

Wixams Academy

Newsletter

Principal's Welcome



Dear Parents, Carers and Students,

Spring has truly arrived and along with the better weather we have plenty of positive developments at Wixams Academy to report. These include updates on our staff team, uniform, building and a focus on Teaching and Learning at Wixams.

I am looking forward to meeting many of you again soon in our Induction Meetings (more overleaf), as we begin to make final preparations to make Wixams Academy's first year full of awe, wonder, fun, excitement and challenge for all.

Yours faithfully,
Paul Spyropoulos, Principal

Staff News



We are very pleased to welcome Lindsey Pearson as our first Assistant Principal at Wixams Academy.

Lindsey will lead on 'Teaching and Learning' at Wixams, ensuring that your children's lessons are of the highest quality and that we are constantly striving to develop the most effective, engaging and innovative teaching practice in our school.

Lindsey is a performing arts teacher specialising in dance, music and drama. She is currently completing her lead practitioner qualification which will mean she is among the best in the UK and recognised as an expert in her field.

Lindsey has been Assistant Principal responsible for Teaching & Learning at the Stockwood Park Academy in Luton.

Living in Marston for 13 years, Lindsey's two children attend the local school. She says: "I love my job and I hope to be able to shape the education of the young people I work with so they aspire to and achieve their very best."

STOP PRESS: We have also just made another outstanding appointment (Maths), which we will announce shortly and have English teacher interviews coming up.

Focus on Teaching and Learning at Wixams Academy

Achieving outstanding teaching and learning is our core goal at Wixams. We wanted to share with you some of the principles and features of learning with us:



Learning will be enjoyable: We all learn better when we feel happy and inspired. All staff will form excellent learning relationships with their students and will strive to make every learning experience engaging and exciting.

Student potential: We believe that many children do not reach their full potential at other schools and potential is often limited early on by modest expectations and

pre-conceptions. All staff at Wixams Academy believe in the almost limitless potential of our students and will challenge and support them to achieve beyond what they might have thought possible.

Challenge: Students will experience challenging learning experiences every day. They will learn far more in this way, than by getting 100% right first time. Think of an athlete always running within their 'comfort zone' - they will make limited progress. We will be very careful to ensure that challenge is appropriate for each child and fully explained, to avoid any demotivation.

Learning beyond the curriculum: Exams and the National Curriculum are only part of becoming a well-rounded, capable young person. Our voluntary extended After School Curriculum will include numerous opportunities to learn new skills and master existing ones. A focus on life skills, including leadership and public speaking will also increase our students' confidence and qualities for University, work and life beyond school.

Our School Building

The picture says it all. The project is progressing very well and we can't wait to let you look around. Recent developments include finalising sports equipment, IT equipment, laboratory fittings and technology rooms.



Starting in September - What Happens Next?

You have now accepted your place with us at Wixams Academy. We will be sending you a letter very shortly which will include a registration form for you to complete for your child. The letter will also include details of appointment times you can book for 'Induction Meetings' with me to discuss any aspects of your child's education and to ask any questions before September.

Thursday 6 July will be our 'Transfer Day', held at The Bedford Sixth Form in town. There will be no sixth formers

present that day. Students will have a chance to meet their tutors and classmates. We are arranging a host of activities which will help students to feel relaxed and confident about starting in September, as well as learning more about our key values and aims together as a school.

This event will also be an opportunity for parents to meet teachers and order or buy uniform. You will receive a separate detailed letter and email about 'Transfer Day' nearer the time.

Other News in Brief

Uniform is ready! We have toned down the colour of the braiding on our jackets and we think they look great. We are looking for a couple of 'models' to try the sample sets on and to be photographed. The clothes sizes we have are suitable for approximately 14 year old students. If you think you could help us out here, please drop us an email.

We have now chosen the bus company to run our dedicated services. We are working to get bus timetables and pick up points to you as soon as possible.

