# Welcome to Nunthorpe Academy



# **Information Pack**

A guide for new students 2021

### **A Welcome Message**



Nunthorpe Academy, part of Nunthorpe Multi Academy Trust (NMAT), is a high performing 11-19 academy that prides itself on the support and guidance given to every one of our students.

At the core of our ethos are the valued positive relationships between staff and students and we are proud of our friendly and purposeful atmosphere. Acknowledging and rewarding excellent behaviour, hard work, personal responsibility and participation are all integral to our high levels of achievement.

We believe that success is built through partnership; between parents and carers, staff and students and welcome the views of all of our stakeholders for the further development and increased 'aspirations' of all who attend the academy. To support this, pre Covid we had a well-established Parent Voice Group which we are keen to restart and new members are always welcome!

A key ingredient in our continued success is recruiting and retaining the very best staff who are committed to our students. High quality classroom practice is crucial in supporting students' academic success and to this end we ensure that teaching and non-teaching staff are engaged in thoughtful reflection and collaborative training as part of our drive towards further improvement.

Our curriculum is based on a rigorous academic core but with the ability to offer a range of vocationally based courses. This means every student can follow a pathway to success. Our curriculum develops the knowledge and skills required for our student's future success and we are proud of the high number of students who further their studies at Colleges and Universities.

We have an enviable reputation for excellence in all that we do. Our GCSE and A Level results are some of the best in the area and have led to our enhanced status as the lead school of the North East Schools Training Alliance – *teaching the teachers of the future.* 

I am very proud of our academy and despite everything that our staff and students have achieved, know that we are striving towards even greater success. We welcome you to come and visit us, speak to our staff and students and get a feel for what life at Nunthorpe Academy is really like, (once current restrictions are lifted).

Please use our <u>Calendar</u> (or add to your favourites) to keep an eye on opportunities for your involvement and participation.

Best wishes

Mrs Kate Kell Head of School

### Ready Respectful Safe



#### **Our Ethos:**

The simple message of READY, RESPECTFUL, SAFE is promoted at every opportunity and used throughout all aspects of life within the academy.

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### **Uniform**



Uniform is purchased from Ross's Ltd (www.rosssltd.co.uk)

### Compulsory items from Ross's

Items	Description		
Business Jacket with Academy	Colour: French Navy		
Logo	Boys cut: Front pockets, mobile phone pocket, fully lined		
	Colour: French Navy Girls cut: Side pockets, mobile phone pocket, fully lined		
Academy House Tie	House Ties – Triumph (Blue), Invincible (Red), Endeavour		
	(Green), Valiant (Orange), Victory (Yellow)		

Other items can be purchased from anywhere but must meet the uniform expectations

Items	Description		
Jumper	Colour: Navy		
	Design: V neck jumper (tie must be visible)		
Trousers	Colour: Dark Grey straight legged		
	Design: School trouser, not skinny or super skinny fit		
Skirt	Colour: Grey		
	Design: Knee length, straight or pleated but must not have slit		
	up the sides or raise up the leg when walking		
Shoes	Colour: Black		
	Design: Plain, flat shoes (not boots) with no logos, or patterns.		
	Images can be found on the academy website		
Shirt	Colour: White		
	Design: At least 35% cotton, short or long sleeved but must be		
	long enough to stay tucked in at all times. Collar must be		
	pointed with a top button that fastens		
Socks	Colour: Grey or Black		
	Design: Plain, no design		
Tights	Colour: Black		
	Design: At least 40 denier, no design		

Nunthorpe Academy have high expectations when it comes to uniform.

Uniform expectations must be adhered to at all times.

### What happens in tutor time?



#### **Form Period**

We have a carefully planned and structured programme of activities during form periods, aimed at encouraging the development of personal skills and qualities, as well as building a sense of community. There is a timetable of activities for each House for each day of the week.

