



*“Ambitious people seek to be the best at what they do”  
Katie, Year 10*

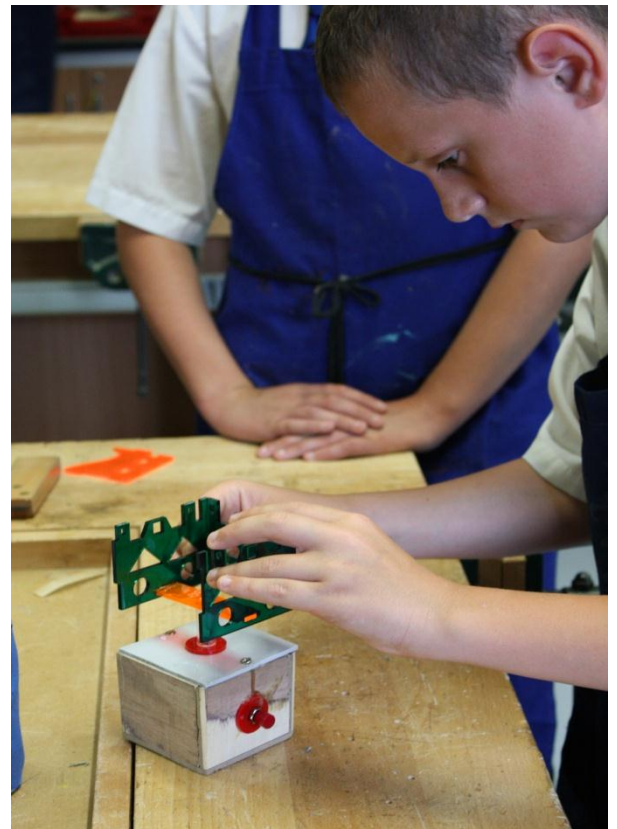


*“Always have a ‘can do’ spirit – never  
think you can’t do this”  
Chantelle, Year 9*



*“People with determination complete every task  
handed to them in life”*

*Craig, Year 11*



## Welcome from the Principal



Northampton Academy is a, vibrant, welcoming and inclusive 11-18 School, serving the needs of our 1360 students, their families and the local community. Whilst we are heavily oversubscribed, we are non-selective and do not require prospective students to sit admissions tests.

Our motto is 'the best in everyone' and we aim to provide our students with the best opportunities to achieve the academic qualifications and skills to progress to University or the career of their choice. We want every one of our students to realise their potential.

### *High Standards*

Our staff have high aspirations for all our students and want them to grow into confident, ambitious and high achieving individuals. This year we have a focus on implementing our standards, particularly work ethic, dress code and behaviour, and we expect parents to want the same for their children. We have embarked upon a journey to clearly communicate and embed our values so that we can maintain high standards of integrity, respect, discipline and belief. We want our students to wear their academy uniform with pride and be ambassadors for the academy.

*Anne Hill*

Anne Hill  
Principal



*"Compassion is important to me because it's respect, kindness and support"*  
Anna, Year 9



# Admissions Policy: September 2012 Entry

The Academy will consider all applications. Where fewer than 240 applications are received in any one year group, the Academy will offer places to all those who have applied unless the application is defined as an exception (see below).

Northampton Academy is a member of the United Learning Trust which has a Christian ethos. The Academy accepts students of all faiths and none.

In 2011 the Academy was oversubscribed approximately 2:1. Students with a statement of Special Educational Needs that names the Academy in the statement will be given priority over other admissions.

## **Fair banding**

If the number of applications for admissions is greater than 240 the following process occurs:

1. All applicants will be placed within five bands of cognitive ability. These bands are based on the Cognitive Ability Test taken in all Northampton Primary Schools. When a pupil has not taken a test, an estimate is provided by the head teacher of their primary school. If this is not possible (e.g. child has moved from abroad), pupils will be placed randomly in bands starting with the middle band.
2. The number to be admitted to the Academy from each band will be 48
3. The oversubscription admission criteria (as detailed below) are applied to each band.

