




The High Weald Academy



Pride in your future



**Student** "Since joining the school I've achieved so much. The teachers care and want you to do well."

# YOUR CHILD'S EDUCATION

Preparing  
them for  
learning and  
life beyond...



**Mr Daniel Hatley**  
**Executive Principal**

We are extremely proud to be an all ability school, at the heart of the community. We strive for the very highest standards for all our students and take our place in their lives very seriously. We believe in doing whatever it takes to help them achieve their ultimate and personal success.

At The High Weald Academy our community school approach means we know our students as individuals. We understand their needs and pay close attention to supporting them to be their very best.

Central to our success is our belief that every student deserves an excellent education; one which not only inspires them but offers the opportunity to learn and achieve things beyond their expectations.

Our impressive state of the art new building offers our students excellent facilities in which to explore the curriculum, learn and prepare for their lives ahead.

We look forward to working together and to welcoming you and your child to the High Weald community.

**Mr Daniel Hatley, Executive Principal**



**Mrs Lisa Barker**  
**Head of School**

# STUDENT LIFE

## Learning for a bright future



Ofsted “Pupils are confident and well cared for.”

From the moment they start at The High Weald Academy students study a full range of subjects; all of which are designed to offer them new and exciting opportunities.

As well as the core subjects, English, maths and science, students have the chance to find their interests and talents across many other disciplines including performing arts, history, geography, technology, art, computer science and PE.

When it is time, students choose from this range of subjects as well as some additional choices such as photography and business studies, when making their selection for examination subjects in Year 11 and beyond.

We understand the importance of learning how to learn and spend time helping students understand how they learn best and developing ways to help them maximise their potential and increase their knowledge and skills.

The curriculum experience is complemented with Personal Social Health Education (PSHE) and Citizenship lessons where students learn important British values and their own rights and responsibilities. It is here that we teach how to live a healthy lifestyle both physically and mentally.

Communicating with you about your child’s progress is vital and an important way in which we can work together. During each academic year you will receive regular updates about your child’s progress and effort as well as information about their attendance and attitude to their learning. Everyone needs a personal touch and so outside of these times we are committed to keeping you informed every step of the way with more individual contact, when it’s needed.

# EXPERIENCING LIFE OUTSIDE THE CLASSROOM



A time to explore and discover

We know that learning does not just take place in the classroom. We firmly believe that exciting opportunities not only bring learning to life, but make life long memories. Different life experiences help students to develop high levels of self-esteem and confidence.

As well as different sports, we offer a range of clubs and activities where students can extend their interests and skills.

Our on-site farm includes sheep, pigs, cattle and smaller animals such as rabbits, chickens and ducks. All students are welcome to experience our farm by joining the Young Farmers' Club. Members learn about animal welfare, husbandry and gain skills in show technique ready for the Kent County and Fatstock shows.



Parent “There are so many opportunities, my son has thrived and enjoys going to school.”

# WE TRANSFORM



Our staff of highly qualified, dynamic teachers care about and believe in every student. They are motivational role models who know how to bring the curriculum to life and inspire success. They have a passion for their specialist subjects that means they know how to engage students and capture their imagination through brilliant learning experiences.

Lessons at The High Weald Academy are planned around delivering knowledge and developing skills in an engaging and interesting way. We appreciate the importance of knowing every student well and responding to their individual needs through targeted teaching.

We use a range of ways to ensure we understand your child's progress. We assess the impact of our teaching through formal assessments as well as regular testing. Gaining a clear insight into students' progress means we can constantly evaluate our lessons and personalise our approach.



**Student** "The teachers have shown me you can achieve anything you want in life and I'm going to push myself to do that."

# LIVES We encourage high aspirations

Homework plays an important role in supporting learning and also in ensuring we help students to be independent and develop important self-management skills. A homework schedule is issued at the start of the year helping students and their families plan how best to manage learning at home. We use the online platform 'Show My Homework' to set and complete tasks. This also means students and their families have constant access to the tasks, deadlines and resources that teachers set.