#### **Reflection Time**

Students are given opportunities to reflect on a weekly theme or a current issue; they are also given time to reflect on their own week to assess things that went well and targets for improving in the next week.

#### **Current Affairs**

As part of our commitment to considering community issues with our students, we have introduced a weekly activity based on the local, national and international community. Some weeks, this will involve students taking part in a discussion about an issue which is currently affecting our society, for example bullying, terrorism or poverty. There will also be work on chosen charities, perhaps taking part in fundraising planning or learning more about the work of the charity. We will also use some of these sessions to contribute to our local community, perhaps by supporting a local initiative or organisation.

### **Community Builders**

Weekly community builders are games or activities specifically aimed at building the relationships between students of different ages, as well as developing important cross-curricular skills such as listening, communication, teamwork and leadership.

### **Academic Monitoring**

On three occasions throughout the year (Data collection 1, 2 and 3), subject teachers report on the progress of every student in the academy. In addition to updating parents/carers on their child's progress in every subject, this gives tutors the opportunity to consider how their tutees are doing and what steps need to be taken to ensure that every student reaches and exceeds their potential

### **Support Systems**



Supporting every student during the seven years (if they stay on for sixth form) with us is at the heart of what the Pastoral Team stands for. Clearly the level and type of support which is appropriate varies according to each individual, but some of the people who may be involved in supporting your child are as follows:

### **Senior Pastoral Managers (SPMs)**

There are four SPM's, one for each year group between Y7-Y10. They are responsible for the welfare of every child in their House, both socially and emotionally. They are the leaders and visionaries for each House and work closely together to develop the whole academy ethos and vision for the pastoral system.

In addition to line managing the team of tutors and support tutors and planning the weekly activities and assemblies, SPM's are involved in monitoring the academic progress and behaviour or underachieving students. This may include putting students on report, carrying out one to one mentoring with them (or referring them to someone else to mentor), initiating PSP procedures (Pastoral Support Programme) or liaising with other agencies involved with that child, such as social services or medical staff.

### **Assistant Pastoral Managers (APMs)**

The Senior Pastoral Managers are supported by Assistant Pastoral Managers. The APMs role is to support the students in their wellbeing, development and achievement, as well as ensuring that the academy's high standards of behaviour and organisation are met. They are also responsible for attendance of some groups of students within their House, both praising and rewarding students with good attendance, as well as following up on any absences to make sure that every child in their House is given the very best chance to succeed at Nunthorpe Academy and beyond.

#### **Form Tutors**

The form tutor is at the very center of every student's academy life and should always be the first port of call for any concerns or queries. As well as running the daily activities and encouraging students to develop their skill set, they are also crucial in the academic monitoring process, analysing data to spot trends and patterns and helping students (and where necessary parents/carers) to take appropriate action. Form tutors provide a strong link with parents and will often contact home to see how things are going or to discuss a specific incident. In effect, the form tutors act in loco parentis during the academy day, and they should always be kept informed of any developments in a child's life which may be affecting their progress or behaviour in the academy.

### **Attendance Officer (AO)**

The Attendance Officer monitors attendance across the academy (11-19) and works closely with the Pastoral teams, families, students and the Local Authority to ensure all students are attending the academy and receiving the best opportunities possible for them.

#### **Inclusion Mentors**

Some of our students go through periods of challenge at the academy, whether caused by family circumstances, adolescence, medical issues or friendship issues to name but a few. During these times of high pressure, we often see students crying out for attention through non characteristic behaviours within those they usually demonstrate, such as, by behaving inappropriately or being unusually emotional. We therefore have an Inclusion Mentor and employ the services of 'The Junction' who are available to do more intensive one to one work with students who need support. This may include activities on self-esteem issues, friendship problems, bullying, behaviour or anger management.

