



Knutsford Academy offers a unique approach to education for 11-18 year olds with our three schools. Students join us at The School based on our Westfield Drive campus. For GCSEs and A Levels we then provide a unique choice for our students with the option of choosing either Studio@Knutsford or The College.



To support a smooth transition from Primary School, students are based at the Westfield Drive campus for the first two years. From the start they are encouraged to strive for academic success and broad personal development.



The Studio school opened in 2014, and combines a focus on academic and employability skills with a range of contemporary GCSE, A Level and BTEC options, all delivered in an inspiring new environment.



Knutsford College provides a traditional academic curriculum for both GCSE and A Level students. We also focus on preparing our students for success in life beyond school with a particular emphasis on Higher Education.

## Our Values

Academic Excellence

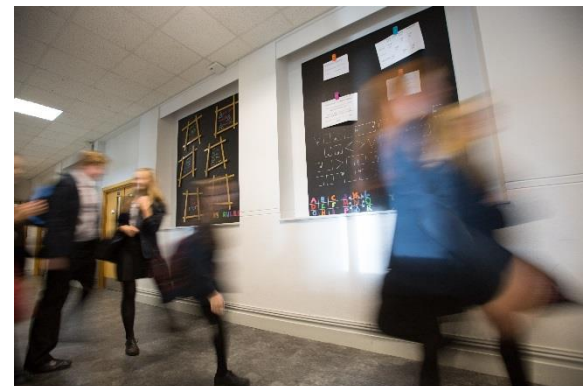
**We provide a supportive and challenging environment to ensure our students achieve academic excellence at Knutsford Academy**

Strong Community

**We draw on the strength of our community within Knutsford Academy and work with our local community around Knutsford**

World Class Opportunities

**We aim to prepare our students for life beyond school by providing world class opportunities**



## The Historic Town of Knutsford

Knutsford Academy is based in the centre of Knutsford an historic and delightful old Cheshire town on the former Liverpool-London Toll Road (A50). Only two miles from junction 19 of the M6 motorway and four miles from junction 7 of the M56 motorway. There are local bus services, a frequent rail service connecting Knutsford with Manchester or Chester, and Manchester airport is just a 15 minute drive.

Knutsford was already a prosperous market town in the 17th century. Today the town remains a thriving shopping centre with a range of specialist shops and with ginnels, cobbles and courtyards to explore from "Top Street" to "Bottom Street" - attracting many visitors from home and abroad.

The town holds an important place in the history and heritage of Cheshire. Many buildings of architectural interest are found in the town centre, a number of which have been listed as worthy of preservation. The whole town has been judged an outstanding area for conservation.

Many famous people have contributed to Knutsford's history from Prince Rupert, whose army lodged in the town in 1651, to Elizabeth Gaskell, who lived in what is now Gaskell Avenue and whose book "Cranford" is based on the town. The town's May Day celebrations have been able to bear the title Royal since 1887 as a result of the visit of the then Prince and Princess of Wales.

Knutsford's Civic Centre provides a full range of entertainment including a cinema, a season of operatic shows, stage plays and orchestral concerts. Nearby Tatton Park, which is the National Trust's most visited property, has been described as England's most complete country estate. The Park has two "stately" homes, the Mansion and the Old Hall, two working farms - including Home Farm with its original breeds of animals - and an adventure playground. Other attractions include sailing, windsurfing, canoeing, riding and orienteering.

The Academy works extensively with the local community, including frequent art exhibitions at the Knutsford Heritage Centre and partnering with local businesses, community and sports groups.

## Knutsford Academy

Knutsford Academy opened as a High School on its current Bexton Road site in 1953. In 2012 the High School converted to Academy status and is the sole provider of secondary education in Knutsford. In total there are approximately 1250 students, of whom 250 are in the Sixth Form. We operate across two sites with the College and Studio situated on Bexton Road and the School mainly housed at Westfield Drive, the sites are directly linked and are a 5 minute walk apart.

The Academy partners with the four primary schools in Knutsford and its outlying villages as well as attracting large numbers of students from outside the catchment area. The catchment could be described as truly comprehensive in socio/economic terms. Commuter housing development has been added to a market town which has pockets of considerable affluence. In addition the town has a housing estate arising from Manchester's overspill, ensuring a very wide social spectrum.