Through on-going professional development we put educational thinking at the forefront of our teaching strategies as well as harnessing traditional ways to keep learning relevant and find ways to unlock the potential in every student.

Our highly experienced learning support staff work alongside students to make sure there are no barriers to their success. Specialist support is promptly put in place to ensure students with additional needs realise their academic and social potential.

Throughout their time here, the curriculum is complemented by high quality careers education, which aims to open up students' aspirations for the future on a local, national and global scale.



Ofsted "Pupils have the opportunity to study a wide range of subjects."

# CLEAR EXPECTATIONS

Children at our academy are confident and responsible



We pride ourselves on a high expectations learning environment, where excellent standards of behaviour and attitudes are normal.

Our view is that lessons will be uninterrupted and that all students have the space and time to focus on maximising their effort to secure exceptional progress.

Our approach to pastoral care and support ensures that we know each student as an individual. Understanding their needs and personality means we can provide the highest levels of personal guidance and development. We know that in order to learn and achieve, students need to be confident, feel safe, secure and well looked after.

Each year group is led by a Head of Year and a team of dedicated form tutors. Your child's form tutor will be a special part of their academic lives and their Head of Year will help them to make the most out of every opportunity available to them. They will also monitor their progress and ensure we are doing everything we can to ensure their success. Over time, our specialist pastoral staff gain an excellent knowledge of the students in their care.



Ofsted "Pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development permeates through the curriculum."



# A BUILDING TO MATCH THE INSIDE

An environment to empower  
students to achieve



High Weald's new building boasts one of the most state of the art learning environments in the area. Our purpose built, 21 century school building offers students an inspirational setting to achieve and excel.

All our classrooms feature ambient lighting and climate control to ensure a comfortable place in which to concentrate and focus.

Our brand new science laboratories, art rooms and ICT suites as well as our drama studio provide specialist spaces for students to experience new things.



**Head of School, Mrs Lisa Barker** "We are very excited about our new school, it has secured a high-quality learning environment for your child, and the generations of local children to come. Our purpose-built school utilises the latest technology to enhance the learning experience within a high-quality and encouraging environment."



# ADMISSIONS

Joining us to secure a bright future



School “We provide a calm and orderly learning environment, all students are recognised as individuals.”

We have a well-developed process to make joining us a positive experience for students and their families. The High Weald Academy is non-selective and as such students will be offered places without reference to aptitude or ability.

Applications for places in Year 7 should be made by completing the local authority’s School Common Application Form. Applications for places ‘in-year’ or to other year groups can be made directly to the academy. Please see our website for the admissions criteria and information about how places are allocated.

Once a place has been offered we begin working with you and your child to ensure their transition to secondary education is seamless. We provide a full induction programme that begins during the summer term to ensure students very quickly feel part of our community.

To complement the academic information provided by teachers in their primary school we spend time visiting our new students as well as having individual meetings with you as a family in order to make sure we know your child well before they start their life with us.

# A FAMILY OF SCHOOLS

We are proud to be part of the  
Brook Learning Trust

In addition to The High Weald Academy, the Trust comprises The Ebbsfleet Academy and The Hayesbrook School - three unique academies united by our belief in the power of education to change lives and communities.

At Brook Learning Trust it is our steadfast purpose to challenge and defy the barriers that constrain the educational progress of any child. We set high aims for aspiration and secure collective responsibility for all our children's achievements. Our work is underpinned by the values of Integrity, Respect, Courage, Optimism, Excellence and Accountability.

**Student** "The school is an exciting place and I would recommend students come and take a look."



# OPEN EVENTS 2019

## Open Evening

Our School Open Evening will be held this year on Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> October 2019, 6pm - 7:30pm  
Executive Principal's talk will be at 6:15pm in the main hall

## Open Mornings

Friday 4<sup>th</sup> October

Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> October

Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> October

For the Open Mornings we would ask that you arrive promptly between 9am and 9.15am



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