



Noel-Baker Academy

Prospectus

2020/21

www.noelbakeracademy.co.uk

Welcome

Dear Parent/Carer,

Thank you for taking an interest in Noel-Baker Academy. We are proud of the work that we do and are delighted that you have taken the time to read our prospectus. Quite simply, our vision is that...

...through outstanding leadership we will provide the highest quality education to enable every student to realise their full potential.

Of course, every good school aspires to this aim, so what makes us different?

We passionately believe in the power of partnership working as a catalyst for ensuring more children receive an exceptional education. Our member schools know the transformational impact it can have from experience.

At the same time, we recognise the importance of autonomy. Every school has its own context and challenges. This is why we encourage our member schools to lead and manage in a way that preserves their individual identity and responds to the specific needs of their children and community.

The combination of autonomy and collaboration across key areas of leadership and management, underpinned by shared vision, values and best practice is what makes the L.E.A.D. Academy Trust unique.

We are also strengthened by the support, guidance and wide-ranging skills of our experienced board of trustees.

The acronym L.E.A.D. embodies the four core principles at the heart of the Trust: strong **leadership** at every level; **empowering** every child to aim high; giving every child the opportunity to **achieve** and constantly **driving** for improvement.

We hope that you find this prospectus informative as you search for the right school for your child. Should you have any further questions please contact the academy directly where they will be happy to deal with your query.

Diana Owen CBE
Chief Executive, L.E.A.D. Academy Trust



L.E.A.D. Academy Trust
Lead • Empower • Achieve • Drive

A Message from the Headteacher

A very warm welcome and thank you for the interest you have shown in Noel-Baker Academy. It is my privilege to serve our community as Headteacher. I hope that this prospectus will give you a clear idea of our vision, our values and the opportunities that are available at Noel-Baker Academy.

At Noel-Baker Academy we believe passionately that our students are entitled to the same breadth and depth of provision as any student attending any of the best schools in the country. This is a vision shared with the LEAD academy trust, of which we are a part. We know that we are on a journey towards excellence and that with persistent effort, hard work and patience amazing things can and will be achieved for and by our young people.

We are proud of our traditional and no-nonsense approach to uniform, teaching and behaviour. We expect our parents and our community to support us in the work that we do and on our journey towards making Noel-Baker Academy the best school it can be. As such, we demand respect from our students for their teachers, their peers and their community and in return we respect, encourage, nurture and push them to be the very best they can be.

We value the support and contribution made by parents, governors and the community. We know that parents and carers are vitally important to our children's success and we expect our parents to stay in contact and involved with the academy.

We recognise that we are on a journey, we want Noel-Baker Academy to become the school of choice in the local community.

Please do not hesitate to contact us should you require any further information about the school.

Mrs Ann Donaghy
Headteacher

"The L.E.A.D. Academy Trust is one of the strongest sponsors operating in the East Midlands, with a track record of successfully improving underperforming schools..."

Department for Education, 29.05.15
(Leicester Mercury)

**LEADING STUDENTS
TO A BRIGHT FUTURE**



SCIENTIA POTENTIA EST

Our Values

At Noel-Baker Academy, everything we do is underpinned by our belief that our students are entitled to the very best breadth and depth of provision. We are proud of our students and our community and are determined that, here at Noel-Baker Academy, we will enable our students to be the very best that they can be.



Lead

to show the way; to be first or foremost

In every aspect of life, the ability to lead is essential. Strong leadership is the key to success at Noel-Baker Academy. We develop leadership skills in everyone who attends, ensuring the development of students as leaders of their own learning.

"Success isn't about how much money you make, it's about the difference you make in people's lives."

Michelle Obama
Former First Lady of the United States



Empower

to give power to; to enable

At Noel-Baker Academy, students are empowered to have high aspirations for their futures. We nurture and challenge students to take responsibility, make decisions and work together so that they grow into confident and resilient young people.

'I am the master of my fate, I am the captain of my soul'

William Ernest Henley
Poet

“Don't count the days, make the days count.”

Muhammad Ali
Professional Boxer



“We may encounter many defeats but we must not be defeated.”

Maya Angelou
Poet



Achieve

to accomplish; to get or attain by effort

We believe in achievement in its broadest sense and that enjoyment of learning is crucial to success. We continually look for and reward achievement in every individual. We also know that a strong command of English and maths is vital as a foundation for the whole curriculum and prioritise learning in these core subjects.

