

Prospectus

2016/2017



NEWARK
ACADEMY



WELCOME

I would like to welcome you to Newark Academy. I am very proud to be the Head of School as we enter an exciting new period as a member of the Torch Academy Gateway Trust.

Our aim is to provide an outstanding education for local children and to become a beacon of excellence at the heart of our community. We have the highest expectations of both staff and students in all aspects of academy life and demand nothing but the best. Through strong discipline and outstanding teaching, every student will be supported to achieve success and realise their full potential.

We are committed to providing stimulating, challenging and engaging learning experiences that ignite imagination and a thirst for knowledge in our students. We invest heavily in staff development to ensure that Teaching, Learning and Assessment are very much at the heart of everything we do.

Whilst academic excellence is important, we are equally passionate about developing students as lifelong learners and promote core values of hard work, courtesy, co-operation and service. We provide a safe, secure and nurturing environment where every student is cared for and supported to become a well rounded and respectful citizen, fully prepared to make a sustained and substantial contribution to both the local and global community.

I hope that this prospectus will give you a flavour of the unique culture that exists within our academy. We encourage visits to our brand new, state-of-the art academy building and find out why Newark Academy is the right choice for your child.

Andy Seymour
Head of School



ETHOS

Newark Academy has a very clear ethos focused on the achievement and well-being of all our students.

We believe that a school should be at the very heart of the community and place great value on collaboration, partnership and service alongside a range of core values that compliment academic excellence.

All this is summed up in our School Ethos:

- We develop commitment, independence and courtesy in all of our students. We expect the very highest standards and in return we value and respect student ideas and opinions.
- We are relentless in the pursuit of academic excellence for every student.
- We insist on the highest standards of behaviour at all times.
- We care deeply about our students and expect them to work hard and be kind.
- We encourage staff to be creative, independent and ambitious. We expect them to challenge and inspire our students, providing high quality learning experiences that motivate students to be the very best they can. High standards and academic rigour underpin our daily work.
- We promote the development of leadership skills and offer a range of opportunities for students to take an active role in improving their school.
- We believe that a wide range of enrichment opportunities promote independent learning. Students are expected to learn beyond the classroom and to develop the skills and attributes they need to lead full and successful lives.



ACHIEVEMENT

Newark Academy is committed to enabling all young people within our local community to achieve their full potential within a high achieving, disciplined and safe environment.

Student achievement is at the very heart of everything we do and we place great emphasis on ensuring that students make maximum progress.

Frequent assessment and discussion of student progress enable us to tailor our lessons to meet the needs of every individual. In order to ensure that every student makes exceptional progress we provide expert advice and guidance so that they are set and achieve the most challenging targets.

We strive to provide 'world class' learning opportunities that motivate and challenge all our students. Students are placed in teaching groups appropriate to their needs and abilities. Lessons are structured to ensure all students make excellent progress; they are challenging and engaging.

Learning and achievement is underpinned by a desire and commitment to succeed from all members of our academy community. Our students are eager to learn and are committed to achieving aspirational academic success. We work in close partnership with parents to provide support for our students and our wider school community and have a range of support services that ensure the success of every child, whatever their individual needs.



PASTORAL

At Newark Academy we pride ourselves on the quality of support, care and guidance given to individual students. At the core of this provision is a year system led by a Head of Year and supported by Student Support Officers, together with Intervention Mentors and Learning Support Assistants.

Our pastoral system provides your child with the care they need whilst allowing them to nurture friendships and develop a strong sense of community.

As your child progresses through Newark Academy, their attainment and well-being will be closely monitored, ensuring that students are recognised and rewarded when they succeed and supported when things are more challenging.

Students will be looked after by their Form Tutor who is the first point of contact. The Form Tutor will stay with your child through his/her schooling, as will the Achievement Leader who has overall responsibility for all students in the year group. These teachers get to know your child very well, encouraging them to be the best they can be and will offer the highest levels of pastoral care to ensure they are safe, healthy and happy.

We place great value on the importance of parental partnerships which are vitally important in preparing our students for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of adult life. Communication is very important and you will receive regular updates about your child's progress through termly reports, online data and Parents' Evenings.

Newark Academy is a very caring community where students are valued for who they are not just what they can do. The health, happiness and well-being of students underpins our overall ethos and philosophy of 'work hard, be kind'.



CURRICULUM

At Newark Academy our relentless pursuit of excellence has led us to develop a curriculum that provides students with a wide range of opportunities and experiences.

In an ever-changing world our curriculum is regularly reviewed to ensure it is appropriate for all students. We always appreciate feedback and if you have any curriculum-specific comments or any questions relating to GCSE or A Level options, we encourage you to contact the school.

