



# Swinton Academy

Prospectus



## Mission statement

“At Swinton Academy,  
we will make a difference.”

## Safeguarding statement

“All adults in school have a  
responsibility to safeguard  
and promote the welfare of  
children.”

## OFSTED - Good

Swinton Academy is a good  
school because pupils have  
warm relationships with  
teachers and value this  
strongly. In the words of one  
sixth form student, ‘it is the  
reason I decided to  
study here’.





# Welcome to Swinton Academy

Dear Parent/Carer

We are delighted to introduce this prospectus which we hope provides you with a real sense of the ethos and purpose of our academy.

Swinton Academy is a hardworking, friendly and open community where all people are treated as individuals and challenged to realise their full potential in all aspects of their development. We value respect, co-operation and courtesy and strive to promote effective relationships with all our students, their families and the wider community. We want all our students to feel happy, secure and confident, knowing that we will support them when they encounter difficulties and that all their efforts and achievements will be affirmed and celebrated.

Students at Swinton Academy are hardworking and share our commitment to ensuring they achieve the highest possible levels of achievement. Our high quality work and determination to promote the highest of expectations for all students is at the heart of what we do. Swinton Academy also has an excellent reputation for PE and sport and expects all students to participate in the wide range of opportunities made available to them. We are fully committed to offering all our students an ambitious, challenging and balanced curriculum, tailored to meet their individual needs and to providing them with high quality learning and teaching opportunities which will enable them to experience success, regardless of their ability, gender or background.

We look forward to working in partnership with you in empowering your children to take maximum advantage from all the exciting opportunities that Swinton Academy has to offer, so that they develop as fully rounded young people, enthusiastic and able to make a positive contribution to their school and wider community.

We hope this prospectus encourages you to seek more information about Swinton Academy and supports you in reaching the very important decision regarding your child's future education. If you require further details about any aspect of our provision please do not hesitate to contact us – we will be only too pleased to speak with you or show you around our school.

Yours faithfully

**Rebecca Hibberd**  
Executive Principal



**James Graham**  
Principal

# Ready, Respectful and Safe

## Uniform and equipment

At Swinton Academy we have the highest expectations in relation to student uniform and all students in Y7-11 wear full academy uniform. As an academy we take great pride in the smart appearance of our students and the important sense of belonging our uniform brings.

Correct uniform must be worn not only in the academy, but whenever travelling to and from the academy. Our uniform comprises of:

- Black blazer with the Swinton Academy badge
- White shirt
- Academy tie
- Plain black tailored trousers or a black skirt that is knee length
- Plain black, leather footwear

Jewellery must not be worn unless it is a wrist watch and/or one pair of plain stud earrings. Facial piercings are not allowed. Make-up should be subtle and kept to a minimum and nail varnish and fake nails are not permitted. Hair colour should be of a natural colour.

Mobile phones can be brought into the academy but should only be used in year group bases during break times. They should be switched off and out of sight on corridors, during lesson time and in other communal areas.

All students must have a suitable bag to carry their books and equipment. We regard the bag as part of the academy uniform. Basic equipment brought daily to the academy should consist of:

- 2 black pens
- 1 pencil
- Ruler
- Eraser
- Student planner (provided by the academy)
- Reusable water bottle with student's name on

## Our learning day

Students should arrive on site no later than 08.30 am

Period 1	08.40 – 09.40
Period 2	09.40 – 10.40
Break	10.40 – 10.55
Tutor	10.55 – 11.30
Period 3	11.30 – 12.30
Lunch	12.30 – 13.10
Period 4	13.10 – 14.10
Period 5	14.10 – 15.10

A range of snacks are available during morning break and we have two cafeterias providing a wide choice of meals at lunchtime. It is expected students will remain on site during lunchtime.



Our recently refurbished library 'The Hub' is the perfect place for students to enjoy reading a new book.

# Building character

Swinton Academy prides itself in providing a broad and balanced curriculum and having **high expectations and aspirations for all**. For us, that doesn't stop at having an excellent curriculum intent, but underpins our approach to developing student character through an excellent personal development programme, outstanding extra curricular offer and in providing a comprehensive range of student rewards.

**Celebrating student success** is at the forefront of everything we do at Swinton Academy. We focus on praise and rewards for attendance, displays of our character traits, participation in lessons and after school activities and effort as well as academic success. Our rewards systems aims to reward students daily with cumulative rewards each half term.

Celebration assemblies share student success with their year group. Watch out for our weekly 'Stars of the Week' and 'WOW Wednesday' celebrations on our website and social media pages.

## Extra curricular

We strongly encourage all our students to take part in the numerous weekly recreational activities taking place at Swinton Academy. There is a wide range of recreational (for example sports, drama, art) and also academic (for example revision classes for examination year students in all subjects) activities.