### **Rewards and Sanctions**





### Ready, Respectful, Safe

lesson, listen to the concerns of our students, report safeguarding concerns.

concerns



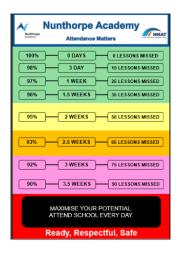


### **Attendance**



#### **Attendance Matters**

Regular school attendance is an important part of giving you the best possible start in life. Students who miss school frequently can fall behind with their work and do less well in exams. Good attendance shows potential employers that you are reliable. Research suggests that students who attend school regularly could also be at less risk of getting involved in antisocial behaviour or crime.



### **Unauthorising Future Absences**

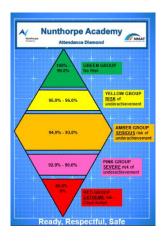
Should attendance fall to below 92% we will send a letter informing you of our concerns. We will ask for medical evidence to be supplied in order for any further absences to be authorised. This can be in the form of an appointment card, prescription or medical letter.

Unauthorised absences can lead to more formal legal monitoring and you could be at risk of being issued a Fixed Penalty Notice or in severe cases court proceedings.

Should attendance fall below 90% you will be invited into school so we can support you in improving your child's attendance. A child with attendance below 90% is classed as being "persistently absent", schools are expected to take action to address this area of concern. We are committed to working in partnership with parents to ensure students' have the best possible chance of achieving their full potential.

#### **Every Minute Counts**

If you arrive late to school every day, your learning begins to suffer. Below is a graph showing how being late to school every day over a school year adds up to lost learning time?



### Curriculum



### About the curriculum

Students follow a broad, balanced curriculum. Our curriculum is designed and personalised to meet the needs of all our students. The delivery of the curriculum uses a variety of learning methods where the students participate in a wide range of activities and are encouraged to be more than simply passive observers.

In order to match work to students' need, and to accelerate progress, we employ a mixture of mixed ability and set groupings. This means that students are placed in groups dependent on their ability to access the curriculum.

In English and mathematics students are set in all year groups. For Year 7 this is done primarily through the use of KS2 data. In all other year groups the setting is based upon the ongoing regular formal and informal assessment that occurs throughout the year.

In science students are placed in mixed ability groupings for Years 7 and 8. Once the students move in to Year 9 to Year 11 these groupings become set. These sets are based on the KS2 data and the formal and informal assessment that has occurred over Year 7 and 8.

In the modern foreign language subjects (French and German) students are placed in half year groups where they will either study French or German for all of Years 7, 8 and 9. The decision on which language a student takes is taken at the beginning of Year 7 and is then fixed until KS4 (Year 10). Within each half year group students are set upon their ability. It is the academy expectation that the vast majority of the students at Nunthorpe will study a modern foreign language at GCSE and the decision on which students fall into this category is taken by the academy based on DFE guidance.

All other subjects in Years 7, 8 and 9 are taught in mixed ability groupings. Within these groups there is a nurture group available to support students who need help in accessing the academy curriculum.

Students go through the Option process during Year 9 where they will be able to narrow their curriculum but increase the depth at which they study the remaining subjects.

The option process is not a completely free process and students are streamed into particular pathways. The decision on the pathway a student is in is taken by the academy using guidance by the DFE.

### **Curriculum—Key Stage 3**



Students study the following subjects at KS3 (Year 7 to Year 9). The number of hours per week are shown in brackets.

- English (4)
- · Mathematics (4)
- Science (3)
- Modern Foreign Language, either:
- · French (2) or
- German (2)
- · Humanities:
- History (1)
- · Geography (1)
- Philosophy & Ethics (1)
- Art (1)
- Computing (1)
- Drama (1)
- Design Technology (1)
- Food Technology (1)
- · Life (1)
- Music (1)
- · Physical Education (2)

Students will study one modern foreign language (either French or German) throughout Key Stage 3. A very small group of students who have the greatest literacy needs will not study a foreign language, but will receive 2 hours of additional literacy lessons instead. The expectation of Nunthorpe Academy is that the vast majority of students will go onto study a foreign language at GCSE.