## **Oversubscription**

Where the number of applications for admission is greater than the published admission number of 240, applications will be considered for Year 7 against the oversubscription admissions criteria set out below. After the admission of pupils with statements of Special Educational Needs where the Academy is named in the statement, the criteria will be applied to each of the 5 ability bands in the order in which they are set out below:

1. Admission of children in public care (looked after children).
2. Siblings of pupils who will be attending the Academy in compulsory full time education on the date when the applicant would be admitted. The term 'sibling' means a full, step, half, adopted or fostered brother or sister, but not cousins. A brother or sister **MUST** be living at the same address when the application is made. The Academy reserves the right to ask for proof of relationship.

Under criterion 2, priority is given to applicants within the Academy linked area of the Eastern District of Northampton defined for the purposes of these admission arrangements as the area falling within the boundaries delimited by postcodes NN3 5, NN3 8 and NN3 9.

3. If the Academy receives more applicants than there are places, priority will be given to those living nearest to the Academy. The distance which determines how close the child lives to the Academy is the shortest straight line distance, as the crow flies, between the entrance to the child's permanent address and the entrance door to the Academy main building. The distance is measured in kilometres to two decimal places, using dataMAP SMART Education GISD software or closest equivalent.

The child's permanent address is where he or she normally lives and sleeps and goes to school from. Proof of residence can be requested at any time throughout the admissions process. If false or misleading information is used to gain entry to the Academy, the offer of a place will be withdrawn and the application cancelled.

In conjunction with the above criteria the following applies. *Exceptionally, pupils with specific medical and social needs, supported by written evidence from an appropriate professional person, will be considered. Account will be taken of whether the needs related to the verified condition can only be met at the Academy. The medical or social needs must relate to the child. The evidence of exceptional medical or social needs must be submitted with your preference form.*

### **Waiting List**

The Academy operates a waiting list. It is open to any parent to ask for his or her child's name to be placed on the waiting list following either an unsuccessful application or an unsuccessful appeal.

### **Appeals**

Parent(s) have the right of appeal to the Independent Appeal Panel if they are dissatisfied with an admission decision of the Academy. Further assistance is available from the Academy. The Appeal Panel will focus on the process by which the Admissions Policy has been administered, not on the policy itself.

### **Application process**

Any parent wishing to apply to Northampton Academy for a place for their child in Year 7 in September 2012 must use the Common Application Form published by the local authority in which the applicant resides. The closing date for applications and the date on which offers of places are issued by the Local Authority will be published by the Local Authority each year.

### **Notes**

1. Banding only operates when the number of applications exceeds the number of places available.
2. All pupils are placed in a band before the oversubscription criteria are applied. This includes pupils with special educational needs and pupils in public care.
3. If places remain vacant in one (or more) bands after the allocation of places, these will be filled by pupils in the adjacent bands (in oversubscription admission criteria order).
4. If you have any enquires about Admissions please contact Claire Greaves (Associate Principal Inclusion) [claire.greaves@northampton-academy.org](mailto:claire.greaves@northampton-academy.org)



# Curriculum

In achieving 'the Best in Everyone' the curriculum at Northampton Academy comprises a broad and innovative range of learning experiences planned for each student. This personalised curriculum offer, in conjunction with excellent teaching that impacts positively on learning and progress, enables all our students to respond positively to the opportunities and challenges of a rapidly changing world.

