



**Bedlington  
Academy**

# **2026 PROSPECTUS**



# Welcome to Bedlington Academy

Bedlington Academy is rooted in the heart of the community – it always has been, and it always will be. Our heritage guides us, but it is our future that will define us as we look forward and push ourselves to go further and faster than ever before.

I am proud to lead a team of truly dedicated staff who are the lifeblood of this school. They have a genuine pride for Bedlington Academy and the community, and care greatly about your children's futures.

Ofsted agree that our approach is effective, awarding us a 'Good' rating all round in October 2022 and praising our "calm, purposeful and happy school." The inspection highlighted many areas where we excel, in particular our strong sense of community, culture of respect, broad and successful curriculum, and strong strategic vision from school leaders.

Choosing who should educate your child as they evolve into young adults is an important decision, and I am delighted that you are considering Bedlington Academy.

I warmly invite you to visit us at our open evening to see our achievements and experience the wonderful atmosphere in our school for yourself. Until then, the following pages are designed to give you a small insight into who we are and what we're about here at Bedlington Academy.

**Joanna Lamb**  
Head of School



# THE *Bedlington* JOURNEY

From the moment they join us in Year 7 tiny and timid, to leaving us taller and triumphant in Year 13, students at Bedlington Academy are on an exciting journey.

This journey sees students incrementally building on their successes with staff developing a deeper knowledge and understanding of what makes them tick year-on-year.

This personalised approach to learning can't be underestimated, especially as students move into sixth form, where the working relationships that have developed over the years give students a great head start for the demanding years ahead.

Personalisation and approachability count for a lot – and staff are proud that many students choose to complete their entire school journey with us.

And when the journey is over, students remain proud of their time at Bedlington Academy. We know this from the regular visits we receive from ex-students, keen to report on their lives beyond school and tell us about the enduring positive impact that our staff have had on their lives.



# Our vision and values

**Our vision is simple and shared by all schools in the North East Learning Trust – it is ‘that every child experiences excellence every day.’**

Our values are equally simple and inspired by the community of Bedlington – that everyone is respected and valued as an individual, and that all children’s futures are seen as being of equal value so that everyone is given a chance to thrive.

Children come to Bedlington Academy to learn and ultimately leave with the qualifications that give them the best chance to access further study or rewarding careers. However, we pride ourselves on the work we do not just to educate children academically, but to educate them as young citizens. We work hard to instill traditional values and important life skills

across the whole school and start by ensuring that our school is a safe and caring environment where staff are approachable and where mutual respect dominates.

And it works. Ask students and they will tell you that Bedlington Academy is a loyal and close-knit community school where individuality is valued and where tolerance, acceptance and inclusiveness run deep. Children here support each other, and staff have a kinship with students that sees them invested in developing the whole child, not just for their own subject. It sounds like a cliché, but children here really are more than just a number.

“Everyone  
IS GIVEN  
A CHANCE TO  
thrive”





**Confidence** IS BUILT,  
**talents** ARE NURTURED AND  
**passions** ARE PURSUED

# Aspiration and achievement

**At Bedlington Academy we aim high and we want everyone to know about it.**

Our bottom line is that we expect all students to succeed. We don't expect them to succeed in the same way at the same things – that would be a very boring world indeed – but we do instill high aspirations and standards from day one and work tirelessly to ensure that confidence is built, talents are nurtured, and passions are pursued.

We encourage all students, regardless of their ability, to work hard and reach their full potential by providing a challenging curriculum that allows them to stretch themselves. The transition between in-school and home learning is seamless, as with

the use of Student POD, our entire curriculum is online and all students have access to our Office 365 platforms.

We recognise that targeted support and aspirational opportunities can help students fly high. Therefore, we focus on careers education from Year 7 onwards, with university and college visits, and work experience opportunities which are designed to enhance students' learning and boost their aspirations. In addition, in-school events enable students to get a head start in understanding the range of future choices available to them.



**“Pupils enjoy coming to school and enjoy the wide range of clubs that they can attend.” Ofsted**

# Getting involved

We have a vast range of after school and lunchtime extra curricular clubs with something for everyone including; Chess Club, Lego Club, Pokémon Club, Star Wars Club, Geology Club, Dungeons and Dragons, Wellbeing Club, Creative Writing Club, Debate Club and lots more!

## Sports

Our students regularly take part in local and regional competitions, and benefit from specialist training delivered by Newcastle Eagles coaches and other external partners. Each year, we also compete in the NELT athletics competition and celebrate sporting achievement through our own sports day.