Drive

to cause and guide progress; to impel forward

We provide the very best education and training for every individual in our school. We value excellent teaching, underpinned by high quality professional development and will constantly move forwards, using and instigating the best ideas and practice.

We also understand that children need to be motivated if they are to succeed in life, therefore we provide a stimulating and knowledge-rich curriculum and environment which will prepare them for their futures with confidence and determination.

Pastoral Support

Student welfare is a very important part of the Pastoral Care at Noel-Baker Academy. A happy, safe student will become a confident learner. From the first day in school, students become a member of a form group. Their Form Tutor immediately forges a strong bond with their students and monitors their academic and personal development.

Our Associate Assistant Head teachers of Key stage 3 and Key stage 4 and our Pastoral leads monitor all aspects of students' performance in school including attendance, readiness to learn, attainment and behaviour. They work closely with Form Tutors and Curriculum Directors and stay with our year groups throughout their time at Noel-Baker Academy.

All of our Pastoral Leads can easily be contacted by telephone before and after school as well as any time during the school day and are available to meet with parents and carers by appointment. Our Pastoral support also includes two Behaviour Mentors, a School Councillor, a Student Support Manager and two Education Welfare Officers who also lead on attendance.. They council, support and mentor students within their year group and communicate effectively with parents to support students' needs.

The first steps

Students join Noel-Baker Academy from a number of primary schools in the Derby area. They can feel overawed with the move from primary to secondary school, which is why our transition team work

closely with the primary feeder schools to make this move as smooth as possible. The team's work involves arranging visits for year 5 and 6 students to come into Noel-Baker Academy to familiarise themselves with our learning environment. We also invite students from our feeder schools to join us for sporting events, where they have the opportunity to enjoy activities with our students and staff.

Our state-of-the-art buildings mean that students will occupy their own dedicated zones within Academy. This enables them to have an area where they can go to, which is familiar to them. In their zone, they will find, not only their Form Tutor, buy also their Pastoral lead. If students have any concerns they can quickly be dealt with so interruption to learning is avoided.

In Year 7, students will benefit from a broad and balanced knowledge-rich curriculum. Support is quickly put in place to assist students who have gaps in their learning. Teachers also focus on identifying those students who need stretch and challenge to maximise their potential. All students have access to the Academy's Learning Resource Centre, where they can choose from a selection of books to advance their reading skills.

Year 7 is the most important year in building a foundation for success for students. We want to put parents' minds at rest and reassure them that, once their child joins Noel-Baker Academy, our Pastoral Team will work closely with them to ensure they feel happy and safe.



The journey through the Academy

It is important to us that our students become confident and independent young adults, who are both happy and productive. In our experience, a year-based pastoral system is the most effective way to support students in achieving this. Each year team is led by a Pastoral Lead with the support of a team of tutors. The Pastoral team also has a dedicated member of the Senior Leadership Team monitoring and supporting them.

Students are placed in a form group at the start of year 7. They stay with this form group and form tutor throughout their journey. The form tutor plays a pivotal role for each student, establishing links and becoming the first point of contact for parents. They also support the academic and social progress of students, striving for each of their tutees to achieve their maximum potential and assisting in developing well-rounded young adults.

Keeping Children Safe

The Noel-Baker Academy takes its responsibility very seriously to ensure that all students are safe at all times, have their needs met and their welfare promoted. All Academy staff are appropriately trained in, and committed to, the policies and procedures; this ensures a proactive safeguarding culture is maintained at all times.

CEIAG

Careers Education Information Advice and Guidance (CEIAG) at Noel-Baker Academy starts in Year 7. It is our vision that all students on leaving us will have the skills, attitudes, qualities, behaviours and self-confidence to plan their future careers. All students are provided with independent and impartial guidance from a variety of sources. Their

learning will be progressive and they will link their subjects to a variety of careers. This provision helps students to make informed choices concerning options and future pathways. It prepares them for the demands of adult life and helps them to develop the skills needed to manage their own careers.