Students are taught in five lessons of one hour each day. Years 7 and 8 (Academy 7 & 8) have a separate lunchtime from the rest of the Academy:

<b>Academy Day: Academy 7 and Academy 8</b>	
Extended Day	8.00am – 8.30am
Registration	8.30am – 9.00am
Period 1	9.00am-10.00am
Period 2	10.00am-11.00am
Break	11.00am-11.20am
Period 3	11.20am-12.20pm
Lunch	12.20pm-13.20pm
Period 4	13.20pm-14.15pm
Period 5	14.15pm-15.15pm
Extended Day	15.15pm-17.00pm

<b>Academy Day: Years 9 to 13</b>	
Extended Day	8.00am – 8.40am
Registration	8.40am – 9.00am
Period 1	9.00am-10.00am
Period 2	10.00am-11.00am
Break	11.00am-11.20am
Period 3	11.20am-12.20pm
Period 4	12.20pm-13.20pm
Lunch	13.20pm-14.15pm
Period 5	14.15pm-15.15pm
Extended Day	15.15pm-17.00pm

## Key Stage 3

Academy 7 and 8 undertake a shortened Key Stage 3 for two years with Key Stage 4 options being chosen at the end of year 8 after consultation with students and parents. Students are placed in two equal ability bands of 5 groups set by ability for core subjects. In some cases a 6th set is formed if intervention is required to ensure expected progress. English, Maths, ICT, Languages, Design Technology, Learning Competencies, Art, Drama, Music, History, Geography, RE and PE are studied.

## Key Stage 4

Students from year 9-11 are set by ability in English, Maths, Science, IT and Humanities. Students will have chosen subjects they would like to focus on, both academic and vocational. The wide range of courses includes Art, Drama, German, French, Spanish, Business or Business and Communication GCSE, History, Geography, RE, Sociology, Hospitality and Catering, Sport, Music, Music Technology, Motor Vehicle Studies, Health and Social Care, Graphics, Textiles, Construction, Resistant Materials, and iMedia.

## Key Stage 5

Further study is undertaken where students opt for advanced subjects in: Art and Design, Applied Business Studies, Applied ICT, Biology, Chemistry, Design Technology – Product design, Design Technology – Textiles, Drama, English Literature, Extended Project, French, General Studies, German, Government and Politics, Health and Social Care, History, Mathematics, Music, Physics, Psychology, Sociology, Spanish, BTEC National Award in Sports Performance and Excellence, BTEC National Diploma in Sports Performance and Excellence.

Our curriculum meets the needs and aspirations of our students. It is relevant, challenging and contributes to a coherent 11-19 provision ensuring progression and motivating students to lifelong learning.

## Literacy

Literacy at Northampton Academy is driven by the desire to develop a love of listening, speaking, reading and writing in all subjects. We work to raise standards in all these essential, and linked, forms of communication across our wider learning community. Reading in small groups, with support from our Sports Specialism, supplements whole-class learning. Regular testing with the "Suffolk" reading and spelling assessments, is used to monitor progress.

## **The Specialisms**

Northampton Academy is a Specialist Sports College helping students to mature into confident young people who are very well prepared for their future. We develop team work, co-operation, determination and leadership skills. The range of extra-curricular activities offered is wide and varied. We promote participation in physical activity and run lunchtime and after-school sports clubs, ranging from football and basketball to individual sports such as trampolining and dance.

We are a Hub for the Northampton School Sports Partnership, and we have a highly effective relationship with many of our partner schools, both at primary and secondary level. We use our Sport Specialism as a spur to achieving excellence in all curriculum areas and develop successful Young Leaders.

Enterprise and Skills for Life for every student is central to our working. Students are taught in different ways to develop their leadership capacity, their organisational and creative talents. They are encouraged to think for themselves, as part of a team and to develop their skills for life in preparation for adulthood. This includes developing their own CV, work experience and engaging with external business partners .

## **Key Partnerships**

### **The David Wilson Construction Centre in association with Minett Training**

We teach Construction courses for Key Stage 4 students on site. This ambitious partnership provides opportunities to develop specific vocational skills.

### **Royal College of Music**

Through this partnership, we are able to support the development of high level music making, accessible for all. Our "Beat Boys" drumming project involved Year 7 boys visiting London and drumming in the Albert Hall.

