

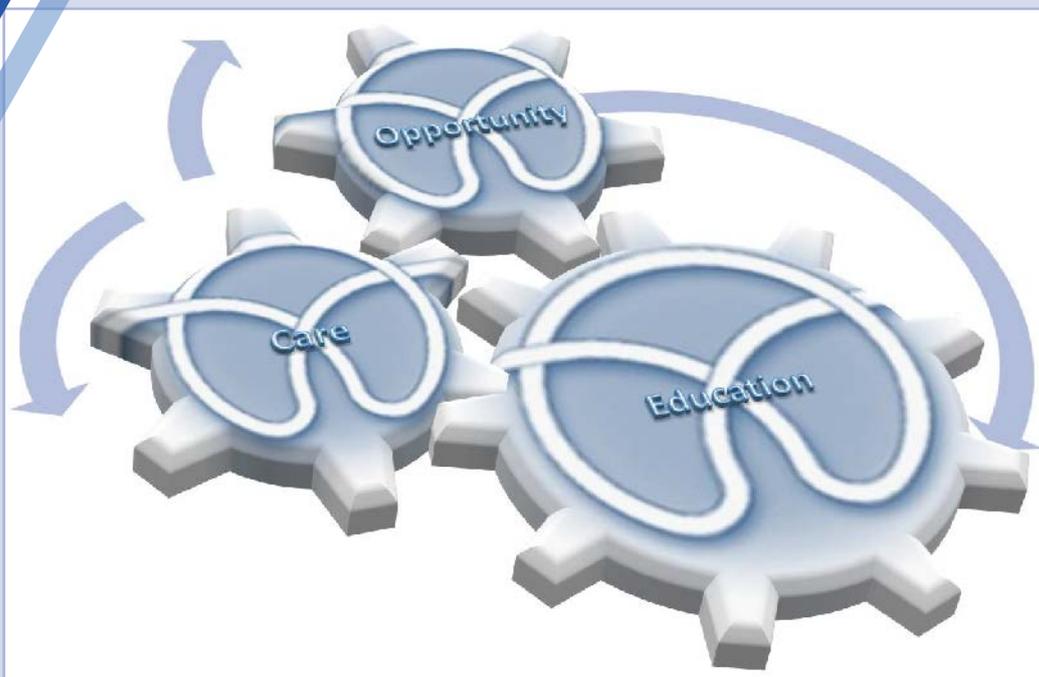


WATLING ACADEMY
Barrosa Way, Whitehouse, Milton Keynes MK8 1EP



Watling Academy will be a brand new, purpose built secondary school, opening in September 2020. Located within the Whitehouse development, Watling Academy will sit at the heart of its community in the Western Expansion Area of Milton Keynes, serving pupils from age 11 to 16 who live in the Whitehouse and Fairfields developments and beyond.

Watling Academy will be part of the Denbigh Alliance Multi-Academy Trust which currently operates through Denbigh School (Ofsted rated Good – January 2019), an 11-18 Academy based approximately 1.5 miles from Watling Academy.



Watling Academy will provide the highest standards of Education, Care and Opportunity in line with the core principles of the Denbigh Alliance, achieving outstanding outcomes for **all** students, regardless of ability or background.

We believe that all students are unique and interesting individuals and that providing a caring and nurturing environment will support them in their development as young adults to become exceptional and valued contributors to society, making a positive difference in their communities.



VISION

Our vision for the students and parents, indeed the whole community of Watling Academy, is to deliver an outstanding, holistic educational experience to equip our students to become successful and fulfilled citizens. We will prepare our students with the knowledge, skills and personal qualities to be able to contribute fully to the world of work locally within Milton Keynes and further afield and gain an understanding of how our city will grow and develop over the next two decades.

Our aim is to achieve this vision by;

- **maintaining the ethos of a small school within a larger school environment;**
- **putting the local community at the heart of everything we do;**
- **utilising links and relationships with Higher Education providers and businesses within Milton Keynes.**

Watling Academy – Highest standards of Education, Care and Opportunity

EDUCATION

All students will follow a **rich and deep core curriculum** of English, Maths, Science, Humanities and Languages, enhanced through the study of a broad range of additional subjects including technology, engineering, computing, vocational, social sciences, PE, performing arts and creative subjects.

