



Creating Futures

Prospectus

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Welcome & Values

Welcome to Gosforth Junior High Academy. We are proud to be part of the Gosforth Group multi academy trust. This partnership with other high performing schools means that our staff and students can benefit from shared expertise and from a powerful, inclusive ethos. We are a popular and oversubscribed academy with over 700 students located in the heart of Gosforth. Our staff are passionate about the students and are committed to supporting them to achieve their very best, enabling them to create exciting futures and achieve their dreams and ambitions.

Our principal aim is to encourage high expectations and high standards of achievement, both academic and personal, whilst also celebrating student success with real enthusiasm and warmth! The values of our trust embrace honesty, integrity, resilience and selflessness, virtues that we want to instil in our young people on their journey into adult life. We believe that a calm, warm and friendly school, in which hard work and co-operation are respected, is the best way to promote these values. Our staff work hard to encourage and foster a love of learning that will be with our students throughout their lives.

Beyond the classroom, we offer a dizzying range of enrichment

opportunities and activities, encompassing sport, theatre, music, reading, exciting cultural explorations and even gardening! We are excited to make full use of the wonderful outside spaces at the school and especially the garden and forest areas this year! Our school is absolutely dedicated to developing our children holistically and ensuring that everyone here is both seen and heard.



“This is a wonderful and unique school; we look forward to welcoming your child to the next stage of their educational journey.”

Mark Fryer,
Head of School

Transition

We are a unique school that carefully guides students through their transition from First School to Key Stage 3 and then on to High School. This can be a daunting journey, however we ensure that it is filled with excitement and wonder and accompanied by the very highest levels of support. We undertake a range of activities and initiatives to make this as smooth as possible. This year and for the first time, we will ensure that all of our feeder schools have access to many of our outstanding facilities which they may not yet have had access to, ensuring students visit us over the course of the year for dedicated science, P.E and technology lessons. We want them to feel that this school is here for them, even before they begin their journey here. They are even invited to watch our Summer Production, which last year was the spectacular 'Madagascar Jnr'.



"I absolutely love it here - the support you get from the teachers, the fun you have, and the amount I have learnt already is amazing."

Year 6 Student

Transition

Our dedicated transition programme includes visits from the Head of School and many other key staff members to the First Schools, where they meet the students and their families. We provide a number of rich and varied transition days at the academy for students to experience travelling to and from school, as well as lessons, in preparation for their start in September. During the first month in Year 5 we hold our 'Meet the Tutor' Coffee Morning, where we invite all parents/carers into school to see how their child has settled, meet the Year 5 team and enjoy refreshments.

We have strong links with all schools in the pyramid (first, middle and high schools). Meetings take place throughout the academic year, across all departments, including SENDCO meetings, where staff from all schools in the pyramid meet and discuss the curriculum. This ensures that we know how to cater to the needs of all students in our group.



"Strong relationships between all members of the school community benefit everyone, creating a supportive and aspirational environment."

Ofsted 2023

Inclusive Classrooms and Spaces

At Gosforth High Junior Academy, we believe that there must be a place for everyone in our classrooms and in our school. We have a highly trained body of staff who work incredibly hard to ensure that classrooms are fully inclusive. This includes specialist in-class support but is built on a foundational universal offer that takes into account the many different needs of students who come to school here.

This begins with very simple yet important things, such as teachers greeting students warmly at the door and building strong relationships that help students feel safe and looked after. It involves a healthy culture of error, where students are not afraid to make mistakes. We embrace this and use it as a learning experience. Our staff think carefully about where students sit, who they are grouped with and teach them how to talk and learn collaboratively too. We talk to students and educate them about managing their zones of regulation, we take into account how we present information, ensuring it is as simple and as visual as possible without sacrificing academic integrity and we ensure that students feel excited and challenged by their learning in every regard. We offer a wide range of subjects too, which helps students revel and flourish in a range of different environments, demonstrating their knowledge in new and exciting ways.



Beyond the Classroom

At Gosforth Junior High Academy, we aim to deliver a varied and exciting extra-curricular programme that engages students and complements their current and future experiences at the school and beyond. This includes chess, gardening, foreign languages, textiles, sport and opportunities to fund-raise, create and program computer games and learn to cook!

We believe this programme, alongside the broad and balanced curriculum, will offer opportunities for students across our cohort to challenge themselves and develop their interests through a wide range of activities that will continue throughout their time with us.

In addition to domestic trips, such as visiting the Centre for Life, adventuring around Northumberland, attending the theatre, and exploring St. James' Park and London, some students have been fortunate enough to travel overseas on school-led trips to the Opal Coast and even go skiing! These trips provide amazing opportunities for students to experience new cultures and broaden their horizons.





