Headteacher’s Welcome

I hope that this prospectus provides a flavour of what our academy is about; a school community striving hard to achieve the best outcomes for its young people through developing a culture of respect, determination and kindness that permeates everything we do.

There has never been a more exciting time to become a member of our school community as we continue to develop the quality of the education that every young person will experience. High expectations and the belief that every child can achieve are at the forefront of our mission to provide an excellent learning experience for everyone, in an academy to which we can all be proud to belong.

We are especially proud of our A-Level results which have been consistently high in recent years, with all of our students securing their places in further and higher education. For the second consecutive year we were one of only three schools in the city to achieve a 100% pass rate at A-Level.

We are proud of the educational developments we are making at Ernesford Grange and are excited about the future.

Denise Burrows
Headteacher
In February 2015 we moved into our purpose-built building with light, airy classrooms and 'state of the art' ICT facilities. Students and staff quickly settled in and the whole school community now feels at home in our new surroundings.

We are part of the Sidney Stringer Multi-Academy Trust. There are currently 5 schools in the trust; Sidney Stringer Academy, Ernesford Grange Community Academy, Radford Primary, Sidney Stringer Primary and Riverbank Academy. Ernesford is working closely with Sidney Stringer to provide the best outcomes for all of our students.
Lessons and Results

Our school day consists of five, one hour lessons. This enables the students to focus fully on their learning with less movement between lessons. We expect students to be in school for 8.45am and to be in their classrooms to begin lessons promptly at 8.55am. There is a fifty minute lunch break which incorporates twenty minutes for tutor time. School finishes at 3pm.

All of our students are set targets on entry, based on them making better than expected progress compared to National standards. Progress is monitored closely and reported to parents three times a year.

Pupils are being helped to develop a love of learning’.
HMI report July 2018

Admissions

Parents or carers who want their child to attend the Academy follow the same application process as for other state schools in Coventry. This is administered by the Local Authority.
Sixth Form

We have a very inclusive sixth form and have high expectations of all of our students. We offer a wide range of courses at A Level and Level 3 BTEC. We constantly review our curriculum and adapt it to meet the needs of our students. Our students achieve well with point scores amongst the highest in the city. In recent years we have seen many of them go on to some of the leading universities.

We work collaboratively with other schools to ensure that we are able to offer as wide a range of courses as possible and are developing our offer at L3 BTEC.

The Sixth Form area is well resourced and students are encouraged to take part in a wide range of extra-curricular activities, including supporting students in the rest of the school and volunteering more widely.

Ofsted - December 2016:

"In Post 16, classes are small, behaviour is exemplary and teachers give students individual attention and high quality support with their work. Students make good progress as a result."

In 2017 A-Level results were in the top 25% nationally (ALPS).
Faculties

We aim to provide a wide and exciting curriculum which meets the needs of all of our students. In Years 7 and 8 they follow National Curriculum courses in English, Maths, Science, Humanities, Languages (either French or Spanish), Design Technology, Computing, Art, Drama and PE. They also study a Life Skills course which includes Personal, Social, Health and Economic Education, British Values and Citizenship.

In Year 9 students start their GCSE and vocational courses having made their choices at the end of Year 8.

All students have the opportunity to study the core subjects Maths, English, Science, a Humanities subject (History or Geography), a Modern Foreign Language and Physical Education. They follow specific pathways based on their option choices.

We offer a broad range of additional courses including separate sciences (Biology, Chemistry and Physics), Engineering, Performing Arts, Art and Design, ICT, Health & Social Care, Food & Cookery, Media Studies, Sociology, Sport, Religious Education and Psychology.

We aim to personalise the KS4 curriculum as much as possible to meet the needs of all our students.

‘There is a clear focus on learning’
HMI report July 2018
Pastoral Care

At Ernesford Grange, pastoral care means the “care of learning”. We want children to get the most out of their education; we want them to be able to learn in a safe and secure environment and to feel that they can discuss any problems that arise with a member of staff straight away.

Each child has a tutor who has responsibility for their welfare. The tutor is the first point of contact should any difficulty arise. We operate a house system which means that students are in tutor groups with students from years 7 to 11. We have five houses with five tutor groups in each. Each house has an experienced house head and a member of the Senior Leadership Team associated with it.

We believe that quality homework can help to ensure progress. We use an app called Class Charts to enable students and parents to keep track of homework and achievements.

We have Student Leaders to help with raising standards in the school.

“I was really surprised by how friendly and interactive the adults and Year 10, 11 and 12’s are”

Year 7 Student

“I am really happy that I decided to send my child to Ernesford Grange. The Pastoral support has been excellent ......I couldn’t have asked for better.”

Parent

Child Protection Statement

At Ernesford we take the Safeguarding of our students very seriously. All staff are DBS checked before they start and 'Safer Recruitment' policies are followed in interviews. Miss Lovick, an Assistant Head, is responsible for all matters of Child Protection and any disclosures are reported to her. Our Child protection policy is available on the school website.
At Ernesford we have three principles which we apply to all of the work we do.

