

Prospectus



Walthamstow Academy
The best in everyone™
Part of United Learning



...best lesson, best day, best year, best future...

Welcome to Walthamstow Academy

Walthamstow Academy is a dynamic, thriving and successful academy at the centre of the local community. I believe that at the heart of our success are three key factors. The first is the dedication of our staff, who are all wholly determined to do whatever it takes to get the best possible outcomes for every single one of our students. This involves nurturing every child and tracking their progress to make sure that they are on track and that we are bringing out the best in them.

Second, we are committed to raising ambition through very high expectations and a belief that every child can achieve great things if they have the opportunity, the drive and the support that they need. As a result, our students have these expectations of themselves. They want to learn, they want to be successful, and they want to be proud. Our attendance is outstanding: students want to be here; they describe being part of Walthamstow Academy as like being part of a family.

Third, at Walthamstow Academy we believe that there is no time to waste. We make the most of every day. For every minute of every lesson, we make sure that our students are happy, engaged and learning. They know they need to make the most of every opportunity they are offered, and we want to be there to make sure they succeed.

I want all our students to have hopes and dreams for the future that mean they are challenging themselves to be the best they can be. I want them to show ambition, determination and respect in everything that they do.



Emma Skae BSc BED MA NPQH
Principal

Chair of Governors

I would like to welcome you to the latest Prospectus from Walthamstow Academy; opened in 2006 as an Academy sponsored by the United Learning Trust.

United Learning is a group of schools and Academies whose sole aim is to provide outstanding education to children and young people across the country. We seek to improve the life chances of all the children and young people we serve and make it our mission to bring out 'the best in everyone' – students, staff, parents and the wider community. Since 2009 the Academy has been led by an outstanding Principal in Emma Skae. Emma brings vision, enthusiasm, experience and a great drive to bring out the very best in all at the Academy. She is well supported by dedicated teams of staff who always impress me by their efforts to enable our students to succeed and foster a can do attitude in our students.

The Academy has been rated as being Good by OFSTED. We now move forward with the aim of being outstanding in everything we do. Our sixth form continues to go from strength to strength with every sixth form student who chose to do so

progressing to university in 2023, including the elite Russell Group universities. Additionally, I am impressed by the range of extra-curricular activities which enhance our students' experiences and help build confident young people.

While we continue to raise academic standards and want our students to achieve outstanding academic results, the Academy takes its pastoral responsibilities very seriously. We have a commitment to provide a supportive, happy and caring environment believing this will allow all of our students to develop their full potential. We aim to deliver United Learning's key aim and bring out "the best in everyone".

Please enjoy our virtual tour so you can see our students, staff and impressive facilities. I hope you will decide to become part of our future.



Geoff Skewes
Chair of Governors



The Best in Everyone

Our motto is 'the best in everyone' and we set high standards with clear expectations. We focus on encouragement, underpinned by good discipline. Staff, students and parents work together and uphold the same high standards to ensure that 'the best in everyone' means:

...best lesson, best day, best year, best future...



Dress Code

Our students are expected to wear their uniform with pride. The uniform is:

- Smart
- Unique
- Practical
- Machine washable

We have a number of different options to meet the cultural and religious needs of the community we serve.



Parent Partnership

Parents and carers are welcomed, informed and involved in their child's education. The three-way partnership between parents/carers, student and the Academy is built on shared trust, confidence and understanding. We find working together like this is essential for your child's success. Our support for parents includes:

- The parent handbook
- Arbor: an online system to allow easy communication between home and school
- A Google Classroom account for every student and parent so homework can be set and monitored, and key messages shared
- Having direct access to subject teachers
- An early transition meeting with your child's tutor
- An annual meeting with each subject teacher
- Praise through awards and prizes
- Regular contact with your child's form tutor
- Regular progress reports

We ask parents/carers to give support so the focus is on the positive. We have many rewards and prizes and our culture is one in which success is recognised and celebrated. If however, a student is not doing what is expected, we will remind them of our expectations. If the problem continues, sanctions such as detention will result. Parents/carers will be informed and invited in for a discussion if things continue to not go well. We will work together with you and your child to draw up the necessary programme of support and monitoring for improvement. All we ask is that each student does their best. We will not tolerate a student who disrupts the Academy experience for others either within or beyond the classroom.

