



Magna Academy Poole
an Aspirations Academy



National Teaching School
designated by

National College for
Teaching & Leadership

2017-2018 **PROSPECTUS**

"The most successful students are clear about who they are and what they believe in; they are not afraid to show it and are confident they will make a difference in this world. That is called 'purpose'.

We want to graduate bright young people who have the confidence to take action, are responsible leaders and are genuine heroes to those whose lives they touch."

Dr Russell Quaglia

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Carl Friedrich Gauss, 1777 – 1855
A mathematician who contributed significantly to many fields including number theory, analysis, differential geometry, geodesy, geophysics, mechanics, electrostatics, astronomy, matrix theory and optics.

“Mathematics is the language in which the gods speak to people”

Ledge, but Learning;

Plato,
C. 427 BC – C. 347 BC



Welcome



A very warm welcome to Magna Academy Poole, a thriving learning community in which students, staff and parents work together to ensure outstanding outcomes for our young people.

Our Academy is vibrant and exciting and was graded as 'Outstanding' in all areas by OFSTED in June 2015. In 2016, Magna achieved a Progress 8 score of 0.52, placing us well within the top 5% highest performing schools nationally. We have a desire to be in the top 1%, so that we provide the very best opportunities for our students.

We have taken what we believe to be the best elements of a modern comprehensive education and combined them with traditional elements from grammar and independent schools, together with a 21st Century edge.

We are passionate about excellence in education, giving students the very best start in life with a firm belief that excellent teaching transforms lives. Our core belief is that for all students to have high aspirations they must believe in themselves, be actively engaged in their learning and see the connection between what they learn today and who they want to become tomorrow.

We teach a highly challenging academic curriculum for all students. We believe in teaching to the top and scaffolding downwards for all students, providing maximum support so that all students can excel. Competition and a drive to succeed permeate the Academy.

We are unapologetically ambitious for every child, no matter what their background, prior attainment or needs. Everything we do at Magna is driven by this, so that our students can leave Magna with the best set of qualifications possible and as well rounded young people, thereby helping to maximise their life chances and future happiness and wellbeing.

The buildings and facilities are state of the art and provide a wonderful platform for the high quality education that is delivered at the Academy.

At Magna, we provide a blend of traditional values within a very modern context. We have established the traditional values of respect and self-discipline and our students wear their uniforms with pride.

By setting the highest expectations in terms of learning, behaviour, attendance and appearance, our students develop a sense of purpose and levels of self-worth that naturally lead to aspiration, ambition and achievement. We operate a 'no excuses' and 'growth mindset' philosophy, believing that every child can achieve, no matter what their starting point.

As a result, Magna provides a happy, calm and confident environment in which students make excellent progress and achieve strong exam results.

We place learning at the heart of everything we do, supporting and challenging one another to achieve our full potential. By providing an engaging curriculum, excellent teaching and a range of exciting opportunities beyond the classroom, we promote a love of learning that benefits students throughout their lives. Our aim is for students to leave with the knowledge, skills and self-assurance they need to be successful at university or in their chosen career. We are committed to the relentless pursuit of excellence; we will embrace change and we are committed to providing the very best for every child.

I hope that this prospectus will inspire you to visit the Academy to experience for yourself its vibrant atmosphere and caring ethos, with a view to making an application to enrol your child. I really look forward to meeting you.

Richard Tutt
Principal



A Grammar School For All...

... Without Selection

We passionately believe that Magna Academy is a 'Grammar School For All', matching the leading grammar and independent schools in England for ethos and rigour.

We have taken the best of leading grammar and independent schools' ethos and emphasis on:

• **Rigour** • **Qualifications** • **Aspirations** • **Effort**

and made it available to all children without selection, within a mixed sex environment and outstanding modern facilities.



We benchmark our standards and curriculum against leading independent schools.

All of our students will sit the Independent Schools Examination Board 13+ Exams at the end of Year 8, as part of their 'flight path' to success at GCSE.

