



**ALEC REED ACADEMY**

PROUD TO LEARN



# WELCOME

## Alec Reed Academy: an all-through school providing a high-quality education for children aged 3-19.

We are proud to be a fully inclusive, multicultural school where, in a harmonious, caring and safe environment, every child is valued and respected. Our staff are passionate about our drive for academic excellence and are dedicated to providing exceptional learning experiences. We prepare our children for the role they will play in society by providing an education of the highest quality so that they leave us with the qualifications, skills, knowledge and understanding they will need to meet the challenges of the modern world.

Our core values promote confidence, independence and a strong sense of personal worth. This prepares them for the next stage of their learning journey - ensuring they can lead happy fulfilled lives.

We hope this prospectus gives you a flavour of our academy.







## THE SCHOOL DAY

The school day typically runs from 8.30am – 3.00pm after which an extensive timetable of out-of-hours sporting, academic and social activities take place. These are led by our specialist staff and aim to expand students' knowledge and experiences. All students are invited to attend out-of-hours clubs and are particularly encouraged to join activities which will enhance their own natural talents.

## HOME SCHOOL PARTNERSHIP

Education is most effective when the school, parents and students work together. We place great importance on our Home School Agreement and developing a strong relationship with parents. Together, we nurture the talents of your child, enabling them to harness their energies, reach their full potential and flourish, so that they can be successful and happy.

Daily communication will be maintained through ClassCharts, an online app that can be accessed from a mobile phone or tablet. Communication will also be maintained through our website and social media platforms. Parents will also receive termly reports and be invited to parents' evenings.





# KEY VALUES

## Our school motto is 'Proud to Learn'.

This motto is at the heart of what we aim to achieve within the academy. To us, a sense of social and moral responsibility is as important as academic success. We model and promote behaviour which treats and respects all people as unique, valuable individuals.

A strong feature of the academy is our focus on three core, guiding principles: Respect, Honesty and Kindness. These positive values and attitudes are a necessary prerequisite for success and we encourage our students to demonstrate these in school, at home and in the wider community. They are central to our daily expectations of students.

## PROUD TO LEARN

- Arrive at school and lessons on time.
- Come equipped ready to learn.
- Wear our uniform with pride.
- Participate fully in lessons.
- Take pride in your books.

## RESPECT

- Be polite and listen attentively when the teacher or your peers are talking.
- Treat everyone equally whatever your differences.
- Be considerate of your community and the environment.

## HONESTY

- Always be truthful and trustworthy.
- Be true to yourself.
- Display integrity by having strong morals and principles.

## KINDNESS

- Be charitable.
- Display empathy and understanding towards others.
- Do not use unkind words or actions.







# CURRICULUM

**Access to a high-quality education is a right for all, no matter where you come from or who you are.**

The acquisition of knowledge and skills are vital - not just to pass exams - but to cultivate a passion for lifelong learning. At Alec Reed Academy we have high academic aspirations for all our students. We provide each and every student with a rich, inclusive and exciting curriculum that equips them with the skills necessary for life in an ever-changing, highly technological world. Our curriculum offer enables everyone within our community to succeed with clear progression into Post 16, university or employment so they can be the best possible person they can be.

The Academy is sited on a large campus with specialist teaching facilities that enable us to provide a broad and balanced curriculum underpinned by Quality First Teaching. The exceptional learning environment includes a professional theatre, dance studio, recording studio, sports hall, gym with a climbing wall, fitness suite and extensive outdoor sports facilities. The latter includes a new generation 4G all-weather pitch.

# QUALITY FIRST TEACHING

**Our teaching and support staff know every child they teach and use this knowledge and understanding to tailor our teaching and learning so that every child achieves their potential.**

This knowledge helps us build in personal support where students need it. Our approach to learning develops the wisdom to learn from mistakes, the courage to seize opportunities, the drive to accumulate cultural capital, the resilience to build and retrieve core knowledge and the humour to negotiate setbacks.

We constantly challenge our students to not only meet - but to exceed - their expectations. In every classroom we expect high aspiration, quality progression, engagement and a passion for learning.

We are a school that reads and believes in the power of literacy. We know that confident readers and confident writers do better in every classroom - but also in the wider world. That is why we build strong literacy practices into all our curriculum areas and our pastoral programmes.





# INCLUSION

**We are proud to be an inclusive school where every member of our community has equal value and worth.**

We have a dedicated and experienced inclusion team committed to ensuring every student can fulfil their potential. This includes a designated Student and Family Education (SaFE) Worker, attached to each year group, who is available to support families and help them access additional services - should they need to do so.

