

# OUR VISION

## A FANTASTIC FUTURE FOR ALL



OUR VISION OF  
A FANTASTIC FUTURE FOR ALL OUR  
STUDENTS IS EASY TO UNDERSTAND,  
BUT COMPLEX TO ACHIEVE, AS THE FUTURE  
EVOLVES SO RAPIDLY AROUND US.

OUR STUDENTS HAVE TO ADAPT IN ORDER  
TO BUILD THEMSELVES A SECURE  
AND RESILIENT FUTURE.

**We are excited and proud to welcome you to  
our new school for South Manchester.**

We aim to provide the best all-round education  
possible, preparing our students for happiness  
and success in their adult lives.

**MEA Central** is co-educational, offering places to  
boys and girls. We care about helping our students  
to 'be their best' and know the only way to do  
this is through academic achievement, character  
development and strong pastoral support.

OUR VISION UNDERPINS  
ALL WE DO, AND OUR STARTING  
POINT IS EXCELLENT  
ACADEMIC RESULTS.

### EMILY REYNARD HEAD OF SCHOOL

*Emily has wide-ranging experience in teaching, leadership and educational transformation in different areas of the country. Her previous role was Vice Principal of a successful brand new academy in West London.*

*Emily believes in excellence and equity in education and is passionate about ensuring that every child has the opportunity to be successful and lead a happy life.*

*"At MEA Central, our focus on high academic achievement, quality character education and strong pastoral support will ensure a fantastic future for all our students. We aim to make our school not just the heart, but the future of the community."*



WITH AN INNOVATIVE CURRICULUM, EXCELLENT TEACHING AND LEARNING AND HIGH EXPECTATIONS IN TERMS OF COMMITMENT AND HARD WORK, WE STRIVE TO MAKE SURE OUR STUDENTS CAN COMPETE WITH THEIR PEERS NATIONALLY AND INTERNATIONALLY - THIS IS THE 'MEA WAY' AND WE REINFORCE THIS TO OUR STUDENTS AT ALL TIMES.

Our state-of-the-art building has been designed to facilitate excellent teaching and learning, and also provide fantastic facilities in the arts, sport and digital learning.



Our flagship school in Wythenshawe, MEA, was awarded "Secondary School of the Year" in 2015-16 and has had £12 million invested into the site to ensure we can continue to deliver a fantastic education to our students.

The Academy's transformation from near-closure to being recognised by the Prime Minister for our improvement is rooted in our commitment to our students, and connecting them to exciting pathways once they take the next step after MEA.



## JAMES ELDON CEO OF THE ALTIUS TRUST & MEA PRINCIPAL

*Our experienced CEO has spent many years in school improvement, previously working at Chorlton High School in Manchester. James was appointed at MEA in Wythenshawe in 2011, and since then attendance has gone up 11%, achievement has transformed and the Academy has moved from financially troubled to hugely over-subscribed.*

*James has been recognised as one of the 'Education Reformers of the Year' and is currently Chair of the Manchester High School Headteachers Group. He is committed to working in Manchester and providing all our students with a fantastic future.*



# Altius Trust

## HELPING TO DEVELOP OUR YOUNG PEOPLE

MEA Central has been opened by the Altius Trust, a group with a proven track record of outstanding achievement at Manchester Enterprise Academy (MEA) in Wythenshawe. Our Trust Partners include some of the most successful and innovative companies in the UK, all of whom have a strong commitment to Manchester.

Their involvement in the Trust underlines their commitment to developing the young people of the city, and also their recognition that to recruit excellent leaders from local families they have to be committed to their development prior to them being employees.

**Who better to inform education leaders about the changing face of employment than some of the biggest employers in the UK?**



The country's largest UK-owned airport operator, Manchester Airport Group were the previous lead sponsor of MEA and remain a key partner in the Altius Trust.



The largest housing group in South Manchester and one of our most progressive partners. They bring to the Trust a strong commitment to serving local communities and social justice.



Lloyds have implemented an award-winning mentoring programme at MEA and have brought their world-class expertise to our students' digital education, financial awareness and business readiness.



Accenture, the global management consultancy, bring project management and digital skills to the Trust and our students. Currently they are working on networking skills for lower school students and training our teachers in coaching.



As a multi-academy Trust, The Altius Trust works in close partnership with the Council and is committed to supporting the 'Our Manchester' 10 year plan for the City.

# CURRICULUM AND ACHIEVEMENT

THE ALTIUS TRUST BELIEVES  
THAT IN ORDER TO DELIVER OUR VISION OF  
A FANTASTIC FUTURE FOR ALL OUR STUDENTS IT IS IMPORTANT  
THAT THEY ACHIEVE THE BEST ACADEMIC RESULTS POSSIBLE.