## School trips

Students enjoy a range of residential opportunities including an annual trip to the Lake District in Year 9. In recent years we have also offered trips to London, Iceland, Sicily, CERN, Borneo and Norway, and we've even been camping in York! Our summer activity days offer students a wide range of

new experiences including skiing, paddleboarding, paintballing, horse riding and much more.

## Community spirit

We actively take part in community events including Christmas light switch ons, and food bank collections. We also host a range of events including Macmillian coffee mornings and an annual OAP Christmas lunch.

## The Arts

Our annual show sees students taking on roles from performers to stagehands. Our performing arts department collaborates with the National Theatre, offering students the chance to work with professional directors and perform at

prestigious venues. Music tuition (including LAMDA exams), orchestra, and choir activities are also available, including performances at NELT concert.

## Building character

All of our students collect STRIVE points to show their efforts towards becoming well rounded individuals. All year groups are represented by student council members, there are also opportunities to become prefects, support younger students, lead clubs and develop leadership and communication skills. Our Duke of Edinburgh's Award includes expeditions and community service and we are one of the few centres to offer students participation in the Combined Cadet Force.

# WHY CHOOSE BEDLINGTON ACADEMY?



## Results

Students achieve consistently good GCSE and A level results and we are on a steady path of positive progress.



## Modern facilities

Our purpose built school has fantastic specialist classrooms and sports facilities including a 3G pitch, state of the art gym and dance studio.



## Care and support

Our staff go above and beyond to ensure that all children can reach their full potential. Our special educational needs team provides expert support and helps students with additional needs to achieve their full potential, and our school counsellor and school nurse ensure that students' mental and physical health needs are fully met.



## Pursuing excellence

Staff at every level and role in school are committed to the pursuit of excellence. We work hard to deliver our vision that every child experiences excellence every day.



## Part of a wider family

We are part of a multi-academy Trust giving us instant access to a huge network of support and expertise.

At Bedlington Academy the staff are kind and friendly. **They care for the education of every student in the school** and they want them to achieve **the best grades they can.**"

Year 13 student

## WHAT STUDENTS AND PARENTS THINK ABOUT BEDLINGTON ACADEMY

**I don't think we could have picked a better school.** The teaching, support and overall running of the school is extremely effective in creating a safe, enjoyable environment and **both our children have thrived at Bedlington Academy.**" Year 10 parent

"We have always been **immensely impressed** as parents at the **outstanding education and support** the children receive."

Year 11 parent

**"I love this school** and am happy I've attended it. The staff are lovely and caring which **makes me feel very secure and cared for.**"

Year 12 student

'My husband and I recently travelled to Iceland, where **a group of your school children were on the same flight.** I would just like to express how so proud you must be of them. **Their manners and behaviour both at the airport and on the plane were absolutely impeccable.** They were a credit to your school, well done!'

Mr & Mrs Dunn

"I have found each interaction with teachers, year managers and support staff at the school to be **professional with a personal touch;** from the comms on what's happening each week to the chats at parents' evening - where I found each teacher I spoke to **full of passion with a genuine interest in my son.**"

Year 7 parent

"My son is really **enjoying his time at school both academically and socially.** This I put down to the culture that has been created."

Year 7 parent



## *Supported by the* **North East Learning Trust**

**Bedlington Academy is part of the North East Learning Trust (NELT), a successful family of schools across North East England.**

NELT is widely regarded as providing some of the best education in the county, and indeed the country, with children making significant progress from their starting points, achieving impressive exam results, and going on to access a range of well-respected further and higher education opportunities.

NELT has grown to 13 schools with an impressive series of rapid school improvements under their belts. Without exception, every school that has joined NELT as 'inadequate' or 'requiring improvement' as judged by Ofsted, has improved by two whole grades to become 'good' or 'outstanding' – this success is a testament to the unwavering dedication of a talented regional network of staff.

NELT is deeply committed to teacher development. It operates North East SCITT, a dedicated training arm for new teachers, ensuring the highest

standards of teaching expertise are embedded from the start of new teachers' careers.

Additionally, as a National Teaching School Hub, NELT is one of 87 centres across England offering teachers high quality training and development throughout their careers.

NELT's founding school, The Academy at Shotton Hall, is also a National Research School, one of just 23 in England that up-skill teachers using cutting-edge research.

NELT is led by outstanding educators, including CEO Dame Lesley Powell CBE, who actively contributes to regional and national educational development. It has also built up a wide network of specialist teachers and other experienced professionals to support schools on their paths to becoming outstanding.



**Bedlington Academy**

Palace Road  
Bedlington  
Northumberland  
NE22 7DS

[info@bedlingtonacademy.co.uk](mailto:info@bedlingtonacademy.co.uk)  
**01670 822625**  
[www.bedlingtonacademy.co.uk](http://www.bedlingtonacademy.co.uk)

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