### **Business and Commerce**

We work closely with many local and national businesses including Porsche, Simon Hanning (music producer), Nationwide, A Drive, Reelscape Films, Barclaycard, 123 Internet Design, In4Merz Promotions and Anglian Water. We are a Honda School of Dreams participant school and one of five county 'Young Chamber' Schools.



# Inclusion

The aim of all Northampton Academy staff working together is to:

- Ensure students attend school
- Enable students to feel safe and happy at school
- Reduce barriers to learning
- Enable and support students to make progress and succeed
- Treat students as individuals and respond to their needs to best effect

## Safeguarding

Your child's wellbeing and safety is of paramount importance to us. Northampton Academy has a Designated Person (the Vice Principal), a Lead Child Protection Officer (Mrs D Patterson) and an Inclusion Manager, in accordance with Department for Education (DfE), and Local Safeguarding requirements. We believe that no student should experience abuse of any kind, and we recognise our responsibility to safeguard the welfare of children within the Academy:

- The welfare of the child is paramount
- All children regardless of age, disability, gender, racial heritage, religious belief, sexual orientation or identity have the right to equal protection from all types of harm or abuse
- Working in partnership with children, young people, their parents, carers and other agencies is essential in promoting young people's welfare.

We provide protection for all members of the Academy community. We provide staff with guidance on procedures to adopt if they suspect a child or young person may be experiencing, or be at risk from, harm. We endeavour to safeguard children and young people by recruiting staff safely ensuring all necessary checks are made.

## Attendance

Attendance at school is essential, and we celebrate attendance at school and punctuality. We have systems in place to ensure excellent attendance, involving Education Welfare in extreme cases. We value your support in ensuring full attendance and punctuality both of which continue to improve.

## Special Educational Needs

The aim of the SEN department is to work with students, parents and teachers so that all pupils can achieve their best and make progress. At the Academy, SEN provision will reflect the learning difficulty faced by an individual student, compatible with the efficient use of resources both in and beyond the classroom. Students with English as an additional language also receive support.

## Additional Support

Your child's welfare and wellbeing are important to us. Northampton Academy has a Family Support Worker to liaise with departments across the school and external agencies to ensure that our students' additional welfare needs are met. Pastoral Support Managers liaise with outside agencies and also provide individual and small group work to help students with emotional and social issues. The Academy Counsellor works with students and families in the school and the community through a parenting class at Lings Forum.

## Alternative Curriculum (Progress Zone)

Students who underachieve for a variety of reasons, are offered a six-week programme of literacy, numeracy, art therapy, cookery, and design technology; they also work in our successful allotment. Students are then re-integrated into lessons. We work closely with our Careers staff to support learning here and at other educational establishments.

Claire Greaves (Associate Principal, Inclusion) [claire.greaves@northampton-academy.org](mailto:claire.greaves@northampton-academy.org)



## Academy 7 & 8

Transition can be a time of many changes:

- a new and much bigger environment
- changes in teachers every lesson
- changes of friends
- being among many older children
- moving to a different classroom every lesson

In Academy 7 we have minimised these changes and improved the learning environment to avoid a dip in achievement. Children feel comfortable and confident. Our guiding principle is to ease the steps of transition and to ensure that each individual child feels safe in their own closely monitored environment. Academy 7 provides a caring and secure bridge between Years 6 and 8 both in the children's social world and their academic progression, making their transition from Primary to Secondary a positive and fulfilling experience.

Northampton Academy 7 educates the whole child. Children have emotional as well as intellectual needs. We awaken the pupils' curiosity for learning and create space for them to understand their emotional development and needs as individuals and as part of a team to ensure accelerated learning, good behaviour and excellent progress.

Home tutors lead lessons for Academy 7 pupils for a quarter of the week, and other lessons take place with other specialist teachers in the Home Tutor rooms. Home Tutors teach learning and thinking skills which are transferable between subjects. Our major focus is to raise levels of literacy so that all pupils can access their lessons. English lessons are driven by the tried and tested "Success for All" scheme. Specialist lessons in Science, Technologies, PE and the Arts take place in specialist rooms.