All children have their own needs and that makes them unique individuals. We embrace and celebrate these differences. However, there will be some children who may need to be catered for in a way that is slightly different from their peers due to behavioural, emotional, medical or academic needs. Where such a need exists, the academy works in partnership with parents/carers to provide the best possible support so that we keep our pledge of a rich, diverse education for all students.



**We also have a full-time school counsellor to provide support for children with more complex needs.**



# BEHAVIOUR FOR LEARNING

**Behaviour is managed through an established code of conduct which is used consistently across the academy.**

The behaviour policy is underpinned by an extensive system of pastoral care and inclusion that promotes confidence and independence. As a result, relationships between students and staff are kind, friendly and mutually respectful. This provides a calm environment where students can enjoy themselves and grow because they feel safe and secure.

These systems are used to ensure that good behaviour is constantly reaffirmed through praise and rewards. Boundaries are clear and failure to model appropriate behaviour is challenged. Where necessary it is sanctioned. Our 'See it, Report it, Stop it' anti-bullying policy allows staff to deal with issues promptly and prevent incidents from escalating further.



# PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT

**Our tutor programme and personal development lessons provide opportunities to recognise, celebrate and support a child's spiritual, moral, social and cultural development.**



We strive to develop well rounded and informed young people who are equipped to be excellent citizens of any country they choose to live in and guide learners to make well-informed decisions to improve their own lives and those of others.

The tutor programme is based on a philosophy of developing care, understanding and mutual respect and provides opportunities to enhance the students' cultural

awareness and understanding of personal values, beliefs and perceptions. This includes respecting the integrity of spirituality of individuals from different faith backgrounds. It is designed with the intention that all members of the school community understand each other, are treated equally and with dignity so they can work together with common purpose.

## ENRICHMENT

Students are encouraged to participate in an extensive programme of enrichment activities to help extend their thinking and stimulate their minds. Opportunities are available during lunch time as well as at the beginning and end of the school day. We have high expectations of what every child can achieve beyond the classroom in the many

varied enrichment opportunities we provide. These include a calendar of trips and visits across the year, including foreign travel and the Duke of Edinburgh Award. The enrichment offer is tracked to ensure each child has the opportunity to access a range of experiences during their time at the academy.

# THE WIDER CURRICULUM

**Our House System supports the development of relationships and friendships outside of the classroom; it supports the vibrancy of the school.**

House points are awarded for children aiming for their personal best in all areas of school life. There is intense competition across all areas of the curriculum, but specifically in areas such as sport, music, and drama as each house battles to be the best.

Our School Council plays a major role in the development of the academy and in instilling confidence in our students.

Each form group has representatives on the council, led by our Sixth Form students. The impact of Student Leadership is extended further through a prefect system which involves students acting as learning mentors, sports leaders, lesson observers, interviewers and receptionists. Older students are encouraged to support younger pupils, whether formally through our paired reading scheme, or simply by the example they set.





# POST 16

## At ARA we provide a wide range of A Level and BTEC courses which suit all interests and abilities.

Our dedicated team of passionate, well-qualified and highly skilled subject specialists provide detailed advice and feedback to enable students to cope with the increased level of challenge that is required to drive continuous improvement at Post 16. Independent study is critical to success if a student is to achieve their potential. To support this, we provide each individual with a personal laptop so that time can be used more effectively both inside and outside of the classroom, as well as timetabled study periods in our dedicated P16 study areas.

Our strong pastoral system extends into the Sixth Form where it includes a dedicated team of specially trained tutors and support staff who oversee a friendly, safe, caring environment where young people thrive. Our staff are well versed at helping students to achieve all that they can academically. At the same time, we equip students with the research and revision skills that will help them not only prepare for their examinations, but also university

and employment. Part of this includes our extensive UCAS application programme to facilitate students obtaining places at top universities.

Alongside academic study, our students are provided with the opportunity to develop life skills that will help them grow as individuals so that they can make a positive contribution to society regardless of the path they choose. There are a wide range of enrichment and extracurricular activities, including sport, debating and visits to universities. Central to this provision is the expectation that all members of the Sixth Form develop their leadership skills either as volunteers, mentors, or as part of the wider student leadership team.

To find out more about the Sixth Form at Alec Reed Academy, please consult our Post 16 Prospectus which provides more detailed information regarding the courses that we offer and the recommended entry requirements.





# CONTACT US

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