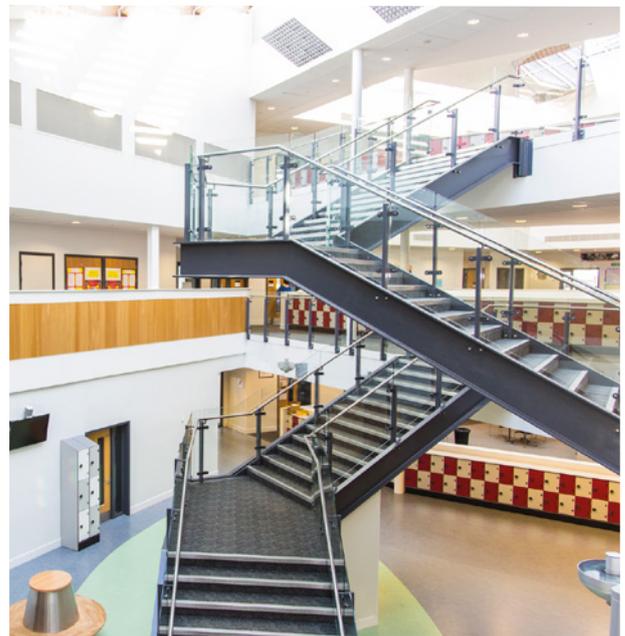
Visits to colleges, universities and employers take place to raise students' aspirations and inspirational guest speakers regularly come into the academy. Students also have a focus on careers for one week and include workshops which are based on the current Labour Market Information (LMI) and a range of career pathways are discussed.

We value all our students for who they are and for their contribution to the developing progress of Noel-Baker Academy. Our school council enables all students to have a voice about their educational experiences, involve students in the school decision-making process and provide staff and governors with student feedback. We have high expectations of students' attitudes and behaviour and these are clearly stated in our Academy vision. Positive behaviour is encouraged through our reward system, which is designed to reinforce good work and appropriate behaviour in class and promote student involvement in our community. Each year we run celebration Assemblies and events designed to recognise achievement and effort.

Curriculum Experience

At Noel-Baker Academy, everything we do is underpinned by our belief that our students are entitled to the very best breadth and depth of provision. We are proud of our students and our community and are determined that the curriculum at Noel-Baker Academy will enable our students to be the very best that they can be. Our purpose is to provide a rich education that will allow them not only to achieve excellent qualifications but also to become thoughtful, educated and well-rounded young adults. We believe that all students are entitled to learn about *'The best which has been thought and said'* (Matthew Arnold).

We believe that our students are the inheritors of the greatest ideas, written texts and discoveries of the past. In order for all to achieve this, we deliver an unashamedly knowledge-rich curriculum where teachers are the experts whose role it is to lead the learning of the students by proficiently conveying their knowledge and expertise. Our vision is based in the understanding that factual knowledge is a prerequisite for deep understanding: that the more you know, the more you are able to learn and understand. We know that students who put in more effort, who practise, who revise and who learn more ideas and knowledge are able to develop greater expertise and thereby become more intelligent. Our curriculum is designed to empower our students to achieve through our unrelenting focus on hard work, commitment and perseverance.



Key Stage 3

The curriculum we offer in all subject areas is designed to give students an in-depth knowledge of that subject, preparing them to take their learning successfully through to GCSE study. Knowledge learnt at KS3 is the grounding of learning at GCSE, enabling students to build on their knowledge and make links between facts across all the subject areas to increase academic success.

In Key Stage three all students study the following range of subjects:

- English, Mathematics and Science;
- All students also study the Arts (Music, Art, Drama), Humanities (History, Geography and RE), Design Technology (Food, Graphics and Product Design), IT, a Modern Foreign Language (Spanish, French and Latin) and PE.

Key Stage 4

At Key stage four, students are given the opportunity to focus their learning on a smaller range of subjects in preparation for GCSE or equivalent qualifications.

Students study for 9 qualifications, of these, all study: English Language, English Literature, Mathematics and Triple Science (Biology, Physics and Chemistry). In addition, students can choose three further subjects including History, Geography, RE, French, Spanish, Food Preparation and Nutrition, Design Technology, Art, Citizenship, Sociology, Performing Arts, Music and PE.

Personal Development through the Curriculum

We recognise the value and importance of PHSE (Physical, Health and Social Education) in educating and developing the whole child. PHSE is taught daily through assemblies and an allocated PHSE lessons. SMSC and aspects of citizenship, including British Values, are taught across the curriculum and embedded in subject's schemes of learning.

British Values

At Noel-Baker Academy our curriculum provides many opportunities for our students to explore the concept of Britishness.

