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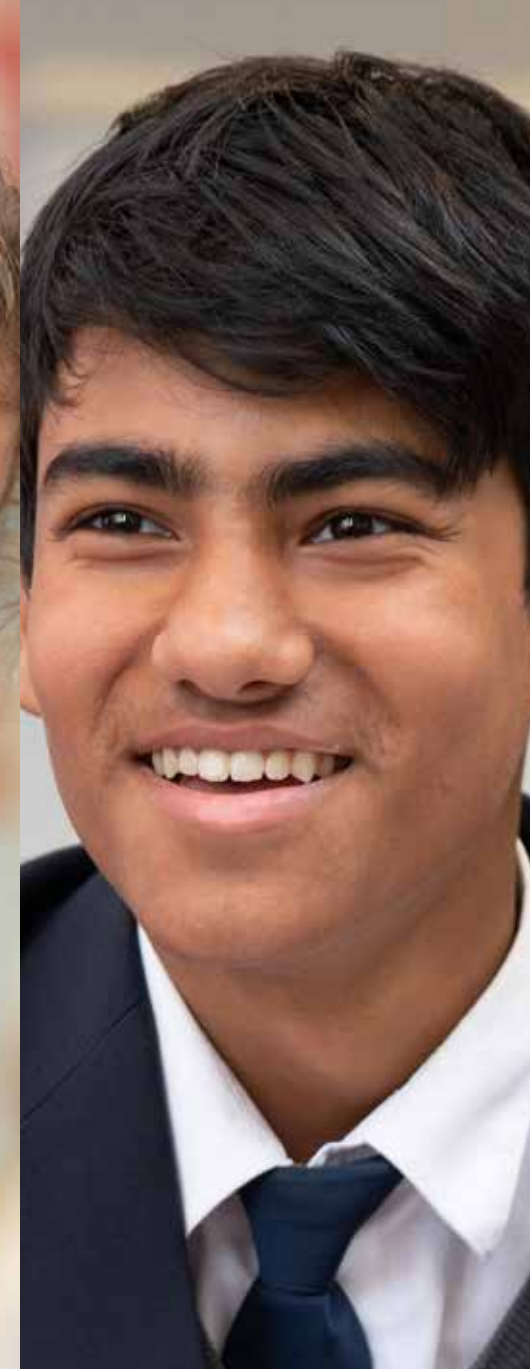
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**ENGAGING
MINDS**



**NURTURING
SUCCESS**



**INSPIRING
FUTURES**

Client: Goldington Academy
Order No: WSA1021535
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PRINCIPAL'S WELCOME

Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome to Goldington Academy.

The importance of education cannot be stated enough. Your child only gets one chance at school and, here at Goldington Academy, we take our responsibility as educators very seriously.

Our mission is to engage minds, nurture success and inspire futures so that we can develop confident, happy, well-rounded individuals who are ready to embrace the next stage of their journey.

Our top priority is to recruit and retain the very best teachers. We ensure they receive continual professional development of a standard that ensures they are consistently improving their teaching practice for the benefit of your child.

We are proud of our academic performance and have very high expectations of every one of our students.

When you choose Goldington Academy, you will find a huge range of opportunity available to them both during and after the school day.

Some of our recent achievements include:

- Artsmark Gold Award (2019)
- Bedford Sporting School of the Year (2018)
- Platinum Science Mark (2018)

In the last six years we have had millions of pounds invested in the school infrastructure. Our first-rate facilities provide our excellent teaching staff with the means to offer the inspiring learning opportunities our students enjoy.

In October 2018 we used questionnaires* to ascertain the current views of pupils, parents, staff and governors at school.

Parental views are reflected below:

The school is well led and managed:

- 88% strongly agreed or agreed
- 10% neither agreed nor disagreed
- 2% disagreed or strongly disagreed

My child/children is/are happy at this school:

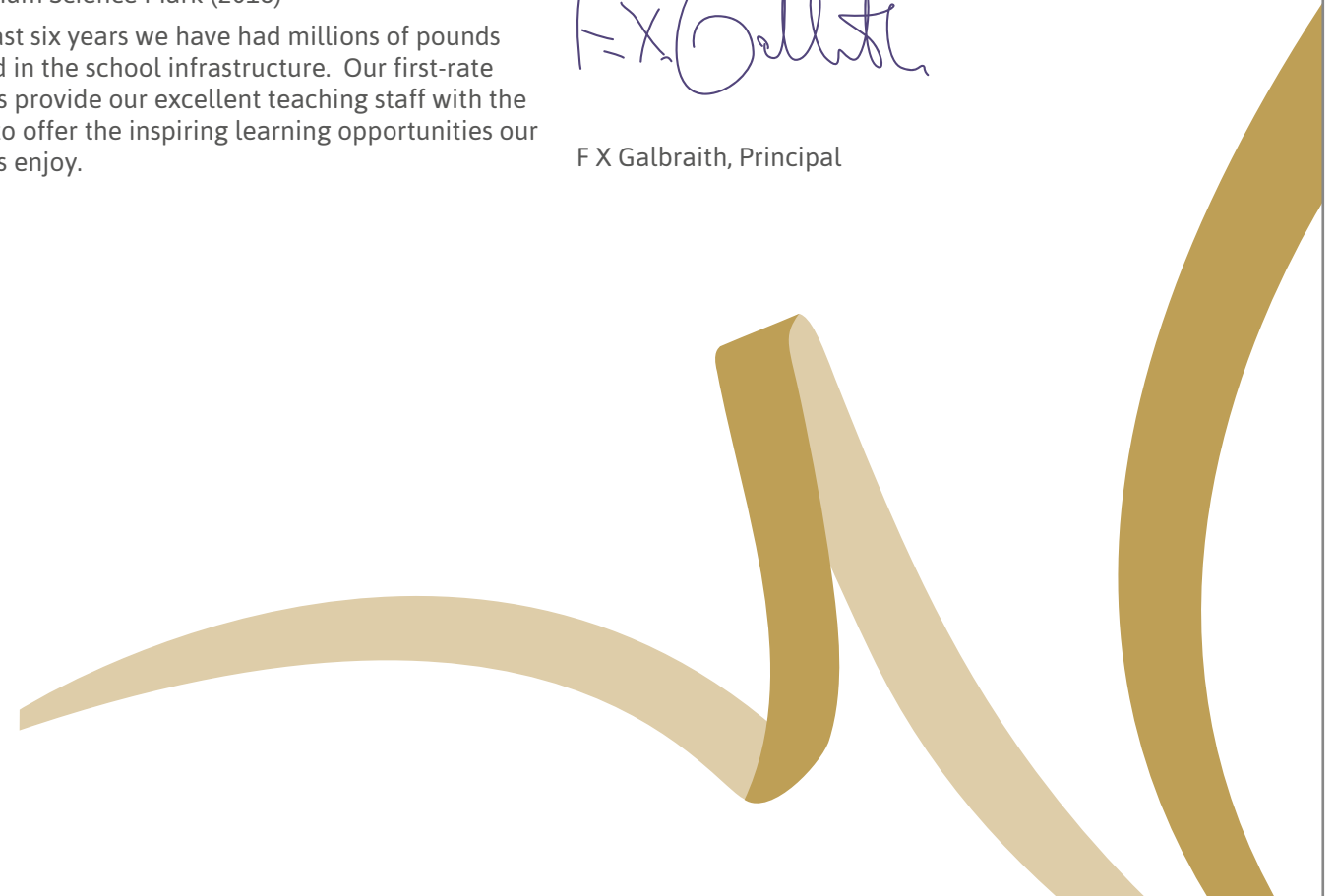
- 87% strongly agreed or agreed
- 11% neither agreed nor disagreed
- 3% disagreed or strongly disagreed

* Education for Schools

A visit during the school day can help to complete the picture. If you would like to see the school at work, please do make an appointment with the school office to join the Principal on a school tour.

I wish you a long and happy association with Goldington Academy.

F X Galbraith, Principal



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VISION AND ETHOS

Goldington Academy is an oversubscribed, ambitious and aspirational secondary school, where student success is at the heart of all our decision making. We make no apology for wanting the best for your child.

In order to reach their potential, students need to study in schools with strong leadership, high standards of behaviour and most importantly, excellent well-qualified teachers. At Goldington Academy, your child will be known as an individual. This means we can offer each student the appropriate level of support and challenge to help them achieve their academic potential. At the same time, we positively encourage our students to broaden their experiences and personal qualities through taking part in our extensive co-curricular programme.

The wellbeing of our students underpins life at Goldington Academy as we recognise its importance in building positive, resilient, successful young people who are ready to embrace the next stage of their journey into adulthood.



ENGAGING MINDS

At Goldington Academy, the recruitment of first-rate teachers is our priority. The learning provided is designed to challenge children of all abilities, from the most able to those who need additional support to overcome difficulties.