"Students make exceptional progress."

OFSTED,
June 2015



Climbing The Mountain To University

The Academy is committed to providing a high quality, challenging and relevant education for each one of our students, so every student can achieve a coveted place at university or other high powered alternative.

Our innovative and dynamic curriculum provides a wide range of very high quality academic and vocational courses.

Our experienced teachers provide students entering Key Stage 4 and the sixth form with careful guidance in their choice of traditional and vocational subjects, so that each student's personalised learning programme suits his or her interests and talents.



Through first class links with local firms, national businesses and the community, students benefit from opportunities to experience the world of work and appreciate the value of initiative, perseverance, teamwork and integrity.

This extends to our most able students who are stretched and developed.



Students are not only accelerated in the curriculum, but also can take part in the Brilliant Club, which involves working with PhD mentors and visiting universities.

"Students receive excellent advice and guidance. Academy leaders have worked especially hard to forge links with universities"

OFSTED,
June 2015



Whatever It Takes

Parents, students and senior leaders all sign a 'Whatever It Takes' agreement, confirming our shared commitment to hard work and our consistent support for one another. A copy of this agreement is available online.

For students and staff alike, we do what it takes for as long as it takes. Great things come to those who work hard and there are no shortcuts to success.

We want every single child in our care to have a future full of opportunity and life-enhancing choices.



Whatever It Takes

Homework

At Magna, we believe that homework is critical to learning. It extends a student's independence and improves self-discipline. All students receive homework each day. Years 7 and 8 are expected to complete one and a half hours of homework each evening. Years 9, 10 and 11 receive two hours of homework each evening.

Reporting

Every student at Magna will bring home six assessment reports during the academic year. We divide the year into six six-week units and run assessment tests at the end of each unit. The report your child brings home will track their progress against what we call their expected 'flight path'. Each student has their own 'path', unique to them, so that teachers and parents/carers are aware of any trends that might concern them.

The Extended Day

To achieve the best for our students, we have needed to extend learning time. Our Key Stage 4 and 5 students benefit from an extended school day, allowing for additional English and Maths tuition and other learning activities. To provide this extra time for learning, the school day has been extended to 4pm for students at Key Stages 4 and 5. As a result, Key Stage 4 students benefit from 56 hours of lessons each fortnight - compared with a national average of 50 hours over the same period.

In addition, Years 10-11-12-13 students are invited to attend targeted Saturday Academy sessions throughout the year, as well as additional

holiday sessions, where they benefit from additional tuition.

Caring For Students As Individuals

We recognise that every student in our care is an individual with different needs and hopes. We are meticulous in ensuring that our teaching is carefully matched to the learning needs of each individual child. We also have a dedicated and professional Pastoral Team, with a range of care and support systems for any child with additional needs.

*"Students
are exceptionally
keen to learn and show real
enthusiasm in lessons.
For example, during the
inspection students were heard
pleading for a lesson to
continue rather than
taking their break."*

OFSTED, June 2015



Student Life



Students who feel good about themselves are much more likely to believe they can achieve anything. So we work hard at Magna to create the right conditions in which feeling good can flourish.

We set them challenging personal targets and we provide the support they need to meet those targets and to exceed them. Each and every child has a Tutor. The Tutor is then supported by other senior members of staff and by an Assistant Principal. In this way, there is always someone on hand to meet a student's needs.

We focus on allowing individuality to flourish and on nurturing personal development. This encourages students to feel empowered, to achieve their goals, to develop as scholars and to grow as individuals.

Our Faculty system fosters a sense of community, in which each child can play their part through a range of activities from sports to charity fundraising.

*"Students
behave exceptionally
well around the
Academy"*

OFSTED, June 2015

Effort and success in all aspects of Academy life are celebrated through a range of rewards and events. We very much believe that students are powerful agents for change.

We actively listen to student voices and we offer them positions of leadership that have meaningful responsibility.

