



**THE
ST LEONARDS
ACADEMY**



University of Brighton

Academies Trust



**THE
ST LEONARDS
ACADEMY**

**PRIDE
THROUGH
SUCCESS**



The minute I walked into
The St Leonards Academy, I
just knew it was a really special
place.”

Parent

The St Leonards Academy has been nationally recognised for its exceptional 2016 performance by the Schools, Students and Teachers network (SSAT). Educational Outcomes data analysis from SSAT has shown that the Academy is in the top 10% of schools nationally for progress.

WELCOME TO THE ST LEONARDS ACADEMY



Choosing a school is one of the most important decisions that a parent makes. At The St Leonards Academy, our ethos is underpinned by our motto of 'Pride through Success'. Our expectations for our students are driven by our values of:

**Potential
Respect
Innovation
Determination
Excellence**

It is with great pride that I lead such a dedicated and determined staff team that is committed to our improvement agenda. At the academy your child will experience excellent teaching, exceptional pastoral support and have the opportunity to engage in a wide range of enrichment opportunities, all complemented by our new facilities and state-of-the-art ICT provision. We look forward to welcoming you to the academy.

Kay Tinsley, Principal

ACHIEVING EXCELLENCE TOGETHER

The St Leonards Academy is part of the University of Brighton Academies Trust's network of 15 infant, primary and secondary academies, located across Sussex and the surrounding areas.

We believe that education transforms lives. Enriched by the University of Brighton's education expertise and our experience working with academy schools for almost 10 years, we want to ensure that our 7,500 pupils are inspired to meet their potential and develop a passion for life-long learning.

It is important to us that our academies have a positive impact on their local communities and that parents and carers are actively engaged with their child's learning. We look forward to welcoming your family to The St Leonards Academy as we support each other – and your child - to excel.

Dr John Smith
Chief Executive
University of Brighton Academies Trust



“

The teachers at the academy go above and beyond to give you what you need to be successful.”

Student

FANTASTIC FACILITIES

Our building, facilities and resources have been designed to ensure our students and their teachers benefit from working in an exceptional learning environment.

The objective is to deliver the very latest, innovative methods of teaching and learning in a modern environment. The academy has developed an exciting and challenging IT vision aimed at improving the learning experience of all our students:

ICT for the community: we use technology to communicate effectively with parents, carers and the community allowing them to play a significant role in the life of the academy.

ICT for life: our students are recognised for their digital skills, developed and applied during their time at the academy and in the future.

93% of parents agree that their child makes good progress at this school.*

*Ofsted Parent View Results. Correct as of 19/07/17 and based on 218 responses up to 22/05/17. Figure showing parents who either 'strongly agree' or 'agree'.





The academy is “highly ambitious for every pupil and wants each pupil to succeed.”

OFSTED 2017

INVESTING IN EACH AND EVERY STUDENT

We want to ensure that every child's success is inevitable. Underpinning all of our work within the academy is the principle of high expectations. We strive to maximise the potential of every child and help them to take advantage of every opportunity.

A CHAMPION FOR EVERY CHILD

We ensure that every child has a champion in their form tutor who focuses with the students on personal education plans, target setting and achieving goals. Students benefit from forming relationships with students outside their year group within their school community.

STRETCH AND CHALLENGE

We have high expectations of all our students. All our teachers are committed to providing challenge in their learning. In addition, students can apply to take part in our 'Pride' tutor groups and 'Pride' lecture programme.

There is a specific programme of extension activities for more able students and the academy participates in The Villiers Park Scholars Programme which helps academically

able students gain entry to top universities. The academy works closely with The Hastings Academy sharing best practice, expertise and a wide breadth of experience.

We also work very closely with our family of primary schools to facilitate the transition of students between these organisations.

In addition we are committed to our partnership with Sussex Coast College Hastings in ensuring our students move on at 16 to courses that will enable them to fulfil their ambitions.

Furthermore our sponsor the University of Brighton is committed to supporting us in a variety of ways to ensure that our students have the opportunity to progress to university.

