



# Mildenhall College

A C A D E M Y

WORKING TOGETHER SUPPORTING INDIVIDUALS



**MILDENHALL COLLEGE ACADEMY  
LEADERS HAVE ESTABLISHED A  
CULTURE OF HIGH EXPECTATIONS**

# WELCOME TO MILDENHALL COLLEGE ACADEMY

Mildenhall College Academy is part of the Academy Transformation Trust family. We aim to provide opportunities for all our students to succeed, ensuring that each child fulfils their potential.

In one form or another, our academy has served the local community for over 40 years and this is an exciting time to be joining us. We are a 'Good' school (Ofsted, March 2015) and inspectors recognised the excellent work that our academy team is doing to provide students with the first class education they deserve.

Our academy is located across two high quality sites that inspire learning for our students. Years 7-11 are housed on the Main Site at Bury Road, while our Sixth Form has its own centre, MCA<sup>6</sup> at Sheldrick Way.

We aim to:

- > Encourage the pursuit of excellence
- > Celebrate achievements through our rewards system and Awards Evenings
- > Offer a curriculum which meets the needs and aspirations for all young people
- > Build partnerships with parents to obtain the best for our children
- > Foster an ethos which encourages social responsibility and respect for different cultures
- > Create a happy, respectful community where everyone feels safe and secure
- > Offer a full programme of enrichment and extra-curricular activities
- > Listen to our students' opinions

Nicola Hood, Principal

## WELCOME FROM ACADEMY TRANSFORMATION TRUST

Dear prospective students,  
parents and carers

We are delighted that you are interested in joining Mildenhall College Academy.

Our mission is to transform learning, aspirations and opportunities for all our pupils, and the communities in which they live.

We believe that every child matters and deserves a first class education and that everyone has hidden potential to be uncovered and nurtured.

Working with Nicola Hood, Principal and her staff, we will play our part in giving your children the education and opportunities they need to succeed in a changing world.

Choosing a school for your child is a very important decision and we hope that this prospectus gives you all you need to make an informed choice about us.







# JOINING THE ACADEMY



When you join us, we hope that you will be impressed by the warmth of our welcome. We understand it can be unsettling moving from one school to another and we aim to make this as easy and seamless as possible for your child.

**“MCA IS A GREAT PLACE TO LEARN BECAUSE OF ALL THE WORK AND SUPPORT THAT TEACHERS PUT IN TO A SINGLE LESSON.”**

**HAYDN, YEAR 7**

We have strong links with our local Primary schools and we work closely with them during this transition time. Knowing our children well means we are able to more effectively meet their needs and offer the support that is required.

Our induction days and visits ensure new students settle and start learning as soon as they arrive. This helps to build relationships and confidence about the move into secondary education.

Every Year 6 family is offered an opportunity to come to an open evening, and to meet their child's form tutor who will be the main point of contact. We also provide you with a 'welcome pack' containing all the information that you will need prior to your child starting at our academy.

Students who are anxious about the move, or those who have special educational needs and/or disabilities, are given particular support during the transition period with extra visits in small groups to help familiarise themselves with their new academy.

## Academy day

Warning bell	08.45	
Period 1	09.00	10.00
Tutor Time	10.00	10.20
Break	10.20	10.40
Period 2	10.40	11.40
Period 3	11.40	12.40
Lunch	12.40	13.30
Period 4	13.30	14.30
Period 5	14.30	15.30

## MILDENHALL COLLEGE ACADEMY ENCOURAGES THE PURSUIT OF EXCELLENCE





# ACADEMY CURRICULUM



Our curriculum caters for all students' needs and is based on the National Curriculum guidelines. Its breadth means everyone can explore a wide range of subjects, both academic and vocational, whilst developing integral skills.

**“THE IMAGINATIVE CURRICULUM MEANS THAT STUDENTS HAVE ACCESS TO A WIDE RANGE OF COURSES THAT ENABLES THEM TO MAKE GOOD PROGRESS.”**

OFSTED, 2015

Our curriculum offers all students a broad, balanced and rich experience to help equip them to succeed in a changing world.

#### Years 7-8 (Key Stage 3)

Here the emphasis is placed on a personalised and active approach to learning. This means we help our students develop the skills, knowledge and understanding essential to becoming successful, confident, responsible and independent learners.

#### Years 9, 10 & 11 (Key Stage 4)

Our students follow a range of pathways ranging from traditional academic GCSEs to more vocational ones such as BTEC and Cambridge Nationals qualifications.

Our most academic learners will take the English Baccalaureate consisting of five GCSE subjects: English, Maths, Science (Double or Triple), a language and a Humanities subject.

The students are also able to select additional optional subjects.

Those who complete early will be able to take a completely new GCSE in Year 11, study additional English or maths or even start an AS-Level early.

All our students are also provided with planners and homework timetables to help organise their studies.

#### Assessment

Regular assessment is used by teachers to help understand and support our students in making the best progress possible. Parents can follow their child's progress online at any point in the year and reports are available to download every half term. Students have an exam week every year to build their experience of taking examinations under real exam conditions.

## MILDENHALL COLLEGE ACADEMY OFFERS A CURRICULUM FOR ALL YOUNG PEOPLE







# SIXTH FORM



Our students have access to a wide variety of courses to choose from. We offer a blend of all the usual traditional A-levels, alongside a full vocational offering of Level 3 BTECs and Cambridge Technicals.