Students who:

- feel listened to
 - are leaders and who have responsibility
- build their self-worth, engage fully in learning and develop a sense of purpose that all make a positive difference for others.

To help nurture this, we have a student leadership team with a range of leadership posts, including Head/Deputy Girl and Boy for the main school and the Sixth Form.

We also appoint Faculty Captains, Sports Captains and Subject Prefects. Every tutor group also has a nominated Tutor Group Representative.

At the same time, we are



absolutely committed to a well-rounded education, and currently offer over 40 diverse clubs and enrichment activities.

There are a wealth of sporting club activities available, including:

- Athletics • Basketball • Football
- Netball • Rounders • Tennis
- Trampolining • Volleyball



Student Life

We also offer Dance, Drama and Music Clubs.



We have a thriving BioMed Club, a brand new Warhammer Club and an even newer Crafts Club, plus groups especially for homework and revision.



We are also busy making plans to add a Debating Society in the coming year.

The Magna experience includes many day visits and residential trips locally, nationally and globally. We even have a Year 13 visit to NASA Space Centres in Houston and Cape Canaveral.



*"Students
are really proud
to be members of
the Academy"*

OFSTED, June 2015



Academy Life

At Magna Academy, we believe wholeheartedly in the traditional values of hard work and kindness.

Students coming to Magna will be joining a school that is warm and caring but that also is strict in setting standards.

Highest Expectations. No Excuses

Our expectations of students and staff are exceptionally high, and we take this approach because we care very much about our

students' future and their long-term happiness.

"Students have an eagerness to learn"

OFSTED, June 2015



Meeting that goal requires hard work and dedication from all of us - teachers, students and parents together.

We have a strict policy of zero tolerance towards bullying.

A Scholarly, Happy And Warm Place

Our students are members of a school community where their teachers are all experts who love their subjects. This is a school that is peaceful and calm in lessons and in corridors.

It is a place where young people can learn from mistakes without fear of scorn. Where they can learn to work hard without negative peer pressure that tells them: 'trying hard isn't cool'.



If poor attitude or poor behaviour goes unchallenged, it is all too easy for disruption to damage learning opportunities and to create unhappiness for the student and for all their peers.

A Focus On Achievement

We focus hard on student achievement. We believe in all our students and we expect that each one of them is capable of making rapid and substantial progress.

Academy Life

We all know that young people who have a strong sense of self-worth, who are engaged and who have genuine purpose are more likely to have a fulfilled and successful life.

It is for these reasons that we do whatever it takes to make sure that students achieve their full potential.

We encourage all our staff to act as role models to the students, demonstrating in their own roles what it means to focus on success and to work hard.

Hard work brings its rewards. We love to celebrate success with our students, too. We fill our calendar wherever possible with exciting rewards, trips and events.

And this year, for the first time at Magna Academy, we have created Graduation Ceremonies for our Year 8 students at the Magna site.

"Students are polite to adults and to each other. They are very tolerant of differences"

OFSTED, June 2015



For our Years 11 and 13, many of whom are leaving us at this stage in their life journey, we held a very special ceremony at Kimmeridge House on Bournemouth University's prestigious Talbot Campus.



Our Shared Values

Role Models

Our values reflect our desire for Magna Academy Poole students to be outstanding citizens who will make the right decisions for themselves, and their families, now and into the future. We want our students to be model citizens and to act as role models for others who we live and work with.

We set high standards of behaviour and we expect students to take pride in their uniform and their Academy. We have an ethos here of mutual respect and thoughtfulness, creating an orderly and safe environment in which bullying is not tolerated.

Gratitude and Perseverance

Gratitude is a very important quality at Magna.