Respect
Determination
Kindness

There is a ‘positive and aspirational culture throughout the school’.
HMI report July 2018

Respect

We aim to instil respect in all of our students, for themselves, for other people and for their environment. Visitors regularly comment on how polite and pleasant our students are. They always make us proud when they are on trips out of school.

“Ernesford staff are committed to getting the best from all their pupils”
Parent, September 2018
Determination

We expect all of our students to have attendance above 98%, to attend lessons on time and ready to work. To strive to achieve excellence in all that they do, including extra-curricular activities.

Kindness

We are a community at Ernesford and we take care of one another. Our students are well known for their caring natures and the way they look after one another. They are generous with their time, regularly raising money for charity and volunteering in the local community as well as in school.

“Staff are very friendly and approachable to both students and parents and are always happy to help in any way they can”.

Parent, 2017
Extra Curricular

Students are encouraged to participate in a wide range of school and community activities which take place out of school hours.

The PE Faculty and Sports Leaders run activities every lunchtime as well as a number of school teams after school.

Duke of Edinburgh awards are available from Bronze to Gold standard for students from year 9 upwards; these involve camping and map reading as well as setting personal challenges.

We are proud to have won the Coventry Community Cohesion Award twice in recent years in recognition of our work with different parts of the community.

We have a very successful Science Club which has displayed projects at the Big Bang Fair.

“I know that you won’t find a school where the teachers are more dedicated to the students”

Student

One of our most exciting extra-curricular activities in recent years has been the ‘Schools’ Build a Plane challenge’. We were one of only 6 schools in the country to have been chosen to take part in this project sponsored by Boeing and The Royal Aeronautical Society. We have built a two-seater Rans Coyote and have also built a flight simulator in the cockpit of a real plane. The kit and the simulator have been to a number of national events including RIAT and Farnborough air show. Students from several local schools have been able to come and take part in the project alongside our students and our team of volunteers. On May 18th 2017 it made its first public flight.
The school has a fine record in sport. We have football teams in most year groups and encourage both girls and boys to play in local teams as well. We have produced footballers who have played for England as well as in the Premiership and currently have a number who are in Academies for professional clubs for part of the week.

Trampolining and gymnastics have also been popular sports and one of our students is the current under 18 British Trampoline champion. In Athletics we have students who represent Coventry in both track and field events and in 2018 two of our students were placed in the top two places for their age category in the West Midlands Athletics championship.

Students also excel in badminton and table tennis and are encouraged to participate in activities such as Tae Kwon Do and Gymnastics which take place in our Community Sports Facility.
The indoor facilities in the building are fabulous with a magnificent new sportshall with markings for a wide range of sports from badminton to futsal. Trampolining is still as popular as ever and we are fortunate enough to have 4 large trampolines for use during lessons and as extra-curricular activities. Students also enjoy dodgeball and basketball.

Our studio gym is well resourced with both gymnastics equipment and IT facilities which are made great use of for analysing performance as well as using new dance software.

We have access to a large playing field used widely for athletics during the summer term. Our 4 tennis courts are also well used during the summer and facilities for rugby and cricket are being developed.
Arts

Art is taught at all stages in the school; it is offered as a GCSE course and is a popular choice for A Level or Level 3 BTEC in the sixth form. Visitors to the school are frequently amazed by the large sculptures that sixth form students have created. One spectacular piece, a six foot high Rhinoceros head, has been on display both at Willenhall library and the main library in the City centre. Our art students also take part in project work such as creating the sets for the school show.

We were recently fortunate enough to stage an art exhibition in The Box at Fargo Village alongside the other schools in the MAT.

“So impressive, the standard is so good. Congratulations to the teachers and students. Clearly inspirational”
Visiting Art teacher
Performing Arts

One of the highlights is the school production. We audition for the main parts but everyone who wants to be involved gets a role either on stage or behind the scenes. There are regularly over 70 students involved each year.

Recent productions have included:

Annie
Schools Will Rock You
Disco Inferno
High School Musical
Hairspray

Our students have also gone out into the community to perform in the community centres in Willenhall and Stoke Aldermoor, in local residential care homes and at the Rotary Awards and the Belgrade. We have enormously talented actors, singers and musicians who are well supported by all of the school community.

The annual ‘Ernesford’s Got Talent’ competition is an excellent showcase for all of our talented students.
Riverbank Academy

We are delighted to share our school site with Riverbank Academy, a broad spectrum special school, catering for a wide range of educational special need. The two communities combine well sharing a range of facilities and opportunities to our mutual advantage. Riverbank is also a member of the Sidney Stringer Multi-Academy Trust.

“At Ernesford it seems that to be popular you have to be nice to other people”

Riverbank Student
TOGETHER WE ACHIEVE

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