



The Durham Federation is a partnership between:
Durham Community Business College
&
Fyndoune Community College



THE DURHAM FEDERATION

Durham Community Business College & Fyndoune Community College

PROSPECTUS



Welcome to The Durham Federation, where learning is exciting and challenging

I am proud to welcome you to our two schools, Durham Community Business College and Fyndoune Community College, where we have the highest expectations for all of our students, and are committed to ensuring their success.

I believe that this success comes from working in partnership with parents and carers and I look forward to getting to know you and your child over the weeks and months to come.

As a Federation we have many strengths:

- ▶ As both of our schools are small we know and value each student as an individual. We know their strengths and weaknesses and so are best placed to support their growth and development.
- ▶ We offer exceptional levels of care and support, providing a safe environment where young minds can flourish.
- ▶ We offer our older students the opportunity to study subjects in both schools, meaning they have an exceptional choice of courses and study programmes.

The result is that students thrive and progress, enjoying a rich blend of academic and vocational courses along with fantastic enrichment and extra-curricular opportunities.

We are very proud of our students and our schools.

Trevor Dunn



Our Vision

We work hard to achieve academic and vocational excellence. We help students to unlock the doors to achieving their true potential.

Our students are safe, valued and respected and free to enjoy all of the experiences that school can provide for them.

Promoting the highest standards of teaching to provide all students with fantastic opportunities to progress.

We achieve this by:

- ▶ Creating a caring environment where every student is known as an individual and their needs are addressed personally.
- ▶ Offering a broad curriculum which engages and motivates.
- ▶ Constantly encouraging our teachers to reach for even higher standards.



Parents & Carers

We believe all of this can best be achieved when college and home work as a partnership. We value and encourage feedback and comment from parents and carers and will meet with you regularly to talk about your child's progress.

We have a Parent Group which meets regularly to discuss all aspects of school life which you are welcome to join. We value your input and your opinions so please feel free to get involved in the life of the school.

“We are very proud of every individual's achievement.”

High Expectations

To help all of our students succeed we set the bar high. We expect all students to wear the correct uniform, complete homework on time, ask for help when they need it and try hard in all that they do. Good attendance and punctuality are very important and are given a high priority at The Durham Federation.

We believe these high expectations are an essential part of school life, and help to prepare our students for their future at college, university and in employment.



Student Leadership

We have a thriving Student Council that all students are able to join. We want our students to drive forward developments in our colleges and the Student Council really does have the authority to make a difference.

Each year the students elect a Head Boy and Head Girl, who work with the senior leaders in the Federation and represent the student body at meetings, presentations and high profile events.

All of these leadership opportunities are designed to build self-confidence and self-reliance in our young people.



Joining Year 7

If your child has attended one of the local primary schools you will have had some experience of our Primary Transition Programme. We work very closely with the local primary schools to ensure a seamless transition into secondary school.

The rationale for such an extensive programme is as follows:

- ▶ We are keen to share our specialist resources and equipment with our primary partners, particularly in areas like science and technology, helping to enhance the learning experience of the children.
- ▶ We want to ensure that when students join us in September they are confident, happy and eager to get on with their learning.
- ▶ We get to know our new student's academic achievements and can rapidly build on them.
- ▶ Every student is allocated a Tutor when they take up a place with us. The Tutor is an important person because they will help ensure new students settle quickly and thrive at their new school. The Tutor is also usually the first point of contact for parents and carers.



We Recognise *Talent – Academic & Vocational*

At the Durham Federation we believe that to be successful, the learning experience has to be tailored to meet the needs of the individual. We do this by providing the highest quality academic programmes, as well as offering access to fantastic vocational facilities.

We have our own:

- ▶ Construction Centre
- ▶ Hair And Beauty Salon
- ▶ Fully Equipped Farm
- ▶ Business Suite
- ▶ Extensive Sports Facilities
- ▶ CAD/CAM Workshop.

Such resources allow our students to enjoy truly unique experiences in our colleges.

In sport we participate in an extensive range of fixtures and championships and have many students who compete at local and county level.

Students take part in a wide variety of enrichment activities including foreign travel, and community projects. We believe this helps them to build their self-confidence and broadens their horizons. Our aim is to develop every child into a well-rounded young adult.





World Class Learning

Our Curriculum

A good curriculum is the driver of successful learning and it should excite and ignite young people's curiosity, inspiring them to become independent learners. Our curriculum is designed to do just that. We are always adding new challenges and opportunities to keep learning fresh and invigorated.

Teaching & Learning

Our staff are constantly updating their skills to make sure we offer engaging, stimulating and exciting learning. We invest heavily in teacher training and aim for excellence at all times.

Safe & Happy

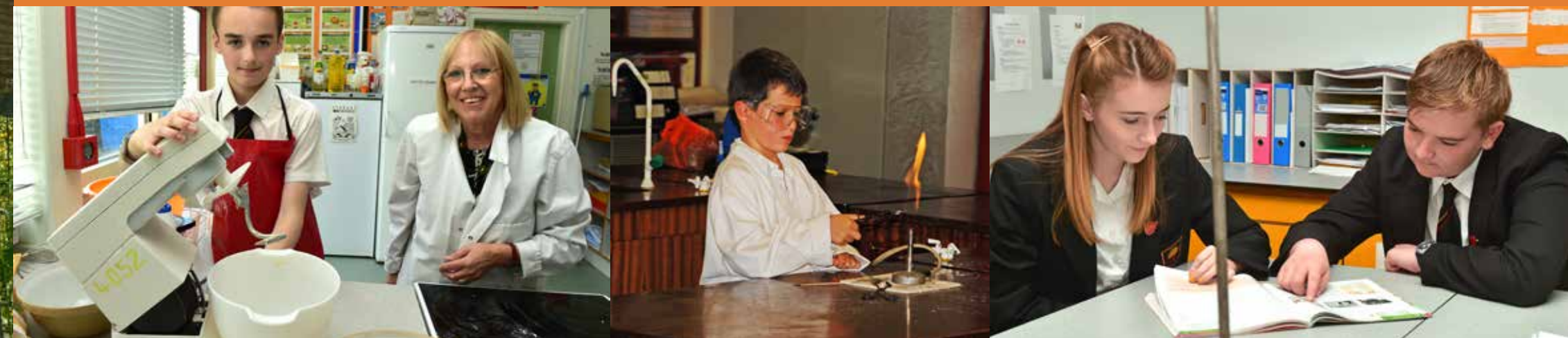
We have exceptionally high expectations of our students in both behaviour and achievement. We believe that everyone has the right to learn in an environment which is calm and purposeful. We know our students very well because we are small and we will work in partnership with you their parents and carers to support each young person within our care.

Key Stage 3

This includes English, Maths and Science, ICT, Technology, History, Geography, Art, Music, Physical Education, Religious Education, MFL, and Citizenship. The learning prepares students for the most appropriate pathway for them into Key Stage 4. There are lots of additional and enriching opportunities.

Key Stage 4

In years 10 and 11 students study English, Maths and Science, RE and PE. In addition they will take a number of other subjects according to their special interests and aptitudes at Durham Community Business College or Fyndoune Community College.





Contact Information

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