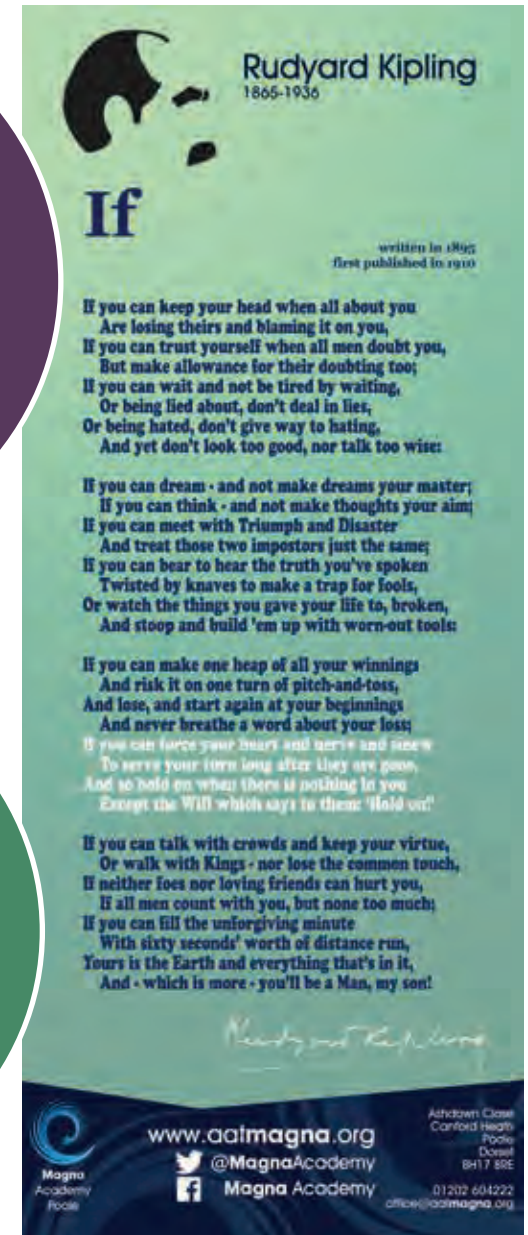
We believe that practising gratitude makes our students feel more optimistic, energetic, enthusiastic and happy. Perseverance is also critical to our students' future success.

Our Academy poem, 'If' by Rudyard Kipling, conveys this value:

*If you can force your heart and nerve and sinew,
To serve their turn long after they are gone,
And so hold on when there is nothing in you,
Except the will that says to them: 'hold on!'*

*"As a local resident
of Canford Heath for 27 years,
I would just like to say a big
thank you for the changes you
have made to the school.
You really have made the whole
place outstanding. I am not the
only one that thinks this too. I
have only heard positive remarks
surrounding this."*

*"Your
Parents Evening
was outstanding as well
as the school.
All teachers were polite
and on time and it was
very well organised.
I felt very proud my daughter
attends
your school."*



Our Shared Values

"Very impressed by your hardworking students and staff. Inspirational!"

Councillor
Sandra Moore

"Your students gave up their seat for my little girl and another helped us get off safely as I had a lot to carry and a buggy. I would just like to say how lovely it was that the children were so well mannered and are a credit to your school."



"Your students were fantastic and welcoming. You should be proud."

NHS Staff
at Careers Fair

Kindness and Integrity

Kindness to one another is a core part of Magna life.

There are many opportunities each day for students to show kindness and politeness to their peers and to staff.

Students share 'appreciations' every day in tutor time and assemblies, sharing praise and recognition for their peers and for staff who have gone above and beyond standard expectations.

Good Learning Habits

Rather than excuse bad learning habits, at Magna we insist on excellent learning habits every day - with high expectations and no excuses.

Our view is that, over time, all students can pick up excellent learning habits for themselves and will end up as a result happier, better qualified and more successful people.



Our Curriculum

Magna Academy offers a broad, balanced and highly challenging academic curriculum, built around the core disciplines of English, Maths, Science, Humanities and Languages.

We believe that students perform best when working with peers of similar ability. Therefore, our classes are streamed with frequent opportunities for students to change classes according to the progress they are making.

We teach to the top and scaffold down, providing maximum support without lowering our expectations for any student.

