



THE  
**HOLGATE**  
— ACADEMY —

Welcome to  
The Holgate Academy



Diverse  
Academies



# Principal's welcome

Choosing the right academy for your child is an important decision, especially as they transition into secondary education. At Holgate, we take the greatest care in ensuring that every student is treated as an individual and can achieve their full potential.



**Mr Matt Pennington**  
Principal

We support all students to enjoy their time at the academy and play a key part in all that academy life has to offer. We are immensely proud of the successes achieved by our students and celebrate achievement as an academy community – we constantly strive to do more and be even better. Our ultimate purpose is very simple, to do everything that we can to ensure that our students leave ready to take their place in an increasingly complicated and competitive world.

Outstanding teaching and learning is our priority. Through a wide and comprehensive curriculum, together with an emphasis on building on our core ethos of manners, determination and teamwork, students are supported to develop personally as well as academically. Our highly-qualified and motivated staff work hard to ensure our students achieve at the highest level, whatever their starting point, whilst also ensuring we provide exceptional pastoral care.

We are an inclusive academy, where students have many opportunities to develop their skills and abilities. We are very proud of all our achievements – in examination success, and in offering wide-ranging and relevant learning experiences beyond the curriculum.

To find out more about Holgate and whether this is the right setting for your child, we would be delighted to welcome you to the academy. There are opportunities to join open events throughout the year or you can arrange personal visits to suit your needs.

We look forward to meeting you and welcoming you to our academy.



“We support all students to enjoy their time at the academy and play a key part in all that academy life has to offer.”





# Life at Holgate

Our academy ethos is based on manners, determination and teamwork. These are important traits in any individual, and by embedding these within everything our students do, they will develop skills and resilience that will serve them well during their education and into their future careers.

These key expectations are emphasised throughout our curriculum and pastoral sessions, with rewards linked to each of them. We celebrate success in these areas and emphatically recognise where students and staff have displayed them.

Our culture is built on constantly asking if we could do better, as success means never resting on our laurels. Our mission is to consistently offer the best education for the young people of Hucknall by continually working towards success in the following areas.

## Attainment

To improve attainment for students by ensuring that all individuals achieve better than expected progress.

## Performance of our students

To ensure that all students experience high quality teaching with high expectations to engage, challenge and support them in their learning.

## Inspiration

To inspire and enthuse students through an innovative curriculum, with science, technology, engineering, arts and maths (STEAM) at the core, alongside a positive, happy learning environment.

## Performance of our leadership

To develop capacity in leadership at all levels to sustain improvement, focusing on strong and supportive teams, and robust quality assurance and tracking systems.







## Curriculum

Our curriculum is broad and balanced, with core subjects working alongside a wider range of subjects to give students the opportunity to develop and showcase their talents.

All students will cover the core subjects of English, maths and science, alongside English Baccalaureate (EBacc) subjects such as computing, humanities and languages.



We provide a wide range of academic and vocational courses within other subject areas and are continually looking to run courses that cater to our students' interests. This includes a wealth of creative arts subjects, technology-based qualifications, physical education, childcare and computer sciences, plus more besides.

Students are supported to choose subjects that align to their future education and career goals – they are set challenging individual targets, with our curriculum team carefully meeting the needs of all students. This creates an environment that nurtures ability and supports improvement.

Our staff guide and continually assess students' progress throughout their time at Holgate, with regular parent contact to help support learning.

### Sixth Form

Students attend the Hucknall Sixth Form Centre for their post 16 studies. The centre is a top-class facility with a wide range of academic courses at different levels, giving all students the opportunity to find subjects that match their future education and employment goals.

For more information, visit [www.hsfc-ac.org.uk](http://www.hsfc-ac.org.uk)



# Enrichment and personal development

We believe that extracurricular activities for students are an important part of academy life. They extend learning, helping our students to develop a range of skill sets and allow them to pursue topics they enjoy.

