



**Bedlington
Academy**

2027

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.

Focussed attention





Acceptance of each other

Ongoing improvement

Students mix with each other

Protectiveness

consistency to become a better person

Personalisation

high aspirations

genuine pride

Approachability



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. We not only pride ourselves on the work we do to educate children academically, but also how we 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.

A young boy with short brown hair, wearing a dark green school blazer, a white shirt, and a yellow and green striped tie, is smiling and playing a piano. His hands are on the keys. In the background, another child is partially visible, and a laptop is on a stand. The scene is indoors with soft lighting.

“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 Macmillan 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 and 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 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



LEFT: The annual NELT summer concert, held at The Glasshouse in Gateshead, is an opportunity for children from all NELT schools to perform together for their families.



North East
Learning Trust

Proud to be part of the North East Learning Trust

**Our school is sponsored by the North East Learning Trust (NELT),
a successful family of 14 schools across the North East.**

NELT is widely regarded as providing some of the best education in the region, and indeed the country. Children in NELT schools make significant progress from their starting points, achieve impressive exam results, and go on to access a range of well-respected further and higher education opportunities.

NELT has grown to 14 schools with an impressive series of rapid school improvements under their belts. Without exception, every school that joined the Trust as 'inadequate' or 'requiring improvement' as judged by Ofsted, 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. Ofsted gradings have recently changed and all NELT schools who have been graded under the new system have met, and very often exceeded, all of the required standards.

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

The Trust is led by outstanding educators, including CEO Dame Lesley Powell DBE who actively contributes to regional and national educational development, most recently as co-chair of the National Key Stage 3 Alliance, which aims to improve teaching and learning across England in the early secondary school years.

NELT has also built up a wide network of specialist teachers and other experienced professionals to support schools to reach their full potential.



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