



Kettering Buccleuch Academy

The best in everyone™

Part of United Learning



Prospectus 2018

Welcome



Kettering Buccleuch Academy aims to provide an excellent education for children and young people in Kettering and the wider local area. We seek to improve the life chances of all the children and young people we serve and make it our mission to bring out 'the best in everyone' - students, staff, parents and the community which we serve.

We hope that this prospectus gives you an insight into life at Kettering Buccleuch Academy; our ethos, our culture, our expectations and our ambitions.



Our name reflects our strong links with the Duke of Buccleuch, whose family connection with Kettering stretches back for almost 500 years and remains very much alive today. We are delighted to be supported by the Duke's estate and benefit from its experience in promoting education in this area.

As part of United Learning, Kettering Buccleuch Academy shares the objective of bringing out 'the best in everyone', enabling each student to become a balanced, happy and articulate person with intellectual freedom, confidence, compassion, integrity and a lifelong love of learning.

Our partnership with parents is important to us and we work hard to ensure that communication is open and positive. We know that to achieve the potential in our students we need to be united in our approach.

Please come along and visit us on our Open Evening on **Thursday 27th September** to experience our unique atmosphere, community and environment for yourself. We would very much like to meet you and your family and invite you to join our family and become a special part of our bright future.

Mr Di Salvo
Principal



"The new Principal has raised the bar since the last inspection. Leadership, teaching quality, pupils' behaviour and pupils' progress have all improved."
OFSTED 2018


RESPECT AMBITION *PRIDE* CARING ENJOYMENT RESILIENCE
TEAMWORK RESPECT AMBITION *PRIDE* CARING ENJOYMENT



“Pupils’ behaviour and conduct are good. At times they are exemplary.”

OFSTED 2018



A young boy with light brown hair, wearing a white shirt and a yellow tie with blue stripes, is smiling and looking down at his work. He is holding a blue circular frame with a piece of blue and white striped fabric. In the background, there are various colorful materials and a book titled 'Cezary de textile' and 'Covo 2'.

**“The school’s
curriculum
provides a good
learning
experience.”**

OFSTED 2018

Ethos

We strive to be exceptional in all that we do at Kettering Buccleuch Academy and firmly believe that excellence is a habit. Every one of us has untapped potential. We encourage and support each other to unleash this potential to bring out the best in everyone.

To realise our vision of being exceptional, we define ourselves by our seven core values of respect, ambition, pride, caring, enjoyment, resilience and teamwork.

We recognise that as individuals we are strong but understand that together we are stronger. We celebrate the diverse nature of our community and work in harmony to achieve our vision.

We will not accept anything but our best in all aspects of academy life and we firmly believe that there should be no shortcuts, no excuses and no limits.

Students are given opportunities to develop as active role models through varied learning opportunities, alongside assessment and mentoring to support their development. Students, adults and other learners feel safe and secure and are supported by a rigorous behaviour policy.