Our curriculum aims to:

- Provide a broad and balanced education for all students
- Enable students to develop knowledge, understand concepts and acquire skills, and be able to choose and apply these in relevant situations
- Develop students’ independent learning skills and resilience
- Support students’ spiritual, moral, social and cultural development
- Support students’ physical development and responsibility for their own health, and enable them to be active
- Promote a positive attitude towards learning
- Ensure equal access to learning, with high expectations for every student and appropriate levels of challenge and support
- Provide subject choices that support students’ learning and progression and enable them to work towards achieving their personal goals.

In Year 8, students select three optional subjects to study as part of our Personalised Learning Programme (PLP). The aim of the PLP is to give students an experience of subjects they may wish to consider as GCSE options, as well as broadening their learning in existing subjects.

The subjects included:

Advanced Science;
Computer Science;
Dance;
Drama;
Design Technology;
Photography and Print Making;
Spanish;
Sports Science.

At Goldington Academy students begin their GCSE journey at the start of Year 9. All students study English Language, English Literature, Mathematics, Science and Religious Studies (RS).

Students then select from the following GCSE/ Vocational options:

History;
Geography;
French;
Travel & Tourism (vocational);
Sports Science (vocational);
Music;
Art & Design;
Design Technology;
Dance;
Drama;
Computer Science;
Physical Education;
Spanish;
Business/Enterprise & Marketing (vocational);
Creative iMedia (vocational);
Hospitality & Catering (vocational);
Health & Social Care (vocational).

All students in Years 9-11 also have two lessons of physical education each week and study PSHE and Religious Studies, although these subjects are non-examined.



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NURTURING SUCCESS

Goldington academy is organised into year groups (Years 7-11). Each year group is led by a Head of Year who is responsible for the welfare of all the children in that age group. Pupils spend the majority of their time with specialist subject tutors, but there is always one form tutor with overall pastoral responsibility for them. The form tutor's role is central to the support and care of the children in the school. Together with the Head

of Year, he/she undertakes a special responsibility to guide the day to day work, welfare and behaviour of the children in their class and is the immediate person for parents to contact about their child. Excellent pastoral care is also provided in the Learning Integration Centre (LIC) where pupils are supported in small groups or on a one-to one basis according to their needs.

INSPIRING FUTURES

Whether it is before school, at lunchtime or after school, there is an array of extra-curricular opportunities at Goldington Academy, which includes:

- Sports – rugby (boys and girls), football (boys and girls), basketball, hockey (boys and girls), netball, cricket, badminton, rowing, tennis, rounders, athletics and parkour.
- Music - choir, ukulele, bandits, string group, hand bells, composing club, string quartet
- Dance
- Drama
- Journalism Club, creative writing, Book Club
- STEM and Science Clubs
- Robotics
- Gardening Club
- Illustration Club
- Art Open Studio
- ICT Club
- Spanish

In addition, we organise a number of exciting learning experiences to motivate, engage and inspire the pupils. Activities range from visiting Oxford University, Samba workshops, theatre trips, author visits, RAF Wittering, the Imperial War Museum, CSI days, robotics workshops and visiting the Houses of Parliament.

We are proud to be an accredited provider of the Bronze and Silver Duke of Edinburgh Awards scheme. We also offer a number of residential visits. Recent trips include: a hockey tour to Holland; an outward bound trip to Blue Peris; a history trip to the WWI sites in France and Belgium; a ski trip to Andorra and a trip to CERN in Geneva.

Careers

We are supported by SEMLEP (South East Midlands Local Enterprise Partnership) who provide us with up-to-date information about careers education and guidance.

Following the Gatsby Benchmark guidance, we aim to develop student employability skills and inform students about local, national and international labour market information; guide students to explore and develop career ideas and high aspirations; educate students on the complete spectrum of post 16 and post 18 pathways and prepare them for successful post 16 transitions.

This is achieved through a variety of means, including:

- PSHE
- Form times
- Careers Cafés
- Assemblies
- Curriculum learning
- Extra-curricular activities
- Workplace visits
- Personal guidance

FIRST RATE FACILITIES

The school's accommodation and facilities are excellent. All of our classrooms are equipped with interactive technologies and we are currently upgrading all teaching spaces with state-of-the-art interactive panels. There are extensive specialist facilities for art, computer science, design technology, drama, food preparation and nutrition, music and science. Sports facilities include a gymnasium, a sports hall and an all-weather synthetic grass multi-use games area (MUGA), which pupils use at break and lunchtime, as well as for PE lessons and extra-curricular activities.

Facilities are regularly reviewed, developed and improved to provide the very best learning environment and educational opportunities for our pupils. Last year we were successful in our bid to be part of the Government's Priority Schools Building Programme (PSBP). This extensive, multi-million-pound investment in the school's infrastructure will ensure our facilities are upgraded to create a state-of-the-art learning environment in which our students can flourish.



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