Students will study a programme of learning covering PSHE in the subject of Life and their tutorial time.

### Curriculum—Key Stage 4



At KS4 (Year 10 and 11) all students study the following subjects (the number of hours per week are shown in brackets):

- English (4), which contains the following 2 subjects:
- English language GCSE
- English literature GCSE
- Mathematics GCSE (4)
- · Combined Science GCSE 2 grades awarded (5), which contains the following 3 subjects:
- Biology
- Chemistry
- · Physics
- Core PE (1)

Life (1) – a PSHE programme and accountancy qualification

### **Optional Study**

Students choose to study courses in four additional subjects for 2.5 hours each per week. The option process is not a completely free choice and students are streamed into pathways. The decision on which student is in which pathway is made by the academy based on DFE guidance. It is the expectation at Nunthorpe that the vast majority of students will study a foreign language at GCSE.

#### Courses are offered in:

Art and Design	Food Technology	Physical Education Studies
Business Studies V-Cert	Geography	Separate Science
Child Development	German	Spanish
Design Technology	Health and Social Care BTEC	Sport VCERT
Drama	History	
Engineering BTEC	Music	
French	Philosophy and Ethics	

All subjects are GCSE unless indicated by either VCERT or BTEC.

# **Curriculum—Key Stage 5**



Nunthorpe Sixth Form is a thriving, vibrant place with plenty of opportunities on offer. It isn't just about academic studying, we also help all students gain the life skills and experiences needed to survive in the 21st century. Please see information on the range of activities on offer.

#### Vision

We are committed to becoming Outstanding by:

- Ensuring that every student and member of staff is able to realise, fulfil and exceed their potential
  in their academic and pastoral lives;
- Guaranteeing that teaching and learning challenges and equips students with the knowledge and skills needed for Higher Education, employment and life-long learning;
- Providing personalised information, advice and guidance (IAG), and offering support whenever it is needed:
- Cultivating a positive atmosphere of mutual respect and success;
   We hope you have a fantastic time with us here at Nunthorpe and that you leave our Sixth Form with many warm and happy memories of the time spent with us.

Together, Striving For Excellence!

#### Courses

#### AS and A-Level Courses

Art and Design	Further Mathematics	Music
Biology	Geography	Philosophy and Ethics
Business Studies	German	Physical Education
Chemistry	Government and Politics	Physics
Drama and Theatre studies	History	Product Design
English Language	Law	Psychology
English Literature	Mathematics	Spanish
French	Media Studies	

Additional Level 3 Courses

**Extended Project Qualification** 

Vocational and BTEC Courses

Health and Social Care

### Parent online/app services



### ParentPay - Our online payment service

We as an academy are a cashless organisation. No payments will be accepted through cash. As an academy we use a secure website called ParentPay where parents/carers can pay online using credit or debit card. All payments, for example, lunch money, trips, music tuition will be paid using this method.

Getting started with ParentPay:

We will use your current email address (provided in this pack) to send you your account activation username and password, once you receive these:

Visit www.parentpay.com

Enter your activation username and password in the account login section – You can only use these details once

Provide the necessary information and choose a new username and password Once activation is complete go straight to my payment items, select which item you wish to pay for and follow the simple on-screen instructions to complete your payment

### Class Charts - Download the app

As an academy we use Class Charts as a tool to inform parent/carers about achievement and behaviour data as well as viewing homework that has been set for your child.

Getting started with Class Charts

Get your activation code which can be found in your child's planner Download the Class Charts app or go to the Class Charts website Enter the activation details and start using

If you don't have access to your activation code please email classcharts@nunthorpe.co.uk

# Other opportunities available



'Colour Run'



Theatre show for mental health support



Charity events—Stand up to Autism



Community Event—Christmas
Party



Sports Team



**Celebration Evenings** 



Trips and visits



Mock Interviews

# Ready Respectful Safe

