



### GENERAL BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Walton High opened in 1999 with 120 Year 8 students. Since then the school has grown significantly and now has over 2,000 students on roll, including 300+ Post 16. The school has an excellent reputation and is consistently oversubscribed.

In November 2016, Walton High expanded onto a second campus that is two and half miles away from the Walnut Tree Campus at Brooklands. The Brooklands campus opened with 270 students across Years 7 – 9 and now has 636 students in Years 7 – 11 growing to 1,500 students, including 300 Post-16, by 2022.

When both campuses are at capacity, Walton High will be one of the largest secondary school in the country ensuring excellent opportunities for career progression.

A single system of governance, organisation, leadership and management operates across both campuses.

In 2011 the Governors of Walton High founded Milton Keynes Education Trust with the following aims:

#### Milton Keynes Education Trust Statement of Aims

The educational aims and objectives of Milton Keynes Education Trust (MKET) are based on our commitment to securing social justice through high quality education that promotes inclusion and embraces diversity.

The Trust aims to **enhance** and **enrich** the lives of children and young people by **enabling** them to make the most of outstanding learning opportunities within and beyond the curriculum; instilling an appreciation that there are **no limits** to what they can achieve and developing the attributes needed to successfully shape and respond to the future.

A clear secular moral framework will promote honesty, integrity, tolerance and respect as well as an appreciation of individual and collective responsibility.

In this way we will bring out **the very best** in our children and young people.

We will realise our aims and secure sustainable school improvement through high quality transformational leadership, professional development and collaborative partnerships.

The schools that are currently part of Milton Keynes Education Trust are:

- New Chapter Primary School, Coffee Hall, Milton Keynes
- Heronsgate School, Walnut Tree, Milton Keynes
- Kents Hill Infant School, Milton Keynes



The creation of the multi-academy trust has enabled more cross phase working and the schools within the partnership have pooled resources to provide additional educational services to support children's learning, e.g. Educational Psychologist, Education Welfare Officer and Speech and Language Therapist.

#### ***WALTON HIGH'S APPROACH TO LEARNING AND TEACHING***

Walton High is committed to making personalised learning a reality. Our flexible and varied curriculum is an essential foundation for this, providing as it does personal learning pathways which are challenging, relevant and significant.

Personalised learning and teaching is a commitment to ensuring **all learners** reach or exceed expectation, fulfil early promise and develop latent potential. At the heart of personalisation is the expectation of participation, fulfilment and success. Personalised learning sets ambitious objectives, challenging personal targets, rapid intervention to keep students on trajectory and vigorous assessment to check and maintain progress.

Core components of personalised learning are:

**Assessment for Learning** - the process of seeking and interpreting evidence for use by learners and their teachers to decide where they are in their learning, where they need to go and how best to get there;

**Developing students' capacity to learn** - by building the confidence and capacity of the learner and developing personal skills and strategies to enable self-management and self-direction;

**Teaching and Learning strategies that actively engage and challenge learners** - Walton High's approach to lesson planning ensures all the key elements of outstanding learning are considered.



## ***TEACHER OF PSYCHOLOGY***

---

### **OUR VISION FOR OUTSTANDING LEARNING**

We aim to develop students who:

- are stimulated and challenged by the Psychology they learn, and enjoy their learning;
- feel ownership and pride in the work they carry out;
- see the progression they are making – lesson-by-lesson and year-by-year;
- recognise the value of Psychology both for themselves as individuals, and for society as a whole;
- are confident, independent learners who can use a range of learning talents.

As teachers, we aim to:

- plan interesting, engaging lessons that allow all to make progress;
- inspire students;
- set challenging targets for students and support them in reaching those goals;
- use AfL strategies to identify what progress has been made and by whom;
- give students feedback on their work that allows further progress to be made;
- develop students' enquiring mind.

### **THE PSYCHOLOGY DEPARTMENT**

There are four teaching members of staff in the department. The Psychology team is focusing on the use of literacy within our curriculum and exam skills as part of our drive for improvements in all key stages. Our aim is for all students to make exceptional progress.

### **THE PSYCHOLOGY CURRICULUM**

#### **Key Stage 4**

In 2010 Walton High introduced GCSE Psychology (Edexcel) as part of the revised KS4 curriculum to build on the success of the subject at Post-16. This has proved to be a very popular subject, with more than 70 students currently studying the subject at GCSE level in each year group. Students enjoy a range of resources and learning experiences to support them in taking ownership of their own education.

#### **Post-16**

Psychology is an established and very popular subject at A level. Students currently study the Edexcel syllabus Paper 1 – Foundations in Psychology; Paper 2 - Applications in Psychology and Paper 3 - Psychological Skills.

### **ADVANCED LEARNING DAYS AND SESSION 9**

The psychology team makes a healthy contribution to Walton High's enriched curriculum. *Advanced Learning Days* have previously involved, an A Level conference held by an Edexcel examiner as well as taking a trip to the The National Justice Museum and Northampton University. After school support sessions for both Key Stage 4 and Key Stage 5 run weekly and are very well attended.



#### **FACILITIES TO SUPPORT OUTSTANDING LEARNING**

- There are two psychology rooms which provide spacious working areas with interactive displays that both students and teachers can use as learning aids. The Social Science office, as well as cabinets within the designated classrooms, has shared resources and teaching aids for the use of the Curriculum Area.
- There is easy access to the well-resourced ICT rooms, with scientific software and data-logging equipment.
- Each member of staff is loaned the use of a networked netbook/laptop for use at work and at home.

If you have a passion for teaching, a great interest in Psychology, and are attracted by the prospect of working in a stimulating environment where there are high expectations for all, we would very much like to hear from you. Please feel free to contact me if you have any further questions.

**Philippa Graham**

Subject Leader for Psychology