In Years 7 and 8 our knowledge curriculum is structured around 'Know Its', Mini Tests and Big Tests.

## KNOW IT

Learn information, a technique or some key facts.

## SHOW IT

Demonstrate this knowledge by applying it so that the teacher can see learning is secure.

## BIG TESTS

Be able to demonstrate a mastery of knowledge and application of it in a test environment.

## BEYOND THE CLASSROOM

As well as having a range of sports teams and experiences, we expect our students to take part in at least two enrichment activities per week. We offer break and after school clubs linked to our curriculum area and there is something for everyone on each day.

We also open from 7:30am for Breakfast Club, offering a longer school day and flexibility for all families.

DISRUPT ART

CENTRAL FM

STEM

HISTORY OF FILM

BADMINTON CLUB

MAN UTD FOOTBALL COACHING

AND MANY MORE!



# HIGH STANDARDS

We expect our students to perform competitively against their peers nationally and ensure that our processes both challenge high ability students, but also support students who find learning more difficult.

Our curriculum is organised into different ability pathways and, although largely traditional, we constantly evaluate it to ensure it is preparing students for a Fantastic Future. For example:

- Our language portfolio includes Mandarin, offered in partnership with Manchester Grammar School.
- An award-winning mentoring programme is offered from Year 7 upwards.
- Option subjects to be chosen in Year 8 in preparation for transition to upper school and a tougher exam regime.



## FANTASTIC FUTURES

To complement academic achievement we provide an amazing 'Fantastic Futures Curriculum' to all our students. Please see a full overview of this on our separate information sheet.

## SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS AND DISABLED (SEND) STUDENTS

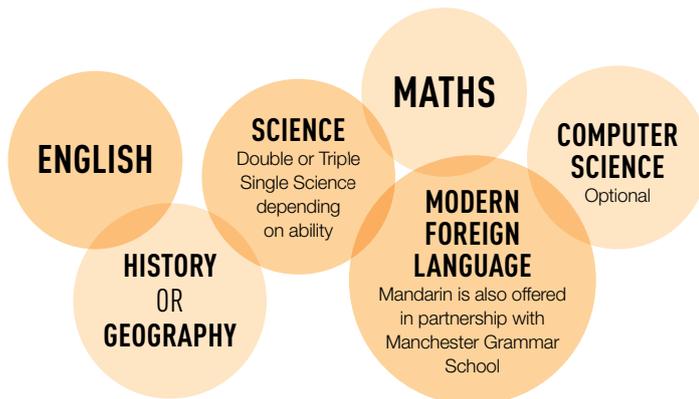
Our driving principle for our SEND students is **quality first teaching**: excellent classroom teaching supporting learning so that progress is secure.

Our **Passport Pathway** offers vulnerable learners with a range of needs a safe and supported curriculum in which to develop confidence and make strong academic progress. Other students may receive in-class support or smaller class sizes depending on the nature of the student's need.

Our buildings are accessible for students who are physically impaired. We also have a centre dedicated to offering students support with emotional and mental health needs – as a light touch triage base or as a longer term mentoring process.

## THE UPPER SCHOOL

Most of our students will follow the English Baccalaureate (EBacc) suite of qualifications. This means they will study:



Alongside the EBacc we will offer a wide range of GCSE subjects, and students are able to follow their strengths, passions and ambition to select subjects which they will revel in and excel at.

Our mentoring and pastoral curriculum is driven to support students being able to fulfil their ambitions for the next phase of their studies, whether A Levels or a vocational pathway.



## FANTASTIC TEACHERS

We work incredibly hard to attract the best teachers and our teacher training provision is graded **outstanding** by Manchester University. We believe that our teachers' expertise needs to inspire our students by allowing them to shape and craft exciting learning experiences.

Our teaching model emphasises excellent classroom dynamics between staff and students: we enjoy teaching them! They make us laugh, they ask questions which challenge us and we want them to take learning risks so they understand how a concept actually works. Exams are a serious business, learning is an emotional journey – students who enjoy learning perform far better than those who are uninspired.

## HIGHER ABILITY STUDENTS

Our higher ability students are challenged not only by the curriculum and our lively, engaging teaching, but also by the business mentoring programme that is run by the Trust.

This will ensure that their CVs will be overflowing with demonstrations of leadership, project management and team performance when they finally leave us.

We want our students to develop the resilience to cope with the challenges of further and higher education, and the rapid pace of change within the global economy.



