

Prospectus for September 2022 Entry

Principal's Welcome



Kettering Buccleuch Academy provides an excellent education for children and young people in Kettering and the wider local area. We 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.

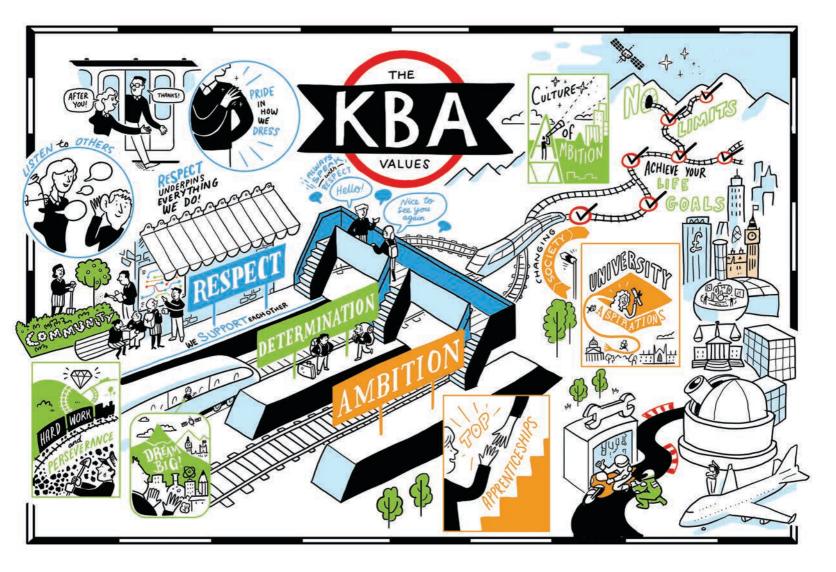
Our name reflects our strong links with the Duke of Buccleuch, whose family connection with Kettering stretches back for almost 500 years and remains very much alive today. We are delighted to be supported by the Duke's estate and benefit from its experience in promoting education in this area.

We were delighted that OfSTED recognised the hard work of students and staff when they visited us in October 2021. We are graded as being a **GOOD** school overall with Leadership and Management, Personal Development and our Sixth Form all judged as being **OUTSTANDING**.

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.

Our **Open Evening** will take place on **Thursday 29th September 2022** and I very much hope that you are able to join us on this evening. Further details of this event are available via our website.

Mr Di Salvo Principal



The KBA Vision

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.

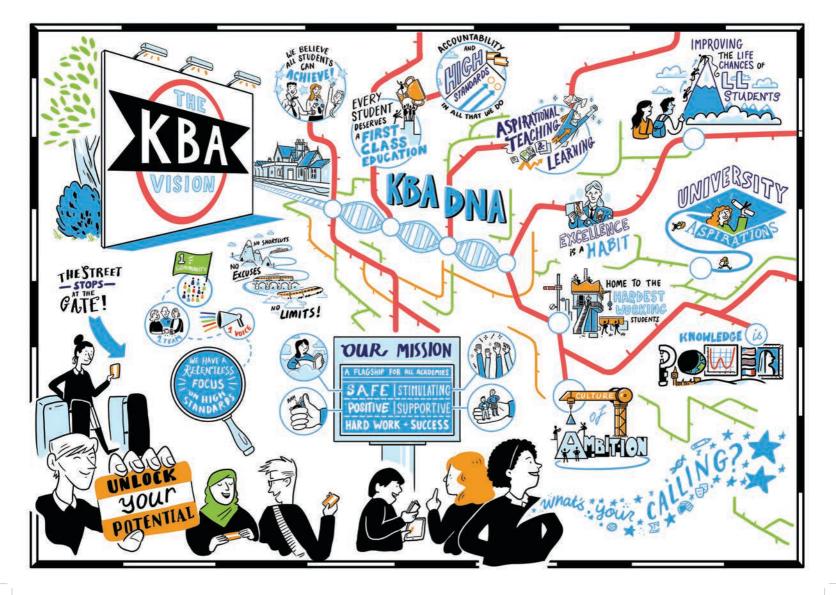
To realise our vision of being exceptional, we define ourselves by our three core values of **respect**, **ambition** and **determination**.

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.

We organise visits to universities in order to open students' eyes to the opportunities that are available to them; a mission that is supported by our commitment to excellent career advice and events. 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.

Parents and members of the local community are welcomed and encouraged to be full and active participants in the life of the academy. When your child joins KBA you join alongside them.



"Pupils achieve well at this popular and thriving school."

OFSTED 2021

His Grace, the Duke of Buccleuch presents an award during our 2022 Awards Evening.

