



PRINCIPAL

Recruitment Pack

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A Warm Welcome

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

We work tirelessly to remove any barriers that might prevent our young people from achieving their potential and living successful, happy lives.

Our culture combines high expectations, warmth and encouragement with a focus on excellent academic outcomes to create informed citizens who will go out into the world and do what is right.

Our values of Citizenship, Achievement and Participation and our belief in the power of language and the importance of the spoken word will develop confident young adults with a strong sense of social responsibility.

We expect our students to meet our high expectations in terms of commitment and work ethic, but we also seek to ignite their intellectual passions and curiosities so that they become autonomous, fulfilled learners during their time with us.

There is so much more to MEA Central than what happens inside our classrooms, however! Our scholars benefit from a level of pastoral care and attention second to none, and our co-curriculum, which includes our extensive extracurricular programme, ensures every child can gain valuable cultural capital and experience success in areas such as sport, music, drama and community activities.



"WE ARE A MIXED SECONDARY SCHOOL OF OVER 1050 SCHOLARS IN SOUTH MANCHESTER, DEFINED BY OUR MISSION, 'A FANTASTIC FUTURE FOR ALL."



"WE DELIVER A CHALLENGING, KNOWLEDGE-RICH CURRICULUM TO PREPARE STUDENTS NOT ONLY FOR THE GCSE ASSESSMENT REGIME BUT ALSO FURTHER EDUCATION AND LIFE BEYOND."

About The School

GCSE RESULTS

MEA Central has achieved remarkable success with its GCSE results, reflecting our commitment to academic excellence. In both 2022 and 2023, our headline measures were well above local and national averages. Our commitment to ensuring a 'fantastic future for all' was also clear;

for progress of disadvantaged students, MEA Central was in the top 2% of all schools in the country, with only three other schools having a smaller gap between pupil premium and non-pupil premium students.





Building upon the success of the previous year, MEA Central continued to shine in 2023 with another strong set of GCSE results and no gap between pupil premium and non-pupil premium students. Our GCSE success reflects not only the academic achievements of our students but also the holistic approach to education that we foster at MEA Central. We are immensely proud of our students' accomplishments.





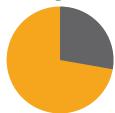
Ofsted

MEA Central received 'Outstanding' judgements in the Leadership and Management, Behaviour and Attitudes and Personal Development areas of the Ofsted framework in the last inspection. Quality of Education was judged to be 'Good' and the school looks forward to the next inspection, which the first since the school has had GCSE results.



Some Highlights Include:

English



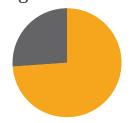
72% of English grades (best of) were 5 or above

Maths



52% of Maths grades were 5 or above

English & Maths



74% achieved 4+ in both **English and Maths**

Progress 8 score +0.15 Attainment 8 score 4.7 EBACC APS 4.2

Staff Benefits, Support & Wellbeing

IS OUR PRIORITY

'Great schools thrive because of the great people in them'.

As part of Prospere Learning Trust, we pride ourselves in being a great place to work, providing a supportive culture with opportunities to.

- Grow and develop your career
- Achieve a healthy work life balance
- To be recognised for the great work you do.

We continually strive to create a community where all our staff and students feel understood, valued and sense of belonging There is a Prospere Learning Trust Wellbeing Charter and as a school, MEA Central is committed to this and to the DfE charter. The school specific offer includes:

- A true, values-driven culture: Citizenship is an expected as part of professional conduct at school – this includes behaviours such as: good timekeeping to respect colleagues' time; keeping shared areas tidy/cleaning up after ourselves; greeting colleagues/being kind to colleagues
- A true community, with a commitment to joyful shared experiences such as House competitions and Celebration Assemblies