*“This is
an outstanding
school. Teachers have
high expectations of
their students who respond
by producing
excellent work”*

OFSTED,
June 2015



Our Curriculum

Key Stage 3

In our Academy, Key Stage 3 covers Years 7 and 8 only to ensure that students are challenged in Year 9 by starting a three year GCSE programme.

They are tested in all subjects and literacy at the start of Year 7 to set a benchmark target against which their progress is continuously monitored.

Students working at below age-related expectations in literacy in Year 7 will receive additional literacy and reading support.

Some Year 7 students will receive a tailored curriculum providing intense accelerated literacy and reading development.

Students in Years 7 and 8 are essentially expected to develop the skills and knowledge needed to support their GCSE studies in Key Stage 4.

We benchmark our standards and curriculum against leading independent schools.

All of our students will sit the Independent Schools Examination Board 13+ Exams at the end of Year 8, as part of their 'flight path' to success at GCSE.

"Students believe rightly that staff care about them as individuals and they appreciate the extra time that staff spend on ensuring they achieve the best possible results."

OFSTED, June 2015



Our Curriculum

Key Stage 4

Key Stage 4 covers Years 9, 10 and 11, in which students are set by ability.

All students study:

- **English Language** * • **English Literature** * • **Maths** *
- **Statistics** * • **Double or Triple Science** *
- 2 x GCSEs from **History** *, **Geography** *, **French** * or **Spanish** * and then a further two optional GCSE or BTEC subjects

* *GCSE subjects*

The length of the Academy day has been extended until 4pm every Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday for Years 10 and 11.

This is mandatory for all these students, providing an additional three hours of learning each week.

If students are not making expected progress in English or Maths they will receive additional 1:1 or small group tuition in the relevant subject.

A comprehensive programme of revision and support sessions are offered during each holiday in Year 11.

Every Saturday of the academic year, a voluntary Saturday morning Academy is run for the benefit of Year 11 students.



Our Curriculum



The Academy offers a rich and extensive range of A-Level and BTEC Level 3 courses, as well the Extended Project Qualification and other enrichment activities.

We also ask our Sixth Formers to ensure that they step forward and act as role models to the lower school.