The strength of the curriculum will be underpinned by a **strong STEM focus** (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths), delivered through an innovative elective programme, aimed at preparing students for the world of work in an expanding, vibrant Milton Keynes. This will not only manifest itself in the opportunities that we will offer our students in the classroom through our outstanding curriculum, but also beyond in a broad and diverse extra-curricular programme.

The Trust's **well-developed links** with the technical business community within Milton Keynes and across the breadth of the Cambridge - Milton Keynes - Oxford arc will provide depth and relevance, bringing the curriculum to life through **real world experiences** and a context for their learning.

In addition to establishing a high-quality education at the Academy, a **comprehensive enrichment programme** will be provided that goes beyond simple bolt-on extra-curricular activities. As part of a comprehensive curriculum plan, careful consideration will be given to the relevance and impact of opportunities on student outcomes and progress. For example, in years 7 and 8, each year group will take part in cross-curricular themed days and all students will participate in the innovative STEM elective programme.



CARE

Students will have their **pastoral needs** met by dedicated tutors and pastoral leaders who will remain with them throughout their time at the Academy. Pastoral staff will oversee the progress, attendance and behaviour of the students within their care and build lasting relationships with the families they serve. They will ensure that the highest standards of uniform, behaviour for learning and conduct are exemplified by our students.

Through the PSHEE and Assembly programme, students will embody the Academy's ethos. They will make well informed choices regarding their **physical and mental health and well-being** and their behaviour outside of school in the local community, as well as when using online technologies. All students will have access to high quality, independent advice and guidance enabling them to make informed choices at key transition points and gaining a sound understanding of financial capability and economic awareness.

Students with pastoral and/or learning needs will be identified early in the transition process from Primary School by a **dedicated SEND team**, already expert in working with the same local providers, removing barriers to learning once they start at Watling Academy. Students with identified specific needs will be supported throughout their education to overcome barriers so that their achievements are at least equal to their peers.

All students, regardless of background, will be supported by a dedicated 'Student Champion', securing equality of opportunity, which will be embedded within everything we do.

OPPORTUNITY

Crucial to achieving outstanding, high-quality educational outcomes for our students is a responsibility to enrich and broaden pupils' learning by providing valuable experiences inside and outside the classroom. These will promote independence and skills, contributing to them becoming successful and fulfilled members of society. Watling Academy will offer an enrichment programme consisting of extra-curricular activities, explicitly developing the skills of **Leadership, Organisation, Resilience, Independence and Communication (LORIC)**.

Student Voice will have prominence from the school's inception with Year and House Councils and a Student Council playing a pivotal role in the running and development of the School. This will begin with a competition, run by the students, to name the Houses.

Activities will range from chess clubs, dance groups, debating societies, eco-schools and residential trips both within the UK and internationally. Students at the Academy will benefit from the Alliance's extensive experience in organising and running these types of activities.

Throughout the year, all faculties will contribute to the programme ensuring we offer an extensive range of activities to engage all. Students will also be encouraged to test their skills in **local and international arenas** across areas as diverse as performing arts, music, sports, STEM and the Duke of Edinburgh Scheme. Students will also be consulted regularly on opportunities they would like to be made available within school.

We aim to create an ethos where:

- The local community is at the heart of everything we do
- No student is ever anonymous
- Everyone actively participates in school life
- Students will feel and be safe
- Students are inspired and motivated to raise their aspirations, achieve beyond their expectations and ensure that they exploit opportunities to the full
- British values, tolerance and respect for all are embedded in our way of working
- The highest standards of uniform, behaviour for learning and conduct are exemplified by our students
- Leadership, Organisation, Resilience, Independence and Communication underpin our successes
- Achievement and success is valued and celebrated
- Problem solving, reasoning and learning from mistakes is valued and part of the wider learning process

Our Core Values – ‘The Watling Way’

RESPECT

- **Community** is at the heart of everything we do; everyone helping to shape our new and vibrant community
- We have the **courage** to think differently; **respect** the views of others and appreciate the value of alternative opinions and viewpoints

