



# Eckington School

Prospectus 2018/19

Respect - Progress - Succeed



# Welcome to Eckington School

Dear Parents/Carers and Students


I hope that in this prospectus we manage to convey a flavour of what it is like to attend Eckington School. Our school is a thriving learning environment where our young people are cared for and feel happy. We are justifiably proud of our students. Ofsted recently described them as respectful, responsive and caring.

We believe that every child in our school really does matter and we work closely with our parents and our community to ensure that students achieve their full academic potential and grow into decent young adults.

It is our aim for the transition from primary to Eckington School to be seamless. At Eckington, we recognise that all children are individuals; most cross the bridge between KS2 and KS3 without worry, but for some it can be a daunting time. This is why we invest a great deal of effort in supporting children and families through the transition process. We recognise that by getting transition right we are laying strong foundations for future years.

Our expectations are high and are summed up by the three words on our school badge: 'Respect, Progress, Succeed'. We hope that all students who join us in September will strive to realise our high expectations.

Yours faithfully

  
**P. Cummings**  
Headteacher



**'I felt a little worried about moving to secondary school, but the many transition activities and visits helped me to settle very quickly'**



# Our Ethos

At the heart of Eckington School is the firm belief that mutual respect leads to progress and success for all.

Staff and students work together in a friendly school community that places the emphasis firmly on teaching and learning in order to allow all students to achieve their potential. Students are encouraged to take an active role in their learning and are fully involved in target setting and peer assessment. The school offers a broad range of courses and is proactive in guiding students onto appropriate personalised pathways.

*"The school's work to promote students' personal development and welfare is good"*

(Ofsted)

*"The school helps students understand their responsibility towards themselves, their community and wider society"*

(Ofsted)

# Our Students

## Enjoying and Achieving

In a typical year group, eight or nine students in every ten confirm that they enjoy school. Our students benefit from a vast range of extra-curricular activities organised by subject areas or delivered within our House system. A significant number of our older students enrol on our Duke of Edinburgh Programme or our award-winning Young Enterprise Programme. In addition, our students enjoy our two yearly Super Activities Week which takes our young people across continents to undertake a range of challenges and enrichment exercises.

The number of students achieving good passes in English and Mathematics is above the national average.

We encourage our Year 11 students to progress to our Post-16 Centre. Some of these students will move on to the country's best universities, others will follow vocational routes and enter the world of work through high level apprenticeships.

Our commitment to all students of all abilities, prompted Ofsted to comment: 'In English and Mathematics... pupils are making expected progress above national averages' and 'Pupils who have special educational needs or disability... are also making good progress'.

## Making a Positive Contribution

Our students make an outstanding contribution to the school community and to the community beyond the school gates. In school, our Key Stage 4 students mentor our Key Stage 3 students; our Post-16 students are involved in a 'buddy reading programme' which aims to improve levels of literacy in Year 7; a number of students assist learning, working as Subject Ambassadors or librarians; and students of all ages lead our House System.

Out of school, our students can be found working with Sheffield's food banks; helping out in local retirement homes; and organising charity events for a range of good causes.

## Staying Safe and Developing into Outstanding Young Adults

Our students say they feel safe in school and on their daily journeys to and from school (a good number of students take the bus to school). Bullying is extremely rare. When it is reported, it is swiftly dealt with, in line with our anti-bullying promise: 'The day we find out about bullying is the day it stops'.

Our personal development curriculum is highly effective. A whole range of activities, in lesson and out of school, help our young people to grow into decent young adults who practise our school values of kindness, honesty and tolerance.





# Our Curriculum

In Key Stage 3 we offer the full range of National Curriculum subjects, building carefully on the progress our students make in junior school.

In Key Stage 4 we offer a broad selection of practical, creative and vocational/BTEC subjects as well as the English Baccalaureate (which comprises English, mathematics, science, modern foreign languages and humanities).

In Key Stage 5 our students can select from nearly 30 subject areas, including traditional A level courses as well as a number of vocational courses.

**"Leaders caring yet tenacious approach to supporting students is excellent"**

(Ofsted)

**"Students understand the employment and study options open to them"**

(Ofsted)

**"Attendance at extra-curricular clubs is high"**

(Ofsted)

### What makes our curriculum different to other schools?

- Personalised pathways in Key Stage 3 provide 30% of students with twice as much English and mathematics as 'standard';
- Chinese teaching in Key Stage 3 which leads to an internationally recognised qualification;
- Student exchanges to Germany and China;
- An "enhanced" languages route through Key Stage 3 which provides able linguists with more exposure to the foreign language;
- An extensive mentoring programme which brings university undergraduate and PhD students into school to work with our students;
- An industrial awareness programme which seeks to bring representatives of the business world into school;
- A range of enrichment clubs (choirs, drama clubs, science club);
- A vibrant House system;
- Our Duke of Edinburgh programme is one of the most successful in Derbyshire;
- Young Enterprise;
- Sports Leaders' programme;
- Subject Ambassadors;
- Our active citizenship programme (in the form of pledges);
- Super Activities Week – offering a range of trips from a day in York Dungeons to a water sport trip to Spain.

**"Learners achieved highly in 'A' level mathematics; achievement was in the top 10% in the country"**

(Ofsted)



# Our Parents

We work hard to establish a good relationship with our parents as we believe that this home-school link is fundamental to our students' success. We communicate with parents via texting and emails, parents' evenings, academic mentoring days, our website and learning platform, the Parents' Forum and a highly-developed student planner (which contains all the outcomes and targets from regular progress tests).

In addition, we support and provide good advice to parents through a programme of Raising Achievement evenings and Safe and Wellbeing evenings.

We receive very positive feedback from parents about how we work with their children through annual questionnaires. In the most recent questionnaires, over 90% of our parents stated that their children were happy at school, felt safe in school and were making good progress.



**"Staff are approachable, responsive and have the students at the heart of everything they do".**

*Mrs C. parent of a Year 10 student*





# ECKINGTON SCHOOL POST-16 CENTRE



Choose your pathway. Shape your future.

Eckington Post-16 Centre is a thriving community of learners who are striving to achieve their potential by following one of the pathways available to students of all abilities. Some choose a traditional A level pathway, leading to university application; others prefer a vocational route into training or apprenticeship, opting for a Level 3 BTEC alongside an extensive package of work experience placements. There is also a Level 2 vocational pathway for those who need to boost their qualifications before embarking on Level 3 study.

We offer over thirty courses, all taught by specialists who will guide you in the challenging transition from GCSE to Level 3 study.

You will be placed in a tutor group with a tutor who is a specialist in one of your subject areas. The Post-16 leadership team, form tutors, business partnership manager and subject tutors will work together to ensure that your time with us is enjoyable and successful.

#### A Campus Environment

Eckington Post-16 Centre provides purpose-built accommodation within the pleasant campus of Eckington School. Post-16 students have their own dedicated study centre, comprising the common room, snack shack, teaching rooms, ICT suite, quiet study room and careers library. Private study areas allow for independent work and the Common Room provides a space to relax.



**Eckington School**

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