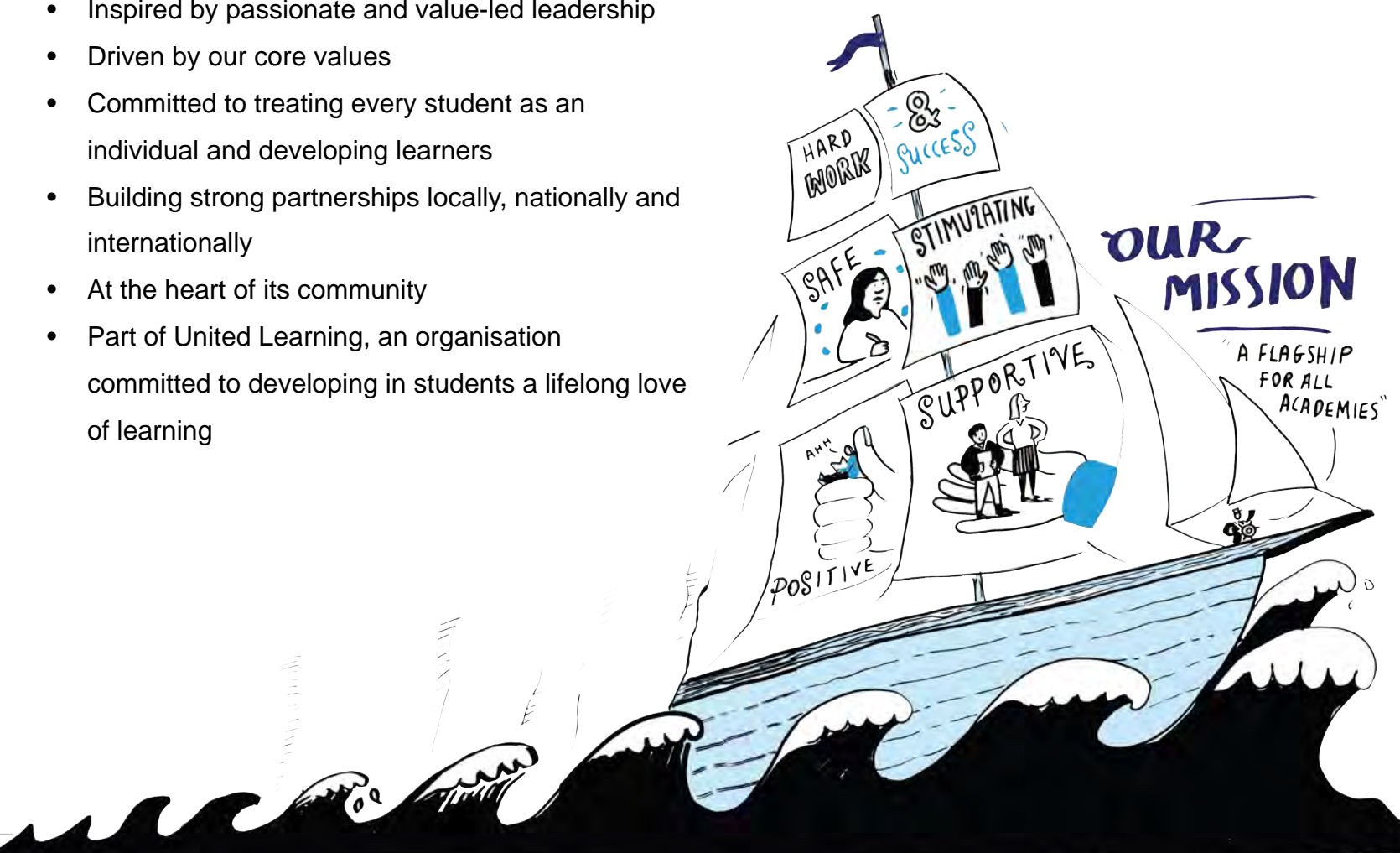
Students have frequent visits to universities and are supported by our commitment to excellent career advice and events.

Parents and members of the local community are welcomed and encouraged to be full and active participants in the life of the academy.

We pride ourselves on being an academy

that is:

- At the cutting edge of teaching and learning
- Inspired by passionate and value-led leadership
- Driven by our core values
- Committed to treating every student as an individual and developing learners
- Building strong partnerships locally, nationally and internationally
- At the heart of its community
- Part of United Learning, an organisation committed to developing in students a lifelong love of learning



"Be daring, be different, be impractical, be anything that will assert integrity of purpose and imaginative vision against the play-it-safers, the creatures of the commonplace, the slaves of the ordinary."

Cecil Beaton



Personal Development and Welfare

Our students are enthusiastic, motivated and ambitious to succeed and as a result they maintain high standards of behaviour and engagement in their studies. We insist that students display learning habits every day with high expectations and high aspirations. KBA students are encouraged to be reflective and creative in their thinking and to become increasingly independent learners as they progress through the academy.

Relationships both between students and between staff and students are key and form the basis of the strong ethos for learning in our academy.

We praise and reward those who meet our expectations and tackle those who do not. Our standards are high and we make no excuse for this.

The House System at Kettering Buccleuch Academy underpins all of the work that we do. Our four Houses are Braveheart, Griffin, Phoenix and Viking and they draw their identities from the four quadrants of the coat of arms of the Duke of Buccleuch.

The aim of our House System is to ensure that the needs of the whole child are met. We aim to inspire and challenge students to achieve their best as well as to support them through any concerns or worries they may face during their time at the academy.

We firmly believe that the sense of identity and belonging created through the House System allows all students and staff to play their part in making us an exceptional and unique learning environment.

Throughout the year our House Championship provides opportunities for healthy competition and fun through a wide range of competitions. House Points are added to our House Championship Totaliser with the winning House being awarded the Buccleuch Cup at the end of Term 6.

Each House is led by a Head of House. Heads of House are supported by a team of tutors and students hold elections each year to appoint their House Leaders and House Captains.



“The actions taken by the new, highly committed and steadfast Principal have led to improvements in many areas of the school’s effectiveness.”