The Academy offers an extensive range of facilities and has seen extensive refurbishment over the last 12 months, including:

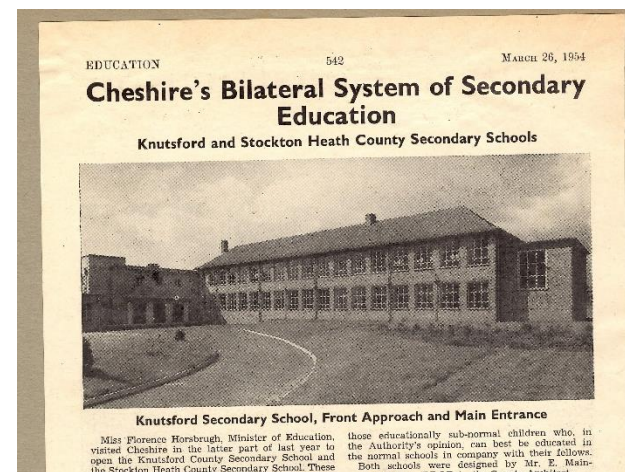
- Drama and dance studio, a new music suite

- Purpose built Art, Design, Technology and Food Areas with exhibition/gallery space

- Dedicated Sixth Form Centre with extensive IT and private study areas

- Sports facilities including floodlit all weather pitch, swimming pool, sports hall, new outdoor athletics sprint track, substantial playing fields with football/rugby pitches and netball/tennis courts

- A new purpose built Studio school with TV Studio and access to the Academy radio station





## Curriculum

A progressive curriculum provides opportunities for students of all abilities and aptitudes. Success in public examinations is of a high order, with the majority of Sixth Formers leaving to take places on degree courses, including entrance to Oxford and Cambridge. In 2014 less than 1% of students were NEET at 16+ compared with 18% nationally. At the same time we take pride in our Special Needs provision which both supports and extends the individual student.

Students in Years 7 to 9 follow a broad range of courses based on the National Curriculum. In Year 7 academic subjects are taught in setted groups, others in mixed ability forms. This pattern continues in Years 8 and 9.

Students in Years 10 and 11 follow a common core of English, Maths, Science and Physical Education. PSHCE is structured in a way that allows themes to be developed and extended at an individual or year group level.

The Sixth Form offers our unique choice where can choose to study in The College Sixth Form, which offers a traditional academic approach, or a more contemporary approach in the Studio School – Studio@Knutsford, which together with an academic focus prepares students for the working world. The range of courses and options is extensive with over 30 A/AS Levels, together with BTEC options. In the summer of 2017 we were delighted to achieve a 100% pass rate at A Level and BTEC for the third year in a row, including 30% at A/A\* and 65% at B or above, these results placing the Sixth Form in the top 10% across the country.

In November 2017 the Academy was also delighted to feature in The Sunday Times school league tables as one of top performing non selective secondary state schools in the country based on both A Level and GCSE results.

## Ofsted

The Academy was inspected by Ofsted in March 2016 and received a good rating whilst recognising the strong ambition to be outstanding. The report notes the significant progress the Academy is making, that students feel safe, behaviour is good or better than average and teachers promote a positive attitude in students.

## The Scholars Programme

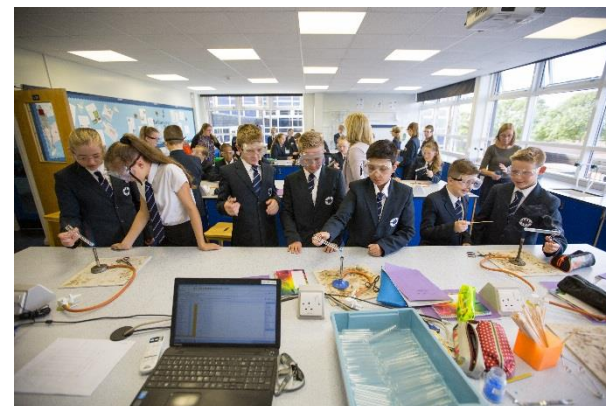
Implemented in 2015, The Scholars Programme recognises unique and exceptional talent be it sporting, academic or the performing arts. The Scholars are selected and invited to join a programme that will offer additional world class opportunities, from becoming a surgeon for the day, workshops with leading academics or sporting opportunities with international level coaches.

