



**Learning and Leading for  
the World of Tomorrow**





**“The curriculum is inclusive and responsive to the expressed needs and interests of students.”**

Ofsted, November 2010

## Welcome to the future of education

**The Oxford Academy provides a state-of-the-art, inspiring and exciting learning environment for all the communities we serve: The Leys, Rose Hill and Littlemore. The Academy is housed in a contemporary, superbly equipped building that provides us with first class facilities, designed to support all our students to achieve beyond their expectations.**

We believe that by enabling and encouraging students to reach their full potential, we will prepare our young people for the rest of their lives, both in education and the world of work. Ours is an Academy that strives to exceed your expectations from the outset and will endeavour to give your child the best possible start in life.

Whilst delivering a broad and dynamic curriculum to our students, our specialism in Sport provides tremendous opportunities to develop confidence, understanding, experience and skills.

Our task is to inspire students to aim for, and achieve, the highest levels, academically and in other areas of school life, whilst at the same time, reaching out to the wider community by sharing our excellent new facilities. Thus, we are an Academy for everyone: first and foremost a place of inspirational teaching and learning and secondly, a true hub for the local community, offering a broad range of educational and leisure activities and events, outside school hours.

We offer excellence and accessibility for all.

We hope this prospectus gives you a sense of what makes us so special, and if you are considering The Oxford Academy, we strongly recommend that you come along and visit us, to see for yourselves what we are able to offer.

**Mike Reading**  
Principal



### Message from the Sponsors

On behalf of all the sponsors, the Oxford Diocesan Board of Education, Oxford Brookes University and the Beecroft Trust, I would like to welcome you to The Oxford Academy.

As sponsors, we are committed to ensuring that The Oxford Academy provides the best possible educational opportunities for the young people of The Leys, Rose Hill and Littlemore. We bring a passion for change from a variety of business, community and education leaders.

**Adrian Beecroft**  
Chairman of the Governing Board

We are ambitious for our students and the Academy community. We are committed to ensuring that everything we do improves outcomes for our students and strengthens our communities.



## Our building: an **engaging** learning **environment**

### **Our vision: looking to the future**

We have a strong vision of a brighter and better educational future, not only for our students, but for the entire local community. To this end we focus on the concept of **‘Learning and leading for the world of tomorrow’**. In addition to this, a strong Christian ethos and defined set of values underscore everything we do. Bound into the fabric of the Academy are our core values: respect, compassion, forgiveness, self-discipline, justice, humility and hope.

### **Our educational goals and aspirations are:**

- To develop confident skills in literacy and numeracy for every learner
- To develop strong, responsible leadership amongst students
- To strengthen our communities through improved access to education and training
- To develop marketable skills and help gain qualifications for every learner

### **Our means of achievement are through:**

- Effective learning
- Outstanding outcomes
- Enriching experiences and opening up learning pathways
- Stimulating and learner-friendly environments
- 11-19 mixed Academy educating children of all faiths and none
- Unique Year 7 school
- Sixth Form centre
- Outstanding facilities including:
  - modern theatre
  - rehearsal rooms
  - dance studio
  - fully equipped gym
  - sports hall
  - bistro
  - ceramics workshop
  - music technology suite
  - leadership centre
  - library
- New sports facilities including: all weather surfaces for hockey, tennis, netball and a top-level covered sports area suitable for football and rugby

## Our curriculum: **inspiring** a passion for **learning**

A relevant and challenging curriculum will be followed by all students at the Academy, enabling them to gain the appropriate qualifications to succeed. The modern curriculum will ensure that the talents and needs of all students are identified, developed and that they are given opportunities to progress and achieve their full potential.

### **Our specialism: what makes us unique**

Our specialism in Sport ensures that, whilst offering a broad academic and vocational curriculum, students will also benefit from specialist teaching in this chosen area. Our specialist status equips us with a whole host of exciting opportunities, including trips to iconic sporting venues. We have also been fortunate enough to welcome a number of sporting personalities into the Academy for a range of programmes and initiatives, such as the London Wasps team, Alex Hanson, the international hockey player and Katherine Grainger, Team GB’s most successful female rower.

### **From primary school: your journey begins**

The Academy operates a distinct school for Year 7s which provides a supportive learning environment closely tailored to individual needs. In particular it ensures that every student’s progression from primary to secondary education is a positive experience.

Alongside specialist subjects, the Year 7 Team delivers a range of lessons designed to develop confident learners. As a result of our personalised approach to learning, our Year 7s quickly become independent learners; fully equipped for their educational journey into the Academy Sixth Form and beyond.



**“Lessons in Year 7 are lively, engaging and pitched at the right level. Students respond with enthusiasm and growing confidence.”**

Ofsted, November 2010

**“The Oxford Academy has offered me support in realising my potential from day one. They pushed me to do my best and offered support and guidance along the way.”**

Sixth Form student



## Our Sixth Form: **achieving above** and **beyond**

The Sixth Form is an integral part of the Academy with rapidly expanding post-16 options and an emphasis on developing independence, personal maturity and leadership skills.