"Pupils are well cared for. They feel safe and attend well." OFSTED 2021

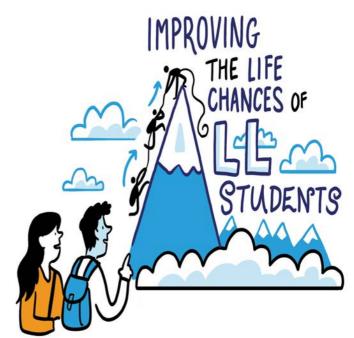
Curriculum

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 expect Kettering Buccleuch Academy students to be enthusiastic about their learning and develop a thirst to learn more.

The curriculum at KBA has been designed to allow students to have high aspirations for their future whilst having a range of academic subjects to support this.

Flexibility exists within our curriculum to enable us to respond creatively to the needs of our learners and the demands of the National Curriculum framework in Key Stage 3 and exam specifications in Key Stage 4. These reflect our commitment to personalisation and include clear progression onto post sixteen opportunities.



As part of that commitment we regularly schedule

homework. Student homework tasks can be viewed directly via the Satchel: One website through the parent app.

Social, moral, spiritual and cultural aspects of learning are embedded into our programmes of study as well as through a wide range of other activities including cultural trips and residential opportunities that contribute to preparing our pupils for life in modern Britain.

At Kettering Buccleuch Academy students are encouraged to regard people of all faiths, races and cultures with respect and tolerance. We help our students to understand that, while different people may hold different views about what is 'right' and 'wrong', all people living in England are subject to its law.



Active participation in discussion relating to SMSC topics is facilitated through Votes For Schools. Votes For Schools is an online voting platform designed to engage students in exploring and discussing the issues affecting them and allowing them to join with other pupils to let the world know what they think about these topics. Our secondary students discuss a Vote Topic each week as part of their tutorial programme before then voting to share their personal and collective opinion.

All students at KBA also have access to high quality, impartial careers advice to ensure they are making the best choices for their future. We organise an annual Higher Education And Careers Fair which includes universities and higher education providers as well as local, national and international employers.

When students leave us, they leave having experienced a broad range of curriculum experiences which prepare them for their future lives.

> "The school is inclusive." OFSTED 2021

Personal Development

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. We are passionate in our mission to ensure that every student unlocks their potential.



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

Students in Year 7 are led by a Head of Year and a team of dedicated tutors who help to ensure that students are well looked after during their first year at the academy. 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 praise and reward those students who meet our expectations and tackle those who do not. Our standards are high and we make no apology for this. Behaviour, attendance and punctuality are all monitored closely in order to ensure that each student is able to make the best possible progress, both academically and personally.

The House System at Kettering Buccleuch Academy is at the heart of all 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. Each student is allocated to a House on entry to the academy with siblings being in the same House.

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 the academic year.



"Pupils understand how to conduct themselves respectfully." OFSTED 2021

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"A culture of high expectation connects all aspects of school life."

OFSTED 2018

"Pupils benefit from a vibrant learning environment." OFSTED 2021

"Remember Jou are the author of your own life.

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Celebrating Success

We are proud of our students' achievements and seek every opportunity to celebrate their success. Every year students from the academy who have shown excellence in curriculum and extracurricular activities are nominated for United Learning's Best In Everyone Awards.

Each year, these awards recognise the remarkable achievements of students from across the United Learning group of schools and provide us with an opportunity to celebrate their talents, subject excellence and determination to succeed. We have a proud record of success and the photographs on this page show some of our past winners receiving their awards.

We also hold our own **Best In Everyone Awards** Ceremony at the end of the summer term which recognises the hard work and excellence of our students. The images on this page show His Grace, the Duke of Buccleuch presenting awards to students at this year's event.







"Leaders are highly ambitious for pupils and staff." OFSTED 2021

RESPECT AMBITION DETERMINATION

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 the first of our core values and 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 both 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:

- Membership of a tutor group where each student is known and supported;
- A clear and fair behaviour system which is used consistently;
- A dedicated team of non-teaching associate staff who are able to help 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.



House Championship

At Kettering Buccleuch Academy every student and member of staff belongs to one of our four Houses; Braveheart, Griffin, Phoenix and Viking.

When new students join us they are placed in a House with siblings being in the same House as each other.



Throughout the academic year there are a range of competitions which are designed to promote healthy competition and help to establish a sense of belonging and community.

These competitions range from traditional sporting activities to our very own versions of game shows such as Countdown, Catchphrase and University Challenge.

Our Heads of House are responsible for the promotion of, and participation in, House Competitions.

At all times during competitions our students and staff are asked to uphold our core values of respect, ambition and determination.

Students are also able to earn House Points through their daily efforts in lessons and during other activities. Each member of staff has a limited number of House Points to award each term and students receive a certificate to recognise this achievement.