- No culture of presenteeism no praise or kudos for arriving earlier/staying later than everyone else
- Regular staff treats (e.g., staff breakfast, Treat Buddy, pigeonhole treats) and social events such as New Year New Me, Central Runs, Central Reads, staff football)
- Dedicated staff work room and staff social space
- Free tea/coffee, free flu jabs provided
- Colleague of the Week and Hero of the Half Term awarded
- Explicit training for all staff on strategies to support with managing workload and supporting positive wellbeing (Year of the Team, Seven Habits of Highly Effective People)
- Clear communication channels via line management
- Purposeful and clear communication about all aspects of school life: Year's calendar published in advance
- Clear email policy in place: no emails after 6.30pm or at weekends
- Weekly timetabled line management time for leaders
- Regular opportunities for feedback to support strategic decisions made at senior level (anonymous and not) via line management; training evaluations; Teacher Tapp surveys; working lunches (ECTs/ECT Mentors)
- Open staff forum (Central Roundtable) held every half term
- Whole class marking and feedback policy implemented to reduce marking load
- A clear, school-wide behaviour policy, where every effort is made to ensure that the
 policy matches the reality of what happens in school
- A visible senior leadership team
- Centralised daily overtimes run by the pastoral extended leadership team
- Trust HR support is available, and this includes access to Occupational Health, counselling and other related services
- Signposting to services to support wellbeing (including financial, emotional, mental and physical wellbeing)



What our Staff say

"I HAVE FOUND THAT THE CULTURE AT MEAC IS FANTASTIC AT INTRODUCING NEWLY AND/OR TRAINEE TEACHERS GAINING A GREAT FOUNDATION INTO THE RIGOURS OF BEING A TEACHER IN THE UK MAIN STREAM EDUCATIONAL SETTING."

"I LOVE WORKING AT MEA CENTRAL BECAUSE MY HARD WORK REALLY DOES MAKE A DIFFERENCE TO THE LIVES OF STUDENTS. THE HALF TERMLY GRATITUDE WEEKS FOR STAFF ARE SO LOVELY - THE COFFEE AND BREAKFASTS ARE APPRECIATED!"

Facilities & Resources

LIKE NO OTHER

At MEA Central, we believe that an environment equipped with modern, well-kept facilities plays a crucial role in fostering academic success and personal growth.

Classrooms and IT: Our modern classrooms and laboratories are designed to facilitate enjoyable learning experiences. Our classrooms are thoughtfully to maximise space and lighting. New interactive whiteboards are due to be installed this summer and we use Microsoft 365 to enable fast sharing and collaboration, with all documents stored in the cloud so that teachers can access their work easily wherever they are.

Library: The library at MEA Central is more than just a collection of books; it is a hub of knowledge and exploration. Our dedicated librarian provides assistance and guidance to help students develop strong research skills.

Sports Hall: Our spacious sports hall is the heart of our physical education program. With ample space for various indoor sports activities, including basketball, volleyball, badminton, and more, students have the opportunity to engage in physical fitness and team-building exercises.

Dance Studio: Equipped with mirrors, sound systems, and ballet barres, our dance studio provides the perfect space for students to express themselves through movement.

3G AstroTurf: Our students make good use of our 3G pitch of 4050 squared metres. The fully floodlit pitch can host 9-a-side games and can be divided up into three smaller 5-a-side pitches

Theatre: Our dedicated theatre space has stage lighting, sound systems, and versatile staging.



Professional Development

TO BE THE BEST

At MEA Central, we refer to Teaching and Learning as the main thing. By this, we mean that we prioritise what is happening in our classrooms, on a daily basis, to ensure that teaching and learning is excellent. We are a learning community and one of our mantras is 'we have never arrived'.

All staff are involved in giving and receiving feedback, because 'feedback is a gift' and our year-round staff CPD programme is highly rated and valued by all.

Our staff also attend subject specific CPD; read research and publications and are constantly looking for ways to refresh and improve their teaching approaches by regularly engaging in pedagogical conversations with colleagues.

Departments have timetabled time to develop subject specific pedagogy, and we also have a wide offer of professional development opportunities and experiences each half term so that staff can forge a path in their chosen areas of expertise.