OFSTED 2018



"There are strong relationships between teachers and pupils. Pupils willingly cooperate with staff and follow instructions"
OFSTED 2018

Curriculum

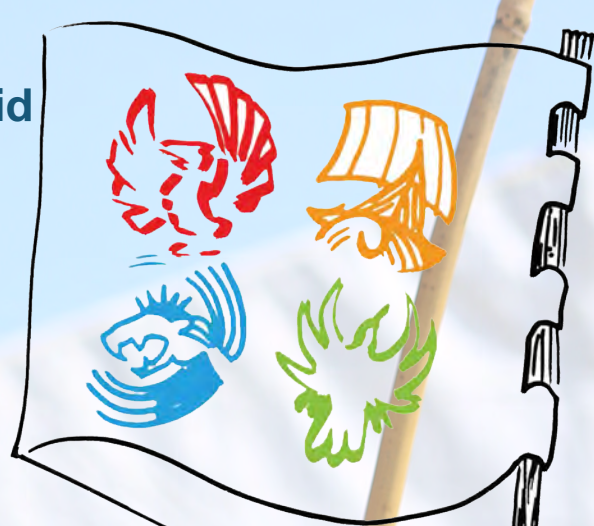
We offer a broad-based academic curriculum which is delivered through a combination of mixed ability groups and ability sets. A strong emphasis on differentiated teaching and resources ensures that each student is fully included and challenged. Regular and consistent assessment determines future teaching and learning and any movement between groups.

Our curriculum is underpinned by our core values, providing a wide range of subjects and opportunities which meet the needs of all of our students.

We want Kettering Buccleuch Academy students to be enthusiastic about their learning and develop a thirst to learn more. We recognise that our curriculum extends beyond the classroom.



“All pupils who spoke with the inspectors said
that they feel safe in the school”
OFSTED 2018



WE ARE
4 HOUSES BUT **1 Academy**

A line of colorful stick figures in various colors (red, orange, yellow, green, blue, purple) standing on a green grassy line that curves across the page.

A Safe and Supportive Environment

We want students to be happy, motivated and inspired. Kettering Buccleuch Academy is a kind, safe and friendly learning community. Respect is at the heart of our relationships. We maintain high expectations of behaviour so that the classroom focus is on high quality teaching and learning.

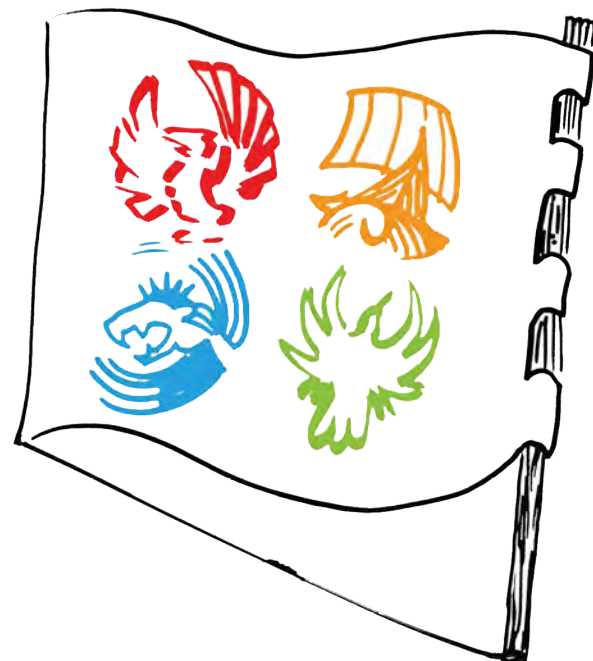
Transition from primary school can be exciting and daunting. We work closely with all feeder schools to ensure we know the students well before they join us. Our comprehensive transition programme from primary school to secondary school is well managed and students are supported through this process. It feels more like a step than a jump!

We are proud of the way we support the students in our care. This includes:

- Vertical tutor groups for Years 7-10, where each student is known and supported;
- A clear and fair behaviour system which is used consistently;
- A dedicated team of non-teaching support staff who are able to remove barriers to learning;
- Strong parental links to build partnerships;
- A clear policy and practice which addresses any bullying;
- Excellent Special Education Needs provision to support learning;
- Strong partnerships with special support agencies.

"Bullying, including racism, is rare in the school. Pupils report that when it does occur, staff deal with it swiftly. Most parents agree that bullying is rare, and many speak well of how it is dealt with."

OFSTED 2018



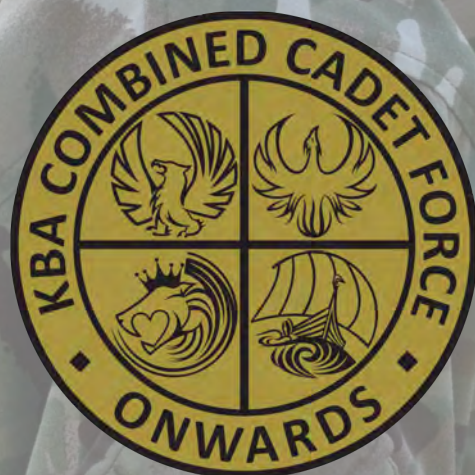
Combined Cadet Force

We have a thriving Combined Cadet Force and all cadets participate in the Duke Of Edinburgh Awards Scheme as part of their membership of this group.