**“STUDENTS ARE CONFIDENT ABOUT THEIR FUTURES [AND] BENEFIT FROM GOOD-QUALITY INFORMATION, ADVICE AND GUIDANCE.”**

OFSTED, 2015

Our varied and challenging curriculum aims to stretch our students and help them develop the qualifications and skills they need for the next stage in their life. Our dedicated post-16 centre, MCA<sup>6</sup>, gives them high class, specialist facilities to help them achieve this.

In the Sixth Form, we provide specialist subject staff and focus on inclusion and pastoral support to ensure that every student has the brightest future possible. It's our belief that a student is most likely to achieve their full potential if they are happy and well supported.

Meeting on a weekly basis with their assigned personal mentor, students are given advice on personal organisation, study skills and UCAS applications by teachers who have the time to get to know them well.

We welcome all students from across the area and are delighted by the increasing number who join us in Year 12. We do our utmost to make them feel welcome from the start.

Finally, students who choose to come to MCA<sup>6</sup> will be able to enjoy the leadership, mentoring and enrichment opportunities of being part of a large academy.

## MILDENHALL COLLEGE ACADEMY LISTENS TO STUDENTS' OPINIONS





# INFORMATION AND ADVICE



## Student support

Our Student Support team is on hand to help those with special educational needs and disabilities, or who are academically gifted. Most support is provided within the classroom so that, as much as possible, all students are fully included in the academy's main curriculum.

**“STRONG TEACHING  
IS LEADING TO  
ACCELERATED  
PROGRESS.”**

OFSTED, 2015

The quality of our support work has been recognised by Ofsted who highlighted the “positive impact” our Behaviour and Engagement Support Team have had in supporting students' learning and emotional well-being in their recent inspection report.

## Our House system

From the start, our students belong to one of our four Houses and they remain in this House as they journey through the academy. This system aims to provide greater pastoral care to all our children while strengthening their sense of community and developing leadership skills within the student body.

## Vertical tutoring

When your child starts in Year 7, they will join a vertical tutor group which has students from other year groups in it. New students benefit

hugely from being able to access the experience, knowledge and support given by the older children. It is like joining a large family of older brothers and sisters.

## Form Tutors

Form Tutors are the most important person for you and your child to get to know as they will be your single point of contact at the academy. Our tutors pride themselves on knowing personally all students in their groups and they play a key role in guiding them towards success in their academy careers.

## Careers advice

We know that all students need to learn about the world of work and experience it if they are to become successful once they leave us. To ensure this, we employ a Careers Advisor and arrange a number of activities for parents and students throughout the year.

# MILDENHALL COLLEGE ACADEMY ENCOURAGES SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY AND RESPECT





# ACADEMY UNIFORM



Our Parents can buy uniform online all year round and the company comes to the academy to run a 'shop' during the Summer holiday

**“MILDENHALL  
COLLEGE ACADEMY  
HAS GIVEN ME  
OPPORTUNITIES  
I COULD ONLY  
DREAM OF.”**

**VICTORIA, YEAR 10**

## **Blazer, jumpers, cardigans, shirt & tie**

A blazer, shirt and tie must be worn in the academy at all times. Students may ask permission to remove blazers in lessons but must put them back on before leaving. Black academy jumpers or cardigans with red trim are optional.

## **Skirt & Trousers**

All academy skirts and trousers must be purchased through our approved supplier.

Only academy skirts will be allowed. Black socks must be worn if wearing trousers. Black tights must be worn if wearing a skirt.

## **Footwear**

Students must wear low heeled, sensible, plain black footwear. Laces must be black.

## **PE Kit**

### **Indoor/Summer Kit**

House T-shirt (new House T-Shirt available), black football socks, black shorts, suitable indoor training shoe any colour.

### **Outdoor Kit**

Outdoor academy fleece (compulsory), black football socks, black shorts, black tracksuit bottoms (optional), suitable outdoor training shoes, football boots, shin pads and gum shields (optional).

# MILDENHALL COLLEGE ACADEMY CELEBRATES ACHIEVEMENT







# KEEPING YOUR CHILD HEALTHY & SAFE



We provide a happy, supportive community where everybody feels secure.

## **Safeguarding and child protection**

The academy has a commitment to ensuring the well-being and personal safety of all the students who learn here. For that reason we have a clear safeguarding policy and procedure.

If students or parents have any concerns about possible abuse they can report these to us as all staff employed by the academy have been trained in how to deal with child protection issues.

## **Healthy academy**

We regard the health and safety of the young people in our care as one of our primary functions. We hold the national Healthy Schools Status and our commitment to the physical and mental well-being of our students is reflected in the rules and routines that underpin the ethos of our academy.

## **Healthy eating**

A superb range of healthy options are available at reasonable prices twice a day at morning break and lunchtime. Breakfast snacks are also available first thing in the morning. We recommend that students take water bottles in to lessons, which they can top up at water dispensers located across the academy.

## **Extra-Curricular**

We believe that students enjoy their education more when opportunities to succeed in a wide range of activities outside of normal lessons are provided. We offer activities at lunchtime and after hours and we run free late buses to help students who live beyond Mildenhall to take part in these.

Throughout the year there are numerous opportunities for students to take part in extra-curricular trips and visits to help support students in their curriculum studies as well as staging plays, showcases and concerts to display the talents of our students.

We are fortunate to have relationships with many local businesses who come in to work with our students and who allow us to visit their companies. We are also an active member of the Newmarket and District Chamber of Commerce.

# MILDENHALL COLLEGE ACADEMY CREATES A HAPPY, RESPECTFUL COMMUNITY



# PLEASE CALL TO ARRANGE A TOUR OF THE ACADEMY

## CONTACT

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