the challenge and expertise that Parkside can provide.

The Advance Learning Partnership MAT has an understanding of the local North East community and believes that fostering local collaboration through a common ethos of challenge and improvement will allow all schools who join the MAT to retain their distinct identity whilst benefitting from sharing outstanding practice and robust support, ensuring rapid and sustained school improvement and enhanced life chances for every pupil in the MAT.

The “ALP ethos” is underpinned by common values – a traditional approach to behaviour management, innovative curriculum design and excellence in teaching to deliver best possible outcomes. At the heart of the Trust’s work is a concentration on delivering high academic standards, a focus on developing resilience and a thirst for learning among both pupils and staff to support our aspirations and an unsurpassed drive for outstanding outcomes.

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Safeguard Statement

We, at Parkside Academy, are fully committed to ensuring that your child is safe whilst with us. We recognise our responsibility to protect and safeguard the welfare of the children and young people entrusted to our care by establishing a safe environment in which children can learn and develop.

Safety is identified as a strength of the school by both pupils and parents and was commented upon by Ofsted 2011 thus: "Students are very clear that they feel safe in school and they have an acute awareness of issues such as e-safety".

The staff and Governing Body are committed to establishing and maintaining an environment where children feel secure, are encouraged to talk, and are listened to. We ensure that children know that there are adults in the school who they can approach if they are worried and that the principles of confidentiality are made clear to children and young people. The school promotes a positive, supportive and secure ethos, giving pupils a sense of being valued.

We recognise that because of the day to day contact with children, staff in school are well placed to observe the signs of possible abuse and therefore need to be constantly vigilant. The Pastoral Team work closely with other agencies in protecting children from harm and in responding to concerns about possible abuse,

including the Police, Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services, Educational Psychology Service and other agencies/services coming into school to support individual pupils/groups of pupils.

As well as making every effort to ensure that the school site is safe and secure, there are stringent checks made on all applicants for posts at the school. All staff have been trained in Child Protection and we have four highly qualified Designated Officers: all adults are fully aware of their duty of care and receive regular training and updates.

We are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and to equality of opportunity. An enhanced DBS check is required for all successful applicants.

For more information please visit Child Protection Policy: <http://parksideacademy.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2015/11/Child-Protection-Policy-1.pdf>



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Application Guidance Notes

All applicants are required to complete the application form in full and return to the school electronically via admin@parkside.org.uk

When completing the form applicants must provide details of all employment and paid or unpaid work experience after the age of 16. Applicants must also ensure there are no gaps in the chronology of their employment/education history from the age of 16 to present date. Any gaps should be documented and the reason for the gap detailed.

Please ensure your application is received by the time and date specified on the advert. Candidates shortlisted for interview will be notified by e-mail.

References will be obtained for all candidates shortlisted. Please ensure the email addresses for your referees are current and the referee is aware of your application. We cannot accept open references or personal references from family members/friends. References need to be from your current employment, if your current employment is a school, the first reference should be the Headteacher. Please note that for positions in contact with children and vulnerable adults the school has the right to seek references from any or all previous employers and line managers prior to interview.

Shortlisted candidates will be required to provide the school with copies of their qualifications and passport on the day of the interview.

As this role is classed as a regulated activity you would be subject to an enhanced DBS clearance.

As part of verifying your fitness to carry out the role your absence history will also be requested. You may also be required to complete an online medical questionnaire.

The interview process may contain some written tasks. If it is a teaching/teaching support post, there will be an observed teaching task. During the interview you will be assessed on your suitability to safeguard children with safeguarding questions and tasks if applicable.

Candidates who need reasonable support or adjustments to this process due to a disability, please indicate the support needed prior to interview to ensure that those needs can be accommodated.

NB: Advance Learning Partnership requests to retain application forms for a period of 6 months in case of any other opportunities or for feedback purposes. Approval for us to keep your application is requested on the application form.



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