The CCF has its own building and is run by staff who have an extensive range of experiences within the armed forces alongside other KBA staff who are developing their own leadership skills.

"Pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development and understanding of British values are strong."

OFSTED 2018



Education With Character

At Kettering Buccleuch Academy we pride ourselves not just on the number and quality of musical, sporting, dramatic and other activities available to our students but also on the fact that every child participates beyond the curriculum and is challenged, coached and supported to produce their best in these areas.

We recognise that a strong and creative curriculum extends beyond the classroom and all of our students benefit from a wide and varied menu of enrichment activities and trips both locally and abroad. These range from homework clubs, catch-up sessions and revision workshops to opportunities to develop skills in areas such as drama, sport, dance, and music.

We stress the importance of thinking about the future to all students and, alongside visits to universities, we work closely with many local and national employers and entrepreneurs to produce a comprehensive calendar of career events including our annual Higher Education and Careers Fair. This provides inspirational career education and gives our students the best possible experience of the world of work.

Our students have had the opportunity to participate in a range of overseas visits during the last twelve months including skiing in Austria, our sports tour to The Netherlands, a day trip to France to practise language skills and developing links with students in Germany as part of our German Exchange.

Closer to home students have visited theme parks, sporting events and art galleries as well as being given the opportunity to become involved in in-house activities such as Enterprise Day and KBA Radio.

The social highlight of the year is the Year 11 Prom which is held in the grounds of the Duke of Buccleuch's Northamptonshire home, Boughton House.



Buildings And Learning Environment

We are very lucky to benefit from a state-of-the-art building which provides a truly inspiring learning environment for students and staff and we are constantly seeking out opportunities to develop our provision of, and access to, cutting-edge technology in order to enhance student learning.

We also look for ways to ensure that the building reinforces our desire to enhance the cultural and historical experiences of our students and, to this end, we have commissioned wall-wraps relating to many of our core subjects. The background to this page is our own version of The Bayeux Tapestry which can be found along the walls of the Humanities corridor alongside a map of UK rivers and a pictorial representation of the Kings and Queens of England.

Elsewhere in the building you can see William Shakespeare sitting outside The Globe Theatre and take a walk along a typical Spanish street where each classroom has taken on the identity of a shop or local landmark. Visitors and guests to the academy regularly comment on the positivity and excitement that is evident when walking around our unique learning environment.

Our students deserve the very best and that is what we aim to give them.



Proud to be part of United Learning.

United Learning is a group of schools which aims to provide excellent education to children and young people across the country. We seek to improve the life chances of all the children and young people we serve and make it our mission to bring out the best in everyone – students, staff, parents and the wider community. We are uniquely united across both the state and the independent sectors; we make learning and improvement our focus. Together, we are one of the country's largest education providers, currently educating over 30,000 students and employing over 5,500 members of staff including over 2,500 teachers.

We provide a broad education, which prepares young people to progress in learning and to make a success of their lives. We focus sharply on the evidence of what makes it more likely that young people will progress and succeed, apply that to our practice and continue to learn and develop our schools. We make it a priority to provide teachers with excellent professional support and development, so that every child receives an excellent experience.

The image below shows a group of our student award winners, their families and staff members at last year's United Learning Best In Everyone Awards Ceremony which was hosted at Oxford Town Hall.



Through being a group, we can offer more to both staff and young people than any single school could offer alone. The growing range of outstanding group-wide activities that we can provide will mean that more young people will have truly exceptional and inspiring experiences. Already, we believe that our group contains the most developed relationships and practical interaction between independent and state schools in the country, creating benefits for all the schools involved.

Our approach is underpinned by a sense of moral purpose and commitment to doing what is right for children and young people, supporting colleagues to achieve excellence and acting with integrity in all our dealings within and beyond the organisation, in the interests of young people everywhere.

As a single organisation, we seek to bring together the best of independent and state sectors, respecting both traditions and learning from each. We believe that each of our schools is and should be distinctive – each is committed to developing its own distinctive strengths and identity while sharing our core values as institutions which promote service, compassion and generosity. This ethos is our expression of our Christian roots, in schools which are fully inclusive and both welcome and respect students and staff of all faiths and none.

By joining Kettering Buccleuch Academy, you are becoming part of the United Learning family.



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www.kba.uk