



EASINGTON
academy

2023 Prospectus



Welcome to **EASINGTON ACADEMY**

There has never been a more exciting time to be a student at our school. Our high expectations filter into every aspect of school life, which is evident in not only the high quality teaching our students receive, but also in the inspirational, warm and caring environment in which they learn.

Our students consistently achieve good GCSE results year-on-year and we are on a steady path of positive progress. In 2019 we were rated as 'Good' by Ofsted and we are now on a journey of excellence where we aim to compete with the very best schools in the region.

I am extremely proud to lead a talented and dedicated team who know no bounds when it comes to the successes of our students. Our staff are committed to getting to know each child as an individual to ensure they are supported and challenged to bring out the very best of their abilities.

There is so much more to Easington Academy than what happens in the classroom. We offer many exciting extra-curricular activities, where there's something for everyone regardless of ability. Our aim is to ensure that when our students leave us, they do so with happy memories and as confident individuals ready to make their mark on the world.

Choosing a school for your child is an important decision and I am delighted that you are considering Easington Academy. I warmly invite you to take a look through these pages which are designed to give you an insight into who we are and what we have to offer.



Nicola Falconer
Head of School



ABOUT *our school*

Set in the heart of Easington Village, on the Durham coast, Easington Academy's aim remains constant, to provide the best education possible for the children of our communities.

We have a simple vision that we share with all schools in the North East Learning Trust - that every child experiences excellence every day.

Rated 'good' by Ofsted in 2019, our school is judged to be providing well for students and is exceeding expectations in many areas. Inspectors commented that: "Leaders and teachers provide pupils with an effective

curriculum." and "Pupils are well prepared for their next steps."

Our aspirations are high and our performance remains consistently good. In particular, students make better than average progress during their time here.

You can access our full performance tables and Ofsted reports on our website.

"Leaders and teachers provide pupils with an
EFFECTIVE CURRICULUM...
Pupils are **WELL PREPARED**
FOR THEIR NEXT STEPS."

Ofsted



Teaching & LEARNING

We believe students and their parents/carers have the right to expect a first class education, delivered by teachers who are committed to making learning challenging and rewarding.

We provide high quality teaching and, in return, expect a high standard of learning in the classroom. This is evident in the excellent work you will see from our students. Teachers continually strive, through quality professional development and training, to deliver challenging lessons that engage students and drive them towards excellence.

High quality home learning opportunities are key to students' success. Every student has their own Office 365 account through which they access homework, learning resources and strategies.

Our practice is underpinned by the latest research evidence. Teaching staff employ strategies which help students

learn and remember key content and our tracking system ensures that we can quickly identify students who are struggling to complete work so that appropriate support can be offered.

We believe that the spiritual, social, moral and cultural elements of students' education are crucial to their development and are committed to embedding these themes across the curriculum. The Government encourages schools to 'promote the fundamental British values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs.' At Easington Academy these values form part of the school ethos and are embedded throughout our curriculum.

"I have never known children who are so accepting and supportive to others, in particular their peers.

IT ALWAYS FILLS ME WITH WARMTH TO SEE OUR STUDENTS AS AN INCLUSIVE COMMUNITY."

Julie-Ann Collins, Senior Learning Mentor

A history of **TALENT**

As well as excelling academically, Easington Academy has a long tradition of nurturing our talented musicians, actors, artists, and sportsmen and sportswomen.

Our forward-thinking art department caters for our exceptionally creative students in 'The Studio', a well resourced building, which houses a host of specialist equipment, led by dedicated specialist practitioners.

Sporting success is also a top priority, where we encourage excellence and promote participation, providing extensive opportunities for everyone to join in competitive sports - not just our future superstars.

Recent successes include U16 girls' football county champions, Year 7 Boys' East Durham Schools football champions, our Year 10 boys football team became the

first East Durham team to win the county cup in 110 years, our Year 9 girls won the local netball league, and our year 7 and 8 athletics teams were winners of the district athletics championship.

Easington Academy is home to many talented musicians, including those in our orchestra.

Our school has a long tradition in the arts, with students performing in both national and international venues and in 2019, our Key Stage 3 choir were crowned Durham Music Service's Choir of the Year. In summer 2022, our production of the hit musical, Billy Elliot, was a huge success.

We are thrilled to have launched our brand new **Sports Hub** where students will be nurtured and encouraged to develop in a range of sports.