Discover Manchester

CULTURE, UNRIVALLED

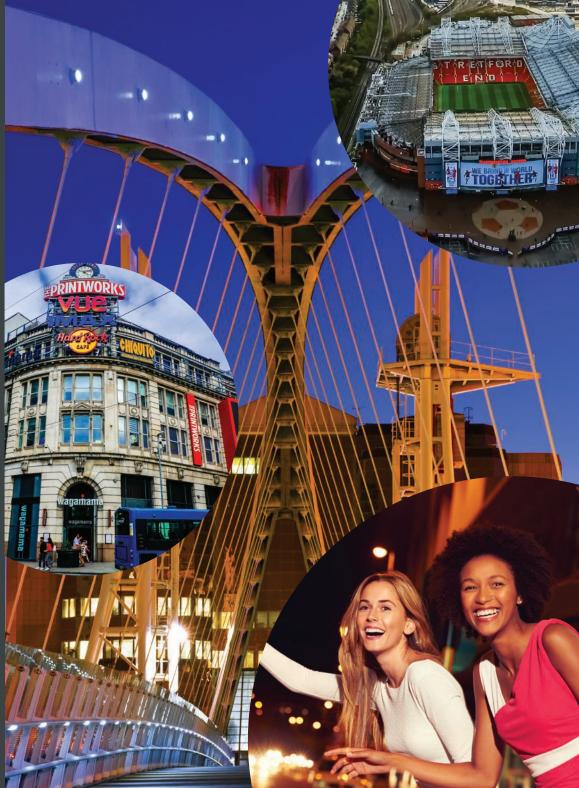
Nestled in the heart of the North West, Manchester boasts a vibrant cultural scene, rich industrial heritage, and a welcoming community spirit.

From its iconic music scene, with renowned venues like the Manchester Arena and historic sites like the famous Hacienda nightclub, to its thriving arts and theatre scene showcased in the Royal Exchange Theatre and the Manchester Art Gallery, there's always something exciting happening in this bustling city.

With its diverse range of restaurants, markets, and shops, including the iconic Affleck's Palace, Manchester offers a melting pot of cuisines and experiences to suit every taste. Nature lovers can escape to the nearby Peak District National Park or explore the picturesque canals that wind through the city.

Additionally, Manchester's excellent transport links make it easy to explore the rest of the UK, with direct trains to major cities like London and Edinburgh. Whether you're a culture vulture, foodie, outdoor enthusiast, or history buff, Manchester has something for everyone, making it an ideal place to live and work.





Prospere Learning Trust

LEARNING AT ITS FINEST

At Prospere Learning Trust, we pride ourselves in being a great place to learn, work, and grow.

We have a resolute focus on developing the quality of education in all of our schools. This means that we work together in the pursuit of the highest quality teaching and educational support. We all learn each day, and, together, we all seek to improve each day.

To support our staff, we come together as a collaborative learning community, with a strong culture of professional development and mutual support.

At the heart of Trust vision and ethos is co-operative working to ensure that our schools become so 'best that they can be', so that they provide the highest quality educational provision for all of our young people.

We will recruit, train and retain the very best staff driven by a strong culture of professional development and mutual support in the pursuit of highly effective teaching and the highest levels of student progress.

We will be forward thinking and highly aspirational, grounding our strategy and development in the latest educational research.

A commitment to continuous professional development, enables skilled and passionate professionals work together to reflect, innovate and learn together.

Across the Trust Learning Communities are established to enable staff to engage with and adapt to emerging educational research, and engage in ongoing professional development to refine their skills.

Our students prosper so that they become happy, confident adults with excellent academic knowledge and qualifications.

Our staff thrive at every stage of their careers, receiving high quality training, professional development and wellbeing support– from those who are starting out on their careers, to those who are ready to lead, and to those ready to embark on being Headteachers at our schools.

By training, developing and supporting great people in our Trust, we know that our students will receive the very best quality provision, and the best chance of success, whatever their starting points.





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A Prospere Learning
Trust School