



Engaging minds • Nurturing success • Inspiring futures



**GOLDINGTON
ACADEMY**

PROSPECTUS



“
**Pupils are proud
of their school.
They enthuse about it to
their parents, who know
that they feel safe and happy.**

Ofsted 2022

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PRINCIPAL'S WELCOME

Welcome to Goldington Academy

Dear Parents and Carers,

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 are proud of our academic performance and have very high expectations of every one of our students. We place great importance on our core purpose of teaching and learning and supporting our students in developing the skills, knowledge, attitudes and personal qualities which will enable them to flourish and succeed in a rapidly changing world. The school offers an inclusive, broad and stimulating curriculum which meets the needs of all of our students. When you choose Goldington Academy, you will find a huge range of opportunities available to students both during and after the school day.

Goldington Academy was inspected by Ofsted in February 2022 and was judged to be a good school with outstanding Leadership and management, and outstanding Personal development.

Inspectors said: **"Pupils are proud of their school. They enthuse about it to their parents, who know they feel safe and happy. Pupils have many subjects to choose from, so everyone gets a chance to shine."**

A visit during the day can help to complete the picture. If you would like to see the school at work, please make an appointment with the 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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**Relationships between
teachers and pupils
are excellent.**

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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.





CURRICULUM

The curriculum is designed to meet and exceed the National Curriculum, offering a broad range of subjects that is modern, inclusive, personalised and relevant.

Key Stage 3 Curriculum (Years 7-9)

The curriculum in Years 7-9 concentrates on the core subjects of English, mathematics and science as well as three humanities and a modern foreign language. All students have dedicated lessons in computing, music, art, drama, design technology, cooking and nutrition, life skills and PE.

Key Stage 4 Curriculum (Years 10-11)

Students begin their GCSE courses in Year 10.

All students follow a common core curriculum of English language, English literature, mathematics, science, life skills and core PE. They then choose four other subjects, one of which must be a humanity (geography or history). The majority will be encouraged to select a language (French or Spanish).

OPTIONS (Subject to review year on year)		
	Vocational	Arts
Computer Science	Sports Studies	Art & Design
Design & Technology	Travel & Tourism	Dance
Geography	Enterprise & Marketing	Drama
History	Hospitality & Catering	Music
PE	Health & Social Care	
Spanish	Creative iMedia	
Religious Studies		
Psychology		

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Since the previous inspection, leaders have developed a rich Key Stage 4 curriculum from scratch. They have recruited expert teachers to deliver it. They ensure that every pupil is ambitious in the range of subjects they choose.

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ENRICHMENT OPPORTUNITIES

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

Physical Education and Sport:

- Rugby
- Football
- Netball
- Basketball
- Volleyball
- Dodgeball
- Tennis
- Rounders
- Athletics
- Cricket
- Running Club
- Gymnastics

The Arts

- Dance
- Drama
- Choir
- Orchestra
- African Drumming Club
- Percussion Club
- Ukulele Club
- String Group
- Jazz Group
- Composing Club

Other extra-curricular opportunities

- Creative Writing Club
- Debating Club
- Book Club
- Science/STEM Club
- Grow @Goldington Gardening Club
- Mindfulness Club
- Fun Friends Club
- Chess Club
- Spectrum
- Spanish Clubs

Trips and visits

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, The Big Bang Fair, the Imperial War Museum, Mountfitchet Castle, CSI days, the Science Museum and visiting the Houses of Parliament.

We are proud to be an accredited provider of the Bronze and Silver Duke of Edinburgh Awards scheme.

Residential Trips

- Biennial ski trip
- Blue Peris outward bound
- Bude activity residential
- Madrid
- Paris



PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT

Goldington Academy has a tradition of high academic expectations, but Goldington is about much more than this; we focus on ensuring students develop the wider skills and attributes needed to be happy, successful and prepared for their post-16 options.

Pastoral Support

Goldington 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. The year groups are divided into classes under the care of form tutors. 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.

Bullying is not tolerated at Goldington Academy and high-profile anti-bullying ambassadors offer peer support on a daily basis and have a responsibility to report bullying to a trusted adult.

Excellent pastoral care is also provided in the Student Support Hub where pupils are supported in small groups or on a one-to-one basis according to their needs.

Careers

We are partnered with SEMLEP (South East Midlands Local Enterprise Partnership) who provide us with up-to-date information about careers education and guidance. The Skills Builder Framework supports us to focus on building students' eight essential employability skills within embedded curricular and extra-curricular activities.

Following the Gatsby Benchmark guidance, we 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:

- Curriculum learning
- Tutor time activities
- Trips, visits, visiting speakers and online webinars
- Assemblies
- Extra-curricular activities
- Workplace visits
- Personal guidance with a level 6 qualified careers adviser
- Unifrog careers platform
- Making links with local businesses

Student Leadership

Pupils are given the opportunity to act as 'Ambassadors' across all academic subjects, or as community or sports leaders. Over one hundred pupils take part in the programme which includes leading competitions, clubs or events, supporting younger pupils through peer-interventions, or supporting the local area in activities and community projects. At the end of Year 10, all students have the opportunity to formally apply and be interviewed for a position on the Junior Leadership Team.

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Personal development is a great strength

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SCHOOL ACHIEVEMENTS

The past few years have been particularly successful for Goldington Academy. Over the last five years we have achieved:

- Quality Mark for History Silver Award
- National Online Safety Certified School
- Music Mark
- Level 5 RHS Award for School Gardening
- Artsmark Gold Award
- Skills Builder Bronze Award
- Platinum Science Mark

FIRST RATE FACILITIES

The school's accommodation and facilities are excellent. In 2019, the school's infrastructure was completely upgraded, creating a state-of-the-art learning environment in which our students can flourish.

All of our classrooms are equipped with interactive technologies and all our teaching spaces have been updated with new furniture and advanced interactive panels.

There are extensive specialist facilities for art, music, computer science, design technology, drama, cooking 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. Recent improvements to the school include a Mindfulness Garden, fully renovated PE changing facilities and a refurbished library.

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**Leaders have overseen the
improvement of facilities
to support learning.**

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