Key Stage 3

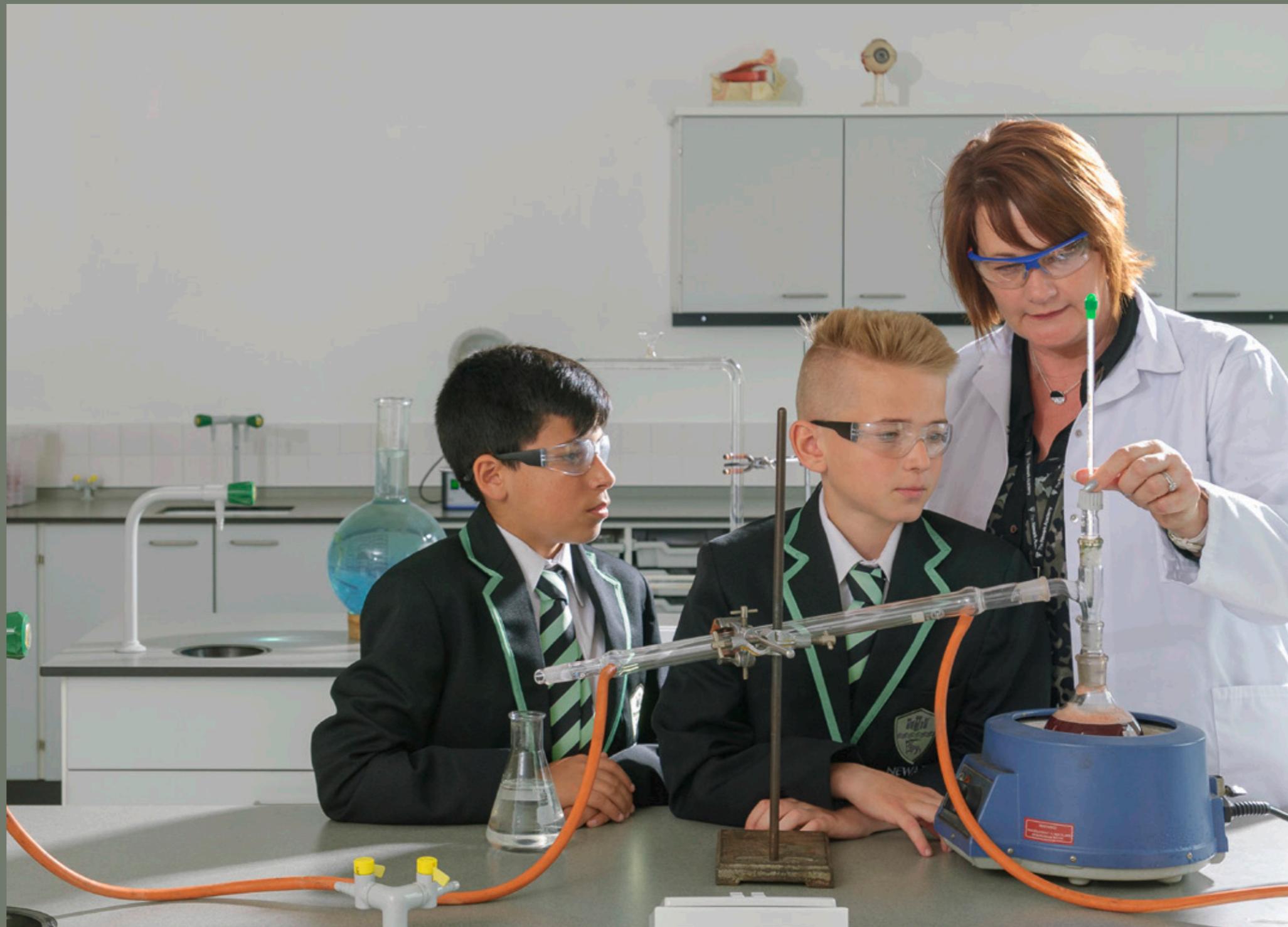
To ensure students make an effective transition to Newark Academy, a broad and balanced Key Stage 3 curriculum is provided with a key focus on core subjects. We emphasise the development of literacy and numeracy through our learning and our curriculum reflects this. We also offer a comprehensive programme of study including Science, Modern Foreign Languages, Humanities, Computing, Design and Technology, Expressive Arts, PE and RE. This provides all students with a solid foundation that prepares them for success at Key Stage 4.

Key Stage 4

Students follow a three-year programme which provides them with the time to study for important end of year exams at the end of the Key Stage. Students are encouraged to follow an English Baccalaureate (EBacc) pathway consisting of English, Maths, Science, Modern Foreign Languages, Humanities and Computing. This is complemented by a wide range of optional subjects to allow students to succeed in areas of interest. These subjects include PE, Design and Technology, Creative Arts and Business.