We have a busy enrichment timetable with a variety of opportunities on offer, such as:

- | revision and study clubs
- | robotics club
- | acapella group
- | 'Magic Minds' club
- | photography challenge
- | drama and theatre group
- | sporting activities

We also run a number of curriculum-based trips and projects throughout the year, as well as in-academy events. Our action-packed science week, for example, has included dissections, a mass eclipse viewing and exciting experiments.

Each year, we take part in BBC Young Reporters and have a team of budding academy journalists who interview local politicians, community members, business representatives, celebrities and local sports stars.

Building on our performing arts heritage, students showcase their theatrical talents in a number of highly successful productions which are open to the local community. Other events for students include inter-academy quizzes and debates, sports days and an arts festival, to name a few.

We also offer opportunities for international excursions. These have included language trips to France, ski vacations to Canada and Italy, and science explorations to Iceland and Geneva. We firmly believe that trips like these can both enhance students' learning and give them the opportunity to broaden their horizons.



“We believe that extracurricular activities for students are an important part of academy life.”



## Support and guidance

To ensure our students achieve their potential, we place a great emphasis on providing a dedicated support system – covering pastoral care and assistance for specialist educational needs.

New students are integrated seamlessly into life at the academy through our tutor system. Students are placed into one of eight tutor groups in their year group and spend time together each day in these groups.

Together they complete activities based around the academy's ethos – manners, determination and teamwork. It creates an immediate support network with peers and friends, and tutors are able to offer pastoral support and guidance.

When students start at the academy, older students will act as 'buddies' to show them around and answer any questions they may have.

All of our new year 7 students will receive peer mentor support when they join us. We recognise that the transition from the primary environment into the secondary one is an important time. Peer mentoring is an effective way of ensuring that all students are able to make that first step successfully. For those who particularly struggle with this transition, we offer twelve places in our accelerated learning facility to provide additional, bespoke support.

We offer an inclusive curriculum that ensures the best possible progress for all of our students, whatever their needs or abilities. All students with special educational needs are fully integrated into the academy.

Students who have additional needs are discussed at transition meetings with the primary feeder schools. Information is shared with staff at the earliest opportunity to support transition work taking place. This includes extra visits and meeting staff and students, where appropriate.



Our house  
system

  
**Clumber**

  
**Rufford**

  
**Sherwood**

  
**Thoresby**





“My daughter has made a lot of progress since starting in year 7 and the support she has received as part of the house system has been superb.”

*Year 7 parent*



“Extracurricular opportunities such as the Holgate Reporters are unique and fantastic. My daughter has loved being involved.”

*Year 8 parent*



“The curriculum provides a wealth of opportunity to study across a range of subjects.”

*Ofsted 2019*

“The teachers really care and have put every effort into preparing my son for his exams.”

*Year 11 parent*





# Admissions

There are a number of ways to find out if The Holgate Academy is right for your child. We host an open evening in September plus 'Academy in Action' days throughout the year.

To apply for a place at The Holgate Academy, parents and carers will need to submit an application to Nottinghamshire County Council by the published deadline. The application process for year 7 normally opens in August each year, closing in late October, with offers made to families in the following March.

Further details of how to apply can be found on the 'admissions' section of our website:  
**[www.holgate-ac.org.uk](http://www.holgate-ac.org.uk)**

If you have any questions at all about applying to Holgate, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Phone: **0115 963 2104**

Email: **[info@holgate-ac.org.uk](mailto:info@holgate-ac.org.uk)**



## Diverse Academies

The Holgate Academy is part of Diverse Academies Trust – a multi-academy trust with a vision to inspire, to raise aspiration and to create brighter tomorrows. Across primary, secondary and special settings, we share a common mission to nurture curiosity, develop wellbeing and empower children and young people to go beyond their aspirations. Together, we believe we can make a difference in our diverse communities, and in the lives of those who learn with us and work with us.

For more information, visit  
**[www.diverseacademies.org.uk](http://www.diverseacademies.org.uk)**







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