Performance

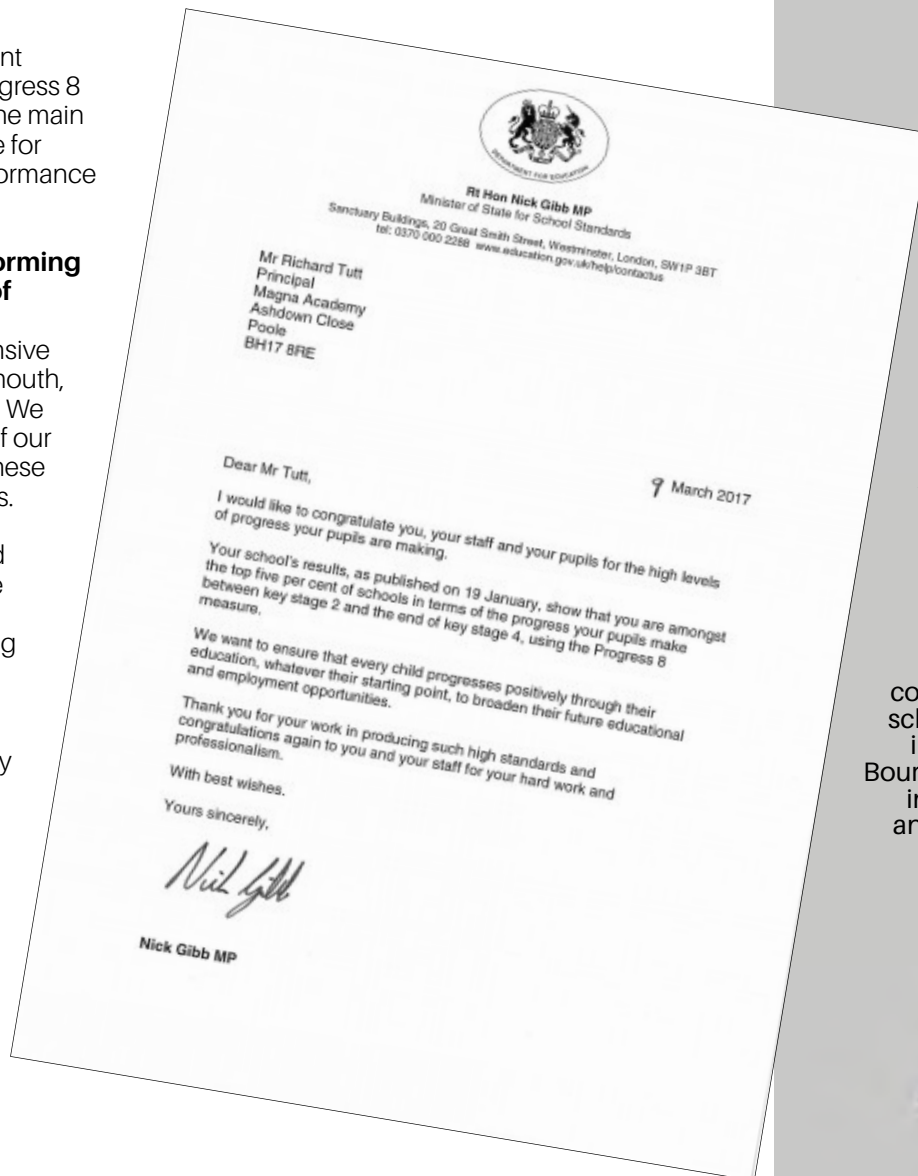
Progress 8

In 2016, the Government brought in the new Progress 8 system, which is now the main accountability measure for secondary school performance in England.

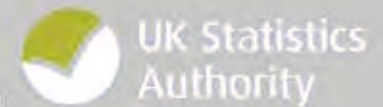
We are a **Top 5% performing school in the whole of England** and the best performing comprehensive in all of Poole, Bournemouth, Dorset and Hampshire. We are immensely proud of our students and staff for these excellent achievements.

This letter was received in March 2017 from the Schools' Minister, Nick Gibb MP, congratulating Magna on these exemplary results.

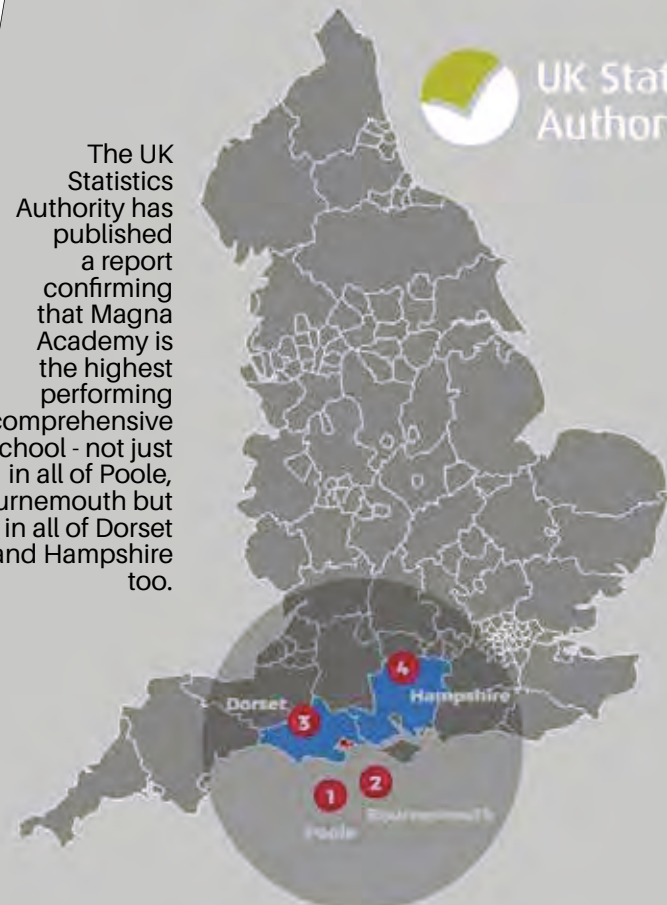
All of us at the Academy - students, staff, governors and student families, are working together towards one common goal - to help each student reach their full potential.