Key Stage 5

At Key Stage 5 students study a range of A Level and equivalent qualifications which allow them to follow a tailored programme of study, which lead to a range of progression pathways based on the individual aims and aspirations of students. Our aspirations and expectations are extremely high which have led to a number of Oxbridge and other Russell Group universities. We are proud of our partnerships with local further education and higher education institutions and provide a range of pathways for students who wish to follow either an academic or vocational pathway as part of their next phase of learning.



FACILITIES

Newark Academy is very privileged to work in a brand new, state-of-the-art building which opened in January 2016.

This new school building offers our students and staff with the very best facilities and learning environment, helping everyone to focus on the very highest standards of teaching and learning.

The building provides a safe, welcoming and accessible learning environment for students of all ages. The bright use of colours and open spaces create a truly wonderful space to work and learn in.

The school has been designed to incorporate natural ventilations systems and makes use of the thermal mass of the exposed concrete floors to moderate summer and winter temperatures. In addition it utilises a Sustainable Urban Drainage System to limit surface water run-off.

A large, dynamic sports hall plays host to a variety of indoor activities including basketball, cricket and trampolining, encouraging our students to engage in a wide range of physical exercise. For outside sports the Multi Use Games Area offers excellent facilities for games.

There are nine newly equipped ICT learning areas, five of which are bright open ICT areas which provides students with the opportunity to unleash their creativity.

Our open dining space is at the very heart of academy life, with healthy and nutritious food served in a modern and stylish environment.

For students with a passion for the performing arts, our lecture theatre is the ideal venue for school shows and productions.

We are very proud of our new building and would encourage parents/ carers and members of the local and wider community to explore our facilities as we confirm our position as the school at the heart of the community.



“I think this school is so much better because there are more areas to work in. We have lovely big classrooms and a really nice friendly environment. The new sports hall is perfect for so many different sports — I love it.”

Year 7 student



ENRICHMENT

Newark Academy offers an extensive programme of enrichment opportunities enabling students to extend their learning beyond the classroom.

From team sports to whole school theatre performances, Newark Academy is committed to providing its students with a wide range of activities which help develop creativity, character, teamwork and other important characteristics that prepare them for adult life.

Sporting Enrichment

We have access to outstanding sporting facilities such as a state-of-the-art sports hall, a Multi Use Games Area (MUGA) as well as a dance studio and fitness suite.

Creative Enrichment

Performing Arts take a leading role in school life with regular dance and drama productions allowing all students to fully explore their creativity.

NA+

Our bespoke enrichment programme NA+ offers students a wide range of balanced and exciting enrichment opportunities. This includes an impressive selection of in school events most nights as well as extensive opportunities across the wider community.



TRANSITION ARRANGEMENTS

At Newark Academy we understand that the transition from primary to secondary education can be both an exciting and challenging time for students and parents.

Our transition programme is designed to ensure that students are confident and happy about moving up to Newark Academy. We start to meet students and parents at the start of Year 5 and build up to a full school visit in the summer term of Year 6. This two-year process ensures that all our students are ready for a successful and enjoyable Year 7.

If you have any questions regarding transition at any stage of the process, please do not hesitate to ask. Staff are always available to answer questions at the various transition events, or you can telephone or email the school at any time.

Step One: Summer Term, Year 5

A member of the Leadership Team will meet prospective parents at their child's current primary school. A short talk will be followed by a question and answer session.

Step Two: Autumn Term, Year 6

Students and parents are invited to an open evening to look around Newark Academy and meet members of staff in all the teaching departments.

Step Three: Spring Term, Year 6

Data will be collected from the primary feeder schools to help arrange admissions.

Step Four: Summer Term, Year 6

A member of the Pastoral Team and the Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator will visit primary schools to talk to students and staff.

Step Five: Summer Term, Year 6

Year 6 students will visit Newark Academy with their classmates for a 'Taster Day' to allow them to familiarise themselves with the school. Students with Special Educational Needs may well have additional visits.



SUMMARY

At the heart of our learning community is the belief that every child matters and that every child will succeed in achieving their full potential.

High standards are set in the knowledge that hard work and discipline secure lifelong achievement. We will support your child with care, consideration and understanding and we promise to always challenge, motivate and engage.

We encourage you to come and visit Newark Academy during the working school day where you will meet some of our talented and dedicated students and staff who are all immensely proud to belong to Newark Academy.

We look forward to welcoming you.

“I find the teachers here really supportive. It’s a very easy going school — you can just get on and get your work done.”

Year 9 student





NEWARK

ACADEMY

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Newark Academy is a member of the Torch Academy Gateway Trust
www.torchacademy.co.uk

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