RESPONSIBILITY

- We develop our students in order to take **responsibility** for their actions
- We show **integrity** by being truthful and honest to others and ourselves
- Success is not accidental – it comes through **hard work, perseverance** and **learning from mistakes**
- Our students grow to become resilient in their working and personal lives

KINDNESS

- We act with **kindness** to help others, within the Academy, within the local community and beyond
- We **empathise** when others are in need of support and respond accordingly
- We have zero **tolerance for bullying**



SITE/LOCATION INFORMATION

Construction of the Academy will be managed by Milton Keynes Local Authority and is due to begin in late Spring 2019. Once the building is finished, the Academy will be handed over to the Denbigh Alliance Multi-Academy Trust who are the chosen sponsor for Watling Academy. The Trust has been working in close partnership with the Local Authority, architects and builders to ensure that Watling Academy is ready to be equipped and furnished with high quality technology and fittings to ensure that we can achieve our vision for the outstanding education Watling will provide its students.

Watling Academy will be located on Barossa Way in the Whitehouse development of the Milton Keynes Western Expansion area. The school developments sits on an area of 10.88ha and will comprise a 1800 place 11-16 secondary school with associated external playing, fields, sports pitches, and car/cycle parking for staff and visitors. The Academy will consist of a large 3 storey block with a separate sports block. There will be a **dedicated community space** constructed on the site, which aligns with the vision for the Academy as being at the heart of the local community.





ACADEMY OPENING HOURS

The Academy opening hours are in the process of being agreed. There will be provision for students to study before and after the formal timetabled day. Further information about before and after school activities, the enrichment programme and extended learning opportunities will be available over the coming year.

ADMISSIONS

Our Published Admissions Number (PAN) is 180 places for Year 7 only. Our Admissions Arrangements are available on our website www.watling.academy. The admissions process will be run on our behalf by Milton Keynes Local Authority, following the normal admissions timeline. The window for applications for entry in September 2020 will open in September 2019, and close on 31st October 2019. Any applications received after this point will be processed as 'late applications'.

COMMUNITY FACILITIES

Watling Academy will provide an opportunity for the use of extensive, purpose-built facilities by the local community. These will include sporting facilities, meeting rooms, a drama theatre/meeting hall, IT facilities and other specialist rooms such as multimedia, photography and food technology. Sporting facilities will include a large sports hall, 4G football pitches, multi-use games areas, tennis, hockey, athletics and cricket pitches.

STAFF AND RECRUITMENT

Andy Squires, Chief Executive of the Denbigh Alliance Trust is currently taking a joint lead on the development of Watling Academy alongside Ian Bacon, who has been appointed as Head of School.

Andy is Headteacher of Denbigh School, Chair of the Milton Keynes Secondary Headteachers Group and a National Leader in Education. Andy has overseen the development of the Denbigh Alliance Trust and been instrumental in the creation of the Enigma Maths Hub, Denbigh Teaching School Alliance and Tommy Flowers SCITT (school-centred initial teacher training).

Ian is currently Senior Deputy Head at Denbigh School and has been a successful Senior Leader in secondary schools for 14 years. Ian is working closely with both Whitehouse and Fairfields Primary Schools to ensure a continuity of education for the children who will be joining Watling Academy. Ian is Strategic Lead for the Enigma Maths Hub, which provides professional development for Maths teachers from Early Years to Post-16 across a region including Milton Keynes, Buckinghamshire, Northamptonshire, Bedfordshire and Luton.

Watling Academy will be appointing highly motivated and qualified teachers from Autumn 2019 who will also benefit from the opportunities offered by the Denbigh Teaching School Alliance, Enigma Maths Hub and Science Learning Partnership.

Teachers will be recruited by the Alliance and developed through the SCITT, Teaching School and Maths Hub to act as ambassadors, mentors and coaches to the next generation of teaching professionals.



CONTACT US

Further information about the Academy is available on the website www.watling.academy

You can also contact us by email at admin@watling.academy

or by telephone on **01908 330518**

The address for the Academy will be:

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