SAFETY AND SECURITY

The safety and security of our students is of paramount importance. The academy has clear policies on anti-bullying, health and safety, security and safeguarding students.

Academy communities:

All students at The St Leonards Academy belong to one of five learning communities, each with a maximum of 300 students.

Our academy communities: Churchill, Austen, Da Vinci, Darwin and Holmes – allow students to form close relationships with their tutor and peers and gain more specialised support and encouragement.





Parents, pupils and staff refer to the school's strong sense of community. Pupils told us they feel very well supported by their teachers."

OFSTED 2017

THE CURRICULUM: BUILDING ON FIRM FOUNDATIONS

We believe in providing a solid foundation in the core subjects of English, mathematics and science which are vital to being successful in the modern world.

In addition our students benefit from outstanding learning opportunities in humanities, languages, arts subjects and design technology at Key Stage 3 (years 7-8).

Every lesson is designed to be stimulating, engaging and innovative: debate, participation and passion for enquiry are fundamental to our way of working. Building the skills that underpin successful learning is an important aspect, helping students with thinking, independent study and collaborative problem-solving skills.

These are the transferable, flexible skills relevant to higher education and the modern world of work which are provided as part of a broad and balanced curriculum that allows a high degree of flexibility. Learning can be personalised to suit each individual's strengths and needs.

OPTIONS

Students are guided to select a range of subjects to study to exam level at Key Stage 4 (years 9-11) to complement their core provision and to enable them to be best equipped for the next stage in their learning. French and Spanish, history, Latin, sociology, geography, sociology, business, philosophy and ethics, art, photography and many more subjects are offered.



SPORT

We offer a wide range of individual and team sports to encourage every child to take part and we participate widely in local, regional and national competitions. The PE department works hard to develop students' physical capabilities in both lessons and extracurricular activities. We have exceptional internal and external sports facilities at the academy.





I have been asked about the academy by a lot of parents and I always recommend it.”

Student



INCLUSION AND MOTIVATION

PASSPORT TO SUCCESS

We strongly believe in the importance of every year of learning at The St Leonards Academy.

Students are set challenging academic targets at the beginning of every year. Their progress is monitored and reviewed as they work towards graduation – an important ‘stepping stone’ in their five year learning journey.

In order to graduate, students also have to evidence their participation in a wide range of ‘employability skills’ such as problem solving, teamwork and presentation.

Graduation ceremonies are held at the end of every year to acknowledge and celebrate the success of our students.

INCLUSION

The academy is committed to developing the best possible provision for students with additional learning needs in a mainstream setting. Working on the principle that every student is supported and challenged to achieve their very best, our vision is to create the opportunity for every student to excel and have a sense of achievement. We provide for children with a wide range of additional needs.

We also have a Multi-Agency Centre and Thrive Centre offering specific and specialised support and guidance to families.

REWARDS

At The St Leonards Academy we reward and celebrate student success at every opportunity.

We have a personalised reward system that allows students to access a range of enrichment experiences including trips to the theatre and national sporting events, as well as smaller regular rewards that positively reinforce our high expectations.

We will regularly contact parents via email and through our rewards app updating them of their child’s rewards and inviting them to join us in praising them for achieving ‘pride pounds’ in their weekly ‘payslips’.



“Pupils are taught how to stay safe and they feel safe in school. Parents agree their children are well cared for and are safe at the school. There is a strong safeguarding culture.”

Ofsted, February 2017





“

As a parent at The St Leonards Academy, I feel valued and that my opinion and experience of the school is important.”

Parent

GOVERNANCE AND OUR SPONSOR

Our governance arrangements are set out by the University of Brighton Academies Trust.

We have a Local Board that contributes to our academy's vision and future strategy. It is responsible for ensuring that our academy maintains strong community links and effective communication with all stakeholders including parents and carers. It is also responsible for monitoring student wellbeing, admissions, complaints and concerns.

Local Boards include individuals from the community, including parent/carers. They are accountable to the trust's Board of Trustees.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

The Trustees are responsible for determining the trust's strategic direction, including overarching responsibility for the three core functions: the trust's vision; educational performance; and financial performance.