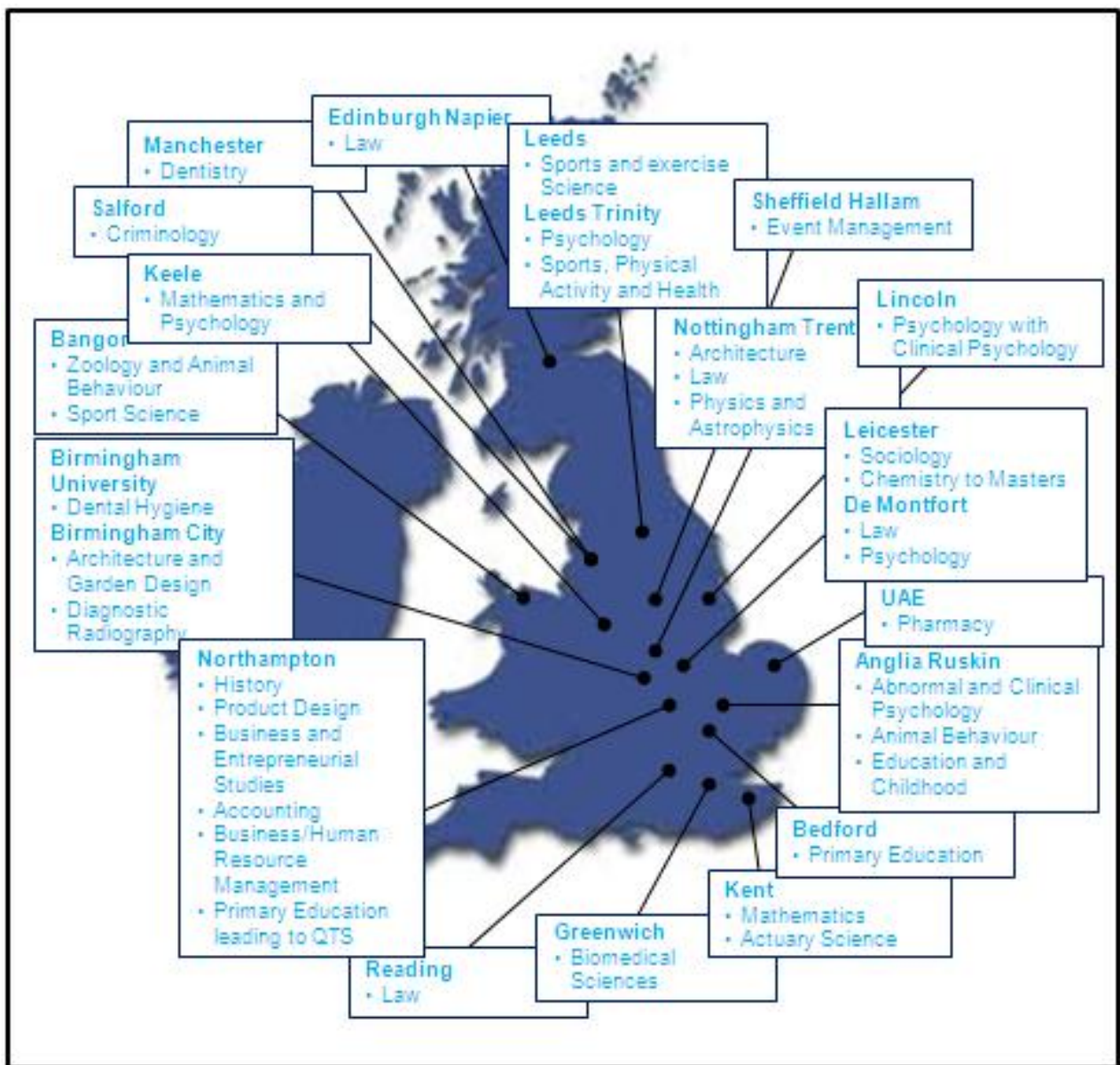
Academy 7 pupils have reduced contact time with other year groups. Lunch and play areas for Year 7 and 8 pupils are safe and separate from the rest of the school, and our specialist team of Home Tutors are experienced year 7 teachers, many with Primary school experience. Clubs are arranged in their lunchtime and the library is open for them.

