

07 March 2025

Dear Parent/Carer

**Re: Welcome to The Gateway Academy**

Congratulations on your child being offered a Year 7 place at The Gateway Academy. As you are aware, at our Academy, we uphold the highest standards, firmly rooted in our core principles of Responsibility, Resilience, Compassion and Aspiration. We are looking forward to your child bringing passion and energy to our Academy and taking every opportunity to take full advantage of the exceptional educational experience on offer.

It is a tremendous privilege to be the Head of School at The Gateway Academy for nearly ten years and to work alongside staff, students, parents and carers to ensure our Academy continues to flourish with student academic progress and student attendance, staff retention and attendance, all above national average.

We are aware that the five years your child will spend with us will provide a foundation for their future. It is imperative that all students and parents and carers are on board and we have a joint commitment to support our young people to develop as active and thriving citizens within a diverse, truly fair and equal community. As a result, if you do not feel that your child can commit to our GLC Values, please liaise with the Local Authority regarding an alternative educational provider. We set the highest standards at The Gateway Academy and do all within our power to ensure the young people within our care reach their full potential.

We are incredibly proud of our transition for our Year 7 students that includes:

- A one-week summer school for our new Year 7 cohort.
- A laptop scheme – this will give all Year 7 students access to a personal device that will support them to fully access the curriculum and become independent learners.
- Parent and Carer GCSE Focused Classes - the opportunity for you to gain knowledge of the revision strategies needed to support your child throughout their time in a secondary provision.

More details, will be sent to you in the coming months regarding all of the above.

We understand that your child might be feeling nervous about joining the Academy, particularly if they did not have the opportunity to tour the Academy last September and meet our staff. Please have a look at the following clips to get a flavour of what being part of the Gateway family truly is.

- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YDFOVP3_K7w
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eSBnb4rVtuM&t=10s>

Please also check out our Gateway Academy Times, that demonstrates our commitment to ensuring our students excel in all aspects of their lives.

- <https://www.theglc-gatewayacademy.org.uk/page/?title=Gateway+Times&pid=162>.

Details of this letter, together with a very large quantity of information can be found on the Academy's website. Please feel free to visit the Academy's website regularly for updates <http://www.theglc-gatewayacademy.org.uk/>.

If you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact Miss O'Dwyer via email at slobhan.odwyer@theglc.org.uk or telephone 01375 489000. For a brief introduction from myself, please check out the link <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=r86eG3Z8rX0>.

Yours sincerely

Mrs G McLaughlin
HEAD OF SCHOOL



OUR GLC CORE VALUES

The GLC's mission is to develop active and thriving citizens within a diverse, truly fair and equal community.

Responsibility

We own our behaviour and actions. We recognise that we play a fundamental role in shaping our lives, the lives of others and every aspect of the world. We understand the importance of 'making the weather.'



Resilience

We tackle challenges head-on. We approach people and situations with confidence and a positive mindset. We learn from our setbacks and failures.



Compassion

We care for ourselves and each other. We contribute to making the world a better place. We treat others with kindness, respect and dignity.



Aspiration

We aim high and work hard to fulfil our potential. We believe everybody can achieve something great and realise the importance of 'improving upon our best.'



Learning is prized





The Gateway Academy

What Ofsted Says

The school has established a strong curriculum. This identifies what pupils need to know to be successful. Teachers deliver the curriculum with considerable consistency.

Pupils benefit from high expectations for learning. This is in all subjects, but especially in English and mathematics they are highly successful.

Teachers check learning thoroughly and effectively. They rectify where pupils have gaps in knowledge. Pupils build on secure foundations.

Pupils live and breathe the school's values. Behaviour is excellent. Classrooms are purposeful. Pupils work hard and are eager to learn. Throughout the day they are orderly and polite. Pupils help to build this positive culture.

There is a palpable sense of community at the Gateway Academy. Pupils and families praise the wide-ranging support. For instance, there are well-attended learning activities before and after the school day.

The trust and school leaders have built a culture in which staff flourish. Staff retention is high. This leads to better provision for pupils.





THE GATEWAY ACADEMY FAMILY



We Are Exceptional



“ We were not born to be average.
We were born to be exceptional.
We are The Gateway Academy. ”