Trustees are also responsible for ensuring compliance with charity and company law and the trust's funding agreement with the Secretary of State. The Board of Trustees includes representatives from the trust's sponsor and local people with a wide range of expertise.

ABOUT THE UNIVERSITY OF BRIGHTON ACADEMIES TRUST

The University of Brighton Academies Trust is a network of 15 academies in Sussex and the surrounding areas, all supporting each other – and our pupils - to excel. We are a multi – academy trust and a not-for-profit charitable company limited by guarantee.

The University of Brighton is the trust's sponsor. The university's commitment to improving educational opportunities by supporting academies began in 2008 and led to the university taking the role of lead sponsor in the Hastings Academies Trust (established in 2010).

The University of Brighton Academies Trust was established in 2014 to build on the university's success in Hastings and broaden the work of the trust to Sussex and the surrounding areas.

Following several years of close collaborative working, the two trusts merged on 1 September 2017.

WE WANT TO ACHIEVE EXCELLENCE TOGETHER

We work collaboratively to help everyone connected to our academies achieve excellence.

By working together and sharing, insights and best practice, our academies support each other to improve. We value our staff, investing in their training and development at all stages of their careers.

It is important to us that our academies have a positive impact on their communities and that pupils understand the role they can play in the wider world. We also work to ensure parents and carers are actively engaged in their child's learning.

Visit: www.brightonacademiestrust.org.uk

ABOUT THE UNIVERSITY OF BRIGHTON

The University of Brighton is a leading provider of higher education in the south east. It has 21,000 students, 2,600 staff on five campuses across Sussex and runs 500 undergraduate and postgraduate courses including teacher training, medicine, mathematics, computing, engineering and fashion. Its School of Education has an 'outstanding' rating from Ofsted for all of its early years, primary and secondary teacher training.

As a civic university, its mission is to help build successful communities. It has a strong commitment to the region.

Visit: www.brighton.ac.uk

INVESTING IN THE NEXT STEPS

ENRICHMENT

We take great pride in offering a wide range of enrichment opportunities with a range of activities to catch the imagination of all tastes and interests. These include traditional sports, drama, music and homework clubs, to the more niche and modern such as coding, young enterprise, film and debating.

FUTURE EMPLOYABILITY

Students will receive impartial and confidential careers education and guidance. Our programme promotes equality of opportunity, diversity and inclusion, whilst promoting the best interests of the students. This will take the form of timetabled lessons, one-to-one mentoring with our commissioned careers guidance service and a range of opportunities to meet with employers, local colleges and universities during enrichment activities, visits and assemblies. We have achieved the prestigious Investors in Careers accreditation.

ADMISSIONS

Most students join at the start of year 7, and applications for this year group will be made in accordance with East Sussex County Council's coordinated admissions arrangements and will be made on the Common Application Form provided and administered by East Sussex

County Council's Admissions Team. A brochure describing the secondary admissions procedure and application forms are available from East Sussex County Council or online at: www.eastsussex.gov.uk/admissions.

You can make your application online or by returning the completed form to the Schools Admissions Team at the county council.

IN-YEAR ADMISSIONS

The University of Brighton Academies Trust is responsible for and administers in-year admissions (i.e. an application that is made outside of the normal time of transfer between schools), in accordance with its funding agreement and the admissions Code of

Conduct. Details of these arrangements are available on the website. Applications for in-year admissions can be made by completing an application form which is available online at www.thestleonardsacademy.org.uk/join/admissions.

ADMISSIONS COMMENTS

The St Leonards Academy will consider all applications for places.

For further information

Please email admissions@brightonacademiestrust.org.uk stating clearly the academy to which you are applying, the year group in question and the nature of your query.

95% of parents agree that they would recommend this school to another parent*

*Ofsted Parent View Results. Correct as of 19/07/17 and based on 218 responses up to 22/05/17. Figure showing parents who 'agree'.





Leaders have established a culture and ethos which uses the school's motto **Pride Through Success**, to raise aspirations and strive for excellence."

Ofsted February 2017

ENQUIRIES

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**THE
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ACADEMY**

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