"Thank you to all the staff who looked after my daughter when she was upset - she wouldn't have got through it without you all."

Year 11 parent



‘Pupils enjoy attending Walthamstow Academy and are kept safe here. Leaders and staff have high expectations of pupils’ behaviour. As a result, pupils behave well in lessons and around the school’ - Ofsted, November 2022

Our Community

We believe in maintaining a strong sense of community in which all staff work to ensure students are happy, healthy and safe. Students have a pastoral team to support their needs.

We provide many opportunities for our students to develop their spiritual, moral, social and cultural understanding of the world and of the multicultural society in which we live. Such topics will be discussed and celebrated in assemblies, PSHE sessions, in Religious Education and in our many cultural celebrations. We celebrate festivals of all religions and embrace the requirements of different faiths, for example through the provision of Halal meat for lunch and through uniform adaptations.

Students of all ages hold positions of responsibility and serve the community. We have an active student council made up of students from each form. This involves all students in consultation and contributes to Academy improvement planning.

The Academy believes in life-long learning. Career development for staff is central to our success. An increasing number of local people contribute to and gain from all the Academy offers. We value our good relationships with local primary schools and the wider community and seek to support both by sharing our resources and becoming a hub of out of hours community learning.

Ambitious classroom

We provide a learning environment which is exciting and relevant to the world our students will study and work in. Our teaching staff are selected for their passion for the subject they teach and their ability to inspire our students to achieve at the highest level. They create an environment where learning is enjoyable.

We have created a culture amongst us all to want to achieve and we work together to ensure this happens.

Learning is individually planned and every student is tracked for their progress with interventions put in place if a student needs them.

“I am excited about staying on at Walthamstow Academy. It is offering lots of choices in the Sixth Form and I am really looking forward to the challenge of new courses”

Year 11 student

“Teachers and staff make sure the environment is safe.”

Year 7 student



AMBITION



DETERMINATION

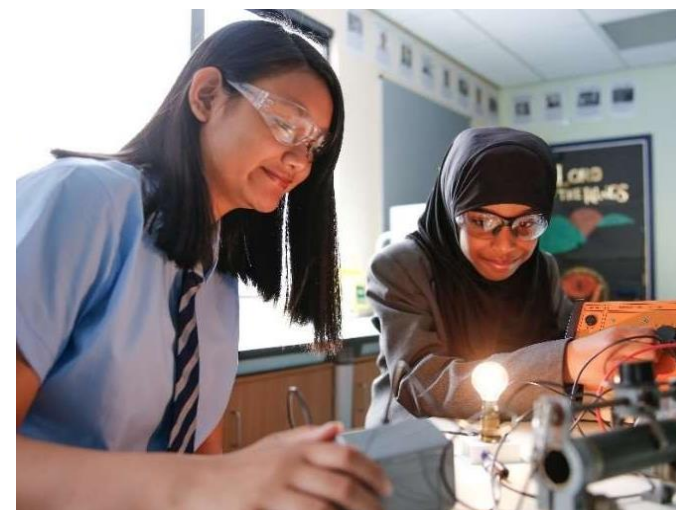


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Sixth Form

Walthamstow Academy Sixth Form enables progression to a wide range of university courses and careers and allows students to continue to study in an environment in which they are already known, understood and cared for. We give these older students the freedom, respect and responsibility they have earned as young adults within our framework of strong support, close monitoring and high expectation. The Sixth Form offers:

- a wide ranging curriculum
- traditional A Level and BTEC National Vocational courses
- experienced and well qualified teachers
- positions of responsibility
- opportunities outside the classroom through an extracurricular
- enrichment programme
- personal tutoring
- preparation for university and adult life
- Free textbooks and online learning resource subscriptions
- A Chromebook for the duration of your course



Personalised Learning

All learning is personalised to individual students, and constant tracking of progress ensures that action can be taken quickly to support achievement. Students are moved between groups strategically to ensure challenge is maintained.

Students are provided with intensive literacy support, if they require it, from our excellent learning support assistants. This support is usually in class to ensure consistency with their programme of study for every subject. Parents receive frequent reports on their child's progress.

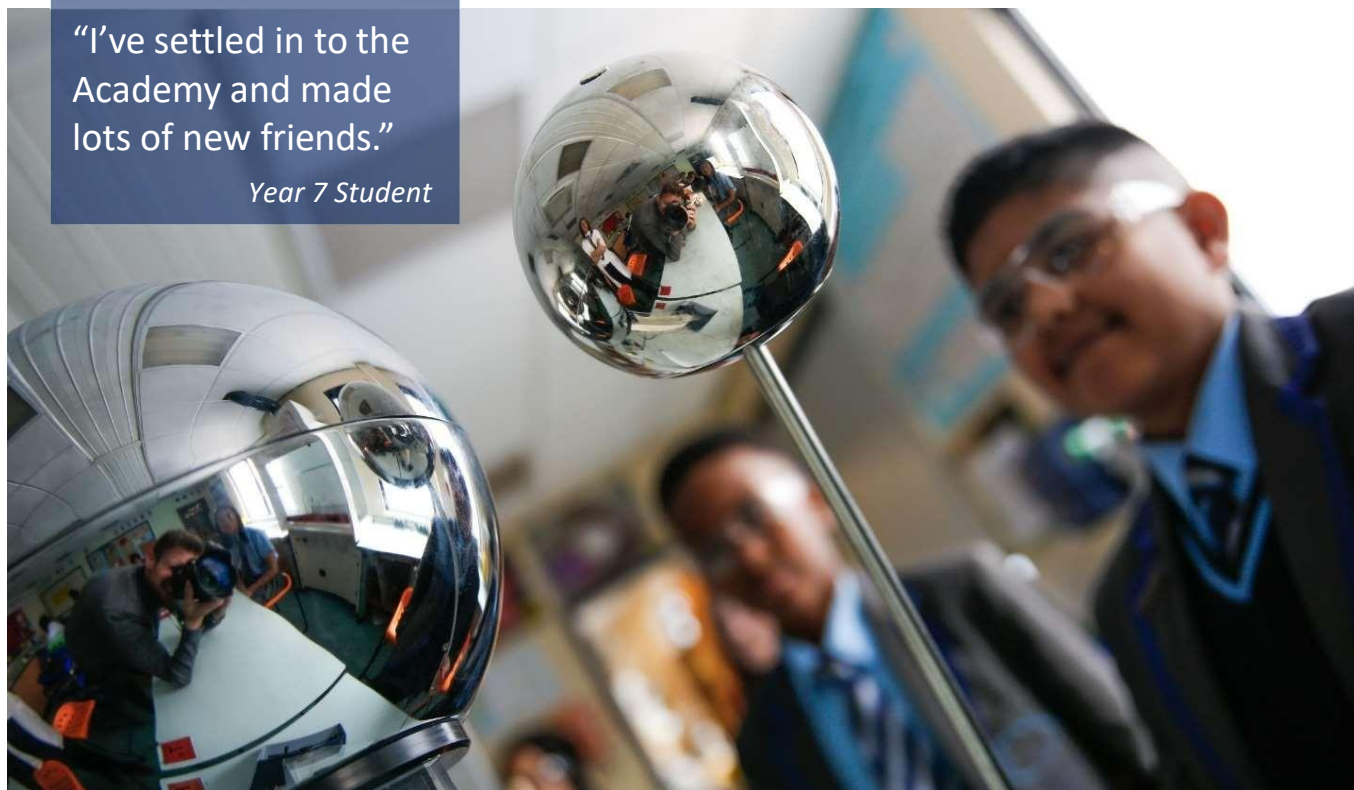
Our staff and students use 'Google Classroom' which allows students and parents to access work for home study and check homework tasks and deadlines online.

Parents and carers are also provided with access to Google Classroom and other online learning platforms. This gives families the opportunity to support their children managing their learning at home and help them build organisation and independent learning habits.



"I've settled in to the Academy and made lots of new friends."

Year 7 Student



Tutoring and Mentoring

Every student will be a member of a tutor group. During tutor time they will have time to discuss issues, debate local and world events and reflect upon the thoughts for the week.

The tutor will be their, and your, first point of contact.

Every student is provided with a Character Journal which allows them to reflect on their personal development as they grow up under our care.

Any student who needs extra support will have access to mentoring and we have excellent links to multi-agency support where required.

'Pupils enjoy a range of enrichment opportunities.' - Ofsted, November 2022

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‘The curriculum is ambitious and has been well designed to help pupils learn and remember key ideas. Teachers have strong knowledge of the subjects that they teach’ - Ofsted, November 2022

Ambitious Curriculum

At Walthamstow Academy we teach a challenging curriculum which expects and empowers our young people to demonstrate ambition, determination and respect. This enables them to secure their best futures.

Our curriculum is inclusive, meeting the needs of all learners. We believe in a curriculum based on powerful subject knowledge - students are encouraged to learn facts and skills from day one of Year 7.

All students have access to a broad and balanced curriculum that supports their learning. In their first three years at the Academy, they try many subjects, so that they are in an informed position to make choices in Year 9.

Students wishing to, may follow a pathway of study that allows them to achieve the English Baccalaureate (EBacc) certificate.

Our extended curriculum after school also aims to ensure that all students have access to a personalised extension and enrichment programme.



Enriching Extra-Curricular Activities

We provide an extensive extra-curricular programme for our students with clubs, trips and visits running before school, during lunchtimes, after school.

The range of opportunities for our students reflects our students' and teachers' wide range of interests - from Science Club to Modern Foreign Languages trips abroad, Sports teams to the Samba band, there is something on offer for all students who hold a passion for a subject, want to learn a new talent or simply enjoy a new experience.

AMBITION



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"Walthamstow Academy is brilliant and the lessons are really fun."

Year 8 student



The Academy Day

08:30 - Form Time/Assembly
09:00 - Lesson 1
10:00 - Breaktime
10:20 - Lesson 2
11:20 - Lesson 3
12:20 - Lunchtime
13:10 - Lesson 4
14:10 - Lesson 5
15:10 - End of Day

Extended Day

We offer an extended Academy day including morning interventions, lunchtime activities and a wide-ranging after-Academy enrichment programme.

Students throughout the Academy have opportunities to take part in a range of activities enabling them to learn from different people and try things they never thought possible. Through these, students develop high order thinking, teamwork and leadership skills.

As part of students' wider education at Walthamstow Academy, we believe in giving students a number of enriching experiences outside of the normal curriculum. These experiences include activities days to theme parks, museums, cinemas and educational visits to work establishments in the city, university tours, opportunities to take part in choirs made up of students from United Learning academies from all over the UK, residentials, Enterprise competitions, theatre excursions and more.



"There's so much to explore at the Academy"

Year 7 student

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Spectacular Facilities

Walthamstow Academy offers students and staff state-of-the-art facilities and cutting-edge equipment across all learning areas providing students with a spectacular 21st Century learning environment.

The facilities include:

- Over seventy light and airy classrooms, each with interactive whiteboards and internet access
- Ten fully equipped, custom-designed Science laboratories
- 10 innovatively designed ICT suites
- A newly refurbished library, packed full of books and laptops
- A large modern sports hall
- A fitness suite and dance studio
- Two all-weather sports courts
- A sports field with football pitches and an athletics track
- Outdoor multi gym
- A giant open plan Art studio
- A spacious assembly hall
- Two fully equipped music suite with recording studios
- Technology workshop
- Dedicated Sixth Form independent study space
- A modern Dining Hall, offering a wide range of healthy food options
- Covered outdoor dining area
- A locker for every student
- Free textbooks and online learning resource subscriptions
- A Chromebook for the duration of a student's course

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Our Schools

Walthamstow Academy is part of United Learning – a group of schools which aims to provide excellent education to children and young people across the country.

- Abbey Hey Primary Academy

Accrington Academy

AKS Lytham

Ashford School

Avonbourne Boys' Academy

Avonbourne Girls' Academy

Avonwood Primary School

Bacon's College

Banstead Preparatory School

Barnsley Academy

Beacon View Primary Academy

Cambridge Academy for Science and Technology

Cambridge Academic Partnership

Carter Community School

Castle View Academy

Coleridge Community College

Corngreaves Academy

Coworth Flexlands

Cravenwood Primary Academy

Dukesgate Academy

Dunottar School

Embley

Glenmoor and Winton Academies

Goresbrook School

Grange Primary Academy

Guildford High School

Ham Dingle Primary School

Hanwell Fields Community School

High Hazels Academy

Hill View Primary School

Hull Collegiate School

Hunningley Primary School

Irlam and Cadishead Academy

John Smeaton Academy

Kettering Buccleuch Academy

Lambeth Academy

Langford Primary

Lincoln Minster School

Longshaw Primary Academy

Manchester Academy

Marlborough Road Academy

Midhurst Rother College

Newstead Wood School

North Oxfordshire Academy
- Northampton Academy

Nova Hreod Academy

Orchard Meadow Primary School

Paddington Academy

Parkside Community College

Pegasus Primary School

PHC Hitchin

Richard Rose Central Academy

Richard Rose Morton Academy

Rowan Preparatory School

Salford City Academy

Salisbury Manor Primary School

Seahaven Academy

Sheffield Park Academy

Sheffield Springs Academy

Shoreham Academy

Silverdale Primary Academy

Southway Primary School

St Ives School

Stockport Academy

Surbiton High School

Swindon Academy

The Albion Academy

The Galfrid Academy

The Hurlingham Academy

The Hyndburn Academy

The John Roan School

The Regis School

The Royal School

The Totteridge Academy

The Victory Primary School

Timbertree Academy

Trumpington Community College

Walthamstow Academy

Walthamstow Primary Academy

Whittingham Primary Academy

Wilberforce Primary

William Hulme's Grammar School

Windale Primary School

Winston Way Primary Academy

Worsbrough Bank End Primary School

Wye School





How to Apply

Walthamstow Academy is free to attend, with places open to students of all abilities and faiths. There are 180 students in each year from 7 - 11, and 250 students in the Sixth Form.

Application into Year 7 is via the Local Authority's Common Application Form. Students who wish to join the Sixth Form apply directly to the Academy.

For entry into other years the Local Authority's Standard Transfer Form must be completed.

"Pupils enjoy attending Walthamstow Academy and are kept safe here....The curriculum is ambitious and has been well designed to help pupils learn and remember key ideas.."

OfSTED - 2022

AMBITION



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For further information, please contact our Admissions Officer at:
Walthamstow Academy, Billet Road, Walthamstow, London E17 5DP

telephone 020 8527 3750

email info@walthamstow-academy.org

website www.walthamstow-academy.org

Walthamstow Academy / UL policies include those on admissions, anti-bullying, behaviour (rewards and sanctions), charging and remissions, child protection, complaints, education, ethos, health and safety, rights of withdrawal from religious education and worship and special educational needs are available on request.