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“Students at Easington Academy make excellent academic progress from their starting points,

WELL ABOVE THE NATIONAL AVERAGE.”

Aiming **HIGH**

Students are encouraged to aim high and reach their potential through hard work and tenacity.

Students at Easington Academy make excellent academic progress from their starting points, well above the national average.

Many of our students move on to further education and, ultimately, higher education at their chosen sixth forms, colleges and universities and into a range of exciting and rewarding careers.

Former students frequently come back to school to celebrate their success and are keen to tell us all

about their journey since leaving school and their plans for the future.

Recently, former students have successfully moved on to a range of universities, including participation in the Ogden Trust Scholarships.

Other former students have gone on to have successful careers in a range of professions, including medicine, engineering and journalism.





Support and **GUIDANCE**

We believe that everyone has the right to be respected and to be treated fairly and equally. We therefore create a caring and inclusive environment where diversity is valued and where everyone feels secure, listened to and taken seriously.

Our experienced pastoral team support all aspects of our students' needs. We have a dedicated team of specialists, including a full time nurse, counsellor, attendance officer and home school liaison officers.

Our staff are friendly and approachable and will ensure the safety and well-being of our students.

Regardless of their starting points or individual abilities, students are given equal opportunities to excel and are encouraged to be ambitious and to aim high.

We also believe that looking after the individual means that success looks after itself, so we place much emphasis on personalised support.

**“WE ARE COMMITTED TO
CREATING A CARING AND
INCLUSIVE ENVIRONMENT**

where diversity is valued and where everyone feels secure, listened to and taken seriously.”



“My daughter has settled well into the school. I feel she is well supported and is continuing to learn -

VERY HAPPY MAM!”

PRIMARY *Transition*

Moving from primary to secondary school is a big change in any child’s life, which is why we take great care to make sure it is stress-free.

Successful adjustment from a small primary to the hustle and bustle of ‘big school’ begins in Year 5 with a variety of exciting and engaging activities delivered by Academy staff. These activities introduce children to new types of learning.

Our structured programme of primary transition can include events such as Junior Sparkies, Let’s Get Cooking, sporting events and engineering challenges, among many others. However, the highlight is our themed ‘transition day’, which is attended by over 200 local primary children.

In Year 6, children are invited to ‘taster days’ where they follow a typical Academy timetable, giving them a

real understanding of how the school looks and feels as well as a chance to meet their new teachers and fellow students. Year 6 pupils joining the Academy in September have access to their own Office 365 account where they can engage with additional transition content to help them get to know the Academy and our staff.

We also offer ‘Moving Up’ sessions for parents and students. These informal meetings focus on the pastoral and academic aspects of the school as well as study skills.

There is also a popular induction evening where students can meet their tutors and the rest of their tutor group.



International CONNECTIONS

To complement their learning within a small community, students at Easington Academy are encouraged and enabled to become global citizens through our exciting international links.

With a constantly developing international programme of in-school projects and overseas trips, students have been able to experience life beyond the UK, opening their minds and learning about different cultures, traditions, languages and customs.

In recent years, our students have had the privilege to collaborate with students from all over Europe on different projects. Recently, a group of Year 9 students went on a

fully funded trip to Spain for a week to work on a sustainability project with students from many other European countries and another group of students spent 10 days in Washington DC as part of the government's International Turing Scheme.

We are currently planning several other projects with European partners and for the return of our annual ski trip.

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**EXPERIENCE LIFE
BEYOND THE UK,
OPENING THEIR MINDS**

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Extra-curricular ACTIVITIES



After school, what's better than relaxing on the sofa. Right? Wrong! With our range of enrichment activities, it's 'no' to the sofa and 'yes' to:

- | | | | | | | |
|---------------------------|------------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|------------------------|---------------------|
| Science club | Homework club & buddies club | Netball | Boys' and girls' football | Let's get cooking | Blind date with a book | Book and a brew |
| Badminton | Table tennis | Trampoline | Art club & Art Sparks | Duke of Edinburgh's Award | Student council | Chef |
| Computer programming club | Orchestra & rock band | Charity events/fundraising | Music lessons & choir | Basketball | Debate club | Math challenge club |

"My school is amazing; I like the range of opportunities which gives people a chance to **PURSUE THEIR DREAMS**"

Hallie Williamson,
Student





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