## Pastoral

Respect for individual needs lies at the heart of the pastoral system. The Head of Student Services, Heads of Year and the team of form tutors take students through their time in KMAT and offer personal guidance and support at every stage. Parents often tell us how much they value Knutsford's caring environment and the dedication of the pastoral staff. All staff are involved in Year Teams.

## Community and Business Partners

The Academy works closely with a huge range of local community groups and businesses on a variety of projects. Not only do these provide invaluable knowledge and experience for the students but also benefit local businesses and groups. This includes frequent local art exhibitions, gardening projects, filming assignments and voluntary work.



## Extra Curricular Activities

The Academy provides an extensive range of extra curricular activities including sports clubs, societies, performing arts, outdoor pursuits and foreign trips.

## Sport at Knutsford Academy

There is a strong tradition of sporting achievement with many students achieving honours for District, County and North West in a variety of sports. The Academy fields teams in football, rugby, tennis, netball, rounders, cross country and gymnastics. Our gymnasts are current UK School National Champions. Elite athletes at the Academy are trained by the Modahl Sports Foundation using our recently installed sprint track. In September 2016 we also launched our Football Academy for 16-18 years olds where you can combine a passion for football with your academic studies. In their first season the squad have reached the final of the County Cup and have had substantial success in the league they play in.

## Performing Arts at Knutsford Academy

The Performing Arts Department offers a variety of extra curricular activities which provide stimulating and rewarding experiences for many students with choirs, orchestras and dance groups. The Academy takes real pride in the quality of its productions which often receive national acclaim and involve a large number of staff and students. The productions always prove popular with the local community and feeder primary schools.

## Overseas trips

Overseas links exist with schools in Germany, China and South Africa. Other curricular-linked visits have included trips to France, Cuba, the USA and Borneo. Students have visited India and Morocco on World Challenge Expeditions, following an earlier successful expedition to Bolivia. In the summer of 2018 a group of students are embarking on a trip to the Galapagos Islands to provide voluntary work in local communities.

## Duke of Edinburgh

Over 150 students are involved in the Duke of Edinburgh Award across the Bronze, Silver and Gold levels.

## Societies

Many students take part in societies to enhance their knowledge and expertise, this includes Gardening Club, Debating Society, Book Club, Story Writing and Crumbs, to name but a few.





## APPLICATION PROCEDURES

Application details are all available on the Knutsford Multi-Academy Trust's website at [www.knutsfordacademy.org.uk](http://www.knutsfordacademy.org.uk)

Anyone interested in any vacancy should apply, forwarding:

- A standard KMAT application form
- A Curriculum Vitae (maximum two sides of A4)
- A letter of application (two sides of A4 at point 12 maximum) which should explore how the candidate's career and experience to date have been useful preparation for this position, outlining a vision for the role as detailed

If you submit forms electronically, you will be asked to provide original signatures where applicable if you are selected for interview.

## Safeguarding Children

KMAT is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. All appointments are subject to an enhanced disclosure from the Disclosure & Barring Service (DBS) and to receipt of satisfactory references.

## Disability Discrimination Action

In accordance with KMAT's equal opportunities policy please inform us of any special needs (e.g. hearing or visual impairment, wheelchair access etc) so that suitable arrangements can be made if you are invited to attend an interview.

## Asylum and Immigration Action

If successful with your application you will be asked to confirm, in advance of taking up the appointment, that you are eligible to work in the United Kingdom. In order to establish this, you will be asked to provide us with documentation showing your National Insurance Number or provide copies of Tax Forms P45 or P60, or if this is not possible, other evidence of your entitlement to work.

## Acknowledgements

Due to the high volumes of applications we are unable to notify unsuccessful candidates. We would normally expect to hold interviews within three weeks of the closing date.

## References

In line with the requirements of the Equality Act 2010, Knutsford Multi-Academy Trust does not request attendance or medical information on candidates for posts prior to appointment. The MAT will, however, seek a post appointment reference for successful candidates, which will include questions relating to attendance records. Appointments will be made subject to this reference and the MAT may, in some circumstances, withdraw the offer of appointment on the basis of information received, again having full regard to the requirements of the Equality Act.

## Interview Expenses

It is KMAT policy not to pay travelling expenses unless previously agreed with the Principal. In the case of students, some assistance will be given with travelling expenses.

## No Smoking

All candidates are reminded that KMAT is a **No Smoking** organisation.