Pupils progress from Academy 7 into Academy 8. Both these year groups benefit from the same leadership team and a close-knit team of specialist tutors who work closely with the Academy 7 tutors to ensure continuity. All of the subjects taught in Academy 7 continue into Academy 8, and the separate subjects of Geography, History and RE develop from the project work in Academy 7.

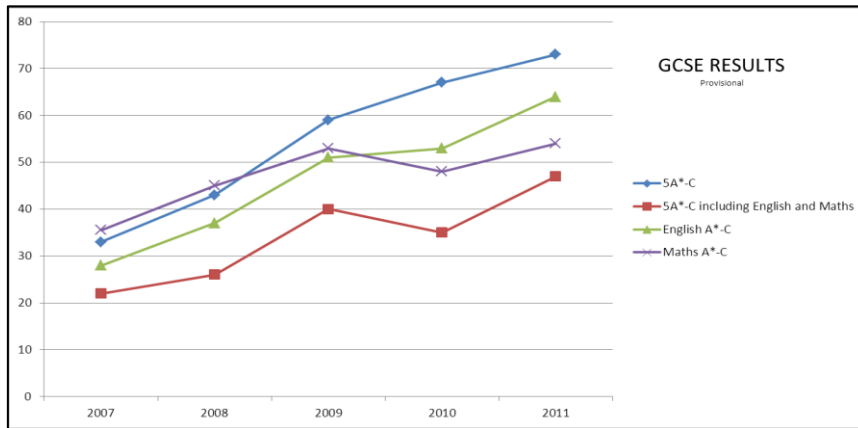
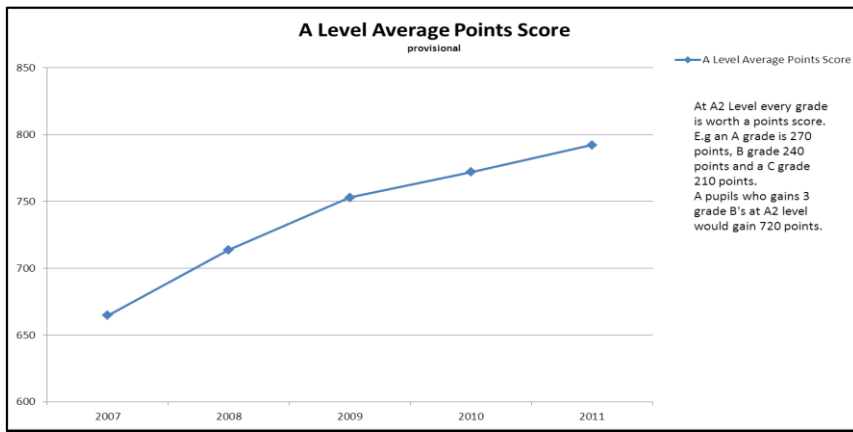
We expect high standards in terms of appearance, and courtesy, consistently across all lessons. Parents are very pleased with the strict boundaries and the happy, stress-free transition provided for their children.

Peter Foster (Director of Academy 7 & 8) [p.foster@northampton-academy.org](mailto:p.foster@northampton-academy.org)

*"I know if I believe in myself I can get where I want to be in life"*  
Callum, Year 7



**Destination Universities and Courses for 2011 Year 13 Students**



*"I believe that education is the key to a better life"*  
 Abdul, Year10



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