### Students entering the Sixth Form have access to:

- A wide range of academic and vocational qualifications
- A very well resourced Sixth Form Centre that includes separate study and social areas
- Personalised career advice
- Use of the sports and gym facilities
- Targeted and bespoke learning support programmes

The Sixth Form has its privileges and responsibilities. On entering the Academy Sixth Form we expect students to demonstrate an enthusiastic, committed and co-operative attitude to their studies, fellow Sixth Formers and staff. Our guarantee is that we will provide a challenging and inspiring education in a stimulating, mature and supportive atmosphere.

At the Academy, Sixth Form students will develop knowledge and understanding in their chosen subject areas and will be supported in obtaining qualifications that will secure future opportunities. We will work hard to provide opportunities for students to develop talents, build character and confidence, and offer wider experiences to ensure that our Sixth Formers leave The Oxford Academy fully prepared for their next step.



**“A positive ethos ensures that the students enjoy their studies. The students receive well-structured guidance both prior to entry into the Sixth Form and for their futures.”**

Ofsted, November 2010

Students are at the centre of life here; they are the most important element and, as such, their views count and are listened to, helping to shape the future of the Academy.



## Our students: supported and developed from 11-19

### Vertical tutoring

At The Oxford Academy your child will receive a high standard of pastoral care from their Tutor with added support from a Learning Mentor. Students are organised into mixed age tutor groups of approximately 14 with students from Years 12 and 13 acting as Associate Tutors.

As part of this small mixed-age range tutor group, your child will be given guidance, mentoring and support. Tutors will help students to review current progress, understand their academic targets and, most importantly, help them plan how they are going to achieve these goals and maximise their learning.

Your child's Tutor should be your first point of contact at the Academy and will be available to discuss your child's progress throughout the year.

### Extra-curricular

We offer a wide range of extra-curricular activities designed to enrich the learning possibilities and experiences available to all students, including:

- song writing and vocal group
- Year 11 revision café
- drama and film clubs
- newspaper club
- fishing club
- design & technology club
- Lego club
- cooking club
- ceramics
- textiles

As a specialist Sports academy, our offer is extensive and includes; football, rugby, futsal, dodgeball, cricket, badminton, dance, basketball, volleyball, table tennis, netball, hockey, athletics, rounders, golf, kayaking, sailing, trampolining and access to our fully equipped gym.



“Support and advice are readily accessible for students.”

Ofsted, November 2010

## Our **community**: a commitment to **Oxford**

The Academy aspires to be the hub for education and activities for the whole community, sharing our inspiring new facilities with families and local residents. Inviting the community into the Academy is our way of showing our commitment to raising educational opportunities and standards for everyone.

As part of the general regeneration programme for the local area we are keen to provide a range of activities and services to everyone in the community.

We have many partnerships in place that enhance the learning experiences for both our students and the community. These partnerships extend our curriculum offer by bringing in outside expertise, offering work experience and opportunities for development and learning beyond the classroom.

### **Our partnerships: working together to achieve success**

The Academy has established a number of partnerships with other schools, universities and organisations to extend the opportunities available to students and staff in developing new interests and skills.

#### **International Inspiration – India**

The Oxford Academy is one of the first schools in the UK to be partnered with a school in West Bengal through the International Inspiration programme, which uses the power of sport to transform the lives of millions of children and young people in developing countries.

#### **Primary Care Trust and Youth Sport Trust**

The Oxford Academy Sports Development Team has trained students to deliver the Active Lifestyle programme to local primary schools, in partnership with the key organisations. The Active Lifestyle programme aims to increase the amount of sport and physical activity young people undertake. The students visit schools to engage pupils in fun sports activities. The project is being organised and run by the Thame and Oxford School Sports Partnership and is supported by Healthy Schools and the Primary Care Trust (PCT).

#### **Local Primary Schools**

In addition, we work closely with our local primary schools as we know this proves beneficial to children in easing their transition from the primary to the secondary stage of their education.

## As an Academy we also benefit from the knowledge and expertise of our sponsors:

**The Oxford Diocesan Board** has considerable expertise and experience in the world of education. The Diocese is responsible for 279 schools serving nine local authorities – the largest number of schools in any Anglican diocese. It currently has 120 schools within Oxfordshire, including 11 in Oxford City. It ensures that the Academy is both inclusive and distinctive and reflects the Church's commitment to ensuring the best possible education for young people.

**Oxford Brookes University** is a major contributor to social and economic growth in Oxfordshire and to widening access to higher education for young people from all kinds of backgrounds. Through its Westminster Institute of Education it is a key player in school improvement and the training and professional development of teachers.

**The Beecroft Trust**, established by Adrian and Jacqui Beecroft, focuses on education and science and is founded on their belief that support directed at these areas will benefit not only the current generation, but future ones as well. Its work is underpinned by the drive to improve the life chances of young people.





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