A TOP 5% PERFORMING SCHOOL

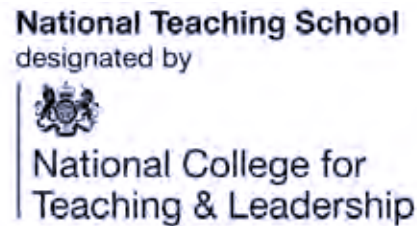


The UK Statistics Authority has published a report confirming that Magna Academy is the highest performing comprehensive school - not just in all of Poole, Bournemouth but in all of Dorset and Hampshire too.



National Teaching School

We are delighted that the expertise and professionalism of our high-performing, dedicated staff has been recognised through Magna Academy being designated as a National Teaching School in October 2016.



Introduced in 2011, teaching schools are all rated as 'outstanding' schools.

"I'd like to congratulate Magna Academy - they should be very proud of this achievement. Teaching schools are at the heart of school improvement. They're supporting other schools, attracting and training the best new teachers and developing the next generation of leaders."

Roger Pope, Chair of the
National College for Teaching
and Leadership

Magna Academy Poole is also a member of the Aspirations Teaching Schools Alliance and is proud to be the Lead Teaching School in this new group.



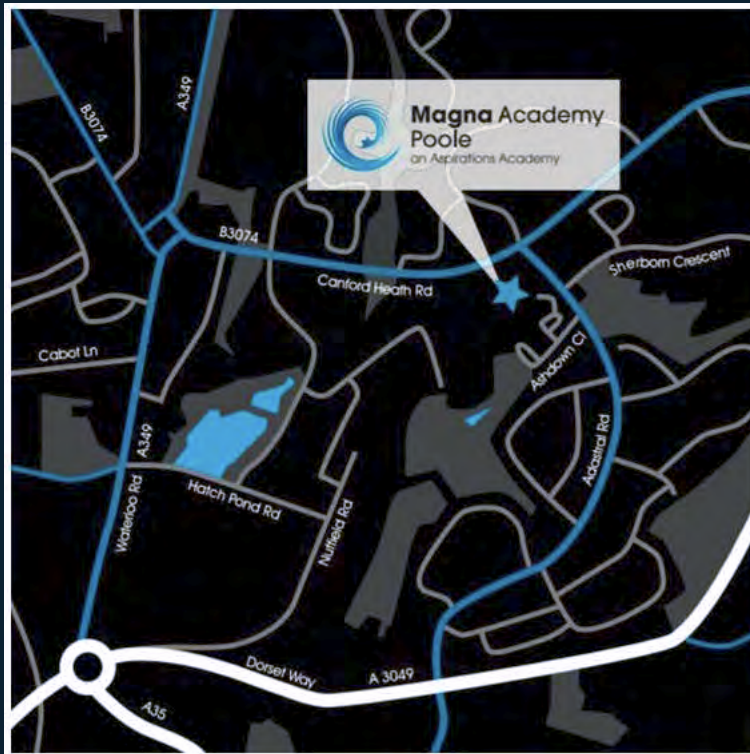
The Aspirations Teaching School Alliance is an innovative and forward thinking professional development organisation preparing teachers to deliver an authentic education for the 21st century.

We provide high-quality training and support delivered by school leaders with a

first class record of school improvement in challenging circumstances and examination success, coupled with the experience of developing new schools.



Contact Information



Magna Academy Poole

Ashdown Close, Canford Heath, Poole
Dorset BH17 8RE

01202 604222

office@aatmagna.org



@MagnaAcademy



Aspirations Academies Trust
in association with Quaglia Institute