SEND

At Noel-Baker Academy we are fully committed to the provision of equal educational opportunity for all students. We believe that provision for students with special educational needs is a whole-academy responsibility requiring a whole-academy response involving all teaching and support staff. Our buildings accommodate wheelchair users and the visually impaired. Students with special educational needs are fully included in all aspects of academy provision. Where barriers to learning are perceived, we look at alternative ways to ensure inclusion. If necessary, we seek specialist advice.

Our Learning Support promotes inclusion and positive attitudes to learning. It supports the wide-ranging needs of our learners, for example those students:

- identified as vulnerable
- with learning needs
- requiring intervention support with GCSE studies
- with emotional or behavioural needs
- with English as an additional language
- returning from absence

Students may be supported via one-to-one tutorials or small groups. We also constantly review our provision for our more able students for example, our more able mathematicians will be pushed to the higher levels of the new GCSE, and Triple Science GCSE is available for all students.

To set about making excellent progress for all students, we reinforce crucial information beyond the classroom. Research indicates that the most effective homework for students is carefully organised and monitored. To help structure this important aspect of their learning, students are issued with a Knowledge Organiser. The purpose of this is to set well-structured and challenging homework that strengthens their understanding of key information, concepts and subject specific terminology directly related to their knowledge-rich curriculum.

Beyond the Classroom: Curricular Enrichment & Extra-Curricular Activities



The Academy is committed to providing a wealth of learning opportunities beyond the classroom, through weekly clubs, sports, involvement in local and national competitions, day and residential trips, lectures, visiting speakers, National Citizenship Service and opportunities for leadership. An annual schedule is produced, and students are encouraged to commit to attend. Noel-Baker Academy has a strong commitment to organising educational visits for students. These events act as a motivation and inspiration for students as well enhancing and enriching the curriculum and students' knowledge.

Our excellent P.E. facilities lend themselves to the delivery of an extensive extra-curricular timetable. Through a variety of learning opportunities, our students can gain the knowledge and commitment to allow them to be lifelong participants in physical activity whilst sharing our passion for sport. As well as extra-curricular clubs and competitions, the P.E. faculty offer a range of enrichment opportunities. These include reward trips, University

visits that offer use of the latest sporting technology, as well as career guidance in the sports industry and coaching opportunities to name a few. Physical Education is well placed to advance students social, moral, spiritual and cultural development. Confidence and creativity are encouraged and respect for others is key in developing successful and resilient sports performers. Physical education allows students to understand and adhere to rules, regulations and fair play and in return, learn the consequences of actions.

All activities are important in helping young people to grow in confidence and to develop the skills of team membership. Many students take advantage of the opportunity to learn a musical instrument and as a result we have a school musical production. We benefit from a purpose-built theatre with modern lighting and sound facilities.



Partnerships with Parents

We place great importance on good communication between Noel-Baker Academy and parents as we share responsibility for the students in our care. We now dispatch most of the written communication to parents via email, text, Twitter and Facebook.

At Noel-Baker Academy we are committed to listening and responding to the views and opinions of our parents. We now hold regular Parent Forum meetings. The Parent Forum is a platform for parents to express their suggestions and ideas for improvements at the Academy. We are committed to working closely with parents to ensure they are completely satisfied with their child's education and feel that their views and opinions are listened to and acted upon.

To increase transparency and parental engagement, the academy uses 'Go4Schools' - an online system which allows parents to view and monitor assessment / progress grades, attendance statistics, homework assignments and behaviour incidents. Parents are able to access the website as often as they would like.

Parents' evenings enable parents and teachers to discuss the progress of a student. We like students to be present on these occasions and parents are expected to attend. The school operates its own systems of internal checks and reviews of student progress and parents will be contacted if it is felt there is cause for concern.

Parents are elected to the Governing Body and play an active role in the governance of the school.



Senior Leadership Team



Mrs Ann Donaghy
Headteacher



Mrs Kate Richardson
Deputy Headteacher



Mr Simon Leach
Deputy Headteacher



Mr Matthew Tarrant
Business Manager



Mr Mark Taylor
Assistant Headteacher



Miss Sarah Howard
Assistant Headteacher



Miss Sarah Brown
Assistant Headteacher



Mrs Clare Pedlar
Assistant Headteacher

Associate Assistant Headteacher

Associate Assistant Headteacher

Associate Assistant Headteacher

Miss Kate Barron

Mrs Carol Groves

Mr Ryan Oliver

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A L.E.A.D. Academy