# FANTASTIC FUTURES CURRICULUM

WHILE WE PLACE HIGH VALUE ON ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT, WE KNOW THAT THIS ALONE WILL NOT GUARANTEE A FANTASTIC FUTURE FOR ALL OUR STUDENTS.

At MEA Central we provide our students with an exciting programme of study that develops their character. We call this our **Fantastic Futures Curriculum**. We believe that the virtues that make up a good character can be taught and learnt.

Our Fantastic Futures Curriculum is designed to:

Contribute to students living healthier and safer lives

Help students to reflect on their own identity and make informed choices about their role, reflecting British values in a diverse society

Challenge and stimulate

Develop entrepreneurial skills

Develop curiosity, resilience, responsibility and respect

Provide opportunities for students to connect with positive role models from the world of work and engage with local businesses to prepare for the future in a digital world

Fully prepare students for progression into employment or the next stage of their education

Develop financial capability

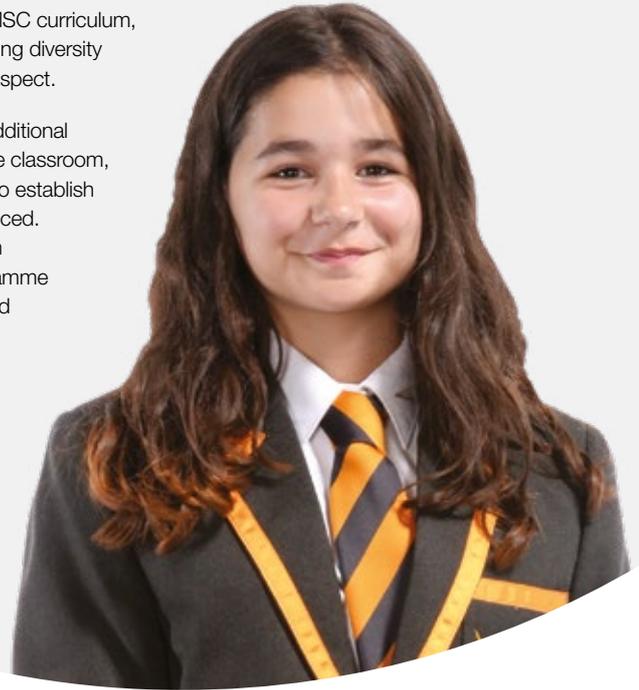
# SMSC Curriculum

(SOCIAL, MORAL, SPIRITUAL, CULTURAL)

“ THE STUDENTS ARE EXTREMELY APPRECIATIVE OF THESE OPPORTUNITIES, MANY OF WHICH PREPARE THEM WELL FOR THEIR FUTURE LIFE IN MODERN BRITAIN. ”  
(MEA OFSTED REPORT, 2015)

We are committed to offering a rich SMSC curriculum, embedded across the school, celebrating diversity and promoting tolerance and mutual respect.

In order to provide our students with additional educational opportunities outside of the classroom, we carry out surveys with all students to establish which opportunities they have experienced. The outcomes from these surveys form our Pastoral Pledges, a planned programme offering a broad range of visits, trips and experiences, exposing our students to the rich opportunities surrounding them in the culturally diverse city of Manchester and beyond.



## FUTURE LEADERS

We work hard to develop our students as leaders across the school, to promote tolerance and mutual respect as well as confidence and self-esteem.

DIVERSITY  
AMBASSADORS

LITERACY  
LEADERS

READING  
BUDDIES

STUDENT  
COUNCIL  
MEMBERS

SPORTS  
AMBASSADORS

TRANSITION  
AMBASSADORS

We give students opportunities to shape their experiences at the school and beyond it, instilling in them a sense of pride and achievement in all we do.

Student commitment to our ethos is celebrated within a range of rewards across the curriculum and pastorally, resulting in a pride and desire to be an outstanding MEA Central citizen.



## TRANSITION AND PASTORAL CARE

We never underestimate that for some students, the step up to high school can be an anxious time. We work closely with our partner primaries to ensure we have a clear understanding of individual student needs and are prepared to support them from the day they arrive.

We have clear Behaviour for Learning and Anti-Bullying policies, which underpin our ethos of valuing and supporting every learner. Students can trust staff to take rapid and appropriate action to address any needs or concerns they might have.

We are investing heavily in providing strong pastoral care and guidance for all students. With only 420 students in our second year, we will know every child. Our students have the best in pastoral support to monitor their progress, deliver the SMSC curriculum and ensure every child gets the individual attention they need.