Our sports clubs play competitive fixtures/tournaments against other schools during the school week and on Saturdays. All our clubs are a fantastic way to meet new friends, tackle new challenges and unwind, while our academic clubs support learning and progress towards targets. The clubs change every half term so watch out for regular updates on our website, social media pages and on our half termly extra-curricular notice.



Post 16 student work. Winner of a Rotherham anti-hate crime competition.

**'Students benefit from a strong programme of personal development that prepares them well for life in modern Britain.'** Ofsted (2023)

# Our Curriculum



## Y7, Y8 and Y9;

Students in Y7, Y8 and Y9 will study the English Baccalaureate curriculum consisting of English, Mathematics, Science, Modern Foreign Languages, Humanities (Geography, History) as well as the core subjects of Physical Education and Religious Studies. Students will also experience Design Technology, Art, Drama, Music and Computer Studies.

Students will work towards end of year target grades in Y7, Y8 and Y9, progress towards these target grades will be communicated to parents/carers two times per year.

We hope that subjects in KS3 engage students in their learning and give them a broad and varied experience of knowledge and content. By offering an up to date and relevant curriculum we plan to strengthen students' skill development and promote the qualities that young people need if they are to be effective, lifelong learners, able to meet the demands of life in the 21st century.

Swinton Academy is committed to high quality learning and teaching which will provide our students with the essential skills needed to progress effectively in further or higher education, training or employment.



KS3 Art lessons encourage students to explore the world around them.

Pupils with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND) are well supported by teachers, who make sure these pupils have the same opportunities as their peers. Ofsted (2023)

Everybody Reading In Class (ERIC) encourages students to actively participate in reading.



Engaging practical lessons



Rewards for 100% attendance to school and to extra curricular clubs



KS3 Master Chef Challenge

'Leaders want pupils to have the highest aspirations. Pupils receive a rich variety of experiences, helping them to prepare for their next steps in education, training or employment.' 'Reading is prioritised' Ofsted (2023)

The PE faculty offer a wide range of sporting activities both in lessons and in afterschool clubs.



KS3 Master Chef Challenge



'Pupils are happy to attend this inclusive school. They are considerate to each other and to staff.'  
'They benefit from a strong programme of personal development that prepares them well for life in modern Britain.' Ofsted (2023)



Post 16 students have an amazing opportunity to go on a once in a life time trip with our 'World Challenge' expedition.

# Our Curriculum



## Y10 and Y11

We support our students in Y9 to make informed choices so that they are ready to begin their KS4 journey in Y10. Students study a 2 year KS4 programme in Y10 and Y11 and will have the opportunity to study the core curriculum of Mathematics, English, Science, Humanities, Religious Studies and PSHCE.

Students may also be guided towards the English Baccalaureate curriculum which would consist of English, Maths, Triple Science, a Humanity (Geography or History) and a Modern Foreign Language.

Students would then have the opportunity to select an option subject from faculty areas such as Art, Design and Technology, Business and Computing, Physical Education, Drama, Music and Health and Social Care.

Other students may choose not to follow an English Baccalaureate curriculum and instead select a combined science course with two further option choices. They will be offered support and guidance when making these choices, reflecting our commitment to personalising learning.

The Academy makes provision for parents/carers to exercise their right to withdraw their children from religious education.

## Post 16

We are delighted that our Post 16 provision is continuing to grow as we offer a wide range of academic and vocational courses to our students on the Swinton Academy site. Students are guided on their pathways into Post 16, where they can study a complement of traditional A-level course alongside vocational skills-based courses. Post 16 students take a leading role in the academy, being outstanding role models for our younger students. Students are also encouraged to play a wider role in the school as a whole. For more information please visit the Post 16 sections of our Academy website.

# Striving for Excellence Empowering Achievement



I joined the Local Governing Body for Swinton Academy in 2019. My son is a student at Swinton Academy. When he moved up to secondary education in 2018 I naturally became very interested in how the Academy was run and ultimately the Academy's performance. It seemed a natural progression for me as I was already a governor at a local primary school at the time (I still carry out the primary school role but as chair of governors now).

Our primary function as a Local Governing Body is to monitor the performance and general running of the academy. We achieve this by holding four meetings per year where the academy's provision is discussed and evaluated. We also make many visits to the academy and spend valuable time meeting staff and students (my favourite visits are when we have student voice meetings).

A governor's role is not all about monitoring and challenge. We all very much enjoy the celebration events that we attend. It is very heartwarming to be part of any celebration but especially so when it involves the Academy students and staff.

On behalf of myself and the other governors I wish all of our new students a happy and successful experience at Swinton Academy.