Tutor groups also compete against each other in the academy's House Formopoly competition where rewards are available for attendance, punctuality and excellent behaviour.

At the end of each academic year the winners of the House Championship are presented with The Buccleuch Cup as recognition for their achievements.



Extra-Curricular Enrichment

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 array 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 art, drama, sport, dance, and music.

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. The pictures on this page show Year 11 students and our staff enjoying the Prom in June 2022.











Sixth Form

Some Sixth Forms are too much like school. Some colleges are too impersonal. Here at KBA we offer the best of both worlds.

Students have the freedom to express themselves as young adults, whilst still receiving all the support and guidance they were used to up to the age of 16.

We have fantastic facilities at KBA which give Sixth form students their own area but still allow them to access the support of the whole school community. Our House system is the foundation of all of school life ranging from; the pastoral care, support, extra-curricular activities and leadership experience and a range of Sixth Form and whole school inter-house competitions.

We realise that moving in to the Sixth Form can be a daunting experience for students and their parents but here at KBA we have well-established procedures that make the process of moving onto Sixth Form courses as smooth as possible, whether you are joining us from another school, college or our own Year 11.

We are very proud of our Sixth Form students and invest significantly to give them the very best experience possible at KBA. Our dedicated teachers support our Sixth Form students both academically and pastorally.

We know the aspirations of every student are different, and so our tutoring and pastoral systems will ensure that your individual needs are fully met. Our highly experienced team also ensures that each and every student has a wealth of opportunities available to them beyond the taught curriculum with numerous extra-curricular activities and leadership opportunities on offer. This ensures that students are fully prepared to apply for aspirational universities or jobs once they complete their studies here at KBA.

We are very proud of the fact that an increasing number of our students have gone on to study at top universities both in the United Kingdom and abroad.

We provide bespoke support to students who wish to apply to either the University of Oxford or Cambridge University with 5 former KBA students now studying at what are considered to be the UK's top two universities.

We also have 2 students from the Class of 2022 who are studying at universities in the United States of America



"Students are striving in the Sixth Form. They are professional in their conduct and appearance." OFSTED 2021

Admissions

Kettering Buccleuch Academy has **180 places** available for external applicants in Year 7 for the academy for September 2021 admission.

Students who are on roll in Year 6 of Kettering Buccleuch Academy will automatically be allocated a place in Year 7.

This number applies only to those being admitted from outside the academy. The total year group size will be 240 including children who transfer automatically from the academy's Year 6 cohort.

Application arrangements for places at the academy will be made in accordance with the Local Authority's co-ordinated admission arrangements and will be made on the Common Application Form provided and administered by the Local Authority. Details of the Local Authority's scheme are available on its website.

The closing date for applications is available from Northamptonshire Local Authority's website.

Where fewer than 180 external applications are received, the academy will offer places to all those who have applied.

We have been heavily oversubscribed for the last 4 years and expect this to be the case again this year.

Admissions Test

When more than 180 applications are received, and after the students with statements of special educational needs/EHC Plan where Kettering Buccleuch Academy is named as the appropriate provision have been admitted, all external applicants will undertake a suitable cognitive ability test.

Test Takers will be divided into 9 equal bands based on the results of this test and places will be allocated to each band in proportion to national averages.

In the event of an individual band not being oversubscribed, places will be allocated to students from the nearest bands, taking equally from the band above and the band below (where relevant).

Children who take the test will be given priority over children who do not.

Applicants will be invited to sit the admissions test for approximately two hours on Saturday 3rd **December 2022**. Details of the arrangements for this will be shared with applicants once the academy has been provided with these details by the Local Authority.

If you have any questions relating to our admissions process, please email admissions@kba.uk



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.

Through being a group, we can offer more to both staff and young people that 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.

United Teaching

United Teaching is the Initial Teacher Training Scheme for United Learning.

With us, you can train while you teach to earn your PGCE and Qualified Teacher Status. We will support you with subject specialists and dedicated mentors from across 60 schools nationwide. Our support and training extends beyond the classroom, ensuring you are fully equipped to become the best teacher you can be. Become part of a forward-thinking, collaborative network of 3,500 teachers across the country, sharing resources and expertise throughout your career with us.

United Teaching offers real teaching exposure in a choice of schools, a mentor system, a support network, professional qualifications, as well as continuous professional development



throughout the duration of your career with United Learning. Course graduates who gain a substantive role in United Learning are paid up to 5% more than in a maintained school and have access to a range of lifestyle and retail perks. The course is designed to bring out the best in your teaching skills quickly, professionally and comprehensively. It's a scheme aimed at creating the teachers of tomorrow and the education leaders of the future.



Kettering Buccleuch Academy The best in everyone^M Part of United Learning

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