"The school has an amazing variety of things to do before, during and after school. I really enjoy Yellow Week, we even have the chance to visit other countries and go on different adventures"

Year 8 Student

Beyond the Classroom

We also enjoy hotly contested sports days and Yellow Week, an activity week where we suspend the timetable and allow students to participate in a range of workshops, activities and events that allow them to achieve and develop in a slightly different way.

We are very proud of the achievements of all our students. The sports teams here range from students just wanting to learn a new sport or enjoy playing with their friends to more competitive, organised sports. Our netball, football, and basketball teams all enjoy considerable success. Our Performing and Visual Arts departments are a hive of activity after school, where new techniques and skills can be developed for interest, or in preparation for events such as our Christmas and Summer Productions, which many parents will have heard about or seen. The recent performance of 'Madagascar Jnr' received a standing ovation on the closing night - watching students as young as Year 5 performing in this way is absolutely incredible! Our library is also well - resourced and is a thriving community, led by our enthusiastic, energetic and dedicated librarian. It is often student-led and a place where there is always something exciting happening.

Celebrating Success

We enjoy celebrating the success of our students, whether it's academic, social, sporting or student attendance.

Our PRAISE Code ensures that student achievements in class are recognised through the awarding of stamps, which enables students to access our reward programme. We talk to students about how each stamp is actually a 'miniature celebration' of an achievement as simple as being on time, or even simply answering a question in a lesson. This is what life is all about - miniature daily achievements that add up to lifelong success.

Throughout the year, there are a wide range of events to show our appreciation of students, both public and private, formal and informal. These include going into the Head of School's 'Golden Book' and special showcase evenings, celebrating the students who have represented the academy throughout the academic year and also hold regular 'Praise' events in school, where students come and show off and talk about some work they are proud of to staff, collect a small prize and listen to some live music from our school bands in the process! These are lovely events, full of buzz and excitement, with our community coming together to celebrate one another.



Curriculum

We are incredibly proud of our unique curriculum at Gosforth Junior High Academy. We deliver a range of subjects at both Key Stage 2 and 3 that are knowledge-rich and build student confidence over time, ensuring that the interests, abilities, and passions of the students in our large cohorts are reflected in what they study. Effective transition and liaison with our feeder schools is also a vital component of this model.

The school offers outstanding facilities in P.E., Design Technology, Food Technology, the school garden, library, and Science, allowing students at Key Stage 2 and Key Stage 3 to access an exciting educational experience with highly trained subject experts.

We are also clear that there is a need to equip our students with a varied range of experiences across subjects. These will also be supplemented by personal development lessons and PHSE lessons, which enable the delivery of a dedicated programme, complemented by assemblies, to develop students holistically and prepare them for the demands of adult life.

For the first time this year, we will also introduce a registered 'forest school' at Gosforth Junior High Academy, providing students with yet another unique opportunity to learn in a different setting and enjoy and learn from the world around them.

"The school has high ambitions and expectations of all pupils. They have considered the crucial knowledge that pupils must learn and sequenced this logically throughout the curriculum. This means pupils deepen their knowledge."
Ofsted 2023

Dedicated Support Team

The academy aims to provide a safe and secure environment for your child to develop and fulfil their potential academically and pastorally.

One of the academy's strengths is that students receive outstanding pastoral and educational support and guidance. The team will support your child in their transition from first school to middle school, and in time, onto high school. The Pastoral Team will monitor your child's welfare, progress, engagement for learning, attendance and punctuality, whilst the SEND and VI teams will take care of academic progress. Most crucially, these staff meet together every week so that the thinking and associated actions take every aspect of school life into account.

Form Tutors see the students in their care every morning and afternoon. Expert support, for those who need it, comes from our school counsellors, school nurse service or other outside agencies.

Both pastoral and SEND staff are dedicated to working with young people and their families to ensure that they make the best possible progress in all aspects of school life.

"The school has high expectations for what pupils, including pupils with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND), can achieve academically."

Ofsted 2023

What Ofsted say...

In November 2023 our academy was rated as a Good Provider by Ofsted. The report can be viewed on our website. Below are a few of the highlights.



“Gosforth Junior High Academy is a welcoming, friendly and inclusive school.”

“Strong relationships between all members of the school community benefit everyone, creating a supportive and aspirational environment.”

“The school also has high expectations of pupils' behaviour, and these expectations are realised. Pupils are polite and courteous. Pupils' behaviour is exceptionally good.”

“Pupils are engaged in their learning and curious to learn more. They are attentive and keen to contribute.”

“Pupils have a range of opportunities to extend their interests and talents after school, such as choir, debate and chess clubs. Pupils participate in numerous residential trips as well as visiting local sites.”



Proud to be part of



Please contact us to arrange a visit:

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