**David Lennox Chair of the Governing Body.**

(Mr Lennox and other governors can be contacted through the Clerk to the Governors)

## Welcome from the CEO

At ACET, we are a values-based trust which regards the opportunity to make a difference to the lives of almost 6,000 children and young people as an absolute privilege. Working with over 800 employees, we strive to build strong partnerships with parents/carers and the 12 local communities in which our academies are located.

As the recently appointed CEO, through strong leadership, it is fundamental to secure a good quality of education in all ACET academies; to ensure our young people develop a life-long love and enthusiasm for learning, making a positive contribution to society. In partnership with colleagues across the ACET family, we will strive to ensure every child and young person has an ambition, leaving statutory education having reached their potential. At ACET, it is our endeavour to make a positive difference to the lives of the children and young people for whom we are responsible for.

I regard staff as a precious resource and place a strong emphasis on people having access to the professional development opportunities required to enable them to excel in their roles. At ACET, we value our staff and appreciate the efforts and contribution each member of the family makes – together, we are stronger.

Welcome to ACET, Chapter 2...a strong trust growing from strength to strength.

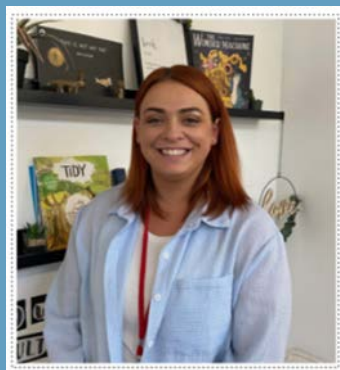
**Rebecca Scutt**  
ACET Chief Executive Officer





# Alumni

Studied A levels in  
English Literature  
English Language  
Performing Arts



## Laura Bedford

During my time at Swinton, I made great friendships and was so lucky to have the most supportive teachers, especially in the English department. I studied A Levels in English Literature, English Language and Performing Arts. The skills I learned during my time at Swinton have been invaluable in helping me to secure a place at university, completing my degree and more recently, in my career. Currently, I am working as a primary school teacher in Barnsley. I have a lovely Year 2 class and (not surprisingly) English is my favourite subject to teach. I adore my job and none of it would have been possible without the support, guidance and knowledge I gained during my time at Swinton. As someone who joined Swinton for Post 16 from an out of area school, I was immediately welcomed into the Swinton family. I have very fond memories of my time at Post 16 and can't recommend Swinton Academy highly enough.

Studied A levels in  
Chemistry  
Maths  
Spanish

## Emily Kettell

I studied at Swinton Academy from 2012-2019 and the support from staff was always second to none. With this support I was awarded amazing GCSE results and went on to achieve three A grades at A-level. I was given many opportunities during my time at Swinton Academy that helped build the foundations of my current career and without these, I would not have had the confidence to pursue the career route that I have. A few examples include my role as head girl as well as many public speaking opportunities.

I have just graduated from the University of York with a first-class honours degree in law and I am currently studying the Barrister Training Course in Leeds. Upon completion of the bar course, I will be training to be a personal injury barrister at one of the UK's top ranked chambers.

My time at school was great and all of the teachers, senior leaders and the principal played a fundamental role in my achievements since leaving.



AS Psychology

Studied A levels in  
Biology  
Physics  
Geography  
Extended project



## Jacob Prescott

My time at Swinton Academy was the ideal time for me to progress, develop and be myself. Due the size of the academy, it has allowed me to build great relationships with many members of staff who are passionate about their role as a teacher. I have gained invaluable advice from assistance with writing a Cambridge worthy personal statement to financial knowledge and help with the wider world such as mortgages and wages that is not taught through the general curriculum. For me, the staff at Swinton make the academy and give it the character it has.

The opportunities at Swinton Academy are far from just academic, the enriching extracurricular activities and projects I have been involved in have given me confidence and skills throughout my education. I was a part of the student council, where I have acquired skills such as mental health ambassador training, been given a voice around the academy, a value Swinton is very passionate about, whilst gaining the confidence to speak in front of a hall full of people. These experiences hold the transferable skills that are going to help me throughout higher education as well as stand out amongst others in my position.

Swinton is more than just a school, it's a supporting safe community that has allowed me to achieve well beyond what I could have ever imagined. I know my time at Swinton academy has given me the experience both curricular and extra-curricular to excel and succeed in my higher education and in whatever direction my career takes me.



“At Swinton Academy,  
we will make a difference”



‘The school has high expectations for pupils.  
Leaders want pupils to have the highest  
aspirations. Pupils receive a rich variety of  
experiences, helping them to prepare for their  
next steps in education, training or employment.  
Pupils enjoy well